United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Solid Waste And
Emergency Response
(5201 G)

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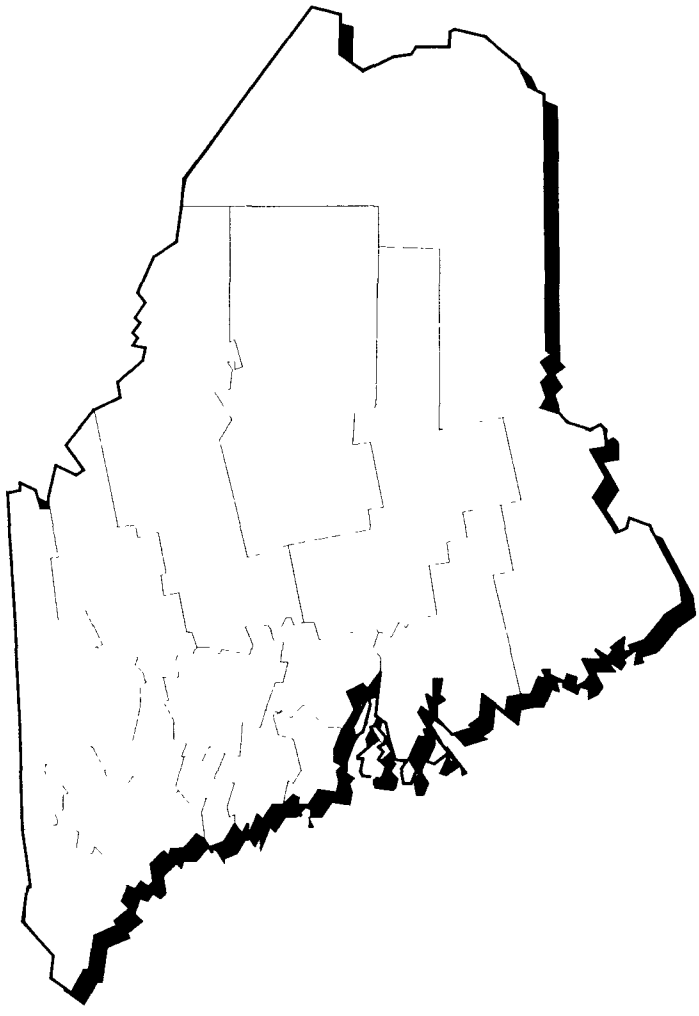
PB95-962922
9200.5-720C
May 1995

SUPERFUND: Progress at National Priority List Sites



MAINE 1995 UPDATE

Printed on Recycled Paper

How to Use the NPL Book

The site fact sheets presented in this book are comprehensive summaries that cover a broad range of information. The fact sheets describe hazardous waste sites on the NPL and their locations, as well as the conditions leading to their listing ("Site Description"). The summaries list the types of contaminants that have been discovered and related threats to public and ecological health ("Threats and Contaminants"). "Cleanup Approach" presents an overview of the cleanup activities completed, underway, or planned. The fact sheets conclude with a brief synopsis of how much progress has been made in protecting public health and the environment. The summaries also pinpoint other actions, such as legal efforts to involve polluters responsible for site contamination and community concerns.

The fact sheets are arranged in alphabetical order by site name. Because site cleanup is a dynamic and gradual process, all site information is accurate as of the date shown on the bottom of each page. Progress is always being made at NPL sites, and the EPA periodically will update the site fact sheets to reflect recent actions. The following two pages show a generic fact sheet and briefly describe the information under each section.

How Can You Use This State Book?

You can use this book to keep informed about the sites that concern you, particularly ones close to home. The EPA is committed to involving the public in the decision making process associated with hazardous waste cleanup. The Agency solicits input from area residents in communities affected by Superfund sites. Citizens are likely to be affected not only by hazardous site conditions, but also by the remedies that combat them. Site cleanups take many forms and can affect communities in different ways. Local traffic may be rerouted, residents may be relocated, temporary water supplies may be necessary.

Definitive information on a site can help citizens sift through alternatives and make decisions. To make good choices, you must know what the threats are and how the EPA intends to clean up the site. You must understand the cleanup alternatives being proposed for site cleanup and how residents may be affected by each one. You also need to have some idea of how your community intends to use the site in the future, and you need to know what the community can realistically expect once the cleanup is complete.

The EPA wants to develop cleanup methods that meet community needs, but the Agency only can take local concerns into account if it understands what they are. Information must travel both ways in order for cleanups to be effective and satisfactory. Please take this opportunity to learn more, become involved, and assure that hazardous waste cleanup at "your" site considers your community's concerns.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Provides the dates when the site was Proposed, made Final, and Deleted from the NPL.

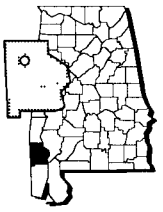
SITE RESPONSIBILITY

Identifies the Federal, State, and/or potentially responsible parties taking responsibility for cleanup actions at the site.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS

Summarizes the actions to reduce the threats to nearby residents and the surrounding environment and the progress towards cleaning up the site.

SITE NAME
STATE
EPA ID# ABC0000000



EPA REGION XX
COUNTY NAME
LOCATION

Other Names:

Site Description (A)

Site Responsibility:

NPL Listing History
Proposed: XX/XX/XX
Final. XX/XX/XX

Threats and Contaminants (B)

Cleanup Approach (C)

Response Action Status (D)

Site Facts: (E)

Environmental Progress

Site Repository

SITE REPOSITORY

Lists the location of the primary site repository. The site repository may include community relations plans, public meeting announcements and minutes, fact sheets, press releases, and other site-related documents.

A

SITE DESCRIPTION

This section describes the location and history of the site. It includes descriptions of the most recent activities and past actions at the site that have contributed to the contamination. Population estimates, land usages, and nearby resources give readers background on the local setting surrounding the site.

B

THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

The major chemical categories of site contamination are noted, as well as which environmental resources are affected. Icons representing each of the affected resources (may include air, groundwater, surface water, soil, and contamination to environmentally sensitive areas) are included in the margins of this section. Potential threats to residents and the surrounding environments arising from the site contamination also are described.

C

CLEANUP APPROACH

This section contains a brief overview of how the site is being cleaned up.

D

RESPONSE ACTION STATUS

Specific actions that have been accomplished or will be undertaken to clean up the site are described here. Cleanup activities at NPL sites are divided into separate phases, depending on the complexity and required actions at the site. Two major types of cleanup activities often are described: initial, immediate, or emergency actions to quickly remove or reduce imminent threats to the community and surrounding areas; and long-term remedial phases directed at final cleanup at the site. Each stage of the cleanup strategy is presented in this section of the summary. Icons representing the stage of the cleanup process (initial actions, site investigations, EPA selection of the cleanup remedy, engineering design phase, cleanup activities underway, and completed cleanup) are located in the margin next to each activity description.

