

From: [Burnham, Anne](#)
To: [Spellman, John \(DEC\)](#)
Cc: tblazicek@nyseg.com; [Molloy, James](#); [Philip, Heather](#)
Subject: Clark Street 2020 Maintenance
Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 8:44:07 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[2020 Clark Street MGP Maintenance Summary 011921_combined.pdf](#)

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John-

Attached is the summary of maintenance activities in 2020 for the Clark Street Former MGP Site in Auburn. Please let us know if you have questions or would like to discuss.

Thanks,
Anne

Anne L. Burnham
Senior Scientist
301 Plainfield Road, Suite 350
Syracuse, NY
anne.burnham@parsons.com - Mobile +1 315.546.5318
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MEMORANDUM

January 19, 2021

To: John Spellman, NYSDEC
From: Heather Philip
Subject: Clark Street Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) 2020 Maintenance Summary

SUMMARY

Clark Street Former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) is a 3-acre site in Auburn, New York that has been remediated to commercial-use criteria as per an Order on Consent entered by the New York State Electric and Gas Corporation (NYSEG) with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the maintenance and monitoring activities performed in 2020 in accordance with New York State regulations and in support of ecological restoration at the Clark Street Former MGP.

ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2020

Monitoring activities performed at the Clark Street Site in 2020 included a comprehensive vegetation plot analysis, which revealed that Clark Street Former MGP is currently meeting performance goals for perennial vegetative cover. Maintenance activities performed in 2020 include treatment of isolated stems of common reed (*Phragmites australis*), an invasive species, which was noted during monitoring activities. Specific efforts that were completed in 2020 include the summarized activities below and are represented in a photographic log provided in **Appendix A**.

- April 28th, 2020: Invasive species reconnaissance site visit. No presence of invasive species was noted.
- September 18th, 2020: Comprehensive vegetation assessment. During this effort, very few isolated stems of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) were noted.
- October 2nd, 2020: Invasive species treatment. Aquaneat was applied at 2.5% concentration to very few isolated stems of common reed (*Phragmites australis*).

MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE

A comprehensive vegetation assessment was performed on September 18th, 2020 to determine whether seeded and planted areas at Clark Street Former MGP site are on track to meet performance goals. Five 1m² plots were selected across the site to represent the plant community as accurately as possible (Figure 1). All plots were dominated by perennial native grasses including bentgrass (*Agrostis* sp.), Canada wildrye (*Elymus canadensis*), and switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*). There was also an abundance of goldenrods (*Solidago canadensis*, *Euthamia graminifolia*) as well as native wetland species such as boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*) and common rush (*Juncus effusus*). Overall percent cover of seeded areas was 100 percent, exceeding the performance goal of 85 percent cover.

