

SUPERFUND

Durham Meadows Superfund Site

U.S. EPA | HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM AT EPA NEW ENGLAND



THE SUPERFUND PROGRAM protects human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up often-abandoned hazardous waste sites and engaging communities throughout the process. Many of these sites are complex and need long-term cleanup actions. Those responsible for contamination are held liable for cleanup costs. EPA strives to return previously contaminated land and groundwater to productive use.

SITE BACKGROUND & CLEANUP PLAN

The Site includes an area of groundwater contamination generally centered on Main Street in Durham. The Site is centered around the Durham Manufacturing Company, an operating manufacturer, and the former location of Merriam Manufacturing Company, both located on Main Street. Both companies manufactured metal cabinets, boxes and other items. The companies' past disposal of wastewater to the soil and inadequate drum storage practices at Merriam Manufacturing Company, among other things, contributed to the contamination at each facility and in the overall area of groundwater surrounding both facilities.

In 1982, CT DEP detected volatile organic compounds (VOCs - commonly found in solvents, paints and degreasers) in private drinking water wells in the area of the Site. Under a CT DEP order, Merriam Manufacturing Company and Durham Manufacturing Company installed carbon filters on impacted residential wells.

In 2005, EPA issued a Record of Decision outlining the cleanup remedy for the Site, which includes an extension of an alternate water supply from the City of Middletown Water Distribution System to address the overall area of site-wide groundwater contamination.

EPA has been working with the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CT DEEP), the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the City of Middletown and the Town of Durham to bring a water supply extension to the Site area. The group worked on the development of a Durham Water System Extension Feasibility Study and an Environmental Impact Evaluation. These documents evaluated the feasibility and rough cost of bringing a water system extension into town that serves the Site area, as well as potentially serving eight additional areas with contamination, including bacterial or other issues not caused by the Site.

UPCOMING WORK AND WHAT TO EXPECT:

EPA is currently progressing with the Remedial Design of the water supply extension ("water line"). The Remedial Design will build off of the Durham Water System Extension Feasibility Study and will result in the development of all design documents and cost estimates needed before construction of the water line can begin. EPA's Remedial Design work will provide a design for all infrastructure necessary to allow for water service, including fire protection, to be provided in the future to all areas identified in the Durham Water System Extension Feasibility Study. EPA's design, however, will only provide for connections to homes and businesses within the Site area. Design and construction of connections within non-Superfund areas will be addressed separately by entities other than EPA.

EPA expects to connect a total of approximately 100 homes and businesses to the water line, including homes that are currently impacted by site contamination, as well as a buffer zone of homes surrounding the contamination. The proposed water line service area includes Main Street and Maple Avenue, bordered by Talcott Lane to the north, and Allyn Brook to the south. Parts of Maiden Lane and Wallingford Road are also included. (See Figure attached)

continued >

KEY CONTACTS:

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Subsurface investigations will take place along the water line route in order to assess the condition of underlying soils. These investigations involve drilling soil borings and taking samples for observation by a geologist/geotechnical specialist. A police detail will be present during drilling along Route 17, which is expected to take approximately two weeks. Residents may also notice "Call Before You Dig" utility mark-outs on the street prior to the start of drilling.

A water storage tank is also required in order to provide water to the Superfund site area and other possible areas. The proposed location of the Cherry Hill Water Storage Tank is at the end of Talcott Ridge Drive in southern Middletown. Drilling will also be conducted in this area.

Drilling work in all areas is tentatively scheduled to start in June/July 2013. Drilling work is noisy, but is expected to move fairly quickly, so it is unlikely that anyone living along Route 17 will hear the drilling for more than one day. Drilling in the proposed tank location may take approximately three days to complete. Residents traveling along Route 17 should expect some additional traffic while drilling work is ongoing.

All soil boring locations will be identified through land surveying. EPA also requires surveying at all of the homes/businesses within the Superfund site area in order to more precisely identify the location of piping connections and existing potable water wells. The survey work is non-invasive, and does not involve any disturbance of soil or entry into homes. EPA and/or its contractor, AECOM, will be contacting property owners in order to arrange for this survey work. All survey work is also tentatively scheduled to start in June/July 2013.