E

SITE FACTS

Additional information on activities and events at the site are included in this section. Often details on legal or administrative actions taken by the EPA to achieve site cleanup or other facts pertaining to community involvement with the site cleanup process are reported here.

Guide to the NPL Book Icons

The "icons," or symbols, accompanying the text allow the reader to see at a glance which environmental resources are affected and the status of cleanup activities at the site.

Icons in the Threats and Contaminants Section

Contaminated *Groundwater* resources in the vicinity or underlying the site. (Groundwater is often used as a drinking water source.)

Contaminated *Surface Water and Sediments* on or near the site. (These include lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers.)

Contaminated *Air* in the vicinity of the site. (Air pollution usually is periodic and involves contaminated dust particles or hazardous gas emissions.)

Contaminated *Soil and Sludges* on or near the site. (This contamination category may include bulk or other surface hazardous wastes found on the site.)

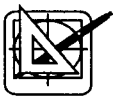
Threatened or contaminated *Environmentally Sensitive Areas* in the vicinity of the site. (Examples include wetlands and coastal areas or critical habitats.)

Icons in the Response Action Status Section

Initial, Immediate, or Emergency Actions have been taken or are underway to eliminate immediate threats at the site.

Site Studies at the site to determine the nature and extent of contamination are planned or underway.

Remedy Selected indicates that site investigations have been concluded, and the EPA has selected a final cleanup remedy for the site or part of the site.



Remedy Design means that engineers are preparing specifications and drawings for the selected cleanup technologies.

Cleanup Ongoing indicates that the selected cleanup remedies for the contaminated site, or part of the site, currently are underway.

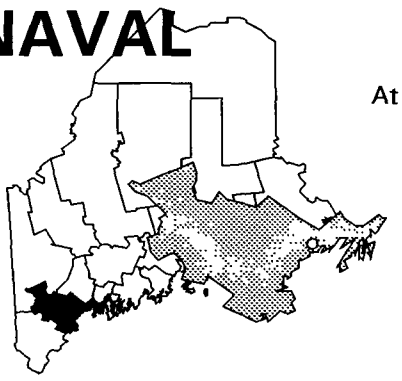
Cleanup Complete shows that all cleanup goals have been achieved for the contaminated site or part of the site.

EPA ID Number	Site Name
ME8170022018	BRUNSWICK NAVAL AIR STATION
ME9570024522	LORING AIR FORCE BASE
MED980524078	MCKIN CO.
MED980731475	O'CONNOR CO.
MED980732291	PINETTE'S SALVAGE YARD
ME7170022019	PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD
MED980504393	SACO MUNICIPAL LANDFILL
MED980520241	SACO TANNERY WASTE PITS
MED042143883	UNION CHEMICAL CO., INC.
MED980504435	WINTHROP LANDFILL

BRUNSWICK NAVAL AIR STATION

MAINE

EPA ID# ME8170022018



EPA REGION 1

Cumberland County
At Routes 24 & 123 in Brunswick

Other Names:
U.S. Navy NAS

Site Description

The Brunswick Naval Air Station is a U.S. Navy installation that occupies 3,094 acres in the Town of Brunswick. It is located south of the Androscoggin River between Brunswick and Bath, Maine, south of Route 1 and between Routes 24 and 123. The various landfills at the site were used from 1945 to 1979. To date, 13 areas have been identified for investigation and cleanup. Among the identified site areas, three were used primarily for landfilling the station's household, office, and other wastes. Other areas were reported to have been used for the disposal of various acids, caustics, solvents, and building materials including asbestos. Three additional areas, including a fire training area, an ammunition dump, and the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) facility have been added to the investigation. Two areas were also found to contain asbestos. Pesticides, solvents, and waste oils present on the sites could threaten surface water and nearby wetlands. Approximately 3,000 people live on the base within 1/2 mile of the contaminated areas of the site, and nearly 18,000 people who rely on the groundwater for drinking water are potentially threatened. The nearest residence is located within 1,000 feet of the sites. An elementary school, a college, and a hospital are located within 1 mile of the western base boundary. Area surface water is used for recreation, irrigation, and commercial fishing.

Site Responsibility: The site is being addressed through Federal actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 10/01/84
Final Date: 07/02/87

Threats and Contaminants

The groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Soils are contaminated with VOCs, semi-volatile organics, pesticides, and heavy metals. Accidental ingestion of or direct contact with groundwater or soil may pose health risks to people. The area is restricted to the general public, but base personnel may come into contact with contamination. Harpswell Cove, an estuary downstream of the site, also is subject to potential contamination. Area surface water is used for recreation.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in two phases: initial actions and six long-term remedial phases focusing on cleanup of specific areas of contamination. Cleanup actions have begun at some areas while the Navy is completing investigations at others that will lead to further cleanup activities.

Response Action Status

Initial Actions: The Navy removed over 1,000 cubic yards of pesticide-contaminated soil in 1994 and transported it off site for incineration.

Sites 1 and 3, Orion Street Landfill North, and Hazardous Waste Burial Area: With assistance from the EPA and Maine's Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP), the nature and extent of contamination was examined at these areas. In 1992, the EPA selected a remedy that includes: building a cap to contain landfill wastes; building a slurry wall to contain contaminated groundwater; and installing a system to extract and treat the groundwater which, in turn, is released to a municipal water treatment plant for further treatment. Construction of the remedies began in late 1994.

Eastern Plume: An interim remedy was selected in mid-1992. The remedy entails hydraulic containment of the groundwater, which will prevent further migration of the plume, and discharge of contaminants into the Harpswell Cove estuary. Construction began in the summer of 1994 and cleanup actions are expected to be completed in 1996.

Perimeter Road Landfill: A cleanup remedy was selected for this area in 1993. The community played a large role in the remedy selection for this area; they voiced opposition to the original remedy selected, which was to contain the contamination. The Navy reconsidered and selected a remedy to excavate up to 14,000 cubic yards of soil, construction rubble, and debris. The excavated material will be transported to Sites 1 and 3 where it will be used to help build the landfill cap. No land use restrictions are necessary at this area since all materials will be removed. Cleanup activities are currently underway and are expected to be completed by 1996.

Sites 5 & 6: Investigations at these areas were completed in 1993. As a result, a cleanup remedy was selected, which calls for the excavation of asbestos-containing materials and pipes from both sites. All excavated materials will be solidified in two layers of polyethylene, transported to Sites 1 and 3, and used as part of the necessary subgrade layer for the landfill cap. No land use restrictions are necessary for Sites 5 and 6 since all materials will be removed. Cleanup activities, currently underway, are expected to be completed late in 1995.

Neptune Drive Disposal Area (Site 9): Investigations into the nature and extent of groundwater contamination at this area were completed in 1994. Based on the results of these investigations, the Navy determined that groundwater contamination will naturally dissipate over time and poses no immediate threats. The Navy will continue monitoring the groundwater to determine if additional cleanup actions are necessary.

