

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Centredale Manor Restoration Project



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☛ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management are working with the Town of North Providence and the Management Action Committee to address contamination at the Centredale Manor Restoration Project located along the Woonasquatucket River in North Providence, RI. Below is an update on activities.

What Has EPA Been Working On?

Throughout the fall and winter, EPA oversaw construction of the restored Allendale Dam and the removal of the remnants of the decayed dam. The new dam, which has brought the water level in Allendale Pond back to pre-1991 levels (the year the dam was breached), will prevent contaminated sediments from moving further downstream and reduce the possibility of people coming into contact with sediments on the bottom of the pond.

Upcoming Fall Activities

As part of the on-going EPA investigation, EPA contractors will be collecting additional samples near Centredale Manor and Brook Village this fall.

☐ A second round of groundwater samples will be collected from 33 existing monitoring wells near Centredale Manor and Brook Village.

☐ Soil samples will be collected from the former tailrace behind Centredale Manor.

This information will be used to evaluate the groundwater and soil contamination where no sufficient data exists for future actions in these areas.

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Looking upstream towards the restored Allendale Dam.

Downstream, the potentially responsible parties are expected to begin excavation of residential properties along the river. An estimated 200 cubic yards of soil will be removed from the areas along the Woonasquatucket River where elevated levels of dioxin contamination has been found on 13 residential properties. Once the excavation is complete, the areas will be backfilled with clean soil and re-vegetated.

This excavation and restoration activity is part of the Non-Time Critical Removal Action at the site, which included restoration of the Allendale Dam in winter 2002. Coupled with the caps put in place near Centredale Manor and Brook Village early on in the project, the excavation of contaminated soil from these affected residences will complete the first two phases of activity at the site which were designed to address the areas of contamination that present the highest risk to nearby residents.

Another effort focuses on the Woonasquatucket River itself. This fall and next spring, EPA will investigate the layers of contamination on the bottom of the river and take borings in Allendale and Lymansville Ponds to determine the magnitude and depth of contamination. The investigation will include a study of how the shape (or geometry) of the river channel and water flows over time have come to deposit or move bottom contamination in these areas of the river and ponds.

This information will be used to determine the extent and cost of potential cleanup options for the Woonasquatucket River. This work is expected to continue through next year and the beginning of 2004, when options for cleaning the river will be presented to the public.