



6th Annual Cornell Pond Fishing Derby

Saturday, September 20, 2003

The US EPA is supporting the 6th Annual Fishing Derby at Cornell Pond on Saturday, September 20 2000. 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.

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. Considering 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 1986. 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 - 2001 Annual Fishing Derbies 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 six years of data (1997 - 2002) reveals small fluctuations in PCB concentrations in fish with most of these concentrations being well below the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) fish PCB action level of 2 parts per million (ppm). The only samples exceeding the FDA level were 1 of the 5 large mouth bass samples collected in 2000 and 2001 which both had concentrations at 2.2 ppm, and 1 of 3 American Eels collected in 2001 which had a concentration at 2.09 ppm. The recent 2002 samples were all well below the FDA level. Fish will continue to be monitored and carefully evaluated with future fish monitoring results.

Information on 6th Annual Derby:

Date: Saturday, September 20, 2003, if severely inclement weather, Sunday, September 21, 2003.

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 "2003 Fishing Derby Sign-up List" for approximately 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.

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.

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. ■

For More Information Contact:
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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.

TABLE 1**Summary of 1986, and 1997 - 2002 Fish Tissue Samples (Ranges)**

Fish Samples	Range of PCB Concentrations (ppm) in Fish						
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
<u>Cornell Pond</u>	20	.42 - .84	.24 - .69	.51 - .76	.38 - .65	.49 - 2.09 ¹	.23 - .36
American Eel	20	.42 - .84	.24 - .69	.51 - .76	.38 - .65	.49 - 2.09 ¹	.23 - .36
Brown Bullhead	1.1	NC	.08 - .12	.06 - .32	.12	.24	.06 - .08
Lg-Mouth Bass	NC	.04 - .17	.03 - .11	.06 - .22	.02 - 2.20	.20 - 2.2 ²	.07 - .2
Yellow Perch	.26 - 1.05	.04 - .08	.02 - .04	.11 - .47	.06 - .11	.2 - .37	.07 - .1
Blue Gill						.1 - .15	.05 - .1
<u>Copicut River</u>							
Brook Trout	NC	.15 - .3	.08 - .24	.16 - .59	.05 - .47	.11	.32

TABLE 2**Summary of 1986, and 1997 - 2002 Fish Tissue Samples (Averages)**

Fish Samples	Average PCB Concentrations (ppm) in Fish						
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
<u>Cornell Pond</u>	20	.656	.538	.616	.524	1.04 ³	.29
American Eel	20	.656	.538	.616	.524	1.04 ³	.29
Brown Bullhead	1.1	NC	.102	.190	.121	.24	.06
Lg-Mouth Bass	NC	.105	.054	.123	.474	.728 ⁴	.1
Yellow Perch	.26 - 1.05	.060	.028	.250	.069	.303	.08
Blue Gill						.12	.08
<u>Copicut River</u>							
Brook Trout	NC	.218	.160	.278	.147	.11	.32

NC - none collected

¹ One of the three American Eels contained a total PCB concentration of 2.09 ppm. The two remaining eels contained PCB concentrations ranging from 0.49 - 0.548 ppm.

² One of the five large mouth bass collected contained a total PCB concentration of 2.2 ppm. The four remaining large mouth bass contained PCB concentrations ranging from 0.20 - 0.5 ppm.

³ Average PCB concentration in American Eel, excluding the high 2.09 ppm concentration, is .519 ppm.

⁴ Average PCB concentration in Bass, excluding the high 2.2 ppm concentration, is .328 ppm.