4th Annual Cornell Pond Fishing Derby

October 6, 2001

The US EPA is supporting the 4th Annual Fishing Derby at Cornell Pond on October 6, 2001. The objective of the derby is to collect five species, including Large Mouth Bass, Trout, Yellow Perch, Catfish/Bull Head, and American Eel, as part of an ongoing environmental monitoring program. A $50 cash award and trophy will be given to the local fishermen who catch the largest fish of each species.

They're off... four boats launched at 3rd Fishing Derby.

The derby provides an opportunity for EPA to tap into local fishermen's fishing expertise and knowledge, and to involve the local community in this important fish monitoring program. EPA's goals for the Cornell Pond Fishing Derby are as follows:

1) The collection of 3 to 5 adult fish from five species, including Large Mouth Bass, Trout, Yellow Perch, Catfish/Bull Heads, and American Eel, for the analysis of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) concentrations at a qualified laboratory.

2) EPA is requiring fish to be monitored annually in Cornell Pond for PCB concentrations. Given the fact that the soil and sediment remedy for the Re-Solve, Inc., Superfund Site was completed in 1994, EPA anticipates that the PCB concentrations in fish will decline over time.

3) The Cornell Pond Fishing Derby offers an opportunity for EPA to remind local fishermen that there is a Massachusetts Department of Public Health fish advisory not to consume eels and to limit consumption of other fish caught from Cornell Pond or the Copicut River. The advisory has been in effect since 1988. However, recreational fishing is permitted in Cornell Pond and the Copicut River, as long as the fish are released back in the area where they were caught.

Fish data collected during the 1986 Remedial Investigation, 1997 baseline monitoring, and 1998 - 2000 Annual Fishing Derby are summarized in the attached Tables 1 and 2. The results indicate a significant decline of PCB concentrations in fish since the 1986 Remedial Investigation and the 1994 soil and sediment remedy. A comparison of the last four years of data (1997 -2000) reveals relatively minor fluctuations in PCB concentrations in fish. All these concentrations are well below the Food and Drug Administration's fish PCB action level of 2 parts per million (ppm), except for 1 of the 5 large mouth bass samples collected during the 2000 fishing derby which revealed 2.2 ppm. This

Teenage fishermen claim a spot along the shoreline.

concentration is uncharacteristic of the previous large mouth bass data, and will be carefully evaluated with future fish monitoring results.

Anxious fisherman helps record his catch ... hands off the scale!

Information on 4th Annual Derby:

Date: Saturday, October 6, 2001; if severely inclement weather, Sunday, October 7, 2001.

Time: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Place: Cornell Pond, North Dartmouth, MA

Requirements: All participants over the age of 15 must have a current Massachusetts Fishing License on their person during the Derby.

Rules: EPA, with the assistance from Michael O'Reilly, Dartmouth Environmental Coordinator, and Arthur Thibodeau, North Dartmouth Resident, will establish a "2001 Fishing Derby Sign-up List" for up to twenty (20) local fishermen. Please contact Mr. O'Reilly at (508) 910-1822, or Mr. Thibodeau at (508) 678-5054, to secure a spot on the list. Each fisherman should bring his own suitable container (e.g. 5 gallon bucket, etc.) to hold his catch. During the derby, fishermen may bring their catch to a designated coordinator at Cornell Pond for official weight and measurements. The coordinator will record the fish species, weight, and length, and hold the fish in temporary pools.

Another proud winner!

At the end of the day, awards and prizes will be issued to the winners. All fish ineligible for the sampling will be released back into the pond.

Group picture of the participants in the 3rd Annual Fishing Derby.

Directions: Take Route 195 East to Reed Rd/ Hixville Exit, left off ramp onto Reed Rd; Follow approximately 2 miles, right onto Old Fall River Rd; Follow approximately ½ mile, Cornell Pond will be on the left. Or, alternatively, Take Route 195 West to Faunce Corner, right off ramp onto Faunce Corner (North); Follow approximately 2 miles, left onto Old Fall River Rd; Follow approximately 2 miles. Cornell Pond will be on the right.#

HISTORY OF RE-SOLVE, INC. SUPERFUND SITE

Re-Solve, Inc., operated between 1956 - 1980 as a chemical reclamation facility. Many different types of industrial and commercial solvents and oils were brought to the facility. As a result of the operations, soils, sediments and groundwater were contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and PCBs.

In 1983, EPA listed Re-Solve, Inc., as a Superfund Site. In 1985, EPA removed 15,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils and sludges from four lagoons, a cooling pond and oil spreading area.

In 1988, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health established a Health Advisory for Cornell Pond and the Copicut River adjacent to the Site. The Health Advisory prohibits the consumption of American Eels and limits the consumption of other fish species due to the elevated levels of PCBs in the fish.

In 1994, the Re-Solve Site Group (parties responsible for the clean-up) completed the removal and treatment of 36,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils and sediments from the Re-Solve Site, as well as the restoration of wetlands at the Site.

In April 1998, the Re-Solve Site Group completed the construction of a state-of-the-art groundwater treatment system that removes and treats contaminated groundwater from the Site.

With the completion of these clean-up activities, EPA expects the PCB contamination levels within fish at Cornell Pond and the Copicut River to decline over time.

For More Information Contact:
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TABLE 1

Summary of 1986, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 Fish Tissue Samples (Ranges)

Fish Samples	**Range of PCB Concentrations (ppm) in Fish**				
Cornell Pond	***1986***	***1997***	***1998***	***1999***	2000
American Eel	20	***.42 - .84***	.24 - .69	***.51 - .76***	.38 - .65
Brown Bullhead	1.1	***NC***	.08 - .12	***.06 - .32***	.12
Large-Mouth Bass	NC	***.04 - .17***	.03 - .11	***.06 - .22***	.02 - 2.20*
Yellow Perch	.26 - 1.05	***.04 - .08***	.02 - .04	***.11 - .47***	.06 - .11
Copicut River					
Brook Trout	NC	***.15 - .3***	.08 - .24	***.16 - .59***	.05 - .47

TABLE 2

Summary of 1986, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 Fish Tissue Samples (Averages)

Fish Samples	**Average PCB Concentrations (ppm) in Fish**				
Cornell Pond	***1986***	***1997***	***1998***	***1999***	2000
American Eel	20	***.656***	.538	***.616***	.524
Brown Bullhead	1.1	***NC***	.102	***.190***	.121
Large-Mouth Bass	NC	***.105***	.054	***.123***	.474**
Yellow Perch	.26 - 1.05	***.060***	.028	***.250***	.069
Copicut River					
Brook Trout	NC	***.218***	.160	***.278***	.147

NC - none collected

* One (1) of the five (5) large mouth bass collected contained a total PCB concentration of 2.2 ppm. The four (4) remaining large mouth bass contained PCB concentrations ranging from 0.02 - 0.06 ppm.

** Average PCB concentration in Bass, excluding the high 2.2 ppm concentration, is .043 ppm.