

**From:** [Jim Murphy](#)  
**To:** [Ziegler, John \(DEP\)](#); [ggrunin@berkshire.rr.com](#); [Vander4@verizon.net](#); [bcianfar@hotmail.com](#); [Michael.carroll@corporate.ge.com](#); [jcook@cohenkinne.com](#); [JG\\_Chague@hotmail.com](#); [shepevans@yahoo.com](#); [ethansarah@verizon.net](#); [lynnfowler@att.net](#); [Benno2@verizon.net](#); [housriverkeeper@verizon.net](#); [healct@snet.net](#); [Cekemt731@earthlink.net](#); [rlaubach@massaudubon.org](#); [Andrew.madden@state.ma.us](#); [jmcgrath@pittsfieldch.com](#); [Nwccog1@snet.net](#); [Susan.Peterson@po.state.ct.us](#); [dregan@hvatoday.org](#); [Andrew.silfer@ge.com](#); [Susan.Svirsky](#); [Eva.tor@state.ma.us](#); [Dean.Tagliaferro](#); [Sherry.white@mohican-nsn.gov](#); [jane@thebeatnews.org](#); [Pelto, Karen \(DEP\)](#); [bgevenchik@gmail.com](#); [agwislocki@gmail.com](#); [audreycole@optonline.net](#); [Paula.Ballentine](#); [bhinessr@aol.com](#); [bpiepho@snet.net](#); [casino.girl@verizon.net](#); [ccd@snet.net](#); [ccianfar@mcla.mass.edu](#); [ccvin@aol.com](#); [CEKEMT731@earthlink.net](#); [Bob.Cianciarulo](#); [cityscapethree@yahoo.com](#); [clark.chapin@housegop.state.ct.us](#); [cmitchell@pittsfieldch.com](#); [communitylawyer@snet.net](#); [conservation@townofgb.org](#); [cperanzo@pittsfieldch.com](#); [cread@lablite.com](#); [Dave.Deegan](#); [dgarry@bcn.net](#); [djkenney@msn.com](#); [DRDP50@earthlink.net](#); [edith.pestana@po.state.ct.us](#); [elaineuva@hotmail.com](#); [eleanortillinghast@att.net](#); [firstselectman@Kentct.org](#); [Richard.Fisher](#); [flowerstein@tnc.org](#); [fnpcpa@peoplepc.com](#); [GDGibbs@verizon.net](#); [qdmawyer@aol.com](#); [gkrimsky@repam.com](#); [gnsirkin@aol.com](#); [gtoensing@comcast.net](#); [hotspur27@yahoo.com](#); [Rose.Howell](#); [iamok1@comcast.net](#); [jane.rothchild@state.ma.us](#); [jdew@BerkshireEagle.com](#); [jmlipp@aol.com](#); [johnmauer@stoneforge.com](#); [Justin.Davidson@hou.state.ma.us](#); [kate.parsons@ma.usda.gov](#); [kathleen.Johnson@ct.usda.gov](#); [kencornet@hotmail.com](#); [Kenneth.Munney@fws.gov](#); [Ken.Finkelstein@NOAA.gov](#); [kevin.mooney@corporate.ge.com](#); [kklng22@earthlink.net](#); [klngbj@kent-school.edu](#); [kmboyer1976@yahoo.com](#); [knoecklein@juno.com](#); [kryan48371@aol.com](#); [ksferra@massaudubon.org](#); [k.c.mitkevicius@usace.army.mil](#); [laura.colby@state.ma.us](#); [leeniekate@aol.com](#); [Palmieri, Linda](#); [Michael.Gorski@state.ma.us](#); [michael.humphreys@po.state.ct.us](#); [michael.powers@po.state.ct.us](#); [mindwires@gmail.com](#); [mobdeeds@berkshire.net](#); [mpurnell@snet.net](#); [mzarba@newmilford.org](#); [nancycohen@post.harvard.edu](#); [grantham.nancy@epa.gov](#); [pldefur@lgc.org](#); [peter.o'toole@ge.com](#); [rdinitto@shd-inc.com](#); [richard.delmasto@mail.house.gov](#); [Richard.Hull](#); [rick.jacobson@po.state.ct.us](#); [rmcgrath@shd-inc.com](#); [sadapson@yahoo.com](#); [selectmen@townoflenox.com](#); [sharee.rusnak@po.state.ct.us](#); [sherry.white@mohican-nsn.gov](#); [smcmahon@ttor.org](#); [susan.peterson@po.state.ct.us](#); [Campbell, Scott \(MNH\)](#); [tames@bnrc.net](#); [tmatuzko@berkshireplanning.org](#); [thmswfontaine@yahoo.com](#); [traci.iott@po.state.ct.us](#); [walton.green.34@yahoo.com](#); [wbarrylaw@wmconnect.com](#); [wmurphy@pobox.com](#); [Samir.Bukhari](#); [Dana.ohman@state.ma.us](#); [Bob.Cianciarulo](#); [wbarrylaw@wmconnect.com](#); [iamok1@comcast.net](#); [Raymond.g.goff@usace.army.mil](#); [pkgloger@verizon.net](#); [jkrob@biogenesis.com](#); [jsontag@biogenesis.com](#); [cdeitz@wamc.org](#); [Kathy.kessler@earthlink.net](#); [Lindsay, Joel](#); [Jennifer@clarkandgreen.com](#); [Tim.Conway](#); [Joanne.flescher@state.ma.us](#); [Richard.gates@corporate.ge.com](#); [Dgibbs@verizon.net](#); [djtjrinc@berkshire.rr.com](#); [slefenfeld@hvatoday.org](#); [pfield@cbuilding.org](#); [tames@bnrc.net](#); [Ryan.Sabourin](#); [cberry@berkshireeagle.com](#); [tjones@berkshireeagle.com](#); [tdobrowski@berkshireeagle.com](#); [news@berkshireeagle.com](#); [murphy.jim@epa.gov](#); [news@berkshirerecord.net](#); ["Jorja"](#); ["Joseph A. Kellogg"](#); ["Greg Federspiel"](#); ["rmason@town.lee.ma.us"](#); ["GT BARRINGTON"](#); [Lauren.Gaherty](#); ["Nat Karns"](#); [dbianchi@pittsfieldch.com](#); [cthurston@williamstanleybusinesspark.com](#); [Elizabeth.Fierman](#)  
**Subject:** Update on bridge removal near Eric Drive in Pittsfield  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 11, 2012 6:37:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [DSCN1089.JPG](#)  
[DSCN1092.JPG](#)  
[DSCN1095.JPG](#)

