

Mechanic Street Municipal Landfill

Town

Leominster

Acreage

30

History

A former wetlands utilized by plastics manufacturers to dispose of industrial waste from the 1890's through the 1970's. Operated as a municipal landfill from 1965-1979. Used to dispose of wastewater treatment sludge from the late 80's until the 90's, as well as sludge derived from Borden Chemical's polyvinyl chloride manufacturing process.

Redevelopment Strategy

Site capped in 1997 through a state grant. Cap repaired in 2017. 30 year monitoring period ends in 2028. Not known what subsequent monitoring or remediation steps will be required after 2028. **The Fairgrounds** proposes no excavation of the site. They will instead level the site by raising the elevation to 360 ft, requiring the addition of over 20 ft of fill in some areas. Slope grading of the landfill intended to control storm water flow will be destroyed. Riverbank reinforcement is not planned. Additional wetlands will be destroyed during construction.

Current Uses

Safely containing municipal, chemical, and industrial waste.

The Fairgrounds' proposed use includes a thoroughbred racetrack and sports bar, providing 37 permanent, full-time jobs. The Fairgrounds anticipates producing \$7,492,260 in annual revenue. Mobile wagering revenue is not included in this estimate. Communal use of the site requires approval by BayState Racing.



Arsenal on the Charles

Town

Watertown

Acreage

48

History

Used by the Army for weapons and munitions manufacturing and storage beginning in 1816. divider. Used for nuclear reactor research in the 1960's. Waste from the site contaminated soil and groundwater. Added to the Superfund list in 1994.

Redevelopment Strategy

Redeveloped from 1996-2005, including soil excavation, water treatment, and fill cover. Wetlands near the Charles River were restored in 2006. Removed from Superfund list in 2006.

Current Uses

Developed into public parks with walking/biking trails, community arts centers, fitness centers, childcare facilities, historic preservation sites, and commercial and educational facilities.



Blackburn & Union

Town

Walpole

Acreage

22

History

In use from 1891-1985 for rubber, cotton, and fabric manufacturing. Soil, groundwater, and sediment were contaminated. neighbored in all directions by residential properties. Bisected by Neponset River. Added to the Superfund list in 1994.

Redevelopment Strategy

Soil and sediment excavated in 2015. Wetlands were restored, shorelines were enhanced, and a culvert was built to direct contaminated groundwater away from the Neponset River. A groundwater treatment plant opened in 2019.

Current Uses

Police station opened on the site in 2018, followed by a senior center, groundwater treatment plant, and a bank. Wetlands were restored, shorelines were enhanced, and invasive species removed.



Canton Pine Street Landfill

Town

Canton

Acreage

20

History

Gravel pit that accepted municipal solid waste from 1930-1987. Served as a burn dump from 1937-67. Surrounded by residences, woods, and a wetland. Capped in 1988, including gas vents.

Redevelopment Strategy

VHB partnered with Southern Sky to design and install 13,800 concrete foundations "within the vegetative support layer" of the original landfill cap, followed by the installation of 20,000 photovoltaic modules spread over approx 12 acres.

Current Uses

Operational since 2013, producing \$16.3 million in property lease & energy generation revenue for Canton per year.



Cannon Engineering Corp

Town

Bridgewater

Acreage

7

History

Used to transport, store, and incinerate hazardous waste in the 1970's, including volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds. Added to Superfund list in 1983.

Redevelopment Strategy

Development led by Camp Dresser & McKee. Some areas were filled with >3ft of material. Site was graded to reduce flooding risks. A two acre wetlands was also installed to absorb stormwater.

Current Uses

A propane storage distribution facility was opened on the site in 1996, which employed 9 people and generated \$62,704,000 in sales revenue in 2024. Access still restricted in some areas of the site.



Conway Park

Town

Somerville

Acreage

2.8

History

Hosted a bleachery and dye works factory from the 1800's to 1930's. Polychlorinated biphenyl contamination detected in soil in 2017.

Redevelopment Strategy

Mass DEP and EPA partnered to remediate the site, excavating and disposing of 9000 tons of soil beginning in 2019.

Current Uses

New athletic fields and playgrounds were installed. Park reopened in May 2022.



