



Public Participation Plan: Boeing Developmental Center

**9725 E. Marginal Way S.
Tukwila, WA**

Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction Program

Washington State Department of Ecology
Northwest Region Office
Shoreline, Washington



Publication 26-04-032 | September 2026

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- Courtesy of Boeing Developmental Center

Related information

- Cleanup site ID: 5059
- Facility site ID: 2101

Contact Information

Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program

Washington State Department of Ecology, Northwest Region Office
P.O. Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133
Phone: 206-594-0000

Janelle Anderson, Community Outreach and Environmental Education Specialist

Telephone: 425-301-6454

Email: Janelle.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov

Pronouns: she/her

Michelle Myers, Site Manager

Telephone: 206-773-3498

Email: Michelle.Myers2@ecy.wa.gov

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¹ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/5059>

² ecology.wa.gov/ADA

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The Department of Ecology offers free translation and interpretation services. If you need help in your preferred language, please call Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 and request an interpreter, or email Janelle.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

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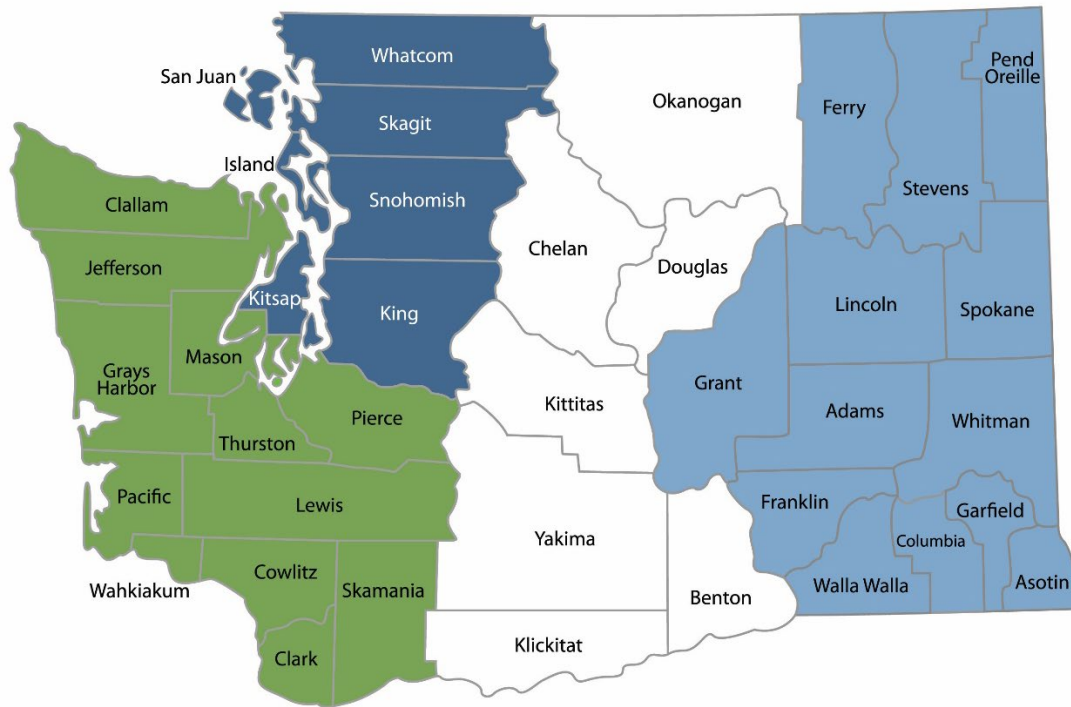
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Department of Ecology's Region Offices

Map of Counties Served



Southwest Region
360-407-6300

Northwest Region
206-594-0000

Central Region
509-575-2490

Eastern Region
509-329-3400

Region	Counties served	Mailing Address	Phone
Southwest	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum	PO Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6300
Northwest	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom	PO Box 330316 Shoreline, WA 98133	206-594-0000
Central	Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima	1250 W Alder St Union Gap, WA 98903	509-575-2490
Eastern	Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman	4601 N Monroe Spokane, WA 99205	509-329-3400
Headquarters	Across Washington	PO Box 47600 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6000

Public Participation Plan

Boeing Developmental Center

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DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

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Public Involvement in Contamination Cleanup

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology, we) is overseeing the cleanup of contamination at the Boeing Developmental Center (BDC) facility, located in Tukwila, Washington.

