

**NEWS 95.7 REPORT**

**ANNOUNCER:** Research out of St. Mary's University shows the benefits of plant growth at abandoned historic gold mining sites. News 95.7's Katie Hartai with the story.

**KATIE HARTAI:** Dr. Emily Chapman is the study's lead author and says in Nova Scotia there are about 300 legacy gold mine tailings, a by-product of gold mining common in the late 1800s and early 1900s. At these sites, she says plants can play an important role, stopping contaminated dust from getting kicked up into the air and absorbing rain to limit leaching. But she tells News 95.7 some of these sites don't have any plant cover at all,

**EMILY CHAPMAN:** There's both wind and water erosion of contaminants coming off these sites. So if we can get plants growing in this material, we can actually limit the amount of contaminated dust and contaminated water moving off the sites, impacting people and sensitive environments nearby.

**KATIE HARTAI:** Currently, Chapman is working on research about similar remediation options for tailing deposited in water. She says the information could be useful to help sites like Barry's Run in Dartmouth, which was confirmed last week by the municipality to have high levels of arsenic because of historic gold mining.

Katie Hartai, News 95.