DELIVERING A BETTER WORLD

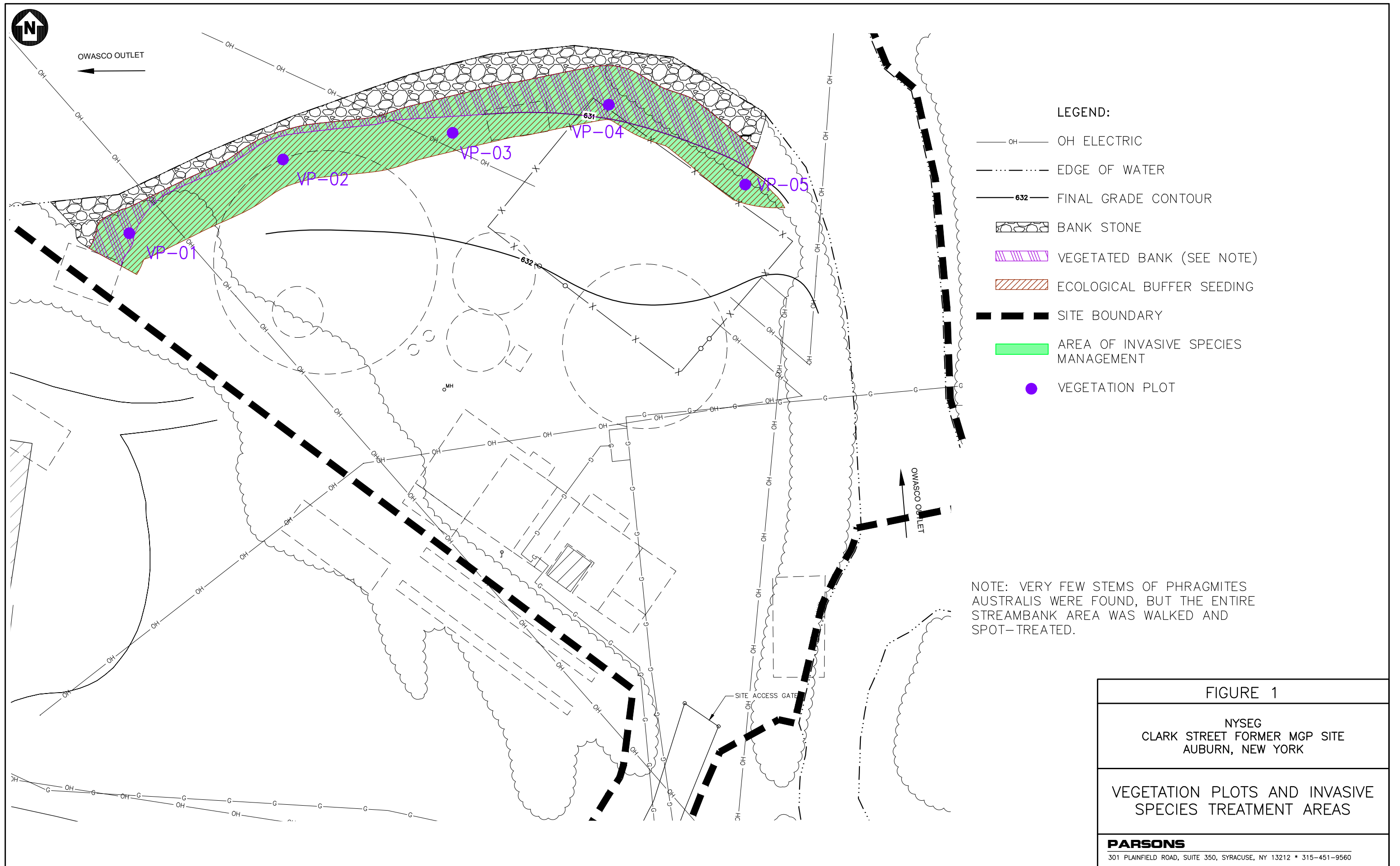
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Planted trees and shrubs were also inventoried to determine survival rates. Overall, 38 percent of planted shrubs were found surviving on site. Based on site conditions and typical outcomes for small potted woody plantings, this rate of survival is consistent with expectations. Silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*) had the highest rate of survival at 67 percent and willow live stakes (*Salix* sp.) had the lowest rate of survival at 24 percent. Overall, 9 percent of planted trees were found surviving on site. Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) had the highest rate of survival at 9 percent and silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*) and black willow (*Salix nigra*) had the lowest rate of survival at 8 percent.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Vegetation will be monitored again in 2021 for percent cover of vegetation. As part of this assessment, any invasive species will be noted. In accordance with the May 22, 2020 Invasive Species Control Memorandum for the Site, the management of any invasive species will be discussed with NYSDEC and carried out accordingly.





APPENDIX A 2020 CLARK STREET MGP MAINTENANCE SUMMARY PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG

Observations:

Photographs 1 and 2 show the streambank at Clark Street former MGP during the April reconnaissance site visit. Photos 3 and 4 show a vegetation plot and a surviving speckled alder (*Alnus incana*) from the September vegetation survey. Photos 5 and 6 show the October herbicide treatment of sparse stems of common reed (*Phragmites australis*).



Photograph 1



Photograph 2



Photograph 3



Photograph 4



Photograph 5



Photograph 6