

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

United States
Environmental Protection Agency
New England Region

Office of External Programs
JFK Federal Building
Boston, MA 02203

Connecticut Maine Massachusetts New Hampshire Rhode Island Vermont



Environmental News

Contact: Alice Kaufman, EPA Press Office (617-918-1064)

For Immediate Release: January 25, 2001

Release # 01-01-09

EPA Issues Cleanup Decision for Floodplain Area Downstream from Centredale Manor

BOSTON - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency today announced the agency's plan for the next phase of cleanup at the Centredale Manor Restoration Project in North Providence, R.I. This cleanup plan addresses the shores of the Woonasquatucket River between the Centredale Manor and Lymansville Dam. The \$2.6 million cleanup plan, slated to begin this summer, also calls for the restoration of Allendale Dam.

The selected cleanup plan, first proposed to the public last fall as part of an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis, involves the excavation of about 2,500 cubic yards of dioxin-contaminated sediments and bank soils to meet EPA's cleanup criteria. The excavated material will be excavated and transported off-site for treatment.

EPA plans to request that potentially responsible parties at the site voluntarily perform or fund the cleanup activities.

"Today's approval is a major milestone in the cleanup of the Woonasquatucket River," said Ira Leighton, acting regional administrator of EPA's New England Office. "For the first time, we'll be removing contaminated material from the site."

"This cleanup plan is an important step towards the community's goal of once again making the Woonasquatucket River fishable and swimmable," U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee said. "I commend both the EPA for its work in cleaning up the site, as well as the people living along the Woonasquatucket who have taken such an active and vital interest in this project. I look forward to working with everyone involved to ensure the project moves forward."

"The Department is pleased that the cleanup at the Centredale Manor Site is continuing to move forward," said DEM Director Jan Reitsma. "This removal action will significantly reduce risks to the residents and contribute to our long-term goal of making the Woonasquatucket River fully accessible for fishing and swimming."

SI Centredale
BROW 13.3
OTHER 35161

"Less than one year after placing this restoration project on the National Priorities List of hazardous waste sites, the EPA already has an ambitious plan of action in place," said Rep. Patrick Kennedy. "I'm certain this will be a great relief to my constituents in North Providence, particularly those in Centredale Manor, Brook Village and the other residents living along the Woonasquatucket River."

"This is good news for the environment and the health and safety of communities downstream from Centredale Manor and the Allendale Dam," said Sen. Jack Reed. "I look forward to the implementation of the final clean-up plan as soon as possible."

Key elements of the cleanup plan include:

- * Excavate contaminated residential soils and floodplain sediments at specific residential and recreation properties around Allendale and Lymansville Ponds that contain dioxin in excess of 1 part per billion.
- * Replace the contaminated soil with clean fill and loam to bring the properties back to grade.
- * Transport excavated soils and sediments off-site to a properly permitted facility for treatment and disposal.
- * Restore the decaying Allendale Dam and return the Allendale Pond water level to its original elevation.

Field work for this portion of the cleanup project is expected to begin this summer and is expected to be finished by next summer. EPA will make design plans available and will meet with affected property owners prior to beginning the work.

EPA staff are continuing their investigation to determine the extent of contamination in the river. The most recent round of sediment sampling, conducted last fall further downstream in the Manton and Dyerville sections of the river, show no levels of dioxin contamination exceeding one part per billion below Manton Dam.

The cleanup site is located on Smith Street in North Providence and includes the Woonasquatucket River and the floodplain between Route 44 downstream to and including Lymansville Dam.

Information on EPA's selected remedy is available at the following locations:

Salvatore Mancini Union Free Library
1810 Mineral Spring Ave.
North Providence RI

Marian J. Mohr Library

1 Memorial Ave.
Johnston RI

EPA New England
Records Center
1 Congress St.
Boston MA 02203

###