# Washington's Cleanup Process

Public participation plans and comment periods are only required for cleanups under a legal agreement with Ecology. Otherwise, all cleanups follow the same steps. The steps are defined by Washington's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act.



#### Initial investigation

Find out if there's contamination needing cleanup.

#### Assess the site

Evaluate potential threat to humans and the environment.

### Study the site (remedial investigation) 💬

- Find out what and where the contamination is.
- Determine how contamination might impact living things.

#### Consider options (feasibility study) 💬

- Compare ways to keep the contamination from harming people or the environment.
- Weigh benefits versus costs of each cleanup option.

#### Plan the cleanup (cleanup action plan) 💬

- Describe Ecology's selected cleanup option.
- Set cleanup standards that will protect living things.
- Schedule next steps.
- Set requirements for monitoring and maintenance.

#### Design the cleanup

Make detailed construction plans for the cleanup action.

#### Clean up the site!

Complete the cleanup action. For example:

- Constructing a multi-layered capping system.
- Installing a treatment system.
- Removing contamination to a special landfill.

## Monitor, maintain, and review 💬

- Operate treatment systems and monitor progress.
- Prevent activities that could disturb the cleanup.
- Review regularly to ensure cleanup still protects living things.

## Remove from Contaminated Sites List 💬

Move to No Further Action list if site meets all standards and requirements.



Public input opportunity

may clean up some contamination before the final cleanup.

Legal orders or agreements define required tasks and schedules.

Public participation plans explain how Ecology will ask for input from the local community.