



Public Notice

Environmental Restoration Program

Veterans Nature Study Area Site B00013
Town Of Huntington, Suffolk County, NY

June 2010

Public Comment on Record of Decision (ROD) Amendment and Subsequent Cleanup Action to Begin at the Veterans Nature Study Area Environmental Restoration Program Site

The public comment period will commence on June 7, 2010 on a proposed amendment to the Record of Decision for the the abandoned Veterans Administration landfill. This former Veterans Administration property is now the Veterans Nature Area (VNSA) Site located off Bellerose Avenue in the East Northport area of the Town of Huntington in Suffolk County. This project has also received a remediation grant under New York's Environmental Restoration Program. See the enclosed map for the exact site location.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) proposes to amend the cleanup action for the VNSA site, detailed in the Record of Decision (ROD), from consolidation and capping to excavation and offsite disposal of soils from the VNSA site that are impacted with site-related contamination. The cleanup activities will be performed by the Town of Huntington. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) support the amended remedy for this project. The NYSDEC will provide oversight of the Town's project implementation during cleanup activities.

Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities: The goal of the cleanup action for the site is to achieve cleanup levels that protect public health and the environment.

Environmental Restoration Program: New York's Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) reimburses municipalities for their costs to investigate and clean up municipally owned contaminated properties. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

A **brownfield** is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the ERP, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8444.html

Once the public comment period closes on July 9, 2010, all comments will be evaluated and addressed in a responsiveness summary as part of the ROD Amendment. After the ROD Amendment is issued and the necessary site-related work plans have been finalized, the fieldwork can begin. The upcoming cleanup activities will include excavation, loading of trucks and transportation of the materials to an appropriate offsite facility. Site restoration is also part of the Town of Huntington Plan. The work plan will include a health and safety plan, materials handling and traffic plan, site restoration plan and periodic updates.

Public Meeting
Wednesday June 30, 2010
7:00 P.M.

Bellerose Elementary School
253 Bellerose Avenue
East Northport, New York

NYSDEC invites you to this discussion about ROD Amendment and upcoming cleanup activities. You are encouraged to ask questions and discuss the upcoming site activities.

Public Comment Period:
June 7 thru July 9, 2010

Background

The VNSA site is an undeveloped 34-acre parcel located in East Northport, Town of Huntington, Long Island, and was donated to the town by the Veterans Administration. The site is largely wooded, with several unpaved roads, one paved road and a three-acre former disposal area in the middle of the site. There is a Veterans Administration hospital to the north of the site, a school to the south and residences to the east. A large parcel that has been deeded to the Town and the County as parkland lies to the west. The parcel that lies to the west is Knolls Park and to the southwest is Veterans Park. Both Parks contain heavily used recreational amenities. The VNSA site is a permanent nature preserve with trails that are networked with other trails within the Veterans Park complex.

The property was owned by the Veteran's Administration and a portion was used for the disposal of their solid waste. Dumping was done in open trenches along with the burning of trash and the disposal of hospital incinerator ash through the late 1960's. The property was conveyed to the Town in 1976 with the stipulation that it is used for environmental education purposes for a period of 30 years starting in 1985. Once the landfill was identified on the in the early 1990s, the Town of Huntington notified the Veterans Administration in 1994 that educational use would be postponed until the environmental issues could be resolved.

Next Steps

The Town of Huntington is expected to begin cleanup activities at the site on or about September 1, 2010. These activities are anticipated to take about 6 months to complete. After the Town of Huntington completes the cleanup activities, it will prepare a Final Engineering Report and submit it to the NYSDEC. The Final Engineering Report will describe the cleanup activities completed and certify that cleanup requirements have been achieved or will be achieved. When the municipality has completed the project to NYSDEC's satisfaction, NYSDEC will issue a document to the municipality called a Satisfactory Completion of Project letter. This document releases the municipality from liability related to the site and allows the site to be re-used. NYSDEC and the municipality will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the decision document describing the selected remedy for the site, called the "Record of Decision" and the ROD Amendment that will be discussed at the public meeting.

East Northport Public Library
185 Larkfield road, East Northport, NY
9:00am-9:00pm M-F, Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm
631-261-2313

Who to Contact: Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project Related Questions

Steven M. Scharf, P.E.
New York State Dept of Env. Conservation
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-7015
518-402-9620
: sxscharf@gw.dec.state.ny.us

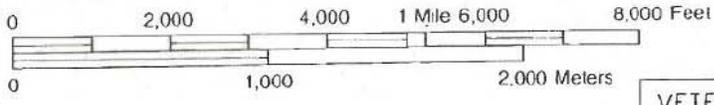
Related Health Questions

Jacquelyn Nealon
New York State Department of Health
547 River Street, Troy, NY
518-402-7880
jen02@health.state.ny.us

If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.



Scales (Approximate) 1:31,350 • 2" = 1 mile



VETERANS NATURE STUDY AREA NYSDEC SITE No. B-000013	
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION	
REVISIONS DATE: 01/11/02	DRAWING: VRSASTE.DWG
MODIFIED BY: STEVEN M. SCHARF, P.E.	



FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION MAP

