

Webster Mill Removal Site North Attleborough, MA



U.S. EPA | HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM AT EPA NEW ENGLAND

THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND REMOVAL PROGRAM responds to chemical, biological and radiological releases and large-scale national emergencies, including homeland security incidents. EPA conducts short term cleanups in the removal program when necessary to protect human health and the environment by either funding response actions directly or overseeing and enforcing actions conducted by potentially responsible parties.

BACKGROUND

The approximately 1.6-acre Webster Mill Site (Site) is located at 262 Broadway, North Attleborough, MA. The Site was developed and operated as a silversmith facility from the late 1890s to the early 1970s. From 1972 to 2000, various commercial and industrial tenants operated at the Site. The property has been vacant since 2000.

Due to public safety concerns, the primary building was demolished by the town of North Attleborough in March 2024. A liner was temporarily installed to contain the building debris. Without further repair or inspection, asbestos fibers may migrate to the surrounding surface soil or properties which warranted a removal action by EPA. On July 14, 2025, EPA began performing cleanup activities to remove asbestos-containing material resulting from the 2024 emergency demolition.

SITE UPDATE

On September 17, 2025, EPA and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection joined Michael Borg, Town Manager of North Attleborough, on the "Town Hall Talks" podcast to discuss the Webster Mill cleanup. The episode (Season 2, Episode 5) can be found at <https://open.spotify.com/show/7Gh3de0WUpF0oQzfFyssiW?si=13fc602f27c74928>.

On September 24, 2025, EPA identified lead-contaminated material in some of the debris while testing for transport and disposal. As a precaution, the agency temporarily paused work to determine the appropriate next steps for the safe disposal of the contaminated materials. There is no additional risk to community members.

EPA selected a plan for transport and disposal of all hazardous materials and on-site operations are expected to start the week of December 1, 2025. Air monitoring will resume when on-site operations start.

KEY CONTACTS

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[Response.epa.gov/Webster Mill](https://Response.epa.gov/WebsterMill)



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TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL

For the transport and disposal of waste materials, EPA will stockpile materials in 10 cubic-yard sacks and load them onto a truck for transport to a rail yard located in Taunton, MA. From there, the materials will be sent by rail to a landfill in Alabama that meets all regulations and certifications for accepting hazardous materials.

Trucks will be leaving the Site heading south on Broadway, east on Colburn Street, south on South Washington Street to Route 1, and enter the highway via I-295. EPA will continue to coordinate with the town to ensure public safety during the transport and disposal process.



Figure: Overview of the Site before loadout of asbestos-containing material.