Sites 2, 4, 7, 11, 12, and 13: Investigations are underway to determine the extent of contamination at these additional sites and are expected to be complete in 1996. In late 1994, several drums and contaminated soils were removed from Site 11.

Site Facts: The Navy and the EPA have agreed on their cleanup responsibilities under an Interagency Agreement (IAG). The IAG later was amended to include the State of Maine as a party to the cleanup. Brunswick Naval Air Station is participating in the Installation Restoration Program, a specially funded program established by the Department of Defense (DOD) in 1978 to identify, investigate and control the migration of hazardous contaminants at military and other DOD facilities. The first EPA Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) was awarded to a local community group called Brunswick Area Citizens for a Safe Environment in 1990. Throughout the entire process, there has been excellent public participation, especially from the TAG recipient, Brunswick Area Citizens for a Safe Environment.

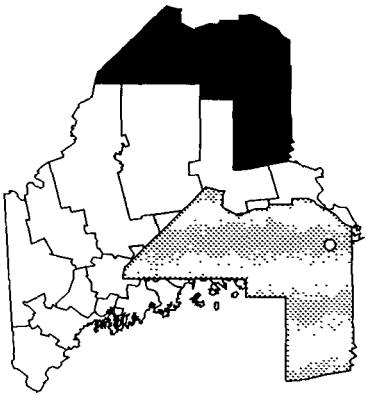
Environmental Progress

After adding this site to the NPL, the Navy removed most of the base's old underground storage tanks and replaced some with new tanks. In addition, the 1994 removal of soils and drums have made the site safer while additional cleanup actions and studies are underway.

Site Repository

Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME 04011

LORING AIR FORCE BASE
MAINE
EPA ID# ME9570024522



EPA REGION 1
Aroostook County
Northeastern Maine

Other Names:
Fire Training Area
US Air Force Loring AFB
Flightline Area

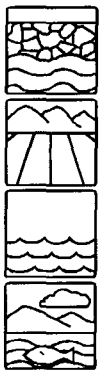
Site Description

The 9,000-acre Loring Air Force Base, which operated as an active military installation since 1952, was closed in September 1994. Hazardous wastes generated on the base include waste oils, fuels cleaned from aircraft and vehicles, spent solvents (many of them chlorinated organic chemicals), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and pesticides. Historically, wastes have been burned or buried in landfills. There are on-site landfills, some of which are old gravel pits. Landfills #2 and #3 were used for disposal of hazardous wastes from 1956 to the early 1980s. In the Fire Training Area, large quantities of hazardous materials were landfilled until 1968 and burned until 1974. The 600-acre Flightline and Nose Dock Areas, with their industrial shops and maintenance hangars, were primary generators of hazardous waste on the base. Most wastes were disposed of off site; however, some wastes probably were disposed of on the ground, on concrete, or in the storm and sewer drains. The site is located in a rural area. The population on the Air Force base within 1 mile of the site is 8,500. A 3,500-foot channelized portion of a tributary to the East Branch of Greenlaw Brook receives storm water runoff from the Flightline Area and the Nose Dock Area, where fuels were handled. An estimated 1,200 people obtain drinking water from wells located within 3 miles of hazardous substances on the base; the nearest well is less than 500 feet from where transformers were buried. Surface water both on and off base is used for recreational activities.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 07/14/89
Final Date: 02/21/90

Threats and Contaminants

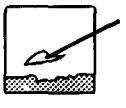


Monitoring well tests indicated that the groundwater on the base is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as trichloroethylene (TCE), carbon tetrachloride and fuel-related compounds, including benzene and toluene. Soils in the Flightline and Nose Dock Areas contain significant amounts of fuel, oil, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and various VOCs. Surface water and sediment in the Flightline Drainage Ditch are contaminated with VOCs and heavy metals. People on the base are potentially threatened by direct contact with hazardous substances at the landfills and burn pit because the pit is inadequately fenced. Other potential threats to the public include accidental ingestion of or direct contact with contaminated soils and water. Several wetlands are threatened by contamination on the base.

Cleanup Approach

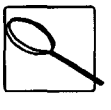
The site is being addressed in six stages: initial actions and five long-term remedial phases focusing on cleanup of the most critical areas, including the Nose Dock Area, the Fire Training Area, the landfills, the Flightline Drainage Ditch, East Gate soils area, quarry area, and the remainder of the site.

Response Action Status



Initial Actions: The Air Force removed contaminated soils from the Flightline Drainage Ditch area, as well as tanks near the power plant to reduce the spread of contamination.

Nose Dock Area: The Air Force is investigating the nature and extent of soil contamination in the Nose Dock Area. A decision on final cleanup activities is expected in 1996. Currently, a bioventing system for petroleum-contaminated soil is being constructed and contaminated soil "hot spots" are being excavated.



Fire Training Area: An additional investigation into the contamination of the Fire Training Area is underway and is expected to be completed in 1996. The investigation will define the contaminants and will recommend alternatives for the final cleanup of the area.

Landfills: The Air Force began conducting an investigation into the nature and extent of contamination associated with Landfills #1, #2, and #3 in 1991. In 1994, the Air Force selected a cleanup remedy for Landfills #2 and #3. Cleanup involves compiling contaminated soils from various other areas of the base and constructing a permanent cap to prevent the migration of contaminants. Construction of the cap began in 1994 and is scheduled to be completed in 1996. A final decision on cleanup remedies to address landfill #1 is still being negotiated.

Flightline Drainage Ditch: An investigation into the contamination in the Flightline Drainage Ditch area began in 1991. The investigation will identify the various contaminants and will recommend alternatives for cleaning up this area. A decision on cleanup is expected in 1997. Currently, "hot spot" removal of soil contaminated with solvents, petroleum, and PAHs is being performed.

East Gate Soils: In 1991, the EPA began an investigation into the nature and extent of soil contamination. The final cleanup remedy, selected in 1994, included excavating contaminated soils and placing them under an on-site landfill cap. Design of the remedy was completed in 1995 and cleanup of the site is expected to be completed in mid-1996.

Quarry: In 1991, the EPA began an investigation into the nature and extent of site contamination. The final cleanup remedy, selected in 1994, included excavating contaminated soils and placing them under an on-site landfill cap. Design of the remedy was completed in 1995, while cleanup of the site is expected to be completed in mid-1996.

Remainder of the Site: An investigation into the contamination at 15 additional areas within the site began in 1989. At the conclusion of these studies, the Air Force, in conjunction with the EPA and the State, will recommend the best approaches for final cleanup. These areas will be divided into separate cleanup phases as the site studies proceed.

Site Facts: An Interagency Agreement (IAG) was signed in 1991 between the EPA, the Air Force, and the State of Maine. Loring Air Force Base is participating in the Installation Restoration Program, a specially funded program established by the Department of Defense (DOD) in 1978 to identify, investigate, and control the migration of hazardous contaminants at military and other DOD facilities. Loring Air Force Base has been selected for closure in 1994 by the DOD, but the Air Force will continue its program to clean up the hazardous wastes found on the Base.

