



Work Begins at Allied Paper Landfill

Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Site
Kalamazoo, Michigan

May 2021

You are invited

The City of Kalamazoo will be hosting a virtual meeting to talk about the upcoming work. Representatives from EPA and EGLE will be available to talk about the project and take your questions. See the “Upcoming Meeting” box at the bottom of this page for details.

For more information

Please contact any of the following team members with questions:

EPA

Michael Berkoff

Remedial Project Manager
312-353-8983
berkoff.michael@epa.gov

Diane Russell

Community Involvement Coordinator
989-395-3493
russell.diane@epa.gov

*You may also call EPA toll-free:
800-621-8431, weekdays, 9:00 a.m.
to 5:30 p.m.*

EGLE

Dan Peabody - Project Manager

517-285-3924
peabodyd@michigan.gov

City of Kalamazoo

Jamie McCarthy

269-337-8789
mccarthyja@kalamazoocity.org

Webpage

For more details about the site, visit the webpage at:

www.epa.gov/superfund/allied-paper-kalamazoo

*Para la versión en español de esta hoja informativa, visite
www.epa.gov/superfund/allied-paper-kalamazoo*

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy plans to start work to clean up and consolidate contaminated material at Allied Paper Landfill, a former landfill in part of the Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund site. The cleanup plan includes consolidating and capping material containing PCBs and other contaminants and installing a groundwater monitoring network. Areas of the former landfill will be available for future reuse and redevelopment.



Upcoming Work in Your Neighborhood

Cleanup activities are expected to start in June. The current owners of the site, the Lyondell Environmental Custodial Trust, will be conducting the cleanup with EPA oversight. Excavation will begin in the northern portion of the site along Alcott Street and continue in the southern portion of the site, near Cork Street (*see map, next page*). The northern and northeastern portion of the new landfill will be constructed during this phase, which will be located in the southern half of the site near Cork Street.

Work is expected to take place Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. This year’s activity will be within the site with heavy equipment entering and exiting beginning late spring and lasting through early winter. EPA and the trust will work with the City of Kalamazoo to manage traffic entering and leaving the site.

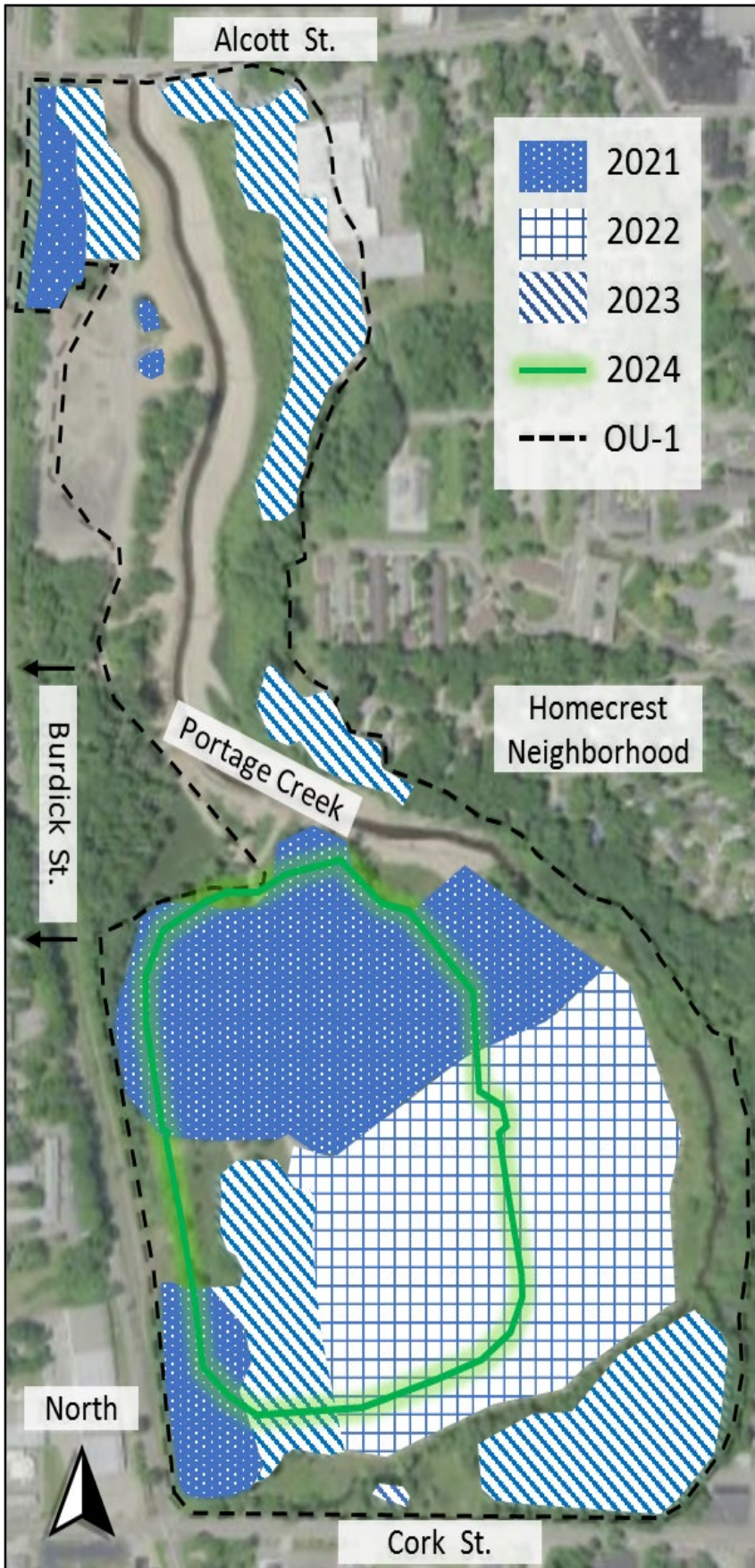
EPA anticipates the construction of the new landfill to take 4 years and the City of Kalamazoo expects to take over ownership of the property after the remedy is complete.