We developed this Public Participation Plan in collaboration with Boeing, the party responsible for cleanup costs. The goal of this plan is to ensure meaningful community involvement throughout the cleanup of the BDC site (the site).

This plan outlines how we will keep the public informed about contamination investigations and cleanup options at each stage of the process. Please review [Appendix A](#) for more information about the cleanup process. The plan also details when and how the community can participate in the cleanup process. We encourage the public to provide input.

Site contacts

To be included in the site record, comments about the cleanup process must be submitted during comment periods. Questions and informal comments or information about the site's history are welcome anytime.

Ecology

Northwest Region Office
P.O. Box 330316
Shoreline, WA 98133
Telephone: 206-594-0000

Michelle Myers

Site Manager
Telephone: 206-773-3498
Email: Michelle.Myers2@ecy.wa.gov

Janelle Anderson

Community Outreach and Environmental
Education Specialist
Telephone: 425-301-6454
Email: Janelle.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov
Pronouns: she/her

Boeing Renton

The Boeing Company
P.O. Box 3707 MC 46-202
Seattle, WA 98124

Roxie Trachtenberg

Environmental Remediation Project
Manager
Telephone: 425-209-8971
Email: roxie.trachtenberg@boeing.com

If you are unable to reach these contacts, please visit the [cleanup site page](#)³ for up-to-date contact information.

³ [Boeing Developmental Center - \(5059\)](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/5059): <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/5059>

Public Participation Activities

Members of the public may ask questions, submit informal comments, or share site information at any time. Interested parties don't need to wait for a formal public comment period to contact Ecology.

However, to be included in the formal site record, comments about the site investigation, cleanup alternatives, or cleanups must be submitted during formal comment periods. In addition, the public is invited to review site documents before they become final. This is the most direct and influential way to learn more about the site and be involved in the cleanup's decision making.

How we share information with the community

During specific stages of the cleanup, Ecology will mail notices about public comment periods to addresses surrounding the site. The mailing list area will vary depending on the type of contamination and where it's located. However, the list will include at least those addresses within a quarter-mile radius of the site and other interested organizations and individuals. These notices provide general information about the site, contact information for submitting comments, and times and locations of public meetings or hearings, or how to request one if not yet scheduled.

Comment period notices will be available online and at document repositories (for example, at the library closest to the site). Notices may also be posted in various locations throughout the community (for example, local businesses, schools, or post offices).

Ecology may also develop documents outside of comment periods to keep the community updated on the site's status. These informational documents will be available online. Print copies may be mailed to the nearby community if we feel the message warrants the cost.

Postal mailing list

Ecology maintains a mailing list that includes addresses near the site and relevant local, state, and federal government contacts.

People on the mailing list receive public comment notices when draft documents are available.

We will add additional individuals, organizations, and other interested parties to the mailing list as requested. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for this site, please contact Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 or Janelle.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

Contaminated Site Register

Public comment periods, events, and other cleanup notices are published in Ecology's [*Contaminated Site Register*](#).⁴ To receive the *Contaminated Site Register* by email, please

⁴ ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Site-Register-lists-and-data

[subscribe online](#),⁵ or contact Sarah Kellington at Sarah.Kellington@ecy.wa.gov or 360-280-3167.

Newspaper display ads or legal notices

We announce public comment periods and events for this site in ads or notices published in the [Seattle Times](#)⁶ and [el Siete Días](#).⁷ We will also publish a notice on our [Public Input & Events Listing](#).⁸

Ecology's website and social media platforms

We maintain a website for the [BDC site](#).⁹ The website provides site information, and you may download cleanup documents. We may also share information about cleanup sites through [news releases, our blog, and social media](#).¹⁰

Automatic site updates

You can subscribe to this site from Ecology's [BDC webpage](#).¹¹ You'll receive a weekly email if we change the site's status, add documents to the site's webpage, or open a comment period.