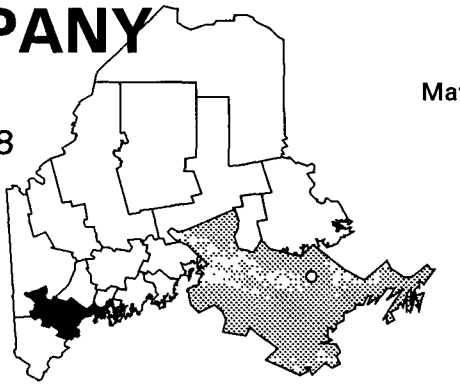
Environmental Progress

The removal of soil and tanks have limited further contamination and maintained site safety while the Air Force is continuing investigations at the Loring Air Force Base.

Site Repository

Robert A. Frost Memorial Library, 238 Main Street, Limestone, ME 04750

MCKIN COMPANY
MAINE
EPA ID# MED980524078



EPA REGION 1
Cumberland County
Mayall Road, 1 mile east of the
Town of Gray

Site Description

The 7-acre McKin Company site is located in a rural residential area about 1 mile east of the center of the Town of Gray. The site formerly operated as a sand and gravel pit that had been excavated to depths of 6 to 20 feet below the land surface. The facility was built for waste generated when a Norwegian tanker ran aground on a ledge in Hussey Sound, spilling 100,000 gallons of industrial fuel. Between 1965 and 1978, the plant handled and disposed of a mixture of solvents, oils, and other chemicals. Approximately 100,000 to 200,000 gallons of waste are thought to have been processed annually. Operating facilities included an incinerator, a concrete block building, an asphalt-lined lagoon, and storage and fuel tanks. Wastes also may have been disposed of by spreading them over the ground surface. As early as 1973, residents of East Gray reported odors in well water and discoloration of laundry. In 1977, the EPA confirmed that contaminated groundwater had reached many of the local private wells. These water supplies were capped, and the Farmers Home Administration trucked in water supplies. The public water system was extended to the affected area in 1978, and all residents were connected to it. Approximately 300 people live within a 1/2-mile radius of the site. The nearest residence is located 300 feet northeast of the property.

Site Responsibility: The site is being addressed through Federal, State, and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 12/30/82
Final Date: 09/08/83

Threats and Contaminants

The groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including trichloroethane (TCA) and trichloroethylene (TCE). The soil was contaminated with VOCs, petrochemicals, and heavy metals including arsenic, lead, and mercury. Off-site surface water and groundwater are also contaminated with VOCs. There is no known current exposure of residents to the groundwater, since all residents are connected to the public water supply. Potential threats exist from contaminated groundwater discharges to Boiling Springs located nearby; however, the ongoing groundwater treatment at the site is addressing this potential threat.

Cleanup Approach

Response Action Status

Initial Actions: In 1979, the State removed 33,500 gallons of wastes and 165 drums of oils and chemicals. From 1985 to 1987, the parties potentially responsible for site contamination removed 55-gallon drums from the site. A fence surrounding the process area facilities was repaired, and a similar fence was installed across the front of the facility to prevent unauthorized access. Monitoring wells were also installed. Other actions included cleaning the tanks, transporting the empty tanks off site for salvage, and transporting liquids and sludges off site for disposal. The State cleaned and removed all of the remaining aboveground tanks in 1985.

Soil: The remedies selected by the EPA, in 1985, for soil contamination included aeration of the soil and off-site disposal off site of 16 drums. All of the selected cleanup remedies were completed by the potentially responsible parties in 1987. Thermal soil aeration reduced contaminant levels in 12,000 cubic yards of soils to safe levels.

Groundwater: The remedies selected by the EPA for the cleanup of the groundwater included: installing a groundwater extraction, treatment, and discharge system; monitoring the groundwater and surface water to evaluate the effectiveness of the source control actions and off-site groundwater programs; and closing down the site by demolishing buildings, clearing debris, draining and filling in the lagoon, removing drums and other contaminated materials, fencing the site, and covering the site with soil and vegetation. The potentially responsible parties began cleanup in 1990 under EPA oversight. Site closure activities and construction of the groundwater treatment system have been completed. Currently, groundwater is being extracted and treated to remove contaminants. Treatment is expected to be completed in 1995.

Site Facts: In 1988, the EPA and the State finalized an agreement with over 320 potentially responsible parties to carry out the cleanup plan.

Environmental Progress

All construction activities at the McKin Company site have been completed. Groundwater treatment will continue until established cleanup goals have been met, currently scheduled for 1995. Soil contamination levels have been reduced to established cleanup standards, and no longer pose a threat.

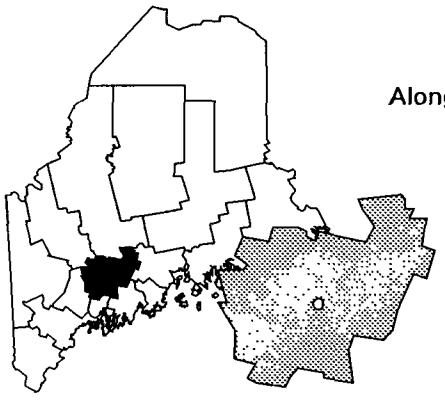
Site Repository

Gray Public Library, 5 Skilling Street, Gray, ME 04039

O'CONNOR COMPANY

MAINE

EPA ID# MED980731475



EPA REGION 1
Kennebec County
Along U.S. Route 17 in Augusta

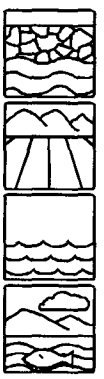
Site Description

The O'Connor Company site occupies approximately 23 acres within a 65-acre area. The site includes a large barn that formerly housed scrap operations, an upland marsh, two lagoons, three former transformer work areas, and a former scrap area where the company stored and discarded rubbish. The site is bordered by private properties and residences, woodlands, a small poultry farm, the west branch of Riggs Brook, and its associated wetlands. In the 1950s, the company began operating a salvage and electrical transformer recycling business at the site. Operations included stripping and recycling transformers containing polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-laden oil. In 1972, an oil spill at the site was found to have migrated towards Riggs Brook. Later that year, at the request of the State, the company began containing all transformer fluids found on the site in an aboveground storage tank to prevent future spills. When high levels of PCBs were detected in the soils during sampling by the State in 1976, the company was instructed to build two lagoons to control further migration of oils from the site. The upper lagoon, constructed with a concrete retaining wall and a discharge system, and a lower lagoon, constructed with a horizontal pipe discharge system and an earthen berm, were installed. To reclaim the lagoon areas, the company pumped water from the lagoons into several on-site storage tanks and excavated the lagoon sediments. These sediments were deposited into a low area and were covered by approximately 1 foot of clay soil. This created a barrier for natural surface water drainage from the site to Riggs Brook and resulted in the formation of a marsh behind the on-site barn. Approximately 50 people live within a 1/4-mile radius of the site. The distance from the site to the nearest residence is less than 500 feet.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 12/30/82
Final Date: 09/08/83

Threats and Contaminants

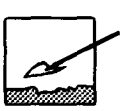


On-site groundwater is contaminated with PCBs and the volatile organic compound (VOC), dichlorobenzene. On-site soil is contaminated with PCBs, lead, and various carcinogenic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). PCBs, aluminum, and lead have been detected in standing surface water on the site. People who trespass on the site could be threatened by coming into direct contact with or accidentally ingesting contaminants in soils, sediments, groundwater, or surface water. In addition, eating fish, waterfowl, livestock, or plants that may have become contaminated poses a threat to people. The site is currently surrounded by a chain-link fence and is posted with appropriate warning signs.

