

Luckey Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program Site News from the Corps

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Hello from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District:

The district will begin the removal of the former production building and two smaller buildings from the Luckey Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) site next week. The buildings are being removed to provide safe access to sample and remediate soil underneath, which is contaminated with beryllium, radium-226, thorium-230, uranium-234, uranium-238, and lead.

The production building, which covers 1.5 acres of the site, was used to produce beryllium from 1949 to 1958 under a contract with the Atomic Energy Commission. Since the Luckey Site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the district has coordinated with the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office regarding the historic record, and will be recording the deconstruction of the building through time-lapse photography.

Unlike building demolition which most people are familiar with, building deconstruction involves a more methodical process of disassembling a building in smaller pieces. Building deconstruction greatly reduces the amount of dust generated and prevents the spread of airborne contamination. Deconstruction of the former production building and disposal of the debris is anticipated to take approximately seven months. Protection of human health and the environment will be our highest priority during the building removal.

The Corps of Engineers continues to actively monitor the evolving COVID-19 situation and communicates regularly with site personnel and contractors to emphasize the importance of taking appropriate actions -- such as social distancing, wearing appropriate protective equipment, temperature screening of individuals before entry into the site, and personal hygiene measures -- to safeguard employee health and welfare while working during the pandemic.

Soil remediation will resume upon completion of the building removal operation. The entire site remediation is approximately 50% complete. The Phase 1 excavation area was completed in July 2020 and excavation in the Phase 2 area was completed during December 2020. Backfill and restoration of the Phase 1 and 2 areas is being conducted as weather permits.

We will continue to post an infographic tracking cleanup progress weekly to the web at <https://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/Missions/HTRW/FUSRAP/Luckey-Site/>. Those interested in receiving email updates on progress made at the Luckey Site can email fusrap@usace.army.mil.