

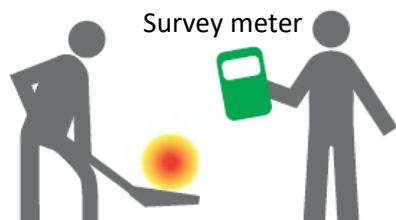
What is Decontamination?

Radioactive materials released into the air due to the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS fell onto the ground with rain, etc. and adhered to soil, vegetation, and buildings in people's living environment. Soil and vegetation, etc. thus contaminated are being removed through decontamination work. Removed soil and vegetation, etc. are shielded to prevent them from affecting the surroundings, thereby reducing radiation doses people receive from the environment.

Methods of reducing radiation doses

Remove

e.g.) Strip topsoil; Remove branches and leaves; Remove fallen leaves; Wash off contamination, etc.



Shield

e.g.) Enclose contaminated items with soil or concrete; Replace topsoil with subsoil, etc.



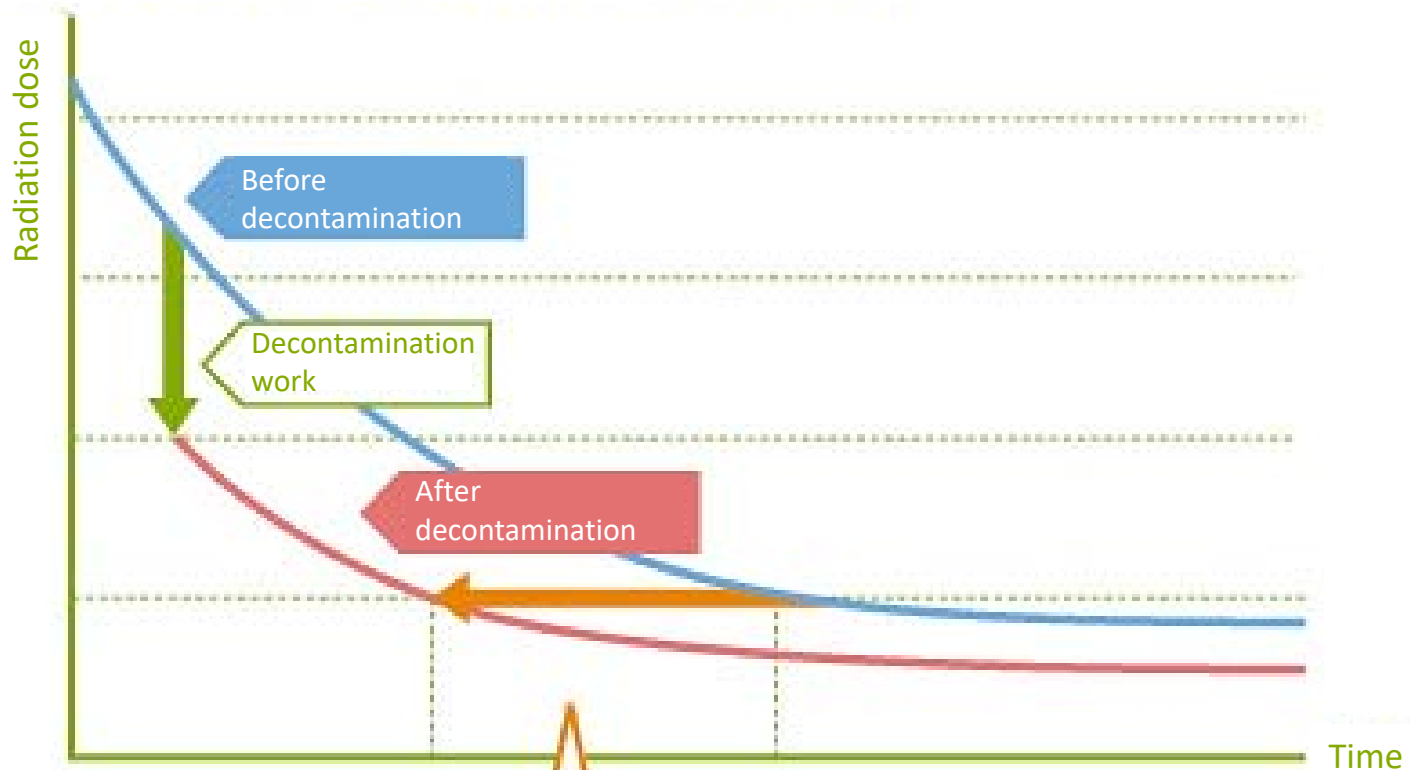
Keep away

e.g.) Prohibit access, etc.



Decontamination and Decreases in Radiation Doses

Decreases in doses of accident-derived radioactive materials

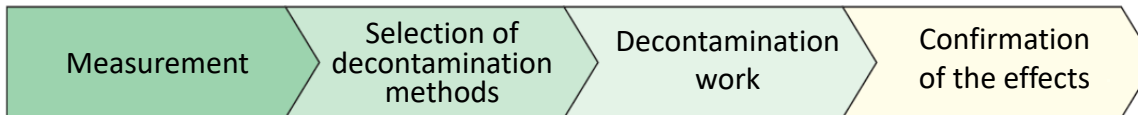


Compared with the level as of Aug. 2011, radiation doses naturally decreased by approx. 40% in two years and by approx. 60% in five years. Additionally, radiation doses can be reduced faster by removing radioactive materials through decontamination work.

Decontamination Methods

Decontamination has been conducted in accordance with the circumstances of respective areas.
Specific methods differ by location.

Effective methods differ depending on the status of contamination with radioactive materials. First, ambient dose rates are measured, and an optimal method is selected on a case-by-case basis. Radiation doses are measured before and after decontamination work to confirm the effects.



Case
1

Decontamination methods employed in areas with relatively low radiation doses

● The following are examples.



●Cleaning of eaves and gutters of private houses



●Mowing of vegetation (Provided by Date City)



●Removal of sludge from ditches (Provided by Fukushima City)

Case
2

Decontamination methods employed in areas with relatively high radiation doses (in addition to the above methods)



●Scraping off of topsoil of school yards (Provided by JAEA)



●Washing of building roofs, etc.



●Scraping off of garden soil, etc. (Provided by Date City)

Special Decontamination Areas and Intensive Contamination Survey Areas

In line with the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Handling of Environment Pollution by Radioactive Materials enforced in full on January 1, 2012, and the Basic Policy based thereon, decontamination has been carried out. Areas especially necessary from the perspective of protecting human health were prioritized.

Soil, etc. removed through decontamination work is collected, transported to Temporary Storage Sites, and disposed of safely.

Special Decontamination Areas

- Areas where the national government directly conducts decontamination work; Basically, 11 municipalities* in Fukushima Prefecture which were once designated as a Restricted Area or a Deliberate Evacuation Area are designated.
- A decontamination plan should be formulated for each Special Decontamination Area, while taking into account respective municipalities' needs, and decontamination should be conducted in line with the plan.

* The entire areas of Naraha Town, Tomioka Town, Okuma Town, Futaba Town, Namie Town, Katsurao Village and Iitate Village, and parts of Tamura City, Minamisoma City, Kawamata Town and Kawauchi Village which were once designated as a Restricted Area or a Deliberate Evacuation Area

