



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

ConEd Dunwoodie NRD Restoration

Bronx River
Yonkers, Westchester County

On November 4, 2009, a transformer fire occurred at the Consolidated Edison Company of New York (ConEd) Dunwoodie Substation located in Yonkers, Westchester County, NY. The fire resulted in a spill of approximately 15,000 gallons of dielectric fluid into the City of Yonkers storm water system and an undetermined volume discharged into the Bronx River. The spill impacted approximately six miles of the Bronx River, and resulted in direct injuries to vegetation and benthic biota. Despite ConEd responding quickly and placing booms to contain the spill, some oil went around the booms, affecting the riverbanks. The spill resulted in lost use of the river and resources to the citizens of New York State (NYS) during spill response.

Restoration Efforts

The Con Edison spill resulted in injury to the fish, aquatic organisms, and riparian vegetation of the Bronx River. It also created injuries to NYS and its citizens through loss of use of the river and clean-up costs of various agencies. All projects were implemented within the direct path of the spill. Three projects were selected. The first will restore habitat in the Bronx River corridor, the second project is to install a trash boom to protect downstream habitats. The funds remaining after the implementation of these two projects will be put towards a third project, improving monitoring efforts.



Contaminants of Concern

Dielectric Fluid
(Heavy Crude)

Restoration Projects

- Habitat Restoration in Bronx River Corridor
 - Clearing of invasive species
 - Creating erosion control
 - Maintain functioning floodplain
 - Habitat improvement
- Preventative trash boom
 - Permanent in-stream structure to catch petrol, floating debris
- Weekly monitoring and maintenance of river/booms
- These project were funded through monies obtained in a settlement reached with Con-Edison.

