



Upcoming Activities

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will oversee the removal of contaminated soil at the Pierson's Creek Superfund site in Newark, New Jersey this spring. The work to remove the soil will be conducted on different lots and by different entities. Each party has signed a legal agreement with EPA and will cover the costs of EPA's oversight.

EPA expects the work at both lots to be completed by the end of this summer.

429 Delancy St.

The soil at 429 Delancy Street is contaminated with mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in a heavily vegetated area. As a bona fide prospective purchaser (BFPP) 429 Delancy Associates, LLC, will remove the contaminated soil.

Globe Metals

Soil at the Globe Metals property at 7 Avenue L, which is also contaminated with mercury and PCBs will be removed by Salomone Brothers, Inc. because they have been deemed responsible for the contaminated soil on this portion of the site. When Oberwil Corporation owned the property, Salomone Brothers, Inc. dug up mercury-contaminated soil and sediment from the unnamed tributary and placed them in three piles on the property. Recently 7 Avenue L, LLC purchased the property from Oberwil. The piles are now covered with a tarp on the property and Salomone Brothers has agreed to remove the piles.



Photos 1 & 2: Sediment from the tributary that was dug up, piled, and covered with a tarp on the Globe property.

Background

The Pierson's Creek site is located in an industrial area of Newark, New Jersey. The site includes Pierson's Creek, which discharges to Newark Bay approximately 1.5 miles downstream of its headwaters and passes several properties that border the creek on its way to Newark Bay. The site also includes the Troy Chemical Corporation facility, located just upstream of Pierson's Creek, that manufactures antimicrobial and antifungal paint additives and related products.

Previous owners of the facility manufactured mercury compounds from 1957 until 1987. Before 1965, untreated mercury wastewater was discharged to the creek. From 1965 to 1976, the mercury wastewater was treated on-site before it was discharged to the creek. In addition to the discharge of mercury-contaminated wastewater, there was a history of spills and discharges to the ground surface at the facility that included puddles of chemicals (including mercury droplets) that reached Pierson's Creek. There have been other industries bordering Pierson's Creek, that may have also discharged contamination to the sediment in the creek. The City of Newark dredged Pierson's Creek several times for flood control measures leaving behind contaminated dredged sediment on upland areas adjacent to the creek. EPA listed the site on the National Priorities List in 2014.



Contaminants

Mercury is a naturally occurring element that can be in liquid, gas, or solid forms. Mercury is primarily used in the manufacture of electronics, fluorescent lighting, and production of chlorine-caustic soda. It has also been used in dental products (fillings), batteries; thermometers and other scientific and medical devices; electronic switches and lighting applications; paints and pigments; fungicides and pesticides.

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) are a group of manufactured chemicals, and are oily in nature, yellow in color with no smell or taste. PCBs were used in electrical transformers. EPA banned the use of PCBs in 1979; however, PCBs are still present in many pre-1979 products.

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