

Site Redevelopment Profile

Solvents Recovery Service of New England Superfund Site

114 Lazy Lane, Southington, Connecticut 06489

Property Overview

Size

The site includes a 4-acre former operations area and a 42-acre groundwater contamination plume.

Current Site Uses

- A section of the nearly 80-mile-long Farmington Canal Heritage Trail runs across the site.
- Solar panels on the site's capped area power long-term groundwater pumping.

Use Restrictions

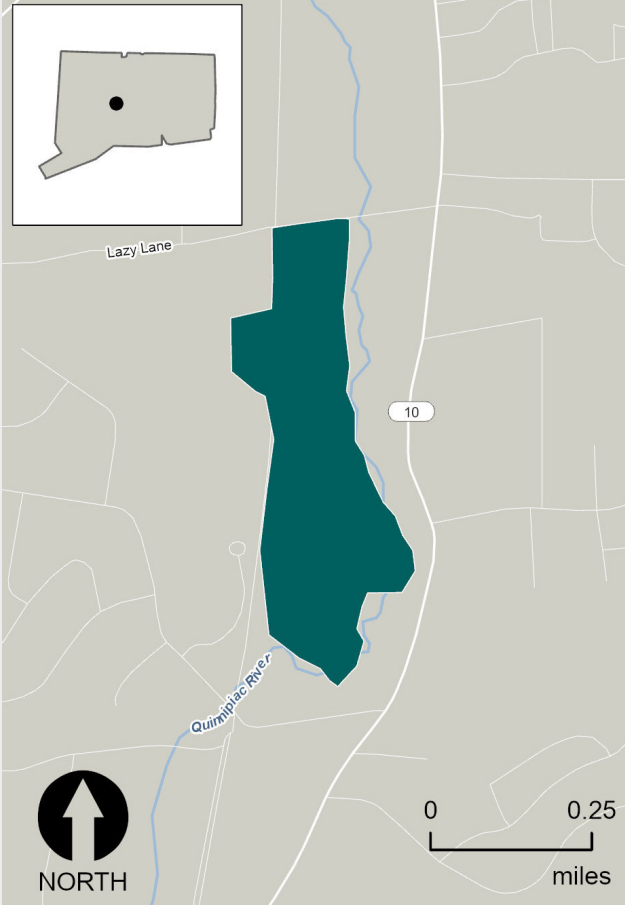
- Institutional controls prohibit new construction as well as the use of surface water or groundwater at the site.

Surrounding Population

5,643
1 MILE

39,183
3 MILES

97,502
5 MILES



A map of the site in Connecticut.

Site History and Redevelopment Timeline

1955-1991

Solvents Recovery distills spent solvents at the site.

1982

Solvents Recovery signs a consent decree with EPA to clean up the site.

1983

EPA places the site on the National Priorities List.

2005

EPA selects the remedy for the site.

2014-2015

PRPs use thermal remediation to address soil contamination.

2017

Construction of the on-site cap finishes, allowing for the opening of the recreation trail that runs across the capped area of the site.

History and Cleanup

Collaboration among project stakeholders at this former hazardous waste treatment facility has gone far beyond effective cleanup. A former railroad right-of-way that crosses the site is now part of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, a regional recreation trail.

From 1955 to 1991, Solvents Recovery Service of New England (Solvents Recovery) distilled spent solvents at the 4-acre site. The company disposed of waste in on-site lagoons until 1967. Facility activities resulted in contamination of soil, wetland soils, bedrock and groundwater with volatile organic compounds. EPA added the site to the Superfund program's National Priorities List in 1983.

Solvents Recovery signed a consent decree with EPA in 1982 to clean up the site and address multiple Resource Conservation and Recovery Act violations. The company put in an on-site groundwater pump-and-treat system, which the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) operated. After the facility closed in 1991, EPA removed 19 drums of waste and the site's potentially responsible parties (PRPs) further investigated the source of contamination and significantly upgraded the groundwater treatment system.

In 2005, EPA selected the site's final remedy. It included thermal remediation of the source contamination and capping of consolidated soils. Thermal remediation took place in 2014 and 2015; it resulted in the removal of 500,000 pounds of contaminants, significantly decreasing the time it will take to restore the drinking water aquifer. Construction of the cap finished in 2017. Solar panels to power long-term groundwater pumping were built into the cap's design and construction, with financing provided by the Connecticut Green Bank.



Thermal remediation equipment on site.

Redevelopment

When CTDEEP purchased the former Boston & Maine railroad right-of-way, its goal was to extend the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail from New Haven to the Massachusetts border. Cap construction made it possible for the portion of the right-of-way that crosses the site to become part of the trail. The PRPs worked with EPA, CTDEEP and the town of Southington to incorporate 1,000 feet of trail across the edge of the on-site cap and add 2,000 feet of adjacent trail to connect the area to the trail's northern end. The project included construction of a trail-access parking lot, which also provides overflow parking for the nearby Southington Police Station. The town and CTDEEP also built a trail bridge over the Quinnipiac River and plan to add an additional 3,000 feet of trail north from the site.

The project illustrates how project partnerships, collaborative planning efforts, and consideration of remedy and redevelopment can result in Superfund outcomes that protect public health and provide long-term benefits, restoring once-contaminated lands to beneficial use. The Farmington Canal Heritage Trail extension at the site connects communities and encourages people young and old to get outside and walk, bike and play.



Sign for the on-site section of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail.

Contacts

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