

East Avenue Study Area Site Investigation

Community Update | June 2024



Para obtener información en español, contacte Nancy Cruz: cruz.nancy@epa.gov

For other language translation services, contact Katie Page: page.katherine@epa.gov

The East Avenue Study Area (“Study Area”) is located in Erie, Pennsylvania adjacent to the former Erie Coke facility. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is beginning an investigation to determine if contaminants from Erie Coke have migrated off the facility into the Study Area. EPA is coordinating the investigation of this Study Area with the activities that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) are conducting at the former Erie Coke facility.

The goals of this EPA Site Investigation are to:

- Collect soil samples on residential and commercial areas inside the Study Area to see if contaminants may have come from the former Erie Coke facility. EPA will look for contaminants like heavy metals including chromium, arsenic and lead, or semivolatile organic compounds such as naphthalene or benzo(a)pyrene.
- Compare soil samples to background levels. “Background” refers to locations that are not influenced by the Erie Coke facility or refers to levels that may naturally occur.
- Determine if contaminants are present in the soil that may pose a threat to human health and the environment, and
- Decide next steps for the Study Area.

EPA began cleanup actions under the Removal Program at the Erie Coke facility in September 2020. EPA’s Removal Program focuses on emergency actions for immediate threats to public health and the environment. From September 2020 through November 2022, EPA addressed the areas that posed the greatest risks to public health. The purpose of the 2024 investigation is to determine if there is a need for further action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. The focus for the Site Investigation is to look at the potential impact of air emissions on soil within the Study Area.

For More Information

Visit: www.epa.gov/EastAveStudyArea or scan the QR Code.



Para ver el sitio web en español, visite:

www.epa.gov/EastAveStudyArea/area-de-estudio-de-east-ave o escanee el código QR.



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www.epa.gov/EastAveStudyArea/parsathabhauumai-site-background

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Upcoming In-Person Public Availability Session

EPA invites you to learn more about the East Avenue Study Area and sampling activities at an in-person Public Availability Session.

July 18, 2024

East Middle School

1001 Atkins St.

Erie, PA 16503

6:00 - 7:30pm

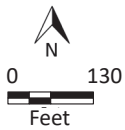
This session is an opportunity to meet the EPA site team and ask questions about the Study Area or the 2024 Field Sampling Plan. Also in attendance will be PADEP, health experts, Erie Port Authority, the City of Erie, and Erie County Redevelopment Authority. **If you are interested in having your yard sampled, sign up with us in person!**

RSVP at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/EASA-public-availability-session>

Please let us know in the RSVP if you need language interpreter services.





East Avenue Study Area

The map above outlines the EPA Study Area in blue. The boundary of the EPA Site Investigation may be adjusted as new information becomes available. For the most up-to-date investigation boundary, please visit the EPA webpage.

Next Steps

EPA began an investigation in September 2023 to develop a Field Sampling Plan. The Study Area is bordered to the north by East Bay Drive, Erie Coke facility, and Lake Erie; to the south by East 3rd Street and residential neighborhoods; to the east by Hess Avenue and residential neighborhoods; and to the west by East Bayfront Parkway. The Study Area does not include the former Erie Coke facility. EPA finalized the Field Sampling Plan in June 2024 and expects to begin sampling activities in Summer 2024. Sampling activities will include carefully collecting soil samples from residential properties. Soil samples will be collected using hand-held equipment so that there is little disturbance to yards. **If you live within the Study Area boundaries and would like your residential soil sampled, please contact any of the EPA contacts listed on page 3.**

PADEP continues to be the lead agency for on-site activities at Erie Coke. For information on PADEP’s ongoing work, visit:

www.dep.pa.gov/About/Regional/NorthwestRegion/Community-Information/Pages/Erie-Coke-Corporation.aspx





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Site History

