WORK SHOULDN’T HURT

Resources for Norfolk Southern Victims
February 28, 2023

Assistance for Evacuated Residents

- U.S. EPA Information Page on the East Palestine Train Derailment
- Ohio EPA Information Page on the East Palestine Train Derailment
- Ohio Emergency Management Agency | Emergency Management Agency
- Columbiana County Emergency Management Agency: 330-424-7139
- Norfolk Southern Family Assistance Center: 800-230-7049
- Train Derailment Hotline: 234-542-6474 (for questions about odors, fumes, animals, health, and other concerns)
- Columbiana County Health Department:
  - For questions about private well water quality: 330-424-0272
  - To request air quality monitoring (only for residences within the 1-mile evacuation zone): 330-849-3919

Workers’ Compensation

The Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation has created a specialized team to specifically handle any workers’ compensation claims related to the derailment. These claims will be subject to the same standards, rules, and laws as any other claim within the jurisdiction of Ohio but will be administered by staff members with specialized knowledge related to toxic substance/harmful physical agent exposure. All claim-related inquiries may be directed to Sarah Shackelford at Sarah.S.2@bwc.state.oh.us or Wilma Rhone-Perez Wilma.P.1@bwc.state.oh.us.

Health Monitoring Resources

Get medical attention if you or a family member are experiencing health problems, or an existing problem has gotten worse. It will be important to document this if the problem persists. You can request your medical records from your provider if needed.

Keep personal records of where you were and potential exposures at work or in the community.

Health Monitoring and Surveillance for Emergency Responders

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Administration (NIOSH/CDC) can monitor the health of response workers. This includes nurses and healthcare workers, police, fire, emergency medical personnel, cleanup, repair, restoration, and recovery workers. Local leaders or union staff can contact NIOSH to get members enrolled in this program.

Emergency Responder Health Monitoring and Surveillance (ERHMS) | NIOSH | CDC
Environmental and occupational health clinics are specialized providers with experience in diagnosing, treating, and monitoring health problems caused by hazardous exposure in the workplace and in the home. The closest clinic is in West Virginia. For more information on environmental and occupational health clinics see AOEC - Home.

West Virginia University School of Medicine
Occupational Medicine
3860 Robert C. Byrd Health Science Center South
Morgantown, WV 26506-9145
Chris Martin, MD, MSc – Director,
cmartin@hsc.wvu.edu
Phone: 304-293-3693
Fax: 304-293-2629

Community Epidemiological Evaluation
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers a rapid epidemiological evaluation for communities (not individuals):
Requesting an Epi-Aid - Epidemiologic assistance from CDC.

Mental Health Resources
Living through this traumatic incident will create additional stress, anxiety, anger, and depression for people. These are normal reactions but may be hard to live with. Mental health resources are available to help.

Trauma Counseling Programs and Services | American Federation of Teachers (aft.org)
AFT offers free trauma counseling to members in good standing, including those on leave status and affiliate staff. Trauma counseling is an innovative form of mental health care that provides confidential therapy at any time in the one-year aftermath of a traumatic incident. Once the free coverage ends, or if you want to obtain counseling for a family member, you have the option to purchase coverage for as little as $4.00 per month for yourself or $16.00 per month for family members.

Disaster Distress Hotline | PSAs for Disasters (cdc.gov) Call 1-800-985-5990 for the Disaster Distress Helpline which provides confidential counseling, referrals, and other support, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Cleaning
DO NOT: Use bleach to clean surfaces in their home to remove contamination. Bleach can react with other chemicals and create additional hazardous exposures.

DO: Clean surfaces with water with a little added detergent. Wash dishes, utensils, and toys that can be submerged in soapy water and rinsed. Launder clothes and bedding as normal.

DO: Use a vacuum with a HEPA filter. Replace the filter after you have completed the first round of cleaning. Put on a mask while vacuuming and replacing the filter. Discard the mask afterwards. Open windows when vacuuming.

Local Resources for Community Engagement
River Valley Organizing - Home
Community organizing group for the Ohio River Valley that works on environmental justice and other issues.

Between The Waters – Water activism (betweenthewaterscom.org)
Grassroots group that addresses water quality and public health issues, as well as mental health concerns.

Verified donation sites for affected communities in Ohio and Pennsylvania
Clean Air Council: https://t.co/MRqYZDZL0x
Beaver County, PA: https://gofund.me/8198e742

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY TEAM AT 4HEALTHANDSAFETY.ORG