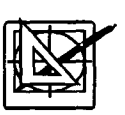
Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: immediate actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Immediate Actions: In 1984, the O'Connor Company built a fence around the property and posted warning signs along approximately 5 acres of the site. The owner also sampled and analyzed the contents of all drums and storage tanks on the site and removed them. In 1987, Central Maine Power extended the fence to areas where additional contamination was found, and removed additional contaminated material from the site.



Entire Site: The remedies selected by the EPA to address site contamination include pumping 150,000 to 195,000 gallons of surface water from the upper and lower lagoons and marsh and removing it to an EPA-approved off-site treatment facility, and treating 23,500 cubic yards of contaminated soils and sediments using solvents to extract contaminants. The contaminated liquid from this process will be incinerated off site. The residues that contain high levels of lead will be treated by solidifying the material and removing it. The site will be restored by backfilling, and the potentially responsible parties will establish wetlands to replace those lost during cleanup. Groundwater will be collected, filtered, and treated to contain or remove the contaminants. The potentially responsible parties are conducting the design activities, which involve treatability studies and aquifer testing. The actual cleanup will begin when the design activities are completed, expected in the fall of 1995.

Site Facts: In 1984, the EPA issued an Administrative Order to the O'Connor Company, requiring construction of a fence, posting of warning signs, and analysis of the contents of all drums and storage tanks found on the site. In 1986, the EPA issued an Administrative Order to the company and Central Maine Power to conduct an investigation into the nature and extent of contamination at the site and to identify alternatives for site cleanup. In 1986, the State also issued Orders to the potentially responsible parties, requiring the removal of the hazardous substances present in tanks and containers at the site. In 1987, the EPA and the State issued a joint Administrative Order to O'Connor and Central Maine Power to investigate the nature and extent of contamination and to identify alternatives for cleanup, and to extend the existing 5-acre fence to cover an additional 4 acres. In 1990, the EPA and Central Maine Power signed a Consent Decree to perform the design of the cleanup and the cleanup itself.

Environmental Progress

The construction of a fence which limits access to the contaminated areas of the site and the removal of drums and storage tanks have reduced the potential for exposure at the O'Connor Company site. The cleanup remedies selected by the EPA will further reduce site contamination, making the site safer as cleanup actions progress.

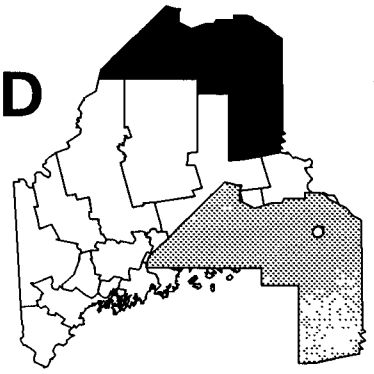
Site Repository

Lithgow Public Library, Winthrop Street, Augusta, ME 04330

PINETTE'S SALVAGE YARD

MAINE

EPA ID# MED980732291



EPA REGION 1
Aroostook County
1 mile southwest of Washburn

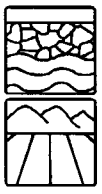
Site Description

Pinette's Salvage Yard covers 12 acres and consists of a vehicle repair and salvage yard. In 1979, three electrical transformers were removed from Loring Air Force Base by a private electrical contractor and brought to the site, where they ruptured while being moved from the delivery vehicle. Approximately 900 to 1,000 gallons of dielectrical fluids containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) spilled directly onto the ground. The oil migrated through the soil and may have contaminated groundwater and surface water. Land surrounding the yard is used for residential, general industrial, and agricultural purposes. The nearest population center is located approximately 1 mile northeast of the site. There are approximately 15 people living within a 1/2-mile radius of the site. The distance to the nearest residence is about 250 feet from the spill area. An undeveloped forest and a wetlands area are also adjacent to the site. The Aroostook River, a major waterway in Northern Maine, is located approximately 1,500 feet from the site. The water supply for the eight to ten residences located within a 1/2-mile radius is obtained from private wells located in the deep bedrock aquifer below the site. Municipal wells, used to supply the drinking water to local residents, are located 1 mile from the site.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 12/30/82
Final Date: 09/08/83

Threats and Contaminants



On-site groundwater and soil is contaminated with PCBs and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including benzene and chlorobenzene. Prior to cleanup, soil was contaminated with PCBs. Current use of groundwater does not pose a threat because the wells are located upgradient of the site.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in three stages: emergency actions and two long-term remedial phases focusing on the source control and groundwater cleanup.

Response Action Status

Emergency Actions: In 1983, the EPA excavated 800 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated soil and transported it to an approved disposal facility.

Source Control: The remedy originally selected in 1989 by the EPA to control the source of contamination at the site included off-site incineration of PCB-contaminated soil and on-site solvent extraction of an additional 1,700 to 1,900 cubic yards of contaminated soil. Cleanup activities began in 1991, during which 410 cubic yards of highly contaminated soil were excavated and incinerated off site. The solvent extraction treatment process began in 1992, but as a result of poor performance, EPA amended the remedy in 1993 to allow for off-site disposal of all remaining soil in a regulated landfill. Cleanup activities were completed later that year. In total, 1,005 tons of soil were incinerated, 20 tons of soil were treated using solvent extraction, and 5,103 tons were disposed of in an off-site regulated landfill.

Groundwater: The remedy selected by the EPA to clean up groundwater contamination includes the installation of a groundwater collection system, and treatment of the groundwater by pumping it through a granular filter and then using carbon adsorption to remove the contaminants. Currently, the EPA is monitoring groundwater conditions as a result of the activities described in the source control section above. During the source control remedies, over 1,000,000 gallons of groundwater were treated. Monitoring activities include annual sampling of residential wells and quarterly sampling of monitoring wells on the site. It is anticipated that the results of the sampling will be incorporated into the final design of the treatment system, which is scheduled to be completed in 1995.

Environmental Progress

Successful removal and treatment of PCB-contaminated soil has reduced the potential of exposure to hazardous substances at the site, making the Pinette's Salvage Yard area safer. The EPA will continue to monitor groundwater and residential wells to ensure that the source control cleanup measures are effective while the groundwater treatment system is being designed.