Places to see print documents

During public comment periods, you can find print documents at the following locations:

Washington State Department of Ecology

Northwest Region Office
15700 Dayton Ave N.
Shoreline, WA 98133
Telephone: 206-594-0000

Tukwila Library

14380 Tukwila International Boulevard
Tukwila, WA 98168
Phone: 206-242-1640

To schedule an appointment at Ecology's Shoreline office, please contact Michael Hart, Public Disclosure Coordinator, by telephone at 206-594-0000 or email at Michael.Hart@ecy.wa.gov.

If you would like to be mailed print documents, please contact Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 or Janelle.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

⁵ ecology.wa.gov/site-register

⁶ <https://www.seattletimes.com/>

⁷ <https://elsietedias.com/>

⁸ ecology.wa.gov/Events/Search/Listing

⁹ [Boeing Developmental Center - \(5059\)](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/5059): <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/5059>

¹⁰ ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/News

¹¹ [Boeing Developmental Center - \(5059\)](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/5059): <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/5059>

Signs around the cleanup site

We may also install signs displaying information about project status, traffic impacts, and health risks around the cleanup site.

How you can share information with us

We hold public comment periods and sometimes public events to learn your thoughts, opinions, and concerns about cleanup at a site. We may also identify public concerns and cleanup goals by meeting with and soliciting information from interested community members and organizations. To collaborate with us about this site, please contact Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 or Janelle.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

Public comment periods

At a minimum, the [Model Toxics Control Act](#) requires 30-day comment periods to allow interested members of the public to comment on draft documents, legal agreements, and proposed cleanup actions. Tribes receive draft documents at least 45 days prior to the comment period start date. If there is significant interest, Ecology may extend the public comment period. See [Washington's Cleanup Laws](#) for more information about the Model Toxics Control Act.

When Ecology oversees [State Environmental Policy Act](#) determinations, we hold comment periods for at least two weeks and may extend them to 30 days or more when other cleanup documents are also available for review.

Following a comment period, we publish all the input we received and respond to significant comments and questions, as appropriate. If the comments result in significant changes to the cleanup documents, then the documents will be revised and reissued for public review. If the comments do not result in significant changes, the documents will become final.

Public events

We hold public meetings, workshops, open houses, and hearings based on community interest. At meetings, workshops, and open houses, attendees can ask questions, learn more about the site, and submit written comments when a comment period is open. At a public hearing, verbal comments are transcribed for the record, and Ecology responds to them after the comment period in our response to comments.

If we have not scheduled an event, we will hold one if ten people request it. This may cause us to extend a public comment period, so the event occurs during it.

Events are held at locations close to the site that meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards. Public events are always announced in advance using a variety of methods.

Public Participation Grants

Grants may be available to neighborhood committees, non-profits, and other groups interested in the site. For contaminated sites, these funds can be used to:

- Hire an expert to help interpret technical information.
- Conduct activities that enhance the public's understanding of, and participation in, the cleanup process.

For more information about public participation grants, please contact Laura Busby (phone: 360-280-5088, email: Laura.Busby@ecy.wa.gov) or Maria Marlin (phone: 360-407-6086, email: Maria.Marlin@ecy.wa.gov). You may also visit the [Public Participation Grant webpage](#).¹²

Site Information

Site background

Boeing Developmental Center (BDC) is located along the Lower Duwamish Waterway in Tukwila. The 5-mile stretch of the Lower Duwamish Waterway that flows north into Elliot Bay is a Superfund site, a federal environmental cleanup led by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). BDC is located on the shore at the beginning of this 5-mile stretch.

Boeing has been operating here since 1956. Before then, this location was occupied by a variety of commercial and industrial businesses including a sawmill, an auto-wrecking yard, and a gas station.

Cleanup at this site began under Ecology's Voluntary Cleanup Program in the 1990s. In 2019, Boeing and Ecology entered a legal agreement about the BDC cleanup.

Site contamination

BDC focuses on aerospace research and development. The site is a large, complex facility with activities that have changed over time, including multiple laboratories and test facilities that support airplane and missile research and development. Boeing uses chemicals in manufacturing processes that result in hazardous waste.