Fort Devens Annex

Town

Devens

Acreage

4000

History

Identified as a Superfund site in 1989. Soil contaminated with petroleum products and chemicals.

Redevelopment Strategy

4000 acres of contaminated soil were excavated. Wetlands were developed and are still actively maintained.

Current Uses

A \$500 million bio-manufacturing campus began construction in 2021, alongside a \$300 million fusion energy research and manufacturing campus. 129 businesses are on site, employing 4471 people and generating \$1.75 billion in sales revenue in 2024.



GE Pittsfield

Town

Pittsfield

Acreage

254

History

Site bordering river oxbows, schools, floodplains, and residential neighborhoods. Beginning in the 1900's, GE manufactured and disposed of power transformers containing polychlorinated biphenyls on the site.

Redevelopment Strategy

Development led by Camp Dresser & McKee. Some areas were filled with >3ft of material. Site was graded to reduce flooding risks. A two acre wetlands was also installed to absorb stormwater.

Current Uses

Community solar arrays, community recreation facilities, training and education centers, an elementary school, residential properties, and business parks were built.



Industri-Plex

Town

Woburn

Acreage

245

History

Former wetlands where waste from chemical and glue manufacturing was disposed of from the 1850's through the 1970's, resulting in groundwater and soil contamination. Wetlands partially filled in 1983. Placed on Superfund list in 1983.

Redevelopment Strategy

Cleanup involved groundwater treatment, soil treatment, contamination coverage, and gas collection. Wetlands and floodplains were restored.

Current Uses

An interstate and public roads were constructed on the site, followed by a Regional Transportation Center. Shopping centers, an office park, and a hotel were also built. and public nature trails were built.



Iron Horse Park

Town

Billerica

Acreage

553

History

Wetlands site subject to asbestos insulation manufacturing, rail yard maintenance, and waste storage and landfilling, beginning in 1913. Placed on the superfund list in 1984.

Redevelopment Strategy

Contaminated soil removed and replaced with clean soil. Landfill was capped. Natural marshes were restored, and new wetlands were developed.

Current Uses

Public solar array began construction in 2014, followed by two additional arrays through 2017. 12 businesses have opened on the site.



Lawrence Metals

Town

Chelsea

Acreage

1.8

History

Textile manufacturing hub in the late 1800's. Later purchased by a metals manufacturing company that operated on the site from 1986-1999. Nearest river is 1.2 miles to the east. Soil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyl and heavy metals, including lead.

Redevelopment Strategy

Site remediated in 2013 through a partnership with local and federal governments and a private developer. 9,000 tons of contaminated soil were excavated and disposed of.

Current Uses

Upscale hotel built on the site by the developer, employing 25 people and producing \$960,000 per year.



Norwood PCBS

Town

Norwood

Acreage

26

History

Polychlorinated biphenyls were used to produce electrical transformers. High levels of PCBs were detected in the soil in 1983, triggering emergency removal of contaminated soil by the EPA.

Redevelopment Strategy

Soil was excavated and caps were installed between 1996-1998. Groundwater was treated from 1996-2000. Removed from the Superfund list in 2011.

Current Uses

Retail buildings were developed in 2008, and 20 businesses occupy the site as of 2024.



Nyanza

Town

Ashland

Acreage

35

History

Site bound by industrial and commercial properties and the Sudbury River. From 1917-1978, companies manufactured and dumped substances on the site, including textile manufacturing process chemicals, wastewater sludge, and solvent process wastes. Groundwater was contaminated with volatile organic compounds and trichloroethylene. Site registered as a Superfund in 1982.

Redevelopment Strategy

Excavation (1987-'90) and remediation ('90-'92) of 45,000 cubic yards of mercury-contaminated sediment, followed by landfill capping. Wetlands were restored. Extraction wells were installed in 2013 to further remove non-aqueous phase liquid and reduce groundwater contamination.

Current Uses

The site now includes an MBTA commuter rail station, solar arrays, a parking lot, apartment complex, nature walkways, businesses, and a commemorative memorial garden to remember residents impacted by cancer.



