



# Cleanup to Begin at the Columbian Enameling and Stamping Company

October 2024

**Columbian Enameling Site**  
Terre Haute, Indiana

## Contact U.S. EPA

If you have questions, comments or need more information about the Columbian Enameling Site cleanup, please contact one of these team members:

### *For technical questions:*

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### *For general or media questions:*

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## Additional Contacts

### **City of Terre Haute**

#### **Brandon Sakbun**

#### **Mayor**

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## Website

Please visit EPA's website at:  
[response.epa.gov/columbianenamel](https://response.epa.gov/columbianenamel)  
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Scan the QR code above for more information.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will clean up asbestos and hazardous waste at the defunct Columbian Enameling and Stamping Company facility at 1536 Beach Street, Terre Haute, Indiana. Preparation work began on October 21, 2024, to set up an office trailer, repair fencing, and to remove wastes in drums and asbestos debris. Cleanup work will start this fall and take about one year to complete.

### **U.S. EPA's goal is to protect the health and wellbeing of community members by:**

- Spraying water, to prevent dust from getting into the air.
- Conducting air monitoring and sampling, to make sure asbestos fibers are not leaving the cleanup area.
- Repairing fencing around the property, to prevent access to the hazardous cleanup area.
- Transporting wastes and asbestos debris to an EPA-approved disposal facility.
- Removing unstable structures.



## **Your health and safety are important!**

The best way to stay safe is by keeping your distance and not entering the property. EPA advises community members to avoid entering this dangerous site. Entry may expose you to asbestos and you may carry this hazardous substance off-site on your clothes and shoes.

### **What to expect during cleanup work:**

- Potential for increased traffic around the cleanup area.
- Noise from active removal work during normal work hours.
- Temporary fencing around work site.
- Crew members wearing respirators and personal protective equipment.

### **Site Background**

The Columbian Enameling and Stamping Company operated from 1902 until 1968 producing enamel cookware.

In 2021, the current owner of the property, Complete Industrial Holdings, began demolishing site buildings and scavenging valuable building materials. Salvaging crews performed these operations without required permits. In April 2022, the Indiana Building Inspectors Office issued a cease work order.

In late 2023, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management requested EPA assistance to conduct a removal assessment at the site.

## What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral that has a fibrous form, which makes it a strong and heat-resistant material. It was historically used in many products and is still present in older homes and buildings.

Asbestos is not water soluble, which means it will not dissolve and move through the groundwater.

Breathing in fibers from the breakdown or disposal of old asbestos products can cause harmful health effects. Potential health issues can include shortness of breath and a persistent cough. Long-term exposure is linked to mesothelioma and lung cancer. As a result, EPA has banned asbestos use in new construction projects.

For more information about asbestos, visit: [atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts61.pdf](https://atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts61.pdf) or scan the QR code.



*Asbestos-containing roofing material.*



*View from the center of the site looking southwest.*

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