Spills and releases during manufacturing contaminated soil and groundwater at the site. Historical land use and industrial practices contaminated soil and groundwater with:

- Total petroleum hydrocarbons (diesel, gasoline, oil)
- Volatile organic compounds (tetrachloroethylene, trichloroethylene, vinyl chloride, benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, xylene, etc.)

¹² ecology.wa.gov/PPG

- Semi-volatile organic compounds (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons)
- Metals (arsenic, copper, cadmium)
- Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)

The above contaminants can cause cancer and/or can be toxic to humans and animals.

Cleanup plans

The sediments (mud) in the Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW) have various contaminants from decades of industrial activity and urban area stormwater runoff. EPA is leading efforts to clean up the LDW. Ecology is leading efforts to control sources of contamination from the surrounding land, including from BDC.

The long-term goal is to minimize recontamination of the river sediment and restore water quality in the river. Project milestones include:

- **November 2024:** LDW sediment cleanup near BDC began.
- **October 2026:** We expect the next in-water LDW cleanup near BDC to start.
- **Late 2026/ early 2027:** We expect to start the Interim Action described below.
- **2027:** We expect to share a Remedial Investigation report for public comment that explains contamination at the BDC site.

To prepare the Remedial Investigation report, Boeing took soil samples at the BDC site, including along the LDW waterway. Some samples bordering the LDW showed soil contamination requiring cleanup.

As part of this work, Boeing is installing an 818-foot sheet pile wall (sheets of metal driven into the ground) along the property boundary to prevent erosion from BDC to the LDW. Soil samples showed contamination along the planned sheet pile wall. The Interim Action will remove contaminated soil along the planned sheet pile wall to reduce construction worker exposure to contaminants during sheet pile wall installation. Boeing plans to excavate about 56 loose cubic yards of contaminated soil as a part of the Interim Action. Where contaminated soil is removed, clean fill material (dirt or gravel) will be placed. The sheet pile wall will then be driven through the clean material.

Ecology follows the Model Toxics Control Act for hazardous waste site cleanup. BDC is in the Remedial Investigation phase. However, BDC has been implementing cleanup actions since the 1990s (they started in Ecology's Voluntary Cleanup Program). BDC has treated groundwater by injecting material that helps bacteria break down contaminants. Contaminated soil vapor has also been extracted and treated.



Figure 1: Formal cleanup process (English). [Read a plain text version.](#)¹³



Figure 2: Formal cleanup process (Chinese). [华盛顿州的清理流程 \(信息图\).](#)¹⁴



Figure 3: Formal cleanup process (Korean). [와싱턴주의 환경정화 절차.](#)¹⁵

¹³ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166.html>

¹⁴ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166ZH.html>

¹⁵ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166ko.html>



Figure 4: Formal cleanup process (Spanish). [Proceso de limpieza de Washington](#).¹⁶

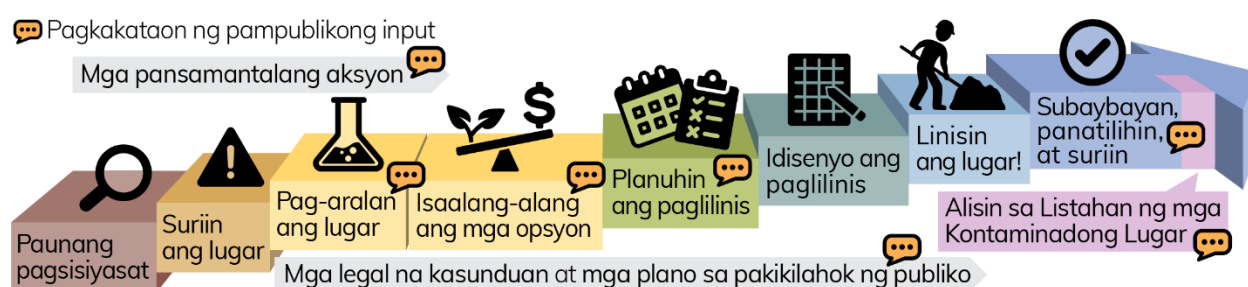


Figure 5: Formal cleanup process (Tagalog). [Proseso ng Paglilinis sa Washington](#).¹⁷



Figure 6: Formal cleanup process (Vietnamese). [Quy trình Tẩy nhiễm của Washington](#).¹⁸

¹⁶ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166ES.html>

¹⁷ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166TL.html>

¹⁸ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166VI.html>

Environmental Justice and Title VI

Environmental justice promotes fair treatment of all people under environmental laws and policies, regardless of their race, color, national origin, or income.

