



Meeting Scheduled, Updates Provided For Two Sites

Sheboygan River and Harbor Site

WPSC Campmarina Manufactured Gas Plant Site

Sheboygan, Wisconsin

February 2011

For more information

If you are interested in the WPSC Campmarina and Sheboygan River and Harbor Superfund sites, please attend a public meeting EPA is holding **Wednesday, March 2 at 7 p.m.** to explain the contamination and the cleanup actions.

Mead Public Library
710 N. 8th St.
Sheboygan

EPA representatives will make formal presentations and answer questions from the audience.

If you need special accommodations at the meeting, contact EPA Community Involvement Coordinator Susan Pastor.

Susan Pastor

Community Involvement Coordinator
Superfund Division (SI-7J)
800-621-8431, Ext. 31325
pastor.susan@epa.gov

Pablo Valentin

Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division (SR-6J)
800-621-8431, Ext. 32886
valentin.pablo@epa.gov

EPA Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Region 5's toll-free line is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays.

A public meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, to brief the community on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's progress on two cleanup sites in Sheboygan (*see box, left*). The Sheboygan River and Harbor site and the Wisconsin Public Service Corp. Campmarina Manufactured Gas Plant site were contaminated as a result of industrial activities along the river.

Here is an update on cleanup plans for the two sites – which are essentially co-located – as well as an insight into how EPA is using the Great Lakes Legacy Act to do a more extensive cleanup.

Sheboygan River and Harbor Site

The main pollutant at the Sheboygan River and Harbor site is polychlorinated biphenyls, better known as PCBs. A final design for the cleanup plan was approved in November 2010. It calls for dredging contaminated sediment (mud) in the Lower River and Inner Harbor areas, and monitoring in the Middle River segment. The upper portion of the river from the Sheboygan Falls Dam to the Walderhaus Dam as well as the former Tecumseh Products property was cleaned up in 2007.

EPA expects to begin dredging in the spring, with most of the work being done this summer. The work should be completed by the end of 2011. Details of the project will be discussed at the March 2 public meeting.

Background

The Sheboygan River and Harbor Superfund Site includes the lower 14 miles of the Sheboygan River downstream from the Sheboygan Falls Dam to the Inner Harbor, and the entire harbor and near-shore waters of Lake Michigan.

In 1977, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources detected PCBs during routine sampling of fish in Sheboygan Harbor and the lower Sheboygan River. Highest concentrations of PCBs were detected in sediment immediately downstream from Tecumseh Products, a die-casting plant, with PCB amounts decreasing farther downstream from the plant.

WPSC Campmarina MGP Site

At the Campmarina site, the main pollutant is polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons, known as PAHs, which is present in what EPA calls NAPL, or non-aqueous phase liquid. NAPL does not mix well with water.

EPA considers the cleanup of the Campmarina site to be an emergency. Integrys, the company responsible for the contamination, will build a coffer dam and “wet excavate” by using a backhoe on a barge to dig up contaminated sediment. Integrys will also remove contaminated soil from the shoreline and river sediment toward Boat Island. EPA will oversee the company's work.

Once the contaminated sediment and shoreline soil have been removed, Integrys will treat the water behind the coffer dam before removing the structure. The cleanup should be completed by the end of 2011, and EPA

plans to have Integrys restore the shoreline, where a Sheboygan city park is located.

Background

The 1.5-acre WPSC Campmarina MGP Site is located on the north bank of the Sheboygan River at 732 N. Water St., and extends out to Boat Island.

The site was owned and operated as a manufactured gas plant by WPSC from 1872 to 1929. Coal and waste from the MGP was usually dumped into nearby ravines and ditches or used as construction fill. The upland portion of the site was cleaned up according to a state-issued decision in 2002.

The site is currently owned by the city of Sheboygan and used as a park and marina with a riverwalk.

Great Lakes Legacy Act

EPA is using funds under the Great Lakes Legacy Act to clean up additional areas in the river that are outside the jurisdiction of the Superfund program.

GLLA is designed to tackle the problem of “legacy” sediment contamination. EPA’s Great Lakes National Program Office administers this program, leveraging public and private resources through cooperative partnerships. To be eligible for Legacy Act funding, a project must evaluate or clean up contaminated sediment,

or prevent new contamination from occurring in a designated area of concern, or AOC. At least 35 percent of the project cost must come from state, local or private sponsors.

For the Great Lakes Legacy Act design phase portion, the nonfederal matching funds are coming from Wisconsin DNR, city of Sheboygan, Sheboygan County and WPSC. Superfund cleanup work may be counted toward the nonfederal cost share for the Legacy Act cleanup.

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

The Great Lakes provide drinking water to approximately 30 million Americans. In 2009, President Barack Obama proposed significant funding to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which addresses:

1. Cleaning up toxic materials and AOC.
2. Stopping the spread of invasive plants and other species.
3. Promoting near-shore health by protecting watersheds from contaminated water runoff.
4. Restoring wetlands and other habitats.
5. Providing community outreach.



In conjunction with the sediment cleanup, EPA is working with Wisconsin DNR to provide GLRI funds to restore fish and wildlife habitat as well as address other environmental problems in the river. When these projects are completed by late 2012, the agencies can begin the process of removing this AOC from the program.



Middle portion of the Sheboygan River where cleanup will take place this year on the shoreline and in the water.

Timelines

Sheboygan River and Harbor Superfund Site:

Current	Final draft of cleanup plan for the Middle River, Lower River and Inner Harbor is under EPA review. Cleanup action should start in spring of 2011.
March 2011	Equipment and resources mobilized to the site.
April to July 2011	Sediment dredging.
July to Aug. 2011	Sediment cleanup and additional sediment removal.
Aug. 2011	De-mobilization of equipment and resources.

WPSC Campmarina MGP Site:

April 2011	Equipment and resources mobilized to the site.
May to Aug. 2011	Cleanup actions include installation of a wall to contain contaminated sediment.
Aug. to Sept. 2011	Excavation and backfill of contaminated areas.
Oct. to Nov. 2011	Site and shoreline restoration.
Dec. 2011/Jan. 2012	De-mobilization of equipment and resources.

On the Web

You can find more information about the cleanup of these sites online.

WPSC Campmarina MGP Site:

www.epa.gov/region5/sites/campmarina

Sheboygan River and Harbor Superfund Site:

www.epa.gov/region5/sites/sheboygan

Sheboygan River Area of Concern:

www.epa.gov/greatlakes/aoc/sheboygan.html

Great Lakes Legacy Act:


www.epa.gov/greatlakes/sediment/legacy

Great Lakes Restoration:

www.greatlakesrestoration.us

Information repositories


Site-related documents for both sites may be viewed at the Mead Public Library, 710 N. Eighth St., Sheboygan. Administrative record files, which contain all of the information EPA used to make its decisions, have also been placed at the library as well as at EPA's Record Center, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., 7th Fl., Chicago.

Reproduced on Recycled Paper 

SHEBOYGAN RIVER AND HARBOR, WPSC CAMPMARINA: Cleanup Update

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS


United States
Environmental Protection
Agency
Region 5
Superfund Division (SI-7J)
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590