---

As you may know, the City of Pittsfield initiated work on Monday today pursuant to an emergency permit to remove the collapsed bridge from the Housatonic River. The Emergency Certification issued by the Pittsfield Conservation Commission to the City of Pittsfield DPU required that the City consult with EPA for any recommendations for the work. Dean Tagliaferro, EPA's Project Manager for GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, participated in a site visit on Monday with Caleb Mitchell, Pittsfield Conservation Agent, and Tony Kurpaksa of MassDEP where the contractor for the City was present and provided an overview of the work to be performed. Based on the site inspection, Dean submitted the following EPA's recommendations for the work.

1. The City should ensure that the contractor complies with all OSHA requirements, including those applicable to working in areas with hazardous substances. The work area is within the boundaries of the GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Consent Decree Site, Rest of River Area. Confirm that the contractor is aware that the sediment, and floodplain soil between the upland field and the river, are contaminated with PCBs. PCB concentrations detected

near the work area are as high as 15 ppm in the sediment and 67 ppm in the floodplain soil. At a minimum, workers should take appropriate precautions to minimize direct contact with contaminated soil and sediment.

2. All non-natural debris (trash, wood planks, etc.) and bridge material should be transported to a licensed off-site disposal facility.
3. Best management practices should be employed to minimize the tracking of floodplain soil and sediment out of the work area. For example, if mud, floodplain soil or sediment adheres to equipment tracks or tires, then this material should be removed by powerwashing or other means prior to the equipment exiting the floodplain to the upland field. Similarly, the timber mats should be inspected prior to exiting the area and soil removed as appropriate.
4. Best management practices should be employed to minimize the disturbance to sediment during the work. For example, attempt to lift and remove the debris as opposed to dragging the debris through the sediment and up the bank. Based on a site inspection and the limited scope of this operation, placement of silt curtain in the river doesn't appear to be warranted.
5. The Pittsfield Conservation Commission should confirm with the Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program, an entity within Massachusetts Fish and Game, that the proposed actions will not adversely affect the State-listed rare, threatened or endangered species.

The bridge was removed this morning. It was hoisted in the air and removed to the bank. It was not dragged through the sediment. The bridge material and any non-natural materials (e.g., wood planks, trash, wooden spool) will be placed in roll-off dumpsters and transported off-site to a licensed disposal facility. The natural woody debris was placed in the floodplain, between the upland field and the river, on the field side of any elevated sewer line embankment/berm. The contractor expects to complete work and be off-site by the end of the week, weather permitting. Adverse weather forecasted for Thursday may delay completion of work until next week.

Both EPA and MA DEP have and will continue to observe the work.

Attached are three photos, one of the river before removal, one of the river after removal, and one of the metal bridge debris.

(See attached file: DSCN1089.JPG)(See attached file: DSCN1092.JPG)  
(See attached file: DSCN1095.JPG)

Jim Murphy  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
New England - Region 1  
Office of the Regional Administrator  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Mail Code ORA 01-1  
Boston, MA 02109-3912  
617-918-1028 (phone)  
617-721-2868 (cell phone)



01.11.2012



01.11.2012



01.10.2012