



Temple Stuart Removal Site Baldwinville, 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

On July 8, 2024, EPA began a removal action, or a short-term cleanup at the Temple Stuart Site, located at 24 Holman Street in Baldwinville, Worcester County, MA. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection in May 2023 asked the EPA removal program to clean up the elevated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) found in shallow soil during an EPA brownfields investigation. The EPA brownfields program helps communities safely and sustainably redevelop once used commercial properties.

PCBs belong to a broad family of man-made organic chemicals known as chlorinated hydrocarbons. PCBs were domestically manufactured from 1929 until manufacturing was banned in 1979. Currently, few people spend time on the abandoned Temple Stuart Site and any exposure to PCBs would be very limited. However, for potential future use of the site, removing the PCBs helps protect public health and the environment.

Exposure to high levels of PCBs or exposure for long amounts of time may cause health effects. Health effects that have been associated with exposure to PCBs include acne-like skin conditions in adults and neurobehavioral and immunological changes in children. PCBs are known to cause cancer in animals.

To learn more about PCBs visit <https://www.epa.gov/pcbs>.

The EPA brownfields' contractor conducted the initial soil sampling in February and March 2023; and additional sampling in September 2023. This additional sampling helped further define the area where elevated PCB levels were detected in surficial soil and on the adjacent concrete slab. During a prior EPA removal

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LEARN MORE AT

[www.response.epa.gov/
templestuartRA2](http://www.response.epa.gov/templestuartRA2)



REMOVAL PROGRAM

action in 2002, the concrete slab had been used for staging of PCB-contaminated soil.

At this time, removal activities include but are not limited to:

- Digging up contaminated soil;
- Performing dust control measures as needed and perimeter air monitoring to ensure dust control measures are effective;
- Evaluating PCB contamination on concrete slab structures;
- Transporting and disposing of contaminated soil at off-site EPA-approved disposal facilities; and
- Backfilling excavated areas.

To learn more about EPA's removal activities, visit www.response.epa.gov/templestuartRA2.

Cleanup activities are expected to end in winter 2024. This removal action is being funded by EPA.

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