

Housatonic CCC Summer 2017 Tour
July 12, 2017

Note: All tour locations are highlighted on the accompanying maps.

Group Tour Segment

Start/Silver Lake

Time: 5:15PM

Location: [Parking lot](#) to the northeast of Silver Lake in Pittsfield, MA.

Direction details: There is a parking lot down a very short gravel road that is just off Silver Lake Blvd. If you turn off East St/Route 9 onto Silver Lake Blvd, it will be a right hand turn after you pass the entrance to MountainOne Bank and the detention pond, but before the bank of solar panels. You may choose to leave your car here and carpool on the tour.

Background: The Silver Lake Area consists of a 26-acre lake and adjacent banks. The lake sediments and banks contain PCBs. The banks were remediated in 2012 and the lake sediments were capped in 2013 using a silty-sand material high in organic content. The organic content component of the cap was designed to minimize the flow of PCBs up through the cap and to the surface water. A walking path around the lake was also constructed in 2013. Measurements of the cap thickness are taken annually and cap material sampling for PCBs is scheduled for 2018. There are approximately 12 active city storm water outfalls into Silver Lake, including a large outfall at the intersection of Fourth Street and Silver Lake Boulevard. These outfalls are located on the north and eastern portions of the lake. There is also an outfall from the detention basin on PEDA property that discharges into Silver Lake. There are no air monitoring locations to measure PCBs remaining in the Silver Lake Area; these were all removed at the completion of remediation activities. Included in the tour packet is a Figure with the cap sampling locations and the outfalls into the lake (Figure 8-1).

Notes:

PEDA Site: Proposed Walmart Location

Time: 6:00PM

Location: Park on [Woodlawn Ave between Kellogg St and Tyler St](#) in Pittsfield, MA.

Direction details: This site has street parking only. Please do not go on the actual site; this is private property and it is fenced-off.

Background: This site is a former GE manufacturing facility. It is currently owned by PEDA and is the proposed site of a new Walmart. An Environmental Restriction and Easement (ERE) deeded use restriction has been placed on the property. The developer and PEDA will have to comply with the ERE if there is any soil handling or pavement/concrete removal. However, the developer has not submitted any specific plans at this time for how the development will be done. All construction activity on the site will be monitored by MassDEP and EPA for compliance with the attendant EREs.

Notes:

Self-Guided Tour Segment

GE Building 59

Location: [159 Plastics Ave, Pittsfield, MA.](#)

Direction details: You may pull off to the side of Plastics Ave but *do not* stop on Merrill Rd/Rt 9. Please do not go on the actual site; this is private property.

Background: The following information is pulled from discussion during the March 1, 2017 CCC meeting in Lenox, MA: GE has been sampling groundwater wells installed at the site as part of the consent decree and found a plume of solvent (with TCE as the primary concern) floating on top of the groundwater. The plume runs adjacent to Building 59. After identifying vapor intrusion risks to the building's commercial occupants, GE installed a sub-slab depressurization system (SSDS) in 2016. The SSDS prevents vapors from accumulating under the building and entering the building. Instead, the system forces vapors away from the slab, outside of the building's footprint, and they disperse into the atmosphere. GE subsequently sampled the vapors being vented into the atmosphere and determined the loading of TCE to be 4 pounds per year. These levels are well below the Massachusetts regulatory threshold of 100 pounds per year. Indoor air levels of TCE are now below OSHA limits but GE will continue to monitor the indoor air because seasonal changes and other factors can impact vapor intrusion rates.

Notes:

Tel-Electric/Mill Street Dam

Location: North end of Mill St in Pittsfield, MA.

Direction details: Park in the large parking lot to the right of [Pittsfield Fire and Safety Co.](#), at the north end of Mill St. The dam is at the dead-end of Mill St, north of the Hawthorne Ave/Mill St intersection.

Background: This dam is downstream of three railroad bridges and Dorothy Amos Park. The Trustees approved an NRD project to investigate the removal of the dam. In early 2017, the Trustee project team selected Gomez and Sullivan Engineers to perform multiple assessments on the railroad bridges and dam impoundment. The findings will be used in the next engineering phase to design protective measures, if needed, to protect the bridges from increased scour (once the river is free flowing again post-dam removal).

Notes:

ROR Residential Removal Actions

Location: [Pomeroy Ave](#) between Preston Ave and Holmes Road in Pittsfield, MA. See attached map.

Direction details: We highly suggest you drive by the relevant properties as parking is difficult at this stop. For a walking option, you may be able to view work at Groups 2 and 4 by parking at Herberg Middle School and walking south to the Pomeroy Ave bridge. You may also park at Mass Audubon on Holmes Rd and reach the area. Please avoid parking on Holmes Road.

Background: A number of locations in Pittsfield, Lenox, and Lee will have cleanup activities this year. Work is underway at Group 2 (three properties—575, 579 Pomeroy and 310 Holmes Road, Pittsfield) and will occur on Group 1, 4 (335 Holmes Road, Pittsfield) and Group 8 (490 Golden Hill Road, Lee) later this year. Remediation is complete at the Group 7 property (18 Crystal Street, Lenox), which is close to the GE-proposed Woods Pond Landfill. Remediation may or may not occur on the Group 6 parcel. The parcel on Group 1 is not readily accessible and the Group 7 and 8 parcels, which are downstream in Lenox and Lee, respectively, are shown in the attached Figures.

Notes:

ROR ACEC backwater meanders including vernal/autumnal pool(s)

Location: [Decker Canoe Launch](#)—New Lenox Rd, Lenox, MA

Direction details: Go to the Decker Canoe Launch (Ramp) on the south side of New Lenox Rd, where New Lenox Rd crossing the Housatonic River. There is also a gravel road north of New Lenox Rd that one can walk on but not drive on.

Background: This is the same location that was toured several years ago with Jon Regosin of Massachusetts Fish and Game. There are core areas/meanders and vernal pools on public land north and south of New Lenox Road, and on the west side of the river. Decker Canoe launch is also very close to the Group 6 residential property.

Notes:

GE-proposed Woods Pond Landfill

Location: Street parking at [Willow Hill Rd and Woodland Rd](#) in Lee, MA.

Direction details: This is a large site with a gravel pit operation. It is private property so please do not enter the gravel pit. You may, however, drive around the exterior using Willow Hill Rd, Woodland Rd, Valley St, and Crystal St. This is also very close to the Group 7 property.

Background: This site is one of three GE-proposed landfills for Rest of River. See attached map for proposed landfill design.

Notes:

GE-proposed Forest St Landfill

Location: Large wooded property that lies to the [west of Forest St](#) in Lee, MA.

Direction details: This is a large wooded property with no dedicated parking. We suggest looking for a pull-off somewhere along Forest St between Silver St and Chanterwood Rd. This is private property so please do not enter the site.

Background: This site is one of three GE-proposed landfills for Rest of River. See attached map for proposed landfill design.

Notes:

GE-proposed Rising Pond Landfill

Location: Large wooded property that lies between the Housatonic River/Rising Pond and Van Deusenville Rd in Great Barrington, MA.

Direction details: The site lies to the east and southeast of the [intersection of Williams St and Van Deusenville Rd](#). There may be street parking on the dead-end street Williams St or pull-offs along Van Deusenville Rd.

Background: This site is one of three GE-proposed landfills for Rest of River. See attached map for proposed landfill design.

Notes: