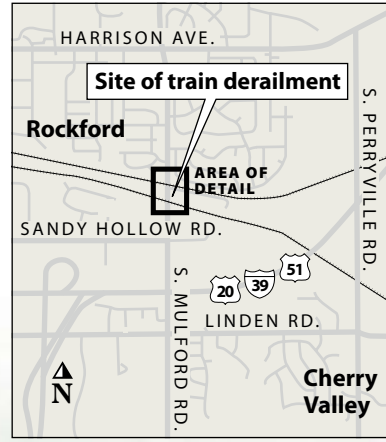


At the scene

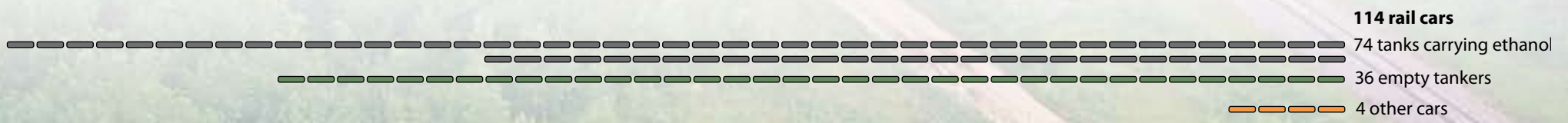
1 dead, 9 injured, hundreds evacuated

Aerial photography shot at 8:40 a.m. Sunday shows the scope of the damage. Workers already had worked 36 hours to contain the damage, letting the fire burn out after 20.5 hours before removing the worst of the damaged cars. South Mulford Road is expected to be closed at Heidi Drive south to Sandy Hollow Road for two days or as much as a week.



Chain of events

- 1 A Canadian National Railway train was headed east to Chicago pulling 114 cars.
- 2 Witnesses reported that at least two cars exploded after piling up as they derailed. 17 tanker cars derailed, as many as 14 caught fire.
- 3 Hundreds of residents within a half-mile of the scene were evacuated until the site was stabilized.



Tanker cars
 14 of the 17 derailed tankers were moved north of the accident site during cleanup.

CAPACITY: 30,000 gallons



West cars removed

Nearly 40 cars were moved during cleanup.

Intense rain and standing water

Heavy rains pelted the area all day Friday. Witnesses reported standing water and washed-out sections of the track bed west of the crossing.

Crater

A crater can be seen at the center of the rail crossing at South Mulford Road. It's unclear whether it was caused by the accident or during cleanup efforts.

Gravel

Canadian National Railway brought in loads of gravel to create a working roadway.



EDDY MONTVILLE | ROCKFORD REGISTER STAR

New tracks

Sections of tracks were trucked in to replace the damaged ones. Train service resumed Monday afternoon.

East cars removed

Minutes after the derailment, the two engines pulled nearly 60 cars eastward to safety.

Creek

Creek



SCOTT MORGAN | ROCKFORD REGISTER STAR

Firefighters respond to a train derailment and fire Friday on South Mulford Road north of Sandy Hollow Road on Rockford's southeast side. Residents living within a half-mile of the area were asked to evacuate after the 8:30 p.m. accident. 17 cars of the 114-car train derailed, and the fire burned into the night.