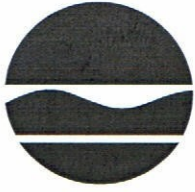


NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION

Dear Interested Citizen:

This fact sheet will inform you about the site investigation planned for the Busy Bee Cleaners site, located at 1818 Merrick Road in the Hamlet of Merrick, Town of Hempstead, Nassau County, New York.

An environmental investigation is being done to determine the nature and extent of contamination in the soil and groundwater at the site. The Busy Bee Cleaners is performing this investigation under the supervision of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

The remedial investigation work plan is available in the document repositories indicated on this page of the fact sheet. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the personnel identified on this fact sheet.

FACT SHEET

October 2003

Busy Bee Cleaners, Site No.V00376-1
1818 Merrick Road
Merrick, NY

Remedial Investigation Planned for Busy Bee Cleaners

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), working cooperatively with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), the Busy Bee Cleaners and the Busy Bee Cleaner's environmental consultant, have developed a remedial investigation work plan and have scheduled field work to investigate the nature and extent of soil and groundwater contamination at the Busy Bee Cleaners site located at 1818 Merrick Road in the Hamlet of Merrick, Town of Hempstead, New York. The work will be carried out by the current owner of the Busy Bee Cleaners identified as the potential responsible party (PRP) for the site, under the provisions of the NYSDEC Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP).

The Proposed Action: Subsurface investigations of soil and groundwater quality will be conducted at the site to define the nature and extent of the soil and groundwater contamination previously identified on-site during preliminary investigations. The remedial investigation (RI) work plan is available for public review at the document repositories listed below. The field work is scheduled to begin in October 2003. A RI report will be generated at the conclusion of the RI activities. After reviewing the investigation report, the NYSDEC will determine if remediation of the site is necessary.

BACKGROUND

The investigation to be conducted at the Busy Bee Cleaners site is called a voluntary cleanup investigation and is implemented under the provisions of the VCP. The VCP was established in New York to address the environmental, legal, and financial barriers that often hinder the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties. In March 2001, the NYSDEC and the PRP signed a voluntary cleanup agreement to conduct an environmental investigation at the Busy Bee Cleaners site located at 1818 Merrick Road in the Hamlet of Merrick. Busy Bee Cleaners submitted the RI work plan for the site in July 2003 to the NYSDEC.

The Busy Bee Cleaners site is approximately 0.3 acre in size and is located at 1818 Merrick Road in the Hamlet of Merrick. The site is comprised of a single-story building located in the central portion of the property. The building is currently occupied by Busy Bee Cleaners, a commercial dry cleaning operation. A site location map can be found on page 3 of this fact sheet.

Busy Bee Cleaners has been in operation at this location for approximately 35 years providing commercial laundry and dry cleaning services.

The current building was constructed in 1967 and Busy Bee Cleaners took control later that year. The facility is connected to a municipal sewer for septic. There are four floor drains located within the building that discharge washing machine wastewater or other wastewater to the municipal sewer. There are two former cesspools and two active drywells located in front of the building.

Historical practices included temporary storage of spent solvents for proper transportation and disposal in containers within the building or in containers located outside the building immediately adjacent to the rear door.

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

In July 1992, the Nassau County Department of Health (NCDH) sampled an irrigation well supplying a residence located on Montauk Avenue. The analytical results of this sample detected several volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including tetrachloroethene (PCE). NCDH searched the area for potential sources of the PCE. The search located two dry cleaners within a half mile of the residence.

NCDH inspected the Busy Bee Cleaners site, and on March 26, 1993 collected three soil samples. Analytical results indicated PCE in two of the soil samples at 510 and 3,300 parts per billion (ppb). The NYSDEC recommended soil cleanup objective for PCE is 1,400 ppb. Based on these analytical results, the NCDH notified Busy Bee Cleaners that they were required to submit an RI work plan.

In August 1993, Busy Bee Cleaner's environmental consultant conducted a RI. This RI consisted of the collection of soil, cesspool sludge and drywell liquid samples. The analytical results of the sampling detected PCE in the soil ranging from 100 to 2,500,000 ppb. All detections of VOCs in the cesspool sludge were below NYSDEC standards. There were no VOCs detected in the drywell liquid samples.

To address the soil contamination identified in the 1993 RI, Busy Bee Cleaner's environmental consultant installed a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system at the site in August 1994. The SVE system operated from August 1994 through April 1996. Four soil samples and one groundwater sample were collected in April 1996 to evaluate the effectiveness of the SVE system. Laboratory analytical results of these soil samples indicated PCE concentrations ranging from 0.7 to 210 ppb. These results are below the NYSDEC recommended soil cleanup objective of 1,400 ppb for PCE.

In September 1996, Busy Bee's consultant requested from NCDH that no further action at the site be taken based on the April 1996 results. At that time, NCDH required additional soil and groundwater sampling. Therefore, in September 1997, four soil samples and one groundwater sample were collected by NCDH and Busy Bee Cleaner's environmental consultant. Laboratory analytical results indicated that PCE was detected in the soil at concentrations ranging from 5 to 260,000 ppb. In addition, 1,2-dichloroethene (19 ppb) and PCE (49 ppb) were detected in the groundwater above the NYSDEC ambient water quality standards and guidance values of 5 ppb for each compound.