EPA expects to finalize all Remedial Design work in early 2014. At that time, the EPA and the CT DEEP (collectively, the "Agencies") will make a final decision on how to fund the construction work and will seek funding.

For homes within the Site service area that require connection, one or both of the agencies will pay for full connection of the water line to the house/structure. The agencies will also pay for abandonment of the existing well. Once water service begins, the homeowner will be responsible for paying for all water use.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Filtering and monitoring of affected residential drink-

WETLANDS:

A portion of certain areas along the transmission route for the water line contain wetlands. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) require a determination that federal actions involving dredging and filling activities or activities in wetlands minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands and preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands. EPA has determined that construction is not required in wetlands areas, however, construction may occur near wetlands at various locations along the transmission route. EPA will use best management practices to prevent or minimize adverse impacts on the wetlands, wildlife and its habitat through erosion control measures and restoration of any disturbed vegetated areas near wetlands. If any damage to or loss of wetlands areas occurs, wetlands will be restored or replicated consistent with the requirements of the federal and state wetlands protection laws. As required, EPA is seeking comment on this proposed determination. To submit a comment on the wetlands issue ONLY, please e-mail or write to Anni Loughlin of EPA at loughlin.anni@epa.gov or Anni Loughlin, Project Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 5 Post Office Sq., Suite 100, Mailcode OSRR07-1, Boston, MA 02109-3912 by June 30, 2013.

ing water wells in the area currently continues under State order. Currently, the Durham Manufacturing Company continues to perform this work at homes in its area. CT DEEP is performing this work for the homes in the Merriam Manufacturing Company area.

The soil excavation and off-site disposal remedy for the former location of the Merriam Manufacturing Company Study Area is complete. Approximately 58,000 tons of contaminated soil was removed and backfilled.

Last year, EPA, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Justice, entered into a proposed Consent Decree (CD) with Merriam Manufacturing Company, Aztec Industries, L.L.C., and the Estate of Allan Adams (collectively, "the Settling Defendants"). In January 2013, the court approved the CD, which requires the Settling Defendants to make cash payments to the United States from the proceeds of insurance claims and the conveyance of real property at the Merriam Manufacturing Company Study Area portion of the site. Settling Defendants are also required to provide access and impose institutional controls on their properties, which will facilitate redevelopment of the properties and ensure protectiveness of human health and the environment.

The Agencies continue to work with the Durham Manufacturing Company on pre-design work for the remedy at the Durham Manufacturing Company facility. The Agencies are currently also in settlement discussions with the Durham Manufacturing Company. Any proposed settlement will be published for public comment.

PUBLIC MEETING:

EPA will host a public meeting to discuss the overall status of the Site and the water line project. At this meeting, EPA will share information regarding planned activities for this summer, including design work for the extension of public water to the Site (highlighted in yellow on the figure). Discussion of areas outside of the Superfund Site is beyond the scope of this meeting, as the design work being conducted by EPA addresses only the Site.