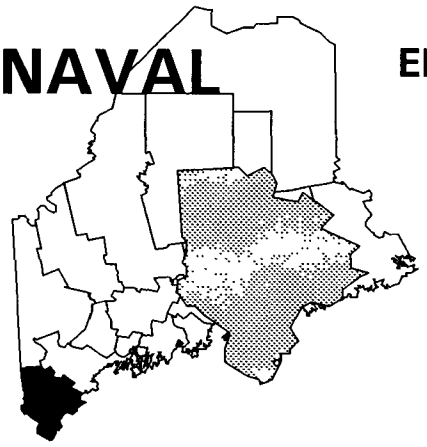
Site Repository

Washburn Town Office, Main Street, Washburn, ME 04286

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD

MAINE

EPA ID# ME7170022019



EPA REGION 1

York County
Kittery

Site Description

The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard (PNS) is located on a 278-acre site, two-thirds of which is covered by a high-density industrial area, containing 376 buildings. The shipyard is built on Dennet's, Seavey's, Jamaica, and Clark's Islands, connected by 90 acres of fill. This filling of the tidal flats gradually took place as the space needs of PNS increased. PNS was first established in 1690 and became a Navy shipyard in 1800. The shipyard has been used for the construction of ships and submarines and is currently used to overhaul nuclear propulsion fleet ballistic missile submarines and attack submarines. PNS consists of three dry docks, 6,500 linear feet of berthing, and 376 buildings and other structures. Hazardous wastes have been stored, disposed of, spilled, or treated at more than 30 acres on the site. From 1945 to 1975, untreated acidic and alkaline wastes, waste battery acid and lead sludge, wastewater and spent baths from an electroplating operation, and other wastes from various industrial shops were discharged into the Piscataqua River via industrial waste outfalls. From 1945 until approximately 1978, 25 acres of tidal flats between two of the islands were filled with wastes including chromium-, lead-, and cadmium-plating sludge; asbestos insulation; volatile organic compounds (VOCs); drums of waste paint and solvents; mercury-contaminated materials; sandblasting grit containing various metal wastes; and dredged sediments from the Piscataqua River. In the late 1970s, dredged sediment samples collected near the industrial outfalls were found to be contaminated with elevated concentrations of metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and other contaminants. The Navy has indicated that the probable source of the sediment contamination is the industrial outfalls at PNS. In addition, hazardous substances attributable to PNS are present at elevated levels in wetlands bordering Seavey Island. Groundwater supplies drinking water to 10,000 people within 4 miles of the site. The mainland on both sides of the river in the immediate vicinity is a thickly settled residential area with commercial/light industrial land use activities.

Site Responsibility: The site is being addressed through Federal actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 06/23/93
Final Date: 05/31/94

Threats and Contaminants

Soils are contaminated with chromium-, lead-, and cadmium-plating sludge; asbestos insulation; VOCs; waste paint and solvents; mercury and various other metal wastes. Sediments contain elevated concentrations of metals, PCBs, and other contaminants. Wetlands bordering Seavey Island have been found to be contaminated with hazardous substances attributable to the PNS site. Salmon Falls, the Cocheco and Piscataqua Rivers, the Great Bay estuary, and coastal tidal waters within 15 miles downstream of PNS are used for commercial and recreational fishing. Extensive wetlands communities exist along surface water bodies downstream of the PNS site.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two phases: immediate actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on the cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status

Initial Actions: Seven of eight underground storage tanks were removed in 1994. A temporary cap was constructed at the DRMO Storage Yard. The cap will prevent wind dispersal, surface runoff of, and direct contact with, contaminated soils.

Entire Site: The EPA and the Navy are planning an investigation into the nature and extent of contamination at the site. Once this investigation is complete, a remedy for site cleanup will be selected.

Site Facts: In early 1989, the EPA issued a Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments Permit to PNS requiring corrective action to be taken at 13 of the 28 solid waste management units.

Environmental Progress

Capping the DRMO Storage Yard and removing underground storage tanks is protecting the safety of the public and the environment while the EPA is planning investigations into the nature and extent of contamination at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard site.

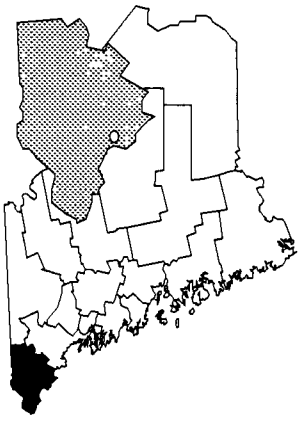
Site Repository

Rice Public Library, 8 Wentworth Street, Kittery, Maine 03904

SACO MUNICIPAL LANDFILL

MAINE

EPA ID# MED980504393



EPA REGION 1
York County
Saco

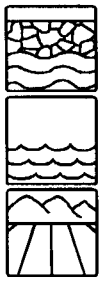
Site Description

The Saco Municipal Landfill covers approximately 90 acres and has been owned and operated by the City of Saco since 1960. The site consists of four distinct disposal areas. Area 1 is a closed and capped municipal dump that was used for open burning of household and industrial waste. Area 2 is an inactive industrial dump that accepted bulk and demolition debris. Area 3 is a relatively small area of about 1 acre in which wastes such as tires and leather and rubber scraps from local industries were dumped. This uncovered area is located on the outside of the service road that circles Area 4. Area 4 is a recently closed landfill that accepted household waste and tannery sludge containing chromium and other heavy metals, as well as volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The sludge was placed in unlined trenches, often directly in contact with groundwater. Area 2 has a leachate collection system, but there is no evidence of liners or leachate systems in other disposal areas. There are approximately 32,000 people living within a 3-mile radius of the site. Approximately 130 people live within 1 mile of the site. Water and sediment in Sandy Brook, which flows through the site, and groundwater beneath the site have shown elevated levels of various metals and organics. Approximately 700 people obtain drinking water from wells within 3 miles of the landfill. In 1975, the Biddeford and Saco Water Company extended water lines along Jenkins Road and Route 112.

Site Responsibility: The site is being addressed through Federal, State, and municipal actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 06/24/88
Final Date: 02/21/90

Threats and Contaminants



Wastes produced by local industries may be the source of contaminants in the groundwater, surface water, sediments, and soil in the Saco Landfill site. Industries in the area produce leather goods, plastics, vinyl stripping, machine parts, textiles, foam products, and finishes. Typical wastes from these industries include heavy metals, chromium, solvents, dyes, polymers, and phthalates. The groundwater contains elevated levels of VOCs and heavy metals including iron, manganese, and toluene. Sandy Brook has been shown to be contaminated with elevated levels of heavy metals and VOCs. The site is only partially fenced, making it possible for people and animals to come into direct contact with hazardous substances. People who come into direct contact with or accidentally ingest contaminated groundwater, surface water, or soil sediments may be at risk. Surface waters in Sandy Brook can also transport contamination off site.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: initial actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status

Initial Actions: The City of Saco, in conjunction with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) and the EPA, removed and disposed of the wastes from Area 3 in mid-1991. These wastes are not hazardous and include leather and rubber scraps from local industry. MEDEP oversaw the removal actions to ensure that no hazardous substances were discovered or disposed of.

