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CONGRESSIONAL  
GLOBAL HEALTH CAUCUS,  
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CONGRESSIONAL  
NATIVE AMERICAN CAUCUS,  
CO-CHAIR

## You Are Invited to a Neighborhood Meeting

### Important Information Will Be Shared Regarding the Environment Protection Agency's (EPA) Cleanup of Hazardous Waste at 888 N. Prior Avenue, St. Paul

Hosted by the Office of Congresswoman McCollum and  
the Office of St. Paul City Council President Russ Stark

**When:** Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 7 pm

**Where:** Newell Park Building  
900 Fairview Avenue North  
St. Paul

**Participants:** Office of Congresswoman Betty McCollum  
Office of St. Paul Council President Russ Stark  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
City of St. Paul  
Hamline Midway Coalition – District Council 11

**Questions:** For more information contact  
Congresswoman McCollum's office at:  
(651) 224-9191



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# EPA to Begin Cleanup of Hazardous Waste

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## Plating Inc.

St. Paul, Minnesota

August 2017

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### For more information

If you have questions, comments or need more information about the Plating Inc. site cleanup, contact these EPA team members:

*For technical questions:*

**David Morrison**

On-Scene Coordinator  
651-706-4116  
morrison.david@epa.gov

*For general questions:*

**Ruth Muhtsun**

Community Involvement  
Coordinator  
312-886-6595  
muhtsun.ruth@epa.gov

**EPA Chicago Office address:**

U.S. EPA Region 5  
77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604

**On the Web:**

[https://response.epa.gov/site/site\\_pr\\_ofile.aspx?site\\_id=12315](https://response.epa.gov/site/site_pr_ofile.aspx?site_id=12315)

*For additional information:*

**Jim Stockinger**

Minnesota Pollution Control  
Agency  
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**Aaron Chavez**

Solid and Hazardous Waste  
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Ramsey County  
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will begin a hazardous waste cleanup and local community outreach around the Plating Inc. site at 888 N. Prior Ave. in St. Paul. The former industrial facility specialized in zinc and chromate plating of aluminum and is now abandoned.

EPA calls the cleanup a “time-critical removal action.” Federal law allows EPA to step in and remove hazardous waste from a private business when the pollution poses an imminent health threat if released into the environment. Starting in August, EPA staff will begin door-to-door outreach to notify residents living close to the site about the removal action and answer any concerns.

Currently, EPA officials have secured the building to reduce the threat of any chemical releases. EPA will be conducting air monitoring in the building and at the perimeter to ensure that residents and nearby business occupants are not exposed during the removal process. EPA will also develop a contingency plan to notify all state, county and local officials and residents if there is an emergency.

During the cleanup, the federal Agency will combine and package hazardous materials for off-site disposal. The abandoned facility houses more than 80 chemical vats containing hazardous waste such as cyanide, caustics and chromium. It also contains nearly 80 drums and totes with various chemicals. Asbestos-containing material was also found to have broken off tanks and piping due to deteriorating building conditions. Cleanup of the hazardous waste will be conducted during normal business hours to minimize disturbance to the neighborhood. The cleanup is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

### Site history

The Plating Inc. site was in use as a plating shop since around 1938. The site consists of a 21,100 square-foot commercial building with several homes and businesses sitting close to the structure. In 2013, state of Minnesota officials discovered compliance issues during a routine hazardous waste inspection.

In April 2016, the owner/operator of the facility abandoned the facility after incomplete efforts to return to compliance. In response, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency conducted a site visit last December. MPCA staff discovered that many of the open process vats and vessels were left full, and there were large quantities of hazardous substances remaining in the building.