



EPA Plans Urgent Cleanup at Former Rivet Maker

EPA hosts open house

EPA staff will be hosting an informal open house/availability session where you can come and ask questions and discuss the Detroit Tubular cleanup.

**Wednesday, May 2
4 – 6 p.m.**

**Department of Public
Service Building
4201 13th St.
Wyandotte, Michigan**

For more information

If you need more information about the emergency cleanup at the site or have questions or comments you can contact the following EPA team members:

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Website for photographs and documents:

www.epaosc.org/dtrwyandotte

Detroit Tubular Rivet Co.

Wyandotte, Michigan

April 2012

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans to take emergency action this spring to clean up hundreds of waste containers abandoned at the former Detroit Tubular Rivet Co. The site is at 1213 Grove St., Wyandotte. EPA's cleanup at the property is classified as a "time-critical removal action." The work will be conducted with the Agency's authority under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, better known as the Superfund law.

Detroit Tubular Rivet Inc. manufactured bolts, nuts, rivets and other small parts. It also provided zinc and brass electroplating services. The company operated from 1954 until filing for bankruptcy in December 2010. The business was liquidated last fall.

Company cited for violations

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality asked EPA to undertake the cleanup work. A MDEQ legal notice sent to the company listed 16 hazardous and liquid industrial waste violations including failure to minimize the possibility of fire, explosion or release of hazardous waste. According to the notice, the violations could threaten human health and the environment. Among other issues, officials cited the company for failure to maintain hazardous waste containers in good condition and for sloppy waste handling.

EPA responders inspected the property and found 300 drums, totes, and small containers. Some of the containers were sampled and found to contain cyanide, acids and methylene chloride. All of these are considered hazardous substances. The building is abandoned and there are signs of trespassing. EPA staff concluded the site poses an "imminent and substantial threat to human health and the environment." That conclusion allows the Agency to legally and quickly clean up the pollution.

Cleanup plans

EPA officials say the emergency cleanup will start in mid May and take about 4-8 weeks. EPA plans to identify the substances and remove the hazardous ones for off-site disposal. Additional cleanup activities may include securing the site and monitoring the air along the edges of the property during the cleanup. EPA officials estimate the removal action will cost \$200,000.