Seekonk Meadows Park

Town

Seekonk

Acreage

8

History

Accepted municipal waste from 1970, and then the site was "left abandoned" until 2008.

Redevelopment Strategy

The landfill was capped and methane vents installed throughout the site.

Current Uses

Walking paths are available and gentle passive recreation activities are allowed (walking, jogging, snowshoeing, etc).



SW Naval

Town

South Weymouth

Acreage

1442

History

Site occupied by the navy, including aviation training, aircraft maintenance, and waste disposal. Contamination detected in 1991. Site registered as a Superfund in 1994.

Redevelopment Strategy

Contaminated soil was excavated and covered and groundwater was treated. Rivers, wetlands, and ponds were redeveloped.

Current Uses

1274 residences have been built, alongside a 25 acre athletic complex, commercial space (including 12 businesses) 900 acres have been reserved as open space.



Tracy Landfill Golf Course

Town

Yarmouth

Acreage

57

History

Municipal landfill.

Redevelopment Strategy

Public/private partnership designed fill and cover of the landfill, costing \$8 million and requiring 240,000 cubic yards of fill. 1.5-9 ft of sand was piled across the site. Town seeking to use waste water from the treatment plant to irrigate the course.

Current Uses

Golf course.



Charles-George Landfill

Town

Tyngsborough and Dunstable

Acreage

70

History

A swamp used to dump municipal and industrial waste, including heavy metals and volatile organic compounds. Contaminated groundwater, rivers, and lakes.

Redevelopment Strategy

State ordered closure in 1983. Designated a Superfund site. EPA provided a cap, including surface water management systems, passive landfill gas venting system, and a leachate collection system.

Current Uses

Community solar arrays were installed in the cap. Designated a conservation site in perpetuity. Wetland and fish restoration are in progress.



W. R. Grace

Town

Acton and Concord

Acreage

260

History

Site used for manufacturing of sealants in 1953. Effluent was disposed of in nearby lagoons. A small on-site landfill was built to dispose of chemical byproducts and industrial waste. Public supply wells were contaminated with the volatile organic compound vinylidene chloride starting in 1973, leading to the city of Acton installing air stripper units. Placed on the Superfund list in 1983.

Redevelopment Strategy

Lagoon closure, solidification, and excavation of contaminated soil and sludges. Aquifer restoration system was installed in 1983 to remove volatile organic compounds. New landfill treatment system installed in 2012.

Current Uses

The city took control of 70 acres in 2016. They installed a community solar array, supplying 4.5% of the town's power supply needs.



Wells G&H

Town

Woburn

Acreage

330

History

Property split by Aberjona River. Used as an industrial dump site. Soil contaminated with TCE. Placed on the Superfund list in 1983.

Redevelopment Strategy

3500 tons of contaminated soil has been excavated and disposed of off-site started in 1989. 1,090 million gallons of groundwater have been pumped from the aquifer and treated.

Current Uses

Monitoring and cleanup continue. A hockey arena was built in 2008, a nature trail along the Aberjona river and wetlands was constructed in 2016, including education stations on the ecological importance of wetlands. Rooftop community solar was installed in 2021. Property has also been leased to small businesses, enabling restaurants and hotels to open.



Crossing at Walkers Brook

Town

Reading

Acreage

33.5

History

Landfill subsurface was on a swamp. Town offered the site for development in exchange for absorbing the \$5 million capping costs.

Redevelopment Strategy

Built by Haley Aldrich. Stacks of multiple retail outlets were planned. Retaining walls partially built from landfill waste. Walls were integrated with the landfill cap and gas management system. Wetlands and wetlands buffer zones were also built, alongside a stormwater retention system.

Current Uses

Home Depot and Jordan's Furniture were recruited as anchor retailers. An IMAX theater was built on upper levels. Cost \$90 million. Employs 1200 people and brings \$750,000 in annual property tax revenue to Reading.



Granite Links

Town

Quincy

History

Granite quarry and municipal landfill

Redevelopment Strategy

Required 900,000 truckloads and 13 million tons of material, provided by the Big Dig. Lead architect John Sanford said "if the dirt had not been available, the project would never have happened." Worked around existing very steep slopes.

Current Uses

Upscale golf course employing 115 people.