

The Sherwin-Williams Company (Sherwin-Williams) is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to investigate and remediate environmental conditions associated with past industrial operations at the former paint manufacturing plant in Gibbsboro, New Jersey. Activities at the Sherwin-Williams/Hilliards Creek Site, the Route 561 Dump Site and the United States Avenue Burn Site (the Sites) have been divided into six units to help facilitate the remedy decision and remedial action process. This update provides information regarding progress on each unit.

COVID-19 Update

The Sherwin-Williams project team continues to implement COVID-19 related precautions consistent with state and federal recommendations and requirements. The field office is now open to visitors by appointment only. The team continues to work diligently to keep the project moving forward.

Residential Properties Remediation

EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Residential Properties adjacent to the Sites on September 30, 2015 and remediation activities began in 2016.

Remediation and restoration activities are complete on 38 residential properties.

Sherwin-Williams continues to perform remediation and restoration activities on residential properties along Kirkwood Lake in Voorhees. Sherwin-Williams has targeted completion of all residential properties along Kirkwood Lake by the end of 2021.

Route 561 Dump Site

On September 26, 2016, EPA released its remedy decision for the remediation of the Route 561 Dump Site in Gibbsboro. On March 31, 2017, Sherwin-Williams received legal authorization from EPA to move forward with both the remedial design and remedial action.

Remediation and restoration activities are complete on commercial and open space properties along Route 561 in Gibbsboro. Remediation of areas along White Sand Branch between Route 561 and Berlin Road is complete and restoration is underway. Remediation activities along portions of White Sand Branch between Berlin Road and United States Avenue is underway. All construction work under the Dump Site unit should be completed this year.

The United States Avenue Burn Site

On September 29, 2017, EPA issued a ROD for the remediation of the United States Avenue Burn Site (Burn Site) in Gibbsboro. On April 16, 2019, the Consent Decree between EPA and Sherwin-Williams was finalized, authorizing Sherwin-Williams to proceed with the remedial design and remedial action.

Sherwin-Williams has completed the pre-design investigation for the Burn Site and associated properties, and is moving forward with preparation of the remedial design documents.

Areas within the Burn Site are being used for the short-term staging of equipment and materials during the remediation of White Sand Branch. These areas will later be remediated under the Burn Site unit.

Former Manufacturing Plant (FMP) Soils

On August 10, 2020, EPA issued a ROD to address contaminated soils at the FMP, as well as sediments in a portion of Hilliards Creek adjacent to the FMP. On April 5, 2021, the Consent Decree between EPA and Sherwin-Williams was finalized, authorizing Sherwin-Williams to proceed with the pre-design investigation, followed by the remedial design and remedial action.

The Sherwin-Williams team has submitted a draft pre-design investigation (PDI) work plan to EPA. Once the work plan is thoroughly reviewed and approved, Sherwin-Williams will initiate PDI field activities. The EPA-approved remedy for the FMP Soils unit includes three distinct work areas requiring different remedial approaches. The pre-design and remedial design phases are expected to extend over multiple years.

In order to facilitate remediation work at and adjacent to the FMP, Sherwin-Williams will extend a segment of the sanitary sewer line to certain residential properties located on United States Avenue in Gibbsboro. Design of the sewer line extension is underway.

Waterbodies including Hilliards Creek

On April 1, 2021, EPA released a Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the Waterbodies Unit. The proposed plan was based upon a comprehensive Feasibility Study, prepared by Sherwin-Williams, which evaluated the remediation alternatives for Hilliards Creek and its floodplain, as well as Silver Lake, Bridgewood Lake and Kirkwood Lake located in Gibbsboro and Voorhees, New Jersey.

EPA hosted a virtual public meeting on April 12, 2021 and accepted public comments on the proposed plan through May 3, 2021. EPA is expected to issue a ROD for the Waterbodies Unit by the end of 2021.

Sherwin-Williams continues to work cooperatively with Camden County in evaluating options for accelerating the dredging of Kirkwood Lake.

Former Manufacturing Plant Groundwater

Sherwin-Williams is working with EPA to finalize the Remedial Investigation of the Groundwater unit. Once the Remedial Investigation is complete and approved, Sherwin-Williams will proceed with the Feasibility Study to evaluate alternatives for addressing groundwater contamination at the FMP.

Remediation Construction Updates

Construction updates are posted to the Sherwin-Williams project website on a weekly basis.

www.swhilliardscreek.com