

Seventh annual rabies clinic successful in Ashford

Max Borsuk
Editor

Town of Ashford Clerk Patricia Dashnaw gave a presentation at the July 8 Ashford Town Board meeting regarding the success of the town's seventh annual rabies clinic on Saturday, June 27.

The rabies clinic was hosted at the Ashford Town Highway Barn, with CDC guidelines for social distancing being practiced with all services. The clinic was conducted via drive-thru, with Dr. Michael Reilly giving the shots in one section and volunteers giving the rabies certificates in another section. Dashnaw said the changes this year due to COVID-19 were well received by the people who attended and the town received many positive comments.

"It worked out very well. I heard many positive things," Dashnaw said. "Everybody was very sure to tell me that they really liked how that worked and they are very thankful for the service that they have through the Town of Ashford.

After sharing the event with the Cattaraugus County Health Department, Supervisor John Pfeffer said they loved the idea of the drive-thru clinic and the Health Department is planning one of their own in Little Valley. The board and Town of Ashford Animal Control Officer John Syms thanked Reilly for volunteering his time to administer the shots and all the volunteers who helped make the event run smoothly.

In other board news:

– The board approved a resolution for the negative declaration pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act concerning the determination of significance for the **BQ Energy West Valley Solar Project**. The board also approved a resolution approving certain infrastructure improvements associated with the **BQ Energy West Valley Solar Project**.

– Verizon is researching the installation of a larger tower than originally planned within the Town of Ashford, which would extend the coverage area.

– The board authorized the construction of a transfer station in the Town of Ashford compliant with the standards of Cattaraugus County and New York State Departments of Health.

The next Ashford Town Board will be Wednesday, Aug. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

WVDP encapsulates main plant office building slab



Photos provided

A worker at the West Valley Demonstration Project applies Polymeric Barrier System (PBS) to the concrete wall of the former main plant office building to protect employees from potential hazardous materials and unintended releases.

A Facility Disposition crew at the [West Valley Demonstration Project](#) encapsulated the main plant office building concrete slab with Polymeric Barrier System to release the slab so it is no longer considered an asbestos area. This practice protects employees from this hazardous material and safeguards against unintended releases. PBS was also used during the demolition of the 01-14 building and vitrification facility. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, a Deactivation and Decommissioning crew safely removed asbestos-containing material from inside the main plant office building prior to its demolition.

Working with asbestos-containing material is the most physically-challenging work at the site when it includes radiological and industrial hazards, layers of protective clothing, warm temperatures and now COVID-19 protocols. The former main plant office building was demolished in December 2019 by CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, the Department

JOURNAL

SPRINGVILLE

Vol. 152 - Issue 21

Published Each Thursday by Neighbor-to-Neighbor News Inc.

July 16, 2020

of Energy's cleanup contractor at the site. This demolition brought the Department of Energy's total number of structures removed from the site to 66.

"Our team continues to leverage their combined knowledge and expertise to safely complete the demolition, disposition and restoration of facilities no longer needed," WVDP Director Bryan Bower said. "This work will enhance safety efforts in preparation for the future demolition of the Main Plant Process Building."

The main plant demolition and reducing the EM complex footprint are part of EM's priorities for 2020.

The main plant office building was the fifth of seven ancillary support buildings that once supported the MPPB. The next ancillary building scheduled for demolition will be the utility room as the site transitions to Phase 2 of its COVID-19 Work Resumption Plan.



A worker at the West Valley Demonstration Project applies Polymeric Barrier System (PBS) to the concrete slab of the former main plant office building.