



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### Region 1

5 Post Office Square, Suite 100

Boston, MA 02109-3912

# 18th Annual Cornell Pond Fishing Derby

**Saturday, October 3, 2015**

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The US EPA is supporting the 18th Annual Fishing Derby at Cornell Pond on Saturday, October 3, 2015. The objective of the derby is to collect five species, including Large Mouth Bass, Trout, Yellow Perch, Catfish/Bull Head, and American Eel, as part of an ongoing environmental monitoring program. A \$50 cash award and trophy will be given to the local fishermen who catch the largest fish of each species.

The derby provides an opportunity for EPA to tap into local fishermen's fishing expertise and knowledge, and to involve the local community in this important fish monitoring program. EPA's goals for the Cornell Pond Fishing Derby are as follows:

1) The collection of 3 to 5 adult fish from five species, including Large Mouth Bass, Trout, Yellow Perch, Catfish/Bull Heads, and American Eel, for evaluation or analysis of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) concentrations at a qualified laboratory.

2) EPA is requiring fish to be monitored annually in Cornell Pond for PCB concentrations. Considering that the soil and sediment remedy for the Re-Solve, Inc., Superfund Site was completed in 1994, EPA anticipates that the PCB concentrations in fish will decline over time.

3) The Cornell Pond Fishing Derby offers an opportunity for EPA to remind local fishermen that there is a Massachusetts Department of Public Health fish advisory not to consume eels and to limit consumption of other fish caught from Cornell Pond or the Copicut River. The advisory has been in effect since 1986. However, recreational fishing is permitted in Cornell Pond and the Copicut River, as long as the fish are released back in the area where they were caught.

Fish data collected during the 1986 Remedial Investigation, 1997 baseline monitoring, and 1998 - 2014 Annual Fishing Derbies are summarized in the attached Tables 1 and 2. The results indicate a decline of PCB concentrations in fish since the 1986 Remedial Investigation and the 1994 soil and sediment remedy. A comparison of the last eighteen years of data (1997 - 2014) reveals small fluctuations in PCB concentrations in fish with most of these concentrations being well below the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) fish PCB action level of 2 parts per million (ppm). Fish will continue to be monitored and carefully evaluated with future fish monitoring results.

### Information on 18th Annual Derby:

**Date:** Saturday, October 3, 2015; if severely inclement weather, Sunday, October 4, 2015.

**Time:** 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Place:** Cornell Pond, North Dartmouth, MA

**Requirements:** All participants over the age of 15 must have a current Massachusetts Fishing License on their person during the Derby.

**Rules:** EPA, with the assistance from Michael O'Reilly, Dartmouth Environmental Coordinator, Arthur Thibodeau, North Dartmouth Resident, and James Saylor, Weston Solutions, will establish a "2015 Fishing Derby Sign-up List" for approximately twenty (20) local fishermen. Please contact Mr. O'Reilly at (508) 910-1822, Mr. Thibodeau at (508) 678-5054, or Mr. Saylor at (508) 998-4796 to secure a spot on the list.

Each fisherman should bring his own fishing rod, bait & tackle, and suitable container (e.g. 5 gallon bucket, etc.) to hold his catch. During the derby, fishermen may bring their catch to a designated coordinator at Cornell Pond for official weight and measurements. The coordinator will record the fish species, weight, and length, and hold the fish in temporary pools. At the end of the day, awards and prizes will be issued to the winners. All fish ineligible for the sampling will be released back into the pond.

**Directions:** Take Route 195 East to Reed Rd/Hixville Exit, left off ramp onto Reed Rd; Follow approximately 2 miles, right onto Old Fall River Rd; Follow approximately ½ mile, Cornell Pond will be on the left. Or, alternatively, Take Route 195 West to Faunce Corner, right off ramp onto Faunce Corner (North); Follow approximately 2 miles, left onto Old Fall River Rd; Follow approximately 2 miles, Cornell Pond will be on the right. The address for Cornell Pond is 685 Old Fall River Road, North Dartmouth, MA 02747.

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For More Information Contact:

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617-918-1323

For Derby Sign Ups Contact:

Michael O'Reilly, Town of Dartmouth  
(508) 910-1822

Arthur Thibodeau, Resident Coordinator  
(508) 678-5054

James Saylor, Weston Solutions  
(508) 998-4796

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**HISTORY OF RE-SOLVE, INC.**  
**SUPERFUND SITE**

Re-Solve, Inc., operated between 1956 - 1980 as a chemical reclamation facility. Many different types of industrial and commercial solvents and oils were brought to the facility. As a result of the operations, soils, sediments and groundwater were contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and PCBs.

In 1983, EPA listed Re-Solve, Inc., as a Superfund Site. In 1985, EPA removed 15,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils and sludges from four lagoons, a cooling pond and oil spreading area.

In 1988, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health established a Health Advisory for Cornell Pond and the Copicut River adjacent to the Site. The Health Advisory prohibits the consumption of American Eels and limits the consumption of other fish species due to the elevated levels of PCBs in the fish.

