



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Liberty Industrial NRD Restoration

Farmingdale
Nassau County

In 1978, a drinking supply well, which had operated for 24 years, was discovered to have concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). A 30 acre facility on Long Island was historically used for manufacturing of aircraft and trailer parts during World War II. Waste effluent containing cadmium and chromium was released into the groundwater through on-site disposal basins. Cadmium and chromium both have toxic effects on the environment and organisms through exposure and ingestion. Massapequa Lake and Massapequa Creek are both contaminated with metals, through groundwater from the site. The site remediation includes groundwater treatment, and removal of contaminated sediments from the lake.

Restoration Efforts

As a focus on the injury to surface water and wetland habitats, the primary restoration project is a fish ladder on Massapequa Creek. Settlement funds are also being used for the maintenance and monitoring of the fish populations and the fish ladder in this waterway. The Massapequa Creek fish ladder allows fishes to bypass physical obstructions to waterways (such as dams), and allow access to upstream habitats, in this case, creating access for fishes to Massapequa Lake.



Photo courtesy of USFWS

Contaminants of Concern

Heavy Metals
(Cadmium, Chromium,
Copper, Lead, Zinc)

Restoration Project

- Massapequa Creek Fish Ladder
- Educational Signage
- Ladder maintenance

The project was funded through monies obtained in a settlement reached with Liberty Industrial.

Photo courtesy of USFWS