Entire Site: The parties potentially responsible for contamination at the site will conduct an investigation into the nature and extent of the contamination. The investigation will also recommend alternatives for the final cleanup. The investigation is scheduled to begin in 1995.

Environmental Progress

The removal and disposal of wastes from Area 3 have made the Saco Municipal Landfill site safer while the EPA plans the investigation of the site.

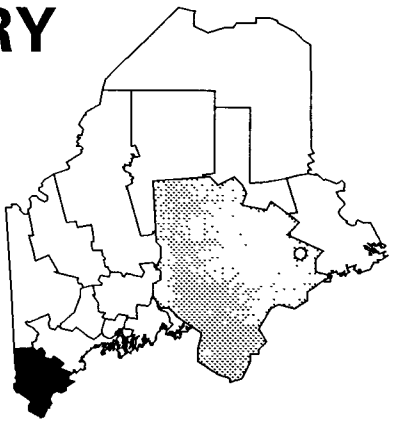
Site Repository

City Hall, 300 Main Street, Saco, ME 04072

SACO TANNERY WASTE PITS

MAINE

EPA ID# MED980520241



EPA REGION 1
York County
Saco

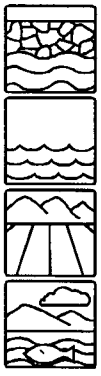
Site Description

The 212-acre Saco Tannery Waste Pits site was operated from 1959 until 1981, when the Saco Tannery Corporation filed for bankruptcy and stopped site operations. The site was used as a disposal area for process wastes such as chromium sludges, acid wastes, methylene chloride, and caustic substances. More than 23 million gallons of wastes were deposited in two lagoons and 53 disposal pits. Several types of wastes were deposited in Chromium Lagoon 1 until 1968. Waste streams were separated, and Chromium Lagoon 2 was constructed in 1969 only for chromium and solid wastes. Smaller pits were built for acid wastes from the grease-rendering fleshing process and for caustic wastes from the patent leather process. The site is bordered by the Maine Turnpike, Flag Pond Road, residential property on Hearn Road, and the Scarborough town line. Access to the site is controlled by a fence along the Maine Turnpike and Flag Pond Road, with a locking gate at the entrance on Flag Pond Road. Groundwater is the source of drinking water for residents located south and west of the site. Approximately 20 residences are located within 1,000 feet of the site and 2,600 people live within a 3-mile radius of the site. Because the area is heavily wooded and is inhabited by a variety of wildlife, it is frequently used by hunters. The site is also used by snowmobilers in the winter.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and State actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 12/30/82
Final Date: 09/08/83

Threats and Contaminants



Groundwater is contaminated with arsenic. Groundwater testing also has revealed that chromium and lead concentrations are elevated, but still within acceptable limits. Sediments are contaminated with antimony and heavy metals. The soil is contaminated with antimony, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and heavy metals. Trespassers who come into direct contact with or accidentally ingest contaminated groundwater, soil, or sediment may be at risk. The surrounding wildlife and the wetlands, which cover a large portion of the site, may be at risk from the contamination.

Cleanup Approach

Response Action Status

Immediate Actions: In 1983, the EPA removed corrosive liquid from three acid pits and disposed of it at a federally-approved facility. The EPA also neutralized the remaining sludge in the three pits with lime, covered them with caps, and erected a fence across the access road to the property.

Entire Site: The EPA and the State of Maine conducted an investigation into the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The selected remedy for site cleanup includes: covering waste in disposal pits and lagoons with geotextile fabrics and 4 to 6 feet of soil; monitoring the groundwater to detect any continued contamination; and designating the area as a permanent conservation zone to be protected by the State of Maine. Institutional controls to limit the use of land and groundwater were put into effect in late 1991. All construction activities were completed in 1993. Groundwater monitoring is ongoing.

Site Facts: With the construction of the soil covers over the lagoons and pits, 10 acres of wetlands were permanently lost. To compensate for this loss, the EPA and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection agreed to purchase 247 acres of a unique ecological property 2 miles from the site. This approach to wetlands compensation is one of the first in the nation for Superfund. This approach was taken because there was no suitable area on site for creating new wetlands and the property purchased was threatened from mining operations.

Environmental Progress

Construction of all cleanup remedies has been completed. The removal of liquid wastes, the neutralization of sludges, the capping of three pits, and institutional controls have reduced the potential of exposure to hazardous substances surrounding the acid pit areas, and have protected the public health and the environment.

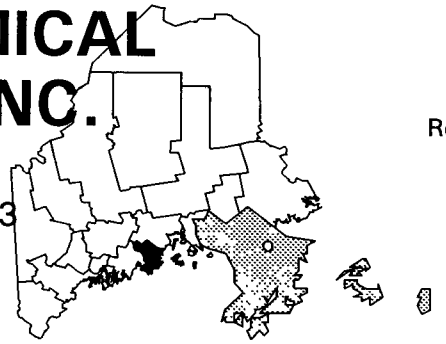
Site Repository

Dyer Library, 371 Main Street, Saco, ME 04072

UNION CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.

MAINE

EPA ID# MED042143883



EPA REGION 1

Knox County
Along the south side of
Route 17, west of South Hope

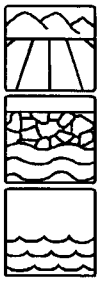
Site Description

The 12-acre Union Chemical Company, Inc. site began operations in 1967 as a formulator of paint and coating strippers. In 1969, the company expanded its operations and began handling and recovering petrochemical-based solvents. In 1979, as part of the recovery process, the company added a fluidized bed incinerator to burn contaminated sludges, still bottoms, and other undetermined hazardous wastes. Some of these types of waste were burned in an on-site boiler that provided heat and operating power to the facility. Between 1979 and 1984, the plant was cited by the State for deficiencies or violations of several operating licenses. The State closed the waste treatment operations in 1984, at which time approximately 2,000 drums and 30 liquid storage tanks containing hazardous waste were stored on the site. The on-site soil and groundwater contamination resulted from improper handling and operating practices such as leaking stored drums, spills, use of a septic tank and a leachfield for disposal of process wastewater, and could also be attributed to past disposal methods. There are approximately 200 people living within a 1/2-mile radius of the site. These residents depend on groundwater for domestic use. The site is bounded by Quiggle Brook and is partially in the 100-year flood plain. Grassy Pond is less than a mile east of the site and is an alternate drinking water source serving approximately 22,800 people in the Towns of Camden, Rockport, Rockland, and Thomaston.