In June 1998, Busy Bee Cleaner's environmental consultant proposed additional treatment on-site. The NCDH rejected the proposal indicating that remediation oversight had been referred to the NYSDEC.

In March 2001, Busy Bee and the NYSDEC entered into a Voluntary Cleanup Agreement to implement a remedial response program for the site. A remedial investigation work plan was prepared in April 2001 by a new environmental consultant for Busy Bee Cleaners. Comments were provided to the environmental consultant by the NYSDEC in October 2001. This remedial investigation work plan was never implemented.

Busy Bee prepared a second remedial investigative work plan through a new environmental consultant in July 2003.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

To stay informed about activities at the Busy Bee Cleaners site throughout the investigation and remediation process, you are encouraged to take advantage of the site's document repositories and contacts listed on this fact sheet. As documents are generated during the remedial process, they will be added to the repositories. Documents currently available include the July 2003 Remedial Investigation Work Plan, Remedial Investigation Fact Sheet dated September 2003, and the Voluntary Cleanup Agreement dated March 2001.

DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

NYSDEC, Region 1 Office:

By Appointment
Attn: Mr. Bill Fonda
SUNY - Bldg. 40
Stony Brook, New York 11790-2356
M-F 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Phone: (631) 444-0350

Public Library:

North Merrick Public Library
1691 Meadowbrook Road
North Merrick, NY 11566
Phone: (516) 378-7474
Hours:
M-Thurs 10 am - 9 pm
Fri, Sat 10 am - 6 pm
Sun 1 pm - 5 pm*
(*Sundays hours begin in October, closed on Sundays during the Summer) Materials can be found at the Reference Desk

CONTACT LIST

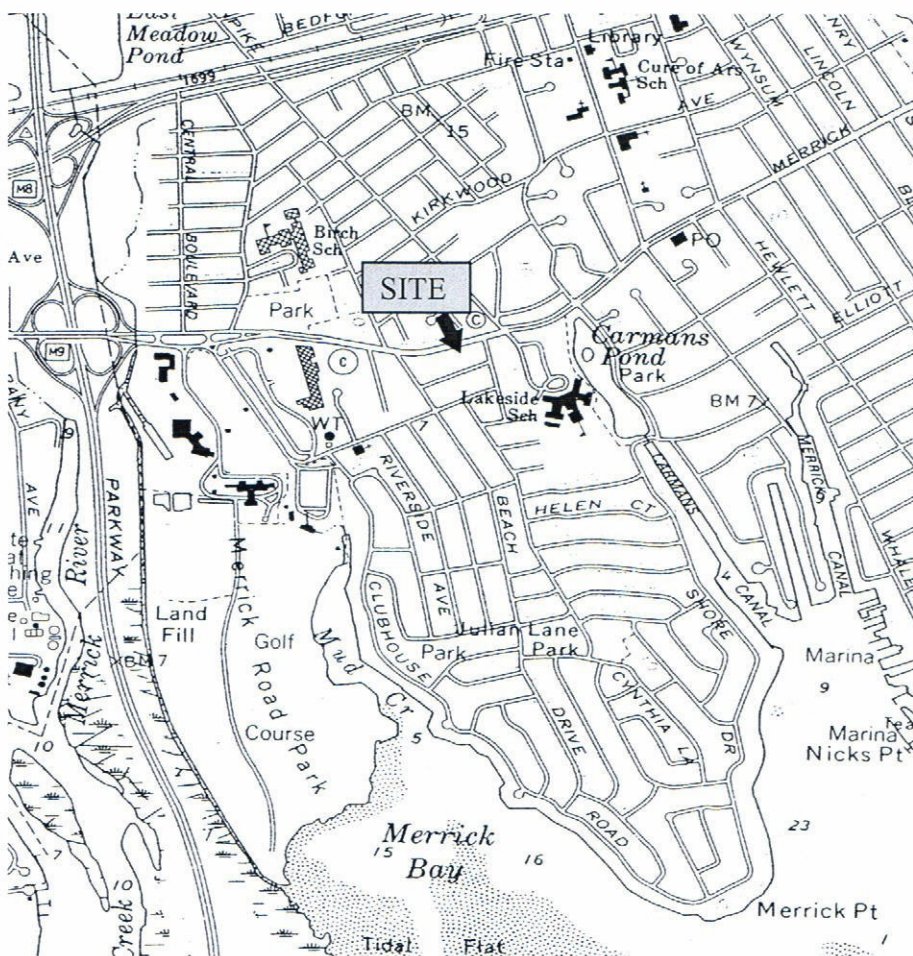
Environmental Concerns:

Mrs. Nancy Garry, project manager
NYSDEC
Division of Environmental Remediation
625 Broadway, 11th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7015
Phone: (518) 402-9621

Health-Related Concerns:

Mrs. Jacquelyn Nealon
NYSDOH
Flanigan Square, 547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180-2216
Phone: (518) 402-7880 or
1-800-458-1158 ext. 27880

Busy Bee
Cleaners site
location map



NORTH