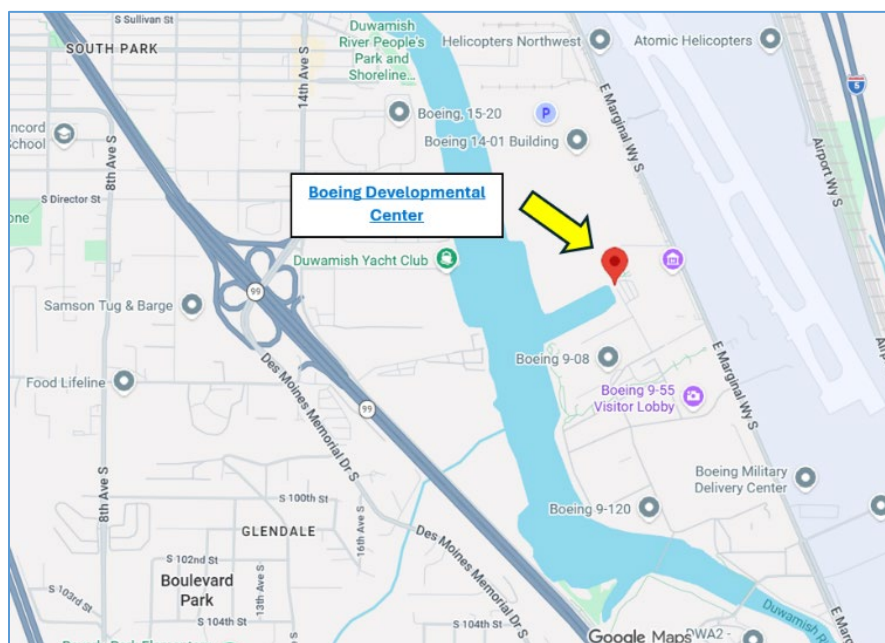
In Washington (and across the United States), more people of color or those with low-income live and work near industrial facilities, contaminated sites, and in neighborhoods without easy access to fresh food, green spaces, or clean air and water. These conditions negatively and unfairly affect their health and safety.

Environmental justice strategies and compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act are key to addressing these inequities—especially through public involvement. We make every effort to inform and involve all people. To do this, we use demographic information to design our messaging to fit the community.

Area community

Tukwila is a city in south King County, and a suburb of Seattle. It holds a large commercial center and draws workers and consumers to the city daily. The local industry is made successful by the nearby rivers, freeways, railroads, and the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. It is approximately 12 miles southeast of Seattle. As of the 2024 U.S. census, Tukwila had a population of 21,451.¹⁹

Tukwila has a long history as a hunting and fishing area for Washington State Tribes. People of Canadian descent began living here in the 1850s. Its early economy was based on agriculture and trading.



English language proficiency

Ecology is committed to removing language barriers so individuals of all language backgrounds can fully participate in our programs and services.

We identify populations with limited English proficiency by using demographic data and variables from the 2024 American Community Survey. People with limited English proficiency are individuals over age 5 who do not speak English as their primary language and self-report speaking English less than “very well.”

Federal guidance recommends translating information for any language group that represents 5% or more of the population served, or 1,000 individuals—whichever is less. In Tukwila, WA, the languages that meet this threshold are Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese and Tagalog.

Ecology will reach out to cultural community organizations as part of our outreach and provide information in other languages according to [federal guidance](#).²⁰ When appropriate, Ecology will provide outreach in Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Tagalog. To request information in another language, call Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454, and wait on the line while we connect you to an interpreter.

We strive to make our public participation efforts as inclusive as possible and welcome your input about how to best reach the nearby community.

Tribal engagement

Tribes that use resources in this area are the Stillaguamish Tribe, the Tulalip Tribes, the Suquamish Tribe, the Snoqualmie Tribe, the Squaxin Tribe, the Muckleshoot Tribe, and the Duwamish Tribe.

