



**THE CITY OF PITTSFIELD**  
**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
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**Rest of River Settlement  
City of Pittsfield Statement**

The City of Pittsfield is pleased to be a part of this landmark partnership that, through mutual commitments by all parties, has resolved a 20-year quandary between GE and the EPA. With this settlement agreement, we will embark on a comprehensive and protective cleanup of the Housatonic River that will restore the river for present and future generations, while minimizing disruption to nearby neighborhoods in the city.

Additionally, the agreement will result in the cleanup of residential properties and yield multiple investments that will support the ongoing revitalization of the Tyler Street area, as well future economic development initiatives in the city. As a whole, the settlement agreement symbolizes a collaborative effort that has resulted in a very real and viable solution toward the restoration of one of Berkshire County's most prized natural gems, and has the potential to be used as a model in addressing similar matters of environmental contamination.

**Community Benefits**

- 22 floodplain properties to be remediated to higher, residential, cleanup standards;
- Requirements to minimize impacts to neighborhoods in Pittsfield and impose restriction on the transport of cleanup material over residential streets;
- Increased coordination of with local officials, neighborhoods, and residents;
- An estimated 240,000 cubic yards of sediment and soil to be removed in Pittsfield from the river and adjacent floodplain;
- All cleanup materials to be disposed of outside of Pittsfield;
- Before the remediation work begins and after it is completed, GE will inventory and document the conditions of the roads impacted by the removal of the sediment and will restore any significant damage attributable to remediation;
- GE will work cooperatively with City officials to enhance recreational activities such as improved access to the river for canoeing;
- Mitigation of discharges from GE's remaining storm water system in Pittsfield;
- Additional cleanup at the heavily used portion of Canoe Meadows; and
- Commitment by GE and EPA to continue to evaluate innovative technologies.

**Proposed Aesthetic Improvements**

- GE will make aesthetic improvements on GE property within 12 months including enhancing the visual appearance of buildings south of Tyler Street (including removing exterior equipment such as pipe trestle over RR tracks and vent stacks along Tyler Street), removal of barbed wire from some fencing, and landscaping on GE property south of East Street;
- GE will remove pavement and landscape 3 parking lots on Tyler Street/Tyler Street Extension and potentially donate that land to the City;
- GE will donate the parking lot and building on Woodlawn Avenue to the City of Pittsfield or its designee; and
- GE will meet with City two time per year to discuss continued maintenance, eventual demolition of vacant buildings south of Tyler Street, and potential aesthetic improvements to GE-owned property in the area.

**Economic Development Benefit - GE to provide \$8M to the City Economic Development Fund**