



HAVERTOWN PCP SUPERFUND SITE

CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY ON FINAL PHASE OF CLEANUP

HAVERFORD TOWNSHIP, DELAWARE COUNTY, PA

WINTER 2010

INTRODUCTION

The EPA began its final phase of cleanup work at two separate areas of the Havertown PCP Superfund site in November 2009. EPA will work through the winter, weather permitting, to complete the work by Spring 2010.

The two separate areas are known as the **Source Area**, which is the major source of the groundwater contamination, located at the former site of the National Wood Preservers. The site is along Eagle Road across from the old Philadelphia Chewing Gum factory. The other area is known as the **Recreational Open Space (ROS)**, owned by the township and located behind Rittenhouse Circle and adjacent to Washington Avenue. It is not currently used as a recreational area.

FINAL PHASE OF CLEANUP

In the **Source Area**, the cleanup work includes the following steps:

- Install an additional deep extraction well which will withdraw contaminated groundwater from deep below the ground surface for treatment.
- Inject an aqueous, or water-based, solution into the deep contaminated aquifer to aid in drawing the groundwater to the surface for treatment.

In the **Recreational Open Space**, the cleanup work includes:

- Excavate soil in a 50-by-50-foot area in the ROS, and in a narrow zone along a nearby abandoned sewer line. This is necessary because the sewer line had been transporting contaminated groundwater down to the ROS.

- Backfill both excavated areas with clean soil and revegetate them.
- Remove a portion of the sewer that is not sealed with grout.
- Install new monitoring wells and three new extraction wells that will withdraw shallow groundwater and pump it through an underground pipe back to the treatment plant.
- Conduct ecological sampling to demonstrate habitat and fish recovery.

The EPA will also establish institutional controls site-wide, in the Source Area and ROS, to ensure the environmental cleanup is not compromised.

DURING CONSTRUCTION

Residents in the area may see and hear the following specific activities through the winter months.

- Heavy construction equipment being used for both construction and excavation.
- Work taking place during regular business hours, and traffic and/or noise increasing near the work areas.
- Construction site trailers and work on the former McCandless Fuel Oil Property.
- A temporary bridge over the un-named tributary to Naylors Run.
- Clearing of trees to clear the Railroad Right of Way and the ROS area.
- Silt and construction fencing lining the work area.
- Installation of piping through the driveway of the former Philadelphia Chewing Gum Company and along the railroad right-of-way.

AFTER CONSTRUCTION

- McCandless Fuel Oil property restored to original condition.
- Railroad right-of-way and construction area seeded with grass.
- Silt and construction fencing removed.
- Residential construction area landscaped.
- Former Philadelphia Chewing Gum Company parking lot returned to previous condition.

SITE BACKGROUND

From 1947 to 1963, the site was used by National Wood Preservers to treat wood products. The company allegedly disposed of diesel-type oil and pentachlorophenol (PCP) in a well. The liquid wastes leached into nearby Naylor's Run, a small stream that

What is PCP?

PCP is a pesticide and wood preserver. Long-term exposure to high levels of PCP can cause damage to the liver and thyroid, and probably causes cancer in humans, based on research using laboratory animals.

flows through a residential area into the Delaware River. Liquid waste was also spilled, contaminating soil and groundwater in the area.

The EPA first became involved with the Havertown PCP site in 1976 and has completed a number of cleanup measures to protect the surrounding community and environment. Some of those measures included:

- Installation of an oil-water separator to reduce oil in the storm sewer that was discharging to Naylor's Run.
- Removal of on-site drums and hazardous waste.
- Installation in 1991 of an on-site pump-and-treat system to address groundwater in the shallow aquifer. The system's capacity was recently upgraded.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact:

Jill Lowe
Remedial Project Manager
215-814-3123, lowe.jill@epa.gov

Ruth Wuenschel
Community Involvement Coordinator
215-814-5540, wuenschel.ruth@epa.gov

On the Internet:

<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/PAD002338010/>



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Attn: Ruth Wuenschel
Mail code 3HS52
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

EPA Update for the Havertown PCP Superfund Site