Site Responsibility: The site is being addressed through Federal, State, and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 04/10/85
Final Date: 10/04/89

Threats and Contaminants



Buildings and other plant facilities contain heavy metals, dioxins, and asbestos. Approximately 2 1/2 acres of the site are fenced and contain the former processing buildings, two aboveground storage tanks, a former drum storage area, and incinerator facilities. On-site groundwater and soils are contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including toluene, 1,1,1,-trichlorethane, 1,1-dichlorethane, and others. Off-site surface water contamination has occurred through discharges of contaminated process wastewater into the adjacent Quiggle Brook and possibly through natural discharge of contaminated groundwater into the brook. People who come into direct contact with or accidentally ingest contaminated groundwater could be at risk.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: immediate actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status

Immediate Actions: In 1984, the State and the EPA collectively removed all surface drums, over 100,000 gallons of liquid wastes and sludges from aboveground storage tanks, and some contaminated soil from the site.

Entire Site: Based on results of site investigations, the EPA selected the following remedies in 1990: soil excavation and on-site low-temperature soil aeration treatment; vacuum-enhanced groundwater extraction, on-site groundwater treatment, and on-site discharge of treated groundwater into Quiggle Brook; facilities decontamination and demolition, and off-site disposal of debris; and further monitoring and analysis of off-site soils to determine whether contamination is present as a result of past site operations. Throughout all phases of the data collection and analysis effort, the EPA will determine if additional cleanup actions are required. The design for these remedies began in late 1991 and is scheduled to be completed in 1995. In 1993, the facilities decontamination and demolition was completed. In 1994, the EPA, with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and community concurrence, adjusted the treatment to soil vapor extraction of the contaminated soils. In addition, the groundwater extraction system will be significantly expanded to clean up groundwater more quickly at the site. In late 1994 and early 1995, the EPA began limited source control actions in preparation for the soil vapor extraction and groundwater extraction systems.

Site Facts: In 1987 and 1988, the EPA, the State, and 288 parties potentially responsible for contamination at the site entered into two Administrative Orders. In these Orders, the parties agreed to conduct an investigation to examine the possible cleanup alternatives and reimburse the EPA and the State for approximately 80 percent of past cleanup costs. In 1989, the EPA entered into a Consent Decree with nine additional potentially responsible parties where the parties agreed to reimburse the EPA for additional incurred past costs and certain litigation costs. In 1991, the EPA entered into a Consent Decree with the past owner/operator for reimbursement of additional EPA past costs and for a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Administrative Order violation from 1987. Also in 1991, the EPA filed three separate Consent Decrees with three potentially responsible parties for violations. A Consent Decree between EPA, the State, and 60 potentially responsible parties was issued in 1991 formalizing an agreement for the parties to support site cleanup. In early 1992, EPA, the State, and 270 potentially responsible parties formalized a settlement agreement.

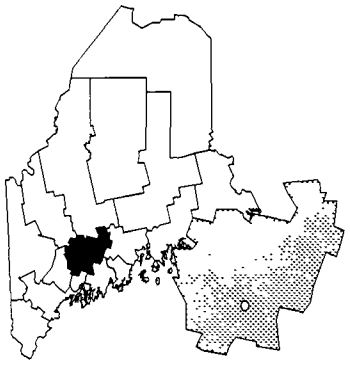
Environmental Progress

The removal of contaminated drums, tanks, and soil has reduced the potential for exposure to contamination at the Union Chemical Company, Inc. site while final cleanup remedies are underway.

Site Repository

Hope Town Office, Route 105, Hope, ME 04847

WINTHROP LANDFILL
MAINE
EPA ID# MED980504435



EPA REGION 1
Kennebec County
Winthrop

Site Description

The Winthrop Landfill is a 13-acre site located along the western shore of Lake Annabessacook and consists of two adjacent properties, the Winthrop Town Landfill and the privately owned Savage Landfill. The site initially was used in the 1920s as a sand and gravel pit. In the 1930s, parts of the site received municipal, commercial, and industrial wastes. The site accepted hazardous substances between the early 1950s and mid-1970s. It is estimated that more than 3 million gallons of chemical wastes, mostly complex organic compounds including resins, plasticizers, solvents, and other process chemicals, were disposed of at the site. Late in 1979, the Town attempted to expand the landfill, but this revealed numerous rusting and leaking barrels. The Town decided to close the landfill and construct a transfer station on the site. The Savage Landfill contracted to accept municipal solid waste and debris from two small neighboring towns and also accepted wastes from Winthrop to extend the life of the town landfill. Wastes were openly burned until 1972, and landfilling occurred from 1972 until 1982. There are 63 residences within 1/2 mile of the site. Wetlands are located near the site, and Lake Annabessacook is used for recreational purposes.

Site Responsibility: The site is being addressed through Federal, municipal, and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 10/23/81
Final Date: 09/08/83

Threats and Contaminants

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the landfill were found to be migrating off site into the groundwater. The soil has been contaminated from drums containing inorganic and organic chemicals and municipal wastes. Potential risks exist if contaminated soil or groundwater is accidentally ingested. The area is fenced and capped to protect against direct contact with contamination. Wetlands located near the site are potentially at risk from site contamination.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in three stages: immediate actions and two long-term remedial phases focusing on cleanup of the entire site and groundwater and surface water.

Response Action Status

Immediate Actions: The potentially responsible parties and the Town of Winthrop have extended the municipal water supply to residents previously on well water drawn from a contaminated aquifer below the landfill.

Entire Site: An impermeable clay cover was built over the landfill to contain the landfilled wastes, thereby reducing the quantity of contaminated leachate entering the groundwater. A fence was erected around the landfill to protect against direct contact with site contamination and deed restrictions imposed, prohibiting the use of the landfill for activities other than the cleanup actions, excavation in the area of the landfill, and groundwater use in the area. All cleanup activities were completed in 1992. Long-term monitoring of groundwater, surface water, and sediments is ongoing on a quarterly basis to ensure the effectiveness of the clay cover.

Groundwater and Surface Water Treatment: The potentially responsible parties installed a vapor extraction and treatment system to remove contamination from the landfill waste to keep it from infiltrating into the groundwater. The vapor extraction plant began operating in late 1994. The potentially responsible parties are currently building a groundwater extraction and treatment system to contain, treat, and eliminate groundwater and surface water contamination. Construction is expected to be completed in 1995.

Site Facts: A Consent Decree ordering the potentially responsible parties to perform the above actions was signed by the EPA and the parties and filed with the U.S. District Court in 1986. In 1993, the overall performance of the groundwater extraction system was enhanced.

Environmental Progress

The provision of an alternative water supply to affected residences in the area of the Winthrop Landfill, the installation of a fence to restrict site access, the construction of a clay cap over landfill wastes and the operation of a vapor extraction system to reduce contamination within the landfill, preventing further migration of contaminants into the groundwater have eliminated the threat of direct contact with contaminants at the site while remaining cleanup actions are being implemented.

Site Repository

Winthrop Town Hall, 574 Main Street, Winthrop, ME 04364
Cobbassee Watershed District Office, 15 High Street, Winthrop, ME 04364