SUPERFUND

# Lower Neponset River Site Boston/Milton, MA



**THE SUPERFUND PROGRAM** protects human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up oftenabandoned hazardous waste sites and engaging communities throughout the process. Many of these sites are complex and need long-term cleanup actions. Those responsible for contamination are held liable for cleanup costs. EPA strives to return previously contaminated land and groundwater to productive use.

#### EPA PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING:

Tuesday, October 5th, 20216:30 to 8:30 PMWe encourage all to attend

The Virtual Meeting will be held via Zoomgov, please register at: https://bit.ly/2XhM23T

(A confirmation email containing information about joining will follow after registering.)

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

The Lower Neponset River was proposed to the National Priorities List (NPL) on September 8, 2021. In February 2020, EPA held a public meeting to update the community on the site status. EPA received support from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in listing the Site on the NPL. With this proposal, EPA will hold a public informational meeting on the site and overall Superfund NPL listing and remedial process. Comments regarding this proposed listing must be submitted or postmarked on or before November 8, 2021 through the official EPA FR comment process.

The Lower Neponset River site is currently identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the 3.7-mile stretch of the Neponset River from the point where it merges with Mother Brook, a branch of the Neponset River located upstream of Dana Avenue, Hyde Park, Massachusetts (MA), extending downstream to the Walter Baker Dam located upstream of Adams Street, Dorchester/Milton, MA. Based on preliminary studies, this portion of the river continued >>

KEY CONTACTS: ZANETTA PURNELL

U.S. EPA Community Involvement Coordinator 617-918-1306 purnell.zanetta@epa.gov

GENERAL INFO: TOLL-FREE CUSTOMER SERVICE 1-888-EPA-7341

LEARN MORE AT: www.epa.gov/superfund/ lowerneponset



contains sediment contaminated with elevated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The Lower Neponset River channel ranges from approximately 40 feet to 300 feet wide and comprises an estimated 40 acres within or bordering the City of Boston (Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Dorchester sections) and the Town of Milton, MA. The site is bordered by residential, commercial, industrial, and public parcels of land, including the Neponset River Greenway. Historically, numerous mills were established along this portion of the Neponset River in the neighborhoods of Dorchester, Milton, Hyde Park, and Mattapan, utilizing dams to generate power initially to turn mill grinding wheels and later to operate the large industrial mills. These mills and other industrial facilities in the area may have contributed to the river contamination.

# **The EPA's Superfund Process**

### Place site on Superfund National Priorities List.

#### Remedial Investigation (RI): • Find out nature and extent of

 contamination.
Assess risks to people and environment. Feasibility Study (FS): Describe and compare possible cleanup alternatives using EPA's 9 evaluation criteria. Proposed Plan: Present EPA's preferred cleanup option. Formal public

comment period.

Decision: Issue cleanup decision.

**Record of** 

## Remedial Design: Define how

cleanup will be

done.

Remedial Action: Carry out site cleanup.

#### Community Engagement: We want to hear from you!

There will be opportunities for you to be involved throughout the cleanup process. This will help us design a cleanup that considers community ideas and needs.

#### SUBMITTING COMMENTS

All comments MUST be submitted electronically or postmarked on or before **November 8, 2021**. All comments MUST include the docket number for this site:

#### Docket number: EPA-HQ-OLEM-2021-0457

#### Submitting comments on http://www.regulations.gov

Enter the docket number. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments. This can be done anonymously, unless you choose to provide your personal information.

#### Submitting comments via U.S. Postal Mail:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency EPA Docket Center, Superfund Docket Mail Code 28221T 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20460

Notice: EPA's policy is that all written comments received will be copied into the public docket, available online at http://www. regulations.gov, including any personal information such as your name and address *if provided*. The exception is <u>online comments</u> submitted through regulations.gov. The http://www.regulations.gov site is an "anonymous access" system; that means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an email comment directly to EPA, your email address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket.

### SUPERFUND- NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL):

The (NPL) is a list of sites EPA determines require further detailed investigation and potential cleanup under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), often referred to as Superfund.

- Sites on NPL are subject to detailed investigation, and cleanup where warranted.
- Only sites on the NPL are eligible to receive federal Superfund resources for comprehensive cleanup.
- Federal resources can include monetary support, as well as expertise/staffing.
- Absent the use of federal resources, comprehensive cleanup strategies may not be able to be pursued.

To view more information on a NPL listing, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-national-priorities-list-npl

To view more information on HRS, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/hrs-toolbox

To view more information on the Site Assessment Process, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-site-assessment-process