Thursday, June 6, 2013

7:00 pm

Coginchaug Regional High School Auditorium
135 Pickett Lane
Durham, CT 06422

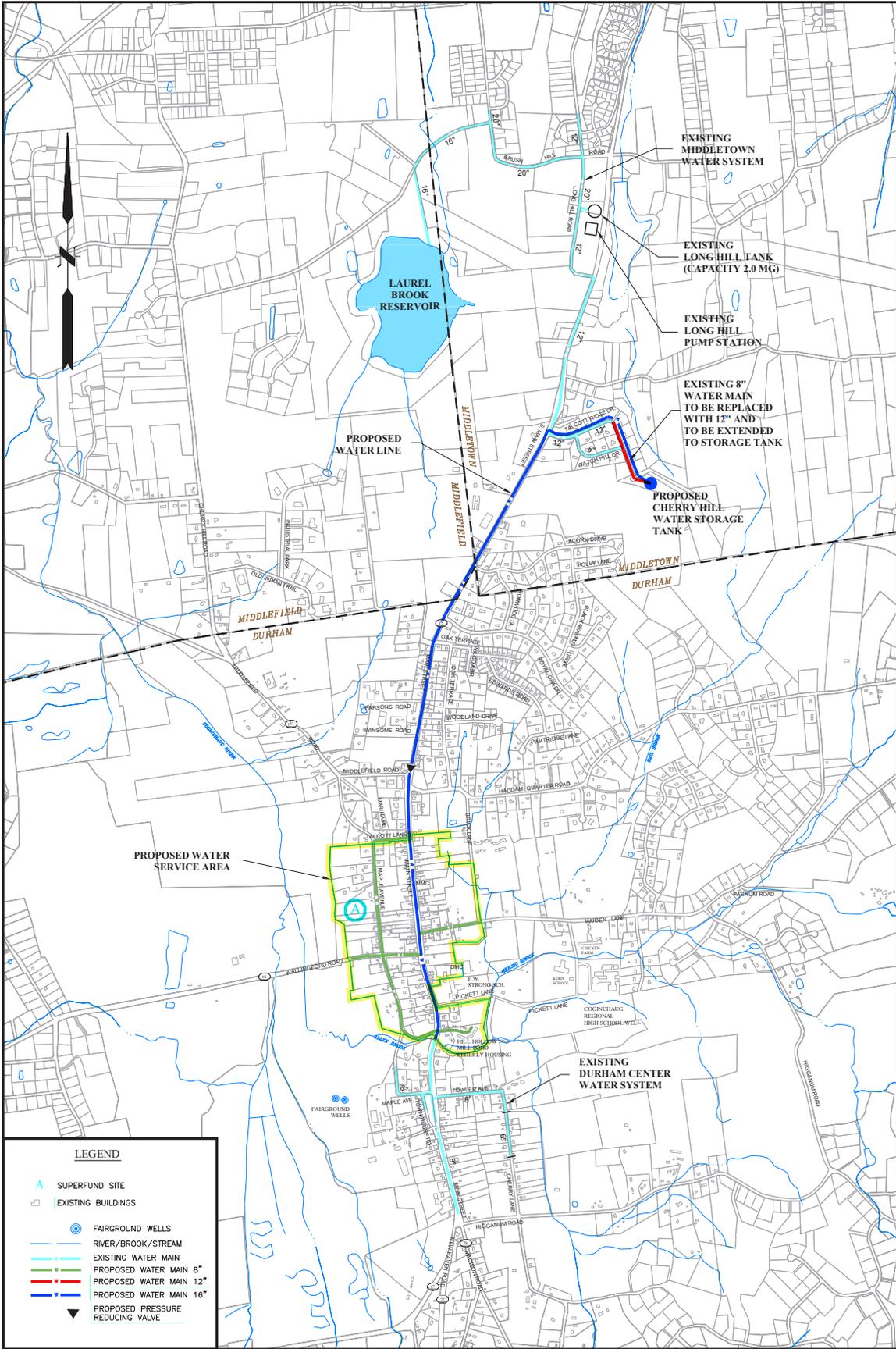
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LANS VIEW
DATE: 12/10/12

LEGEND

- ▲ SUPERFUND SITE
- EXISTING BUILDINGS
- FAIRGROUND WELLS
- RIVER/BROOK/STREAM
- EXISTING WATER MAIN
- PROPOSED WATER MAIN 8"
- PROPOSED WATER MAIN 12"
- PROPOSED WATER MAIN 16"
- ▼ PROPOSED PRESSURE REDUCING VALVE

SCALE:	HORIZ: 1" = 150'
	VERT: 1" = 150'
DATUM:	
HORIZ:	
VERT:	

FUSS & O'NEILL
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SUPERFUND SITE
 AREA "A"
 PIPE SIZING WITH FIRE PROTECTION
 DURHAM CONNECTICUT

PROJ. No: 98232503
 DATE: DECEMBER 2012
FIG. 7-2