

# Lower Neponset River Site Boston/Milton, MA



THE SUPERFUND PROGRAM protects human health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up oftenabandoned hazardous waste sites and engaging communities throughout the process. Many of these sites are complex and need long-term cleanup actions. Those responsible for contamination are held liable for cleanup costs. EPA strives to return previously contaminated land and groundwater to productive use.

#### **EPA PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING:**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020 Auditorium at Mildred Avenue Middle School 5 Mildred Avenue Mattapan, MA 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM We encourage all to attend.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION:

The Lower Neponset River site is currently identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the 3.7-mile stretch of the Neponset River from the point where it merges with Mother Brook, a branch of the Neponset River located upstream of Dana Avenue, Hyde Park, Massachusetts (MA), extending downstream to the Walter Baker Dam located upstream of Adams Street, Dorchester/Milton, MA. Based on preliminary studies, this portion of the river contains sediment contaminated with elevated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The Lower Neponset River channel ranges from approximately 40 feet to 300 feet wide and comprises an estimated 40 acres within or bordering the City of Boston (Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Dorchester sections) and the Town of Milton, MA. The site is bordered by residential, commercial, industrial, and public parcels of land, including the Neponset River Greenway. Historically, numerous mills were established along this portion of the Neponset River in the neighborhoods of Dorchester, Milton, Hyde Park, and Mattapan, utilizing dams to generate power initially to turn mill grinding wheels and later to operate the large industrial mills. These mills and other industrial facilities in the area may have contributed to the river contamination.

#### **KEY CONTACTS:**

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**GENERAL INFO:** 

TOLL-FREE CUSTOMER SERVICE

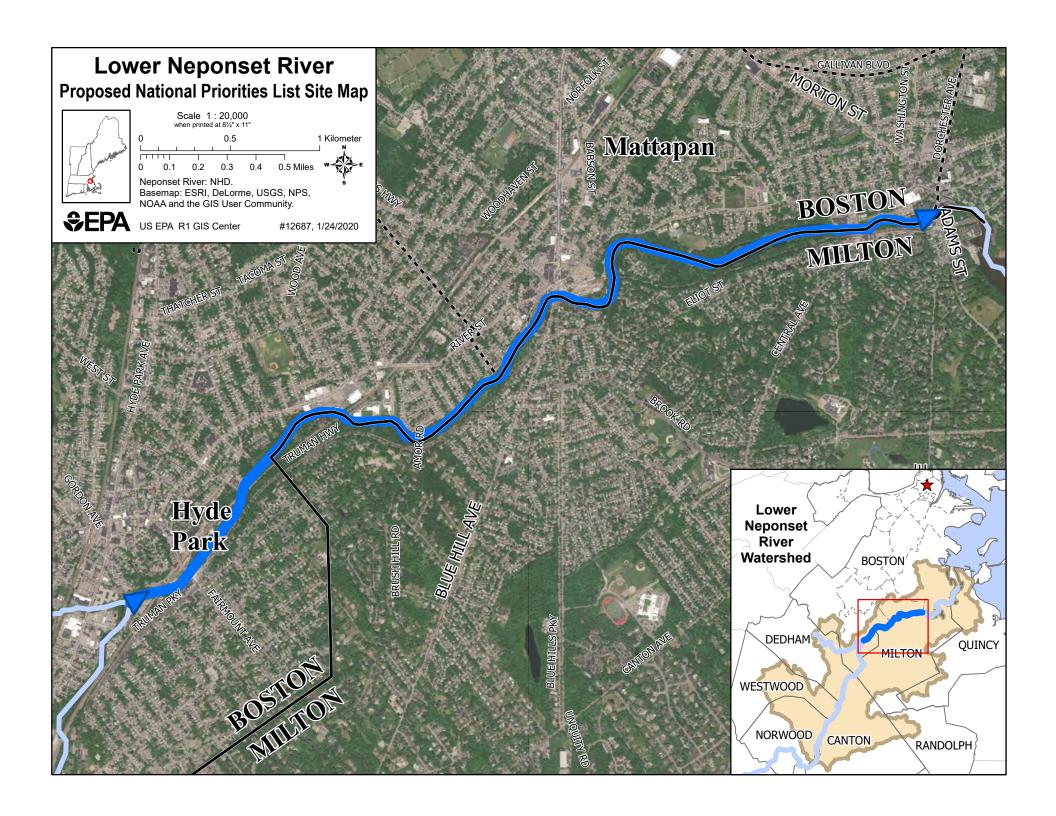
1-888-EPA-7341

**LEARN MORE AT:** 

www.epa.gov/superfund

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# **The EPA's Superfund Process**

Place site on Superfund National Priorities List.

#### Remedial Investigation (RI):

- Find out nature and extent of contamination.
- Assess risks to people and environment.

#### Feasibility Study (FS):

Describe and compare possible cleanup alternatives using EPA's 9 evaluation criteria.

#### Proposed Plan:

- Present EPA's preferred cleanup option.
- Formal public comment period.

## Record of Decision: Issue cleanup

decision.

### Remedial Design: Define how cleanup will be done.

Remedial Action: Carry out site cleanup.

# Community Engagement: We want to hear from you!

There will be opportunities for you to be involved throughout the cleanup process.

This will help us design a cleanup that considers community ideas and needs.

EPA is currently considering this site for proposal to the National Priorities List (NPL). EPA is taking this action, in response to a request from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).

EPA is currently preparing the documentation, called a Hazard Ranking System (HRS) package, to make a final determination regarding the Lower Neponset River's eligibility for inclusion on the NPL. Following proposal to the NPL, a public comment period is held before a site is finalized to the NPL.

#### SUPERFUND- NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL):

The (NPL) is a list of sites EPA determines require further detailed investigation and potential cleanup under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), often referred to as Superfund.

- Sites on NPL subject of detailed investigation, and cleanup where warranted.
- Only sites on the NPL are eligible to receive federal Superfund resources for comprehensive cleanup.
- Federal resources can include monetary support, as well as expertise/staffing.
- Absent the use of federal resources, comprehensive cleanup strategies may not be able to be pursued.

To view more information on a NPL listing, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-national-priorities-list-npl

To view more information on HRS, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/hrs-toolbox

To view more information on the Site Assessment Process, please visit:

https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-site-assessment-process