Intensive Contamination Survey Areas

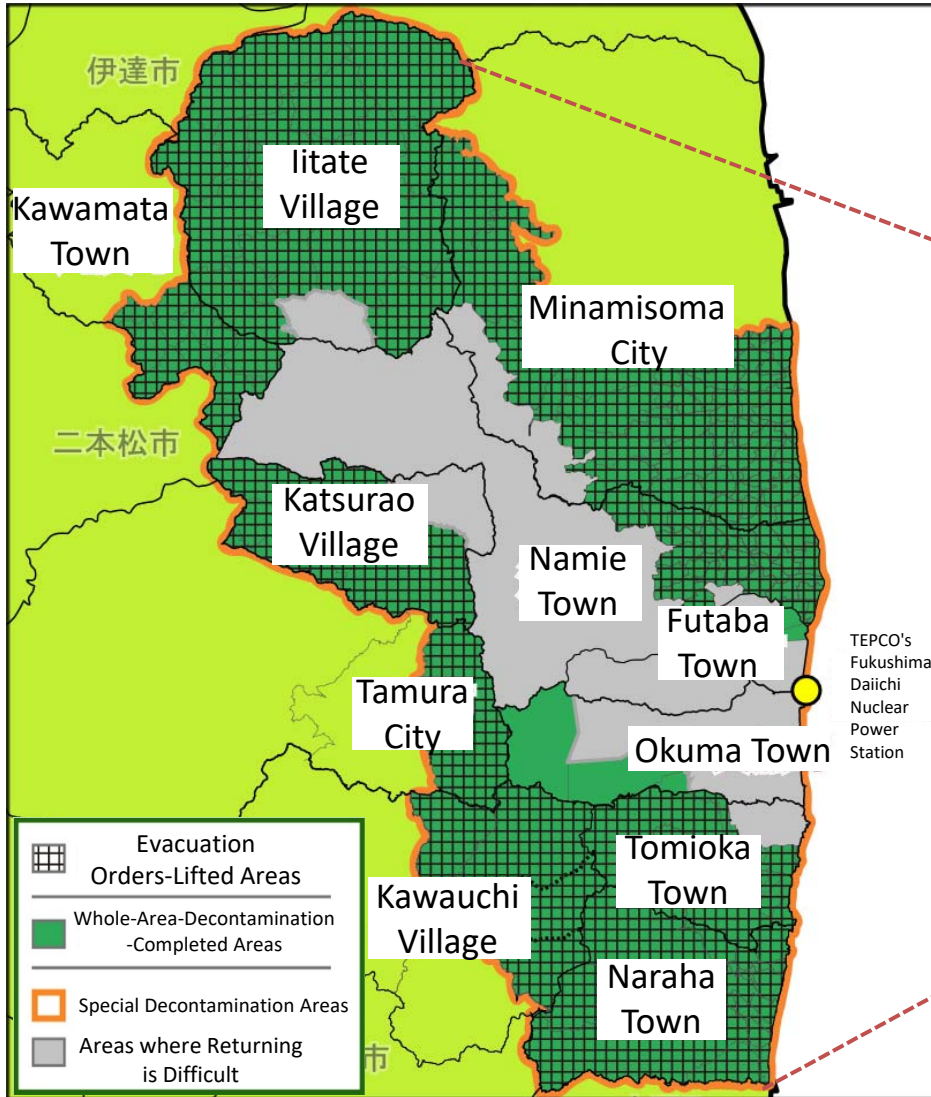
- Areas where municipalities take the initiative in decontamination work; 92 municipalities in eight prefectures* are designated as Intensive Contamination Survey Areas (as of the end of December 2017) from among municipalities including areas where measured ambient dose rates were 0.23 $\mu\text{Sv/h}$ or higher.
- Each municipality should carry out a measurement and survey, formulate a decontamination plan based on the results thereof, and conduct decontamination in line with the plan.
- The national government takes financial measures and technical measures to assist these municipalities.

* Iwate Prefecture, Miyagi Prefecture, Fukushima Prefecture, Ibaraki Prefecture, Tochigi Prefecture, Gunma Prefecture, Saitama Prefecture and Chiba Prefecture

