

# Davisville Review

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## NIKE Results Pending

Preliminary result of new monitoring well sampling of groundwater identified some elevated concentration levels of TCE. The need to install more wells in the Carriage Hill Neighborhood is under evaluation. If the present network of wells does not completely delineate the plume of contamination, installation of supplemental wells may occur this spring. Concentration levels of VOC's were reported as 30-50ppb in deep groundwater, and at 150ppb in

bedrock, exceeding Class GA groundwater standards of 5ppb. New data is anxiously awaited by the community, and will be made available for public comment in the near future. Look for further updates and opportunities to participate in the review process. Applied Enviro-Tech, Inc., Technical Advisor for the TAG, will review data when it becomes available and present findings to interested members of the community.

## Site 16 Begins

Field sampling conducted at this new site was undertaken using innovative MIP (membrane interface probe) technology. A gas chromatograph provides a continuous log of data for each location the probe is inserted. Detects of VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds) warranted an expanded testing program to fully characterize the extent of contamination.

After this initial discovery and sampling of contaminants at the site of the former creosote dip tank and fire fighting training area, the Navy began

installation of monitoring wells across the site this past summer. Using both the MIP sampling and subsurface investigations (seismic refraction surface geophysical geophysical profiling) the best location for monitoring wells were determined. Surprisingly, contaminants were found in connection with a suspected source area in the vicinity of building 41, situated southwest of the site. The highest reading was found down deep in groundwater on top of bedrock with total VOC concentration levels of 5500ppb. Groundwater flow is in a northeasterly direction, toward Narragansett Bay.

## Nearing Completion of Activities Needed for Transfer of Allen Harbor Landfill Property

The draft Findings of Suitability to Transfer (FOST) has been signed by the Department of the Navy. The FOST includes the site Operation and Maintenance (O & M) Plan, Conceptual Long Term Monitoring Plan (CLTMP), institutional control language, and deed covenants. The O & M Plan addresses site maintenance issues evaluating the integrity of the landfill cap. Among some of the aspects considered are surface settlement, vegetation quality, integrity of the revetment and monitoring wells, and site erosion. The CLTMP provides the guidelines for the identification of groundwater landfill gas, and sediment sampling locations, frequency of sampling, and analytical program. The plan is for two years of quarterly sampling of groundwater, gas vents, and piezometer sampling in the created wetlands. Sediment sampling will be used to aid in the detection of contaminant migration from the site via the groundwater. Based upon the results of this sampling program, the frequency of sampling in the future would be modified as needed to ensure the effectiveness of the remedy, and long term protection of the environment and public health. Institutional controls will limit the types of activities that can take place at the site.

## Did You Know?

- ◆ 1000 acres of NCBC Davisville have been cleaned up and transferred ownership
- ◆ RIEDC is leasing 165 acres while the Navy continues investigation and clean-up.
- ◆ 15 acres of the Allen Harbor Landfill will be transferred to the Town of North Kingstown this spring

Subsequent studies found that floor drains associated with the use of solvents and degreasers had been overlooked. This oversight raised concerns from area residents. Regulators have recommended that floor drains be thoroughly investigated before building 41 is demolished. The exact historical use of this building is still uncertain. A search for individuals who may have knowledge of the specific activities conducted at this site was attempted to more specifically identify what contaminant of concern may be present. Any person with knowledge of this site is encouraged to contact DEM at 222-3872, ext 7138..

## For More Information

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Public concern for exposure to contaminant has been noted at Restoration Advisory Board Meetings (RAB). Assurance has been provided by regulatory agencies that there will be no chance of direct exposure to contaminants from the proposed recreational use of the site. Only pedestrian activity will be allowed on the landfill cap which is to be fenced off from the rest of the site. Bike access will be allowed out to Calf Pasture Point, but not directly on the landfill cap footprint. Appropriate signage will be posted to note restricted activity on the property to ensure maintenance of the cap's integrity. Access to the revetment will be prohibited, and no digging on the site allowed. Mowing of grass will only occur once a year to create an environment favorable to native wildlife. Benches will be situated on the landfill cap for public use, but no picnic tables allowed. The Town of North Kingstown will conduct annual inspection of the site, and the Navy will undertake any required maintenance.

An examination of the created wetland area has shown that many of the plantings are beginning to show signs of

*continued*