Upcoming Meeting

The City of Kalamazoo will be hosting a virtual meeting on **Monday, May 24 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.** with EPA and EGLE to answer questions and provide updates on the upcoming project. The meeting will be streamed live to the City of Kalamazoo’s Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/kalamazoocity and their YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIgXSSXLSDxThVaaiRMsR5Q>

Community members are invited to submit questions for discussion before the meeting by emailing hello@kalamazoocity.org, posting on the [Facebook event page](#), or by calling 269-226-6573 and leaving a recording starting at 12:00 p.m. on May 24. Questions can also be submitted by commenting on the live stream during the town hall. Please note that this meeting will be recorded and available for viewing on the City of Kalamazoo’s Facebook page and YouTube Channel after the livestream.



Areas targeted for work over the next 4 years.

Project Timeline

2021

The first phase of work will include site preparation and the beginning of excavation activities. Excavation will begin in the northern portion of the site along Alcott Street and continue in the southern portion of the site, near Cork Street. The dot-shaded areas on the map are where material will be excavated and placed in the northern and northeastern final consolidation area, located in the southern half of the site near Cork Street, or the area within the solid green outline on the map. Heavy equipment will be entering and exiting Monday through Saturday from late spring through early winter.

2022

The second phase of work will take place in 2022 and will include demolition of existing buildings and structures on the site and the removal of the existing sheet pile wall adjacent to Portage Creek. The eastern, southeastern, and southern portions of the final consolidation area (*solid green outline*) will be constructed during this phase. Heavy equipment traffic during 2022 will be similar to 2021.

2023

The third phase of activities will include work off-site starting with the excavation and backfill of portions of properties along Alcott Street and Homecrest Avenue. Since work in these areas will be adjacent to the site, and to reduce off-site traffic, temporary roads and bridges will be constructed to transport materials across Portage Creek to the final consolidation area. On-site excavation and backfill activities will also occur in the southeast corner (*diagonal hatch area*) of the site near Cork Street. The southwestern portion of the final consolidation area will be constructed and the interior will be filled during this phase. Heavy equipment traffic in 2023 will be greater than 2021 or 2022 and will be primarily used for the import of clean fill and materials.

2024

The fourth and final phase of activities will focus on the final cover for the consolidation area and installation of a landfill gas collection system. The portion of Portage Creek along the south end of the site will be realigned to a more natural condition and the slope on the north side of Cork Street adjoining the site will be reinforced. Phase 4 will also include final site grading, construction of stormwater management features, and remaining site restoration and revegetation. Heavy equipment traffic during this phase will be similar to 2023.

Future Use

Excavated and backfilled areas that are not used for flood control will potentially be available for commercial redevelopment and the capped areas for light recreational reuse. The City of Kalamazoo supports beneficial reuse of the site as part of their revitalization of the Portage Creek corridor. EPA will continue to work with local partners and community members as reuse planning develops.



Photo of Portage Creek along northern portion of site.



Who is the Trust and What is Their Role?

The Trust was created by the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York as part of the resolution of the Millennium Holdings, LLC (formerly known as Lyondell Chemical Company) bankruptcy. With its creation, the trust took ownership of the properties associated with the former Allied Paper Mill and the Allied Paper Landfill that comprise the site. The trust does not conduct business at the site, rather its function is to address the contamination at the site.

About the Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Site

In 1977, a public health advisory was issued recommending residents to not eat fish caught from the Kalamazoo River due to PCBs found in the fish. In 1990, the Allied Paper Landfill, as part of the Allied Paper/Portage Creek/Kalamazoo River Superfund site, was placed on the National Priorities List, a roster of the nation's hazardous waste sites needing cleanup.

Since 1998, EPA-lead response actions have removed nearly 470,000 cubic yards of contaminated material from the site, cleaned up and restored 12 miles of the Kalamazoo River and Portage Creek (including banks), and capped 82 acres of contaminated material.

What are PCBs?

Polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, belong to a broad family of man-made organic chemicals known as chlorinated hydrocarbons. PCBs were domestically manufactured from 1929 until their manufacture was banned in 1979. Although no longer commercially produced in the United States, PCBs may be present in products and materials produced before the 1979 PCB ban. Once in the environment, PCBs do not readily break down and may remain for long periods of time in air, water and soil. PCBs have been demonstrated to cause cancer, as well as other adverse health effects on the immune system, reproductive system, nervous system, and endocrine system.




Deer and turkey on top of current landfill.



3-D Representation of work area.

ALLIED PAPER/PORTAGE CREEK/KALAMAZOO RIVER SITE: Work Begins at Allied Paper Landfill

Reproduced on Recycled Paper 

Place Postage
Here

Community Information Office
1300 Bluff St., Suite 140
Flint, MI 48504
Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, \$300
Address Service Requested