We will reach out to Tribes to offer opportunities to engage in the cleanup process. These opportunities are separate from the public involvement process. This engagement is described in a site-specific Tribal Engagement Plan, as required by [WAC 173-340-620](#).²¹ We invite Tribal members and other Indigenous peoples to engage in the public involvement process as well.

²⁰ <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2004/06/25/04-14464/guidance-to-environmental-protection-agency-financial-assistance-recipients-regarding-title-vi>

²¹ <https://app.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=173-340-620>

Washington's Cleanup Laws

Ecology uses the [Model Toxics Control Act \(MTCA\)](#)²² and accompanying regulations for cleanup activities.

Model Toxics Control Act

MTCA began in 1988 as a citizen-led effort to clean up contaminated sites in Washington State. Passed in 1989, the act provides guidelines for contaminated site cleanup. The law sets standards to ensure the cleanup protects people and the environment and holds property owners or operators responsible for cleaning up contamination on, or coming from, their property.

Ecology carries out MTCA, making sure cleanups happen according to state rules and regulations. These rules are found in [Chapter 173-340 Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\)](#).²³ Ecology investigates reports of contamination and the property is placed on the [Contaminated Sites List](#)²⁴ if the pollution is determined to pose a serious risk to human health or the environment. This starts the cleanup process at the site.

The cleanup process under MTCA includes several steps (see [Appendix A](#)). Public involvement is a key part of the act's [cleanup process](#).²⁵ MTCA requires the creation of this Public Participation Plan. It also ensures that nearby residents, businesses, community groups, and other interested parties can review and comment on documents related to steps that make crucial decisions or plans about the cleanup.

State Environmental Policy Act

MTCA cleanups also require evaluation under the [State Environmental Policy Act](#).²⁶ Under this act, the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts from a project or action must be evaluated by state and local agencies when making decisions. This evaluation is subject to public review and comment in parallel with the cleanup documents.

²² www.ecology.wa.gov/mtca

²³ <https://app.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=173-340>

²⁴ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/reports/cleanup/contaminated>

²⁵ ecology.wa.gov/MTCA-process

²⁶ <https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=197-11>

Plan Amendments

Ecology developed this plan following MTCA regulations ([WAC 173-340-600](#)).²⁷ We review it as the cleanup progresses and amend it as necessary. You may suggest amendments to Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 or Janelle.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

We intend to provide the public with information on opportunities for public involvement and comment. The outreach activities discussed reflect Ecology's current plans to keep the public informed. It also provides opportunities for those interested in the site to communicate their concerns and ask questions.

If you feel the planned outreach in this plan is insufficient or would like to modify it in some way, please contact us. We will work to find solutions. We can implement new activities or outreach tools right away, with or without amending this plan.

²⁷ <https://app.leg.wa.gov/waC/default.aspx?cite=173-340-600>

Appendix A. Steps in the MTCA Cleanup Process

The cleanup process is defined in the [Model Toxics Control Act](#),²⁸ Washington's cleanup law.

For a brief description, see the infographic on the next page.

Translations available

This cleanup process graphic is available online in fourteen languages, including:

- English: [Washington's Cleanup Process Infographic](#)²⁹
- Chinese: [华盛顿州的清理流程 \(信息图\)](#)³⁰
- Korean: [와싱턴주의 환경정화 절차](#)³¹
- Russian: [Процесс устранения загрязнения в штате Washington \(инфографике\)](#)³²
- Spanish: [Proceso de limpieza de Washington](#)³³
- Tagalog: [Proseso ng Paglilinis sa Washington \(graphic\)](#)³⁴
- Ukrainian: [Процес проведення очисних робіт у штаті Washington \(інфографіку\)](#)³⁵
- Vietnamese: [Quy trình Tẩy nhiễm của Washington](#)³⁶

For more information in your preferred language, please call Janelle Anderson at 425-301-6454 and request an interpreter, or email Janelle.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov.

²⁸ ecology.wa.gov/MTCA

²⁹ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166.html>

³⁰ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166ZH.html>

³¹ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166KO.html>

³² <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166RU.html>

³³ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166ES.html>

³⁴ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166TL.html>

³⁵ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166UK.html>

³⁶ <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1909166VI.html>

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.

