

# EPA to give update on Velsicol cleanup Sept. 21

 Posted on Wednesday, September 20th, 2017 and is filed under [Miscellaneous](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can skip to the end and leave a response. Pinging is currently not allowed.

The public will receive a briefing Thursday, Sept. 21 on work scheduled at the Velsicol Chemical Superfund site in St. Louis.

Officials with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality will go over plans for the phase one cleanup.

The meeting takes place in the St. Louis City Hall Community Room starting at 7 p.m.

Over summer, new service roads were constructed, high-voltage electrical circuit installed, design work and groundwater sampling completed.

There has been ongoing pumping and treatment of 20,000 gallons per week of contaminated groundwater.

This work was in preparation of the in-situ thermal treatment that EPA Project Manager Tom Alcamo will review.

In printed material made available by the EPA, this method involves removing harmful chemicals from soil and groundwater using heat.

Heat is applied in-place and directly targets the contaminated area underground.

Alcamo said this treatment has been used successfully for years worldwide.

Heat will either destroy the chemicals in place or turn them into vapors, or gases, that can move more easily through soil.

The vapors are captured from the soil by a vacuum and cleaned in the treatment process.

There is a website that the EPA has developed to provide the public with data collected during the thermal treatment process.

Data will be uploaded to the web viewer daily and weekly during treatment.

Alcamo is expected to provide more details at the meeting tonight.