

Train cars derail in McKean County; one leaks

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CROSBY, Pa. CROSBY, Pa. Officials in McKean County say about 16-thousand gallons of a caustic chemical spilled onto the ground and into a high-quality trout stream when at least a dozen box cars and tankers derailed yesterday morning.

No injuries were reported, but 50 people around Norwich Township were temporarily evacuated because of the possibility of leaking chlorine from one of the Norfolk-Southern tankers. Crews were working to either upright or empty that tanker, which was not breached.

The sodium hydroxide that spilled is also known as caustic soda or lye and can cause severe burns.

Crews were building dams in Portage Run to contain the chemical. It was not known how many fish were killed, but Waterways Conservation Officers did verify a fish kill.

Rudy Husband, a spokesman for Norfolk-Southern Railroad, says the train was traveling from Binghamton, New York, to Harrisburg..

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Information from: The Bradford Era, <http://www.bradfordera.com>

This Associated Press release appeared in many printed and on-line new sources including.