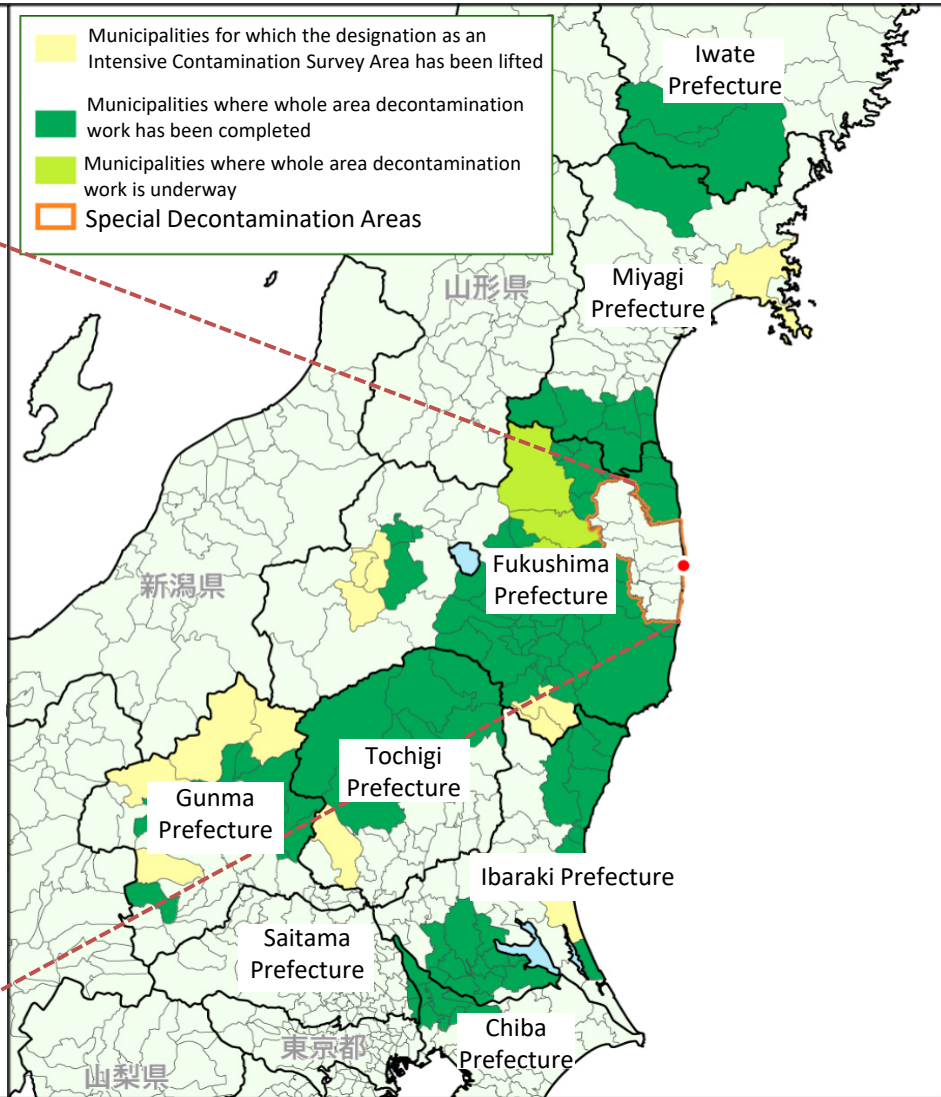
Progress of Decontamination Work

Special Decontamination Areas

Intensive Contamination Survey Areas



As of April 1, 2017



As of the end of December 2017

Storage of Removed Soil, etc.

