

Public Participation is essential to the success of EPA's community involvement program. If you have any questions, please contact:

Julie Nace
Remedial Project Manager
212-637-4126
nace.julie@epa.gov

Pat Seppi
Community Involvement Coordinator
646-369-0068
seppi.pat@epa.gov

Virtual Public Meeting
April 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Registration:
<https://epa-sherwin-williams-ou4.eventbrite.com>

For more information on the site or to review the Proposed Plan, visit:
<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/sherwin-williams>

Upcoming Activities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently released its proposed plan for a portion of the Sherwin-Williams/Hilliards Creek Superfund site. The portion of the site addressed by the proposed plan focused on the waterbodies and is referred to as Operable Unit 4 (OU4) or the Waterbodies Operable Unit. The proposed plan addresses contaminated soil and sediment in and around waterbodies, including Kirkwood Lake, Hilliards Creek and Silver Lake, in Gibbsboro, Lindenwold, and Voorhees, New Jersey (See Figure 1). The waterbodies were contaminated by operations at the former Sherwin-Williams paint and varnish manufacturing plant in Gibbsboro, New Jersey. EPA's proposed plan calls for excavating and removing sediment, and excavating and capping soil, as necessary. Excavated material will be disposed of off-site. The waterbodies will be monitored during the cleanup work.

Past Cleanup Activities

The Sherwin-Williams sites are made up of three sites, located in areas of Gibbsboro and Voorhees, New Jersey. These sites are the Sherwin-Williams/Hilliard's Creek Superfund site located in both Gibbsboro and Voorhees and the Route 561 Dump Site and United States Avenue Burn Superfund site, both in Gibbsboro. Work is progressing on all of the sites and is being conducted in stages. EPA's first priority is to address contamination on residential properties. In 2015, EPA issued a final cleanup plan,

documented in a Record of Decision (ROD), for the residential properties. Under this plan, EPA is overseeing work to remove shallow soil on residential properties that are contaminated by sediment from adjoining waterbodies or from contaminated fill brought to the property. Cleanup work on these residential properties is ongoing. In 2016, EPA issued a final cleanup plan for the Route 561 Dump Site. This plan called for the removal of contaminated soil and sediment, and that work is ongoing. EPA's final cleanup plan and ROD for the United States Avenue Burn Site was issued in 2017. This plan involves the removal of contaminated soil and sediment and the engineering design work needed to implement the plan is currently ongoing. In 2020, EPA issued a ROD to address contaminated soil and sediment within the area of the Former Manufacturing Plant (FMP), which is located on the Sherwin-Williams/Hilliards Creek site. Design of the FMP cleanup will start this spring.

Public Involvement

EPA values the input of the community and will formally take public comments on its Proposed Plan until May 3, 2021. EPA is hosting a [virtual public meeting](#) to present the plan and take comments on April 12 at 7pm EST. To participate in the meeting via computer, please visit EPA's website for more information, <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/sherwin-williams>. To participate by telephone, please call into the conference line: 315-565-0493, Code ID: 416783242#. Please register in advance of the meeting by visiting <https://epa-sherwin-williams-ou4.eventbrite.com> or by contacting Ms. Pat Seppi at seppi.pat@epa.gov or 646-369-0068. Anyone interested in receiving a hard copy of the Proposed Plan or the materials for the public meeting should contact Pat Seppi by April 12, 2021. Verbal comments on the Proposed Plan may be provided during the virtual public meeting. Written comments on the Proposed Plan should be e-mailed or postmarked no later than May 1, 2021 to: nace.julie@epa.gov or Julie Nace, Remedial Project Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York, New York 10007-1866

Site Background

From the mid-1800s until 1977, John Lucas & Company, and eventually the Sherwin-Williams Company, operated a paint manufacturing facility in Gibbsboro, New Jersey. Historic features previously located on the Sherwin-Williams property included several of the manufacturing facility’s wastewater and paint sludge settling lagoons, several tank farms, open drum storage areas, and a railroad line and rail spur. The Sherwin-Williams/Hilliards Creek Superfund site is comprised of the FMP area, and the Waterbodies area that includes Silver Lake (14 acres), Bridgewood Lake (9 acres), Hilliards Creek, and Kirkwood Lake (25 acres). Hilliards Creek flows in a southerly direction from Silver Lake, through the FMP area, and continues downstream through residential and undeveloped areas. At approximately one mile from its origin, Hilliards Creek empties into Kirkwood Lake, located in Voorhees, New Jersey. Decades of direct discharge of paint waste materials to Hilliards Creek from lagoons, improper storage and handling, and leaking tanks led to widespread soil, sediment, and surface water contamination. Wastes were also disposed of at two additional locations, separate from the manufacturing facility. Route 561 Dump site and the U.S. Avenue Burn Superfund site, located in Gibbsboro, New Jersey, received waste from the Sherwin-Williams paint manufacturing processes. Lead and arsenic contamination from these areas can be found in Silver Lake, Bridgewood Lake, Kirkwood Lake and Hilliards Creek.

