NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA Response to September 11

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Dust Suppression and Removal Keys to Controlling WTC Dust and Asbestos

Photo: FEMA

EPA has established a number of wash stations (view map). To insure that contaminated dust is not scattered by people and vehicles leaving the WTC work zone.Workers coming off the site have their boots washed. Cars and trucks are power-washed and debris being hauled to piers is wetted down and covered so dust does not fly about.

Immediately following the disaster, EPA began systematically cleaning streets and sidewalks, parking areas, parks and playgrounds in the impacted area. Work has been completed in virtually every area outside the immediate WTC work zone (see map) that needed cleaning.

EPA is providing monitoring data for asbestos and other substances from a variety of sources, along with other information, to help people understand how these attacks have affected environmental quality in those areas. See the table at right for maps and data.

Information About Re-entering Buildings

EPA has found the presence of asbestos-containing material in some of the dust samples taken from the World Trade Center debris. If you find that your apartment or workplace contains more than a minimal amount of dust, the space should be cleaned by a professional asbestos contractor before you re-occupy. A list of certified contractors [redacted] in the New York area can be found on the New York City Department of Environmental Protection Web site.

If you find a minimal amount of dust on returning to your home or workplace, follow the New York City Department of Health [redacted] recommendations

Environmental Monitoring

New York City Area
Data Summaries

Interactive Mapping Interface

- NYC EnviroMapper New!

Data Tables

- Asbestos in Air
- Particulate Matter 2.5 (fine particles)
- Particulate Matter 10 (fine & coarse particles)
- Asbestos in Bulk Dust
- Drinking Water
- PCBs in Air
- Lead in Air
- Benzene in Air
- Dioxin in Air
- Chromium in Air

Pentagon
Data Summary

Other Air Monitoring Data
New York State [redacted]
New Jersey [redacted]

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for people re-occupying buildings. These procedures should also be followed if re-occupied residences or offices become dusty due to ongoing work at the World Trade Center.

General Information

Frequently Asked Environmental and Public Health Questions about the World Trade Center and Pentagon Tragedies

Asbestos Health Information

Fact sheet about smoke and dust (particulate matter)

Related EPA Press Releases

Information from the New York City Department of Health [redacted]
Air Quality Information

Pictures from the World Trade Center Response

How You Can Help

Information from the White House [redacted]

Find out how you can help American relief efforts through the **American Liberty Partnership.** [redacted]

FirstGov [redacted] has compiled a list of resources for victims of the attacks and those who want to help.

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