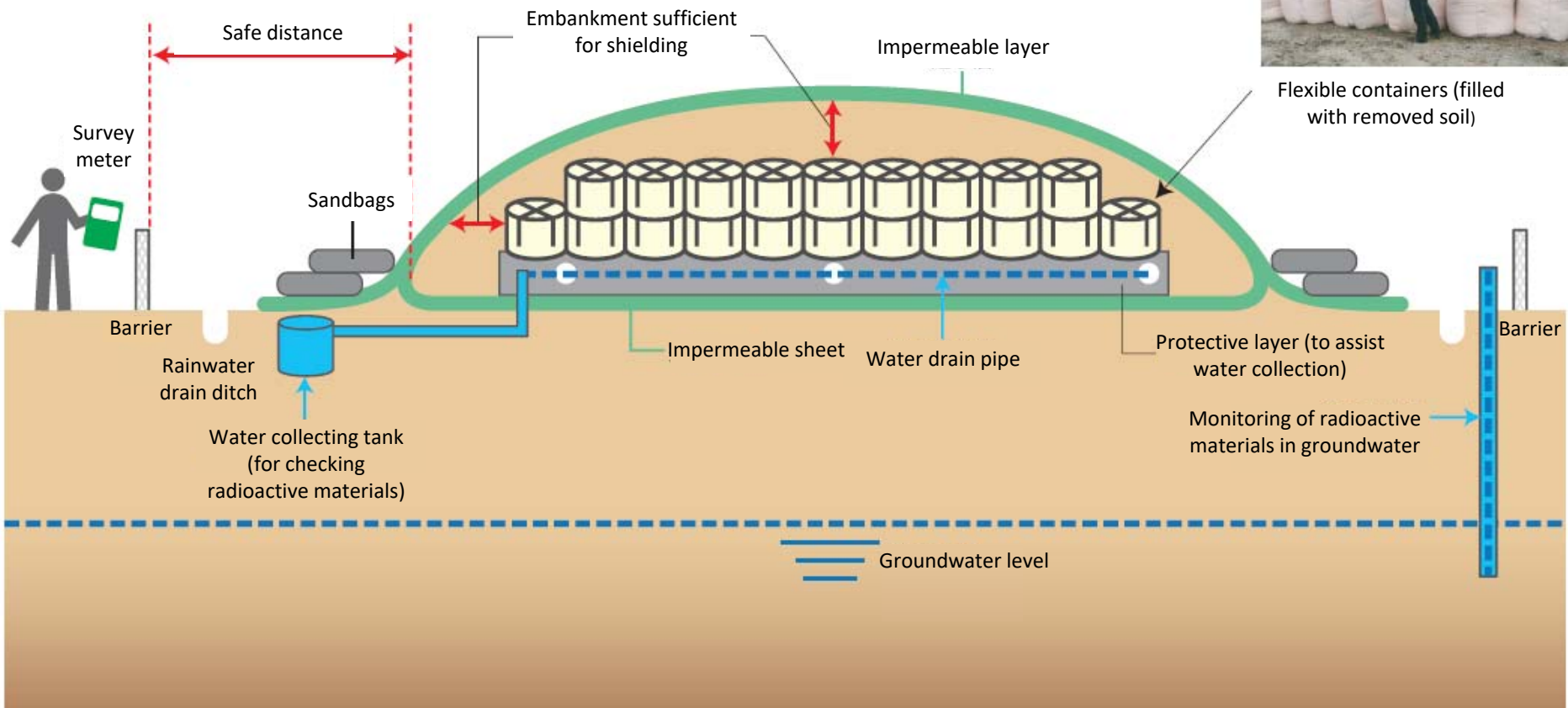
Storage in Temporary Storage Sites (When Storing Removed Soil above Ground)

Soil removed through decontamination work is stored safely on site or at Temporary Storage Sites for a certain period of time.

In case of storing removed soil above ground (in such cases as where the groundwater level is high)



Flexible containers (filled with removed soil)



Comprehensive Efforts toward Regeneration of Forests and Forestry in Fukushima

- In order to ensure safe and secure lives of the residents and regenerate forests and forestry in Fukushima, relevant ministries and agencies carry out the following measures comprehensively in collaboration with the prefecture and municipalities, while obtaining the understanding of the people in Fukushima.

I. Efforts toward regeneration of forests and forestry

1. Efforts for ensuring safe and secure living environment

- Steadily continue decontamination work for forests near people's houses, etc.
- For residential areas surrounded by forests on three sides, taking measures as necessary, such as decontaminating forests 20m or further from the border or installing barriers to prevent soil runoff

3. Efforts for regenerating forestry in mountainous areas, etc.

- Promote a project to conduct tree thinning or other forest maintenance work together with measures concerning radioactive materials, and a demonstration project aiming for regeneration of forestry
- Newly prepare a guidebook on radiation safety that is easy to understand for workers

II. Future-oriented efforts for research and studies

- Continuously engage in research and studies for monitoring radiation doses in the forest, understanding behavior of radioactive materials and reducing radiation doses; Continue efforts for regeneration of forests and forestry into the future while utilizing the outcomes of such research and studies in formulating further measure

III. Information provision and communication

- Meticulously provide the latest information regarding knowledge on radioactive materials in forests and the national government's efforts toward regeneration of forests and forestry, using such media as relevant ministries' websites and PR magazines
- Continue efforts for ensuring safe and secure lives of the people in Fukushima through maintaining good communication, including dispatching experts

2. Efforts for restoring *Satoyama* forests close to residential houses

- Based on needs of local people, properly conduct decontamination work at places in the forest where residents enter or take rest; Make efforts for regenerating forestry in broad leaf forests and bamboo groves, etc.
- Select model districts in and around Areas under Evacuation Orders (including areas where evacuation orders have been lifted), comprehensively promote efforts for restoring *Satoyama* forests in those model districts, and reflect the outcomes of such efforts in carrying out further measures in an appropriate manner

Picture of *Satoyama* Forest Restoration Model Project