In 1994, the Re-Solve Site Group (parties responsible for the clean-up) completed the removal and treatment of 36,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils and sediments from the Re-Solve Site, as well as the restoration of wetlands at the Site.

In April 1998, the Re-Solve Site Group completed the construction of a state-of-the-art groundwater treatment system that removes and treats contaminated groundwater from the Site.

In 2015, the groundwater treatment system was modified to a sustainable, green treatment system including an innovative Anaerobic BioReactor (ABR) beds and photovoltaic energy.

With the completion of these clean-up activities, EPA expects the PCB contamination levels within fish at Cornell Pond and the Copicut River to decline over time.

TABLE 1  
Summary of 1986, and 1997 - 2014 Fish Tissue Samples (Ranges) at ReSolve Superfund Site

Fish Samples	Range of PCB Concentrations (ppm) in Fish															
<u>Cornell Pond</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2013</u>
American Eel	20	.42 - .84	.24 - .69	.51 - .76	.38 - .65	.49 - 2.09 <sup>1</sup>	.23 - .36	.14 - .32	ND <sup>5</sup>	.52 – 6.6 <sup>6</sup>	.738 – .792	.24 – .84	.690 - .950	ND <sup>5</sup> - .100	.388 - 1.35	.280 - .560
Brown Bullhead	1.1	NC	.08 - .12	.06 - .32	.12	.24	.06 - .08	.06	.075 – .1	.08 - .11	ND <sup>5</sup> - .330	.057 - .11	.073 - .170	ND <sup>5</sup> - .100	.075-.203	.033 - .170
Lg-Mouth Bass	NC	.04 - .17	.03 - .11	.06 - .22	.02 - 2.20	.20 - 2.2 <sup>2</sup>	.07 - .2	.06 - .09	.05 – .12	.13 - .25	ND <sup>5</sup> - .148	.025 - .095	ND <sup>5</sup> - .150	ND <sup>5</sup>	.03 - .2	.014 - .072
Yellow Perch	.26 - 1.05	.04 - .08	.02 - .04	.11 - .47	.06 - .11	.2 - .37	.07 - .1	.05	.06 – .085	.054 - .097	ND <sup>5</sup> - .150	.025 - .083	ND <sup>5</sup> - .080	ND <sup>5</sup> - .066	.041-058	
Blue Gill						.1 - .15	.05 - .1	NC	.09 - .2	ND <sup>5</sup>	ND <sup>5</sup>	.025-.053	ND <sup>5</sup>	ND <sup>5</sup> - .370	.056-.074	
<u>Copicut River</u>																
Brook Trout	NC	.15 - .3	.08 - .24	.16 - .59	.05 - .47	.11	.32	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC

TABLE 2  
Summary of 1986, and 1997 - 2014 Fish Tissue Samples (Averages) at ReSolve Superfund Site

Fish Samples	Average PCB Concentrations (ppm) in Fish															
<u>Cornell Pond</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2013</u>
American Eel	20	.656	.538	.616	.524	1.04 <sup>3</sup>	.29	.24	ND <sup>5</sup>	3.05 <sup>7</sup>	.765	.51	.802	.049	.786	.422
Brown Bullhead	1.1	NC	.102	.190	.121	.24	.06	.06	.086	.092	.161	.087	.101	.060	.087	.084
Lg-Mouth Bass	NC	.105	.054	.123	.474	.728 <sup>4</sup>	.1	.07	.075	.23	.110	.039	.085	.025	.077	.038
Yellow Perch	.26 - 1.05	.060	.028	.250	.069	.303	.08	.05	.074	.092	.120	.054	.045	.047	.050	
Blue Gill						.12	.08	NC	.23	ND <sup>5</sup>	ND <sup>5</sup>	.031	.025	.163	.065	
<u>Copicut River</u>																
Brook Trout	NC	.218	.160	.278	.147	.11	.32	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC

NOTES:

NC - none collected

<sup>1</sup> One of the three American Eels contained a total PCB concentration of 2.09 ppm. The two remaining eels contained PCB concentrations ranging from 0.49 - 0.548 ppm.

<sup>2</sup> One of the five large mouth bass collected contained a total PCB concentration of 2.2 ppm. The four remaining large mouth bass contained PCB concentrations ranging from 0.20 - 0.5 ppm.

<sup>3</sup> Average PCB concentration in American Eel, excluding the high 2.09 ppm concentration, is .519 ppm.

<sup>4</sup> Average PCB concentration in Bass, excluding the high 2.2 ppm concentration, is .328 ppm.

<sup>5</sup> Samples analyzed but PCBs were not detected.

<sup>6</sup> One of the five American Eels contained a total PCB concentration of 12.6 ppm. The four remaining eels contained PCB concentrations ranging from 0.52 - 0.77 ppm.

<sup>7</sup> Average PCB concentration in American Eel, excluding the high 12.6 ppm concentration, is .658 ppm.

FDA action limit for PCBs = 2 mg/kg