

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Agenda for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #5

Thursday, July 18, 2024

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

- 1. Welcome, introductions, agenda (9:30 a.m.)**
- 2. Re-cap last meeting and engagement update (9:35 a.m.)**
- 3. Presentation on case studies (9:50 a.m.)**
- 4. Task Force discussion (10:35 a.m.)**
- 5. Public questions/comments (11:00 a.m.)**
- 6. Final Task Force comments (11:20 a.m.)**
- 7. Adjourn (11:30 a.m.)**

Pig's Eye Dump Task Force

Notes for Pig's Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #5

Thursday July 18, 2024

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Lower Level - MPCA 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

Members in Attendance

- Dan Scollan, Water Resources Ecologist, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Sam Paske, Planning Assistant General Manager, Metropolitan Council
- Jimmy Francis, Mayor, City of South St. Paul
- Bill Sumner, Council Member, City of Newport
- Melanie McMahon, Executive Project Lead – Mayor's Staff, City of St. Paul
- Victoria Reinhardt, Commissioner, Ramsey County
- Dave Magnuson, Waste Regulation Supervisor, Dakota County
- Caleb Johnson, Environmental Program Manager, Washington County
- Nathan Wallerstedt, Project Management Branch Chief, Army Corps of Engineers - Saint Paul District
- Kirk Koudelka, Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- David Bell, Environmental Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)

Other Contributors

- Cliff Shierk, MPCA
- Pam Anderson, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates
- Kara Van Lerberghe, Zan Associates

Presenters

- Cliff Shierk, MPCA
- Aneesha Marwah, Zan Associates

1. Welcome, introductions, agenda

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) kicked off the meeting, thanked everyone for being in attendance, and introduced himself. Task force members and consultants followed by introducing themselves. Cliff went over the agenda and explained public comment protocol.

2. Re-cap last meeting and engagement update

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) provided a recap of the June Task Force meeting which focused on public engagement. She explained how the feedback received from the meeting influenced the 2025 engagement plan and next steps. The engagement team is planning on two additional pop-ups for this summer to share information about the Task Force.

3. Presentation on case studies

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) explained that they would be looking at six case studies during this meeting that exemplify different types of remediation and restoration options. He started by providing a background on Pig's Eye Dump and then transitioned to the Washington County Landfill case study.

The **Washington County Landfill is in Lake Elmo, Minnesota** and was remediated through a Lift and Line action. Cliff provided information on the site history, cleanup process, and the type of contamination present. Bill Sumner (City of Newport) pointed out that this landfill is a dry site and Pig's Eye Dump is in a wetland. Cliff emphasized that the proximity to water makes Pig's Eye Dump more unique and could increase the cost of cleanup compared to this case study. Bill asked what the Washington County landfill looks like now and if the public can access the space. Cliff explained that part of the space has been reused as a dog park but most of the site is completely fenced off. Bill asked if there are plans to use the space in the future and make it available to the public. Cliff responded that it is challenging to anticipate how long it would take for a landfill to be reused due to leachate management requirements. Caleb Johnson (Washington County) asked if there was a material between the layers of liner at this landfill. Cliff explained that there is a leak detection system between each layer of liner. Caleb asked if there was any resource recovery when they lifted the waste out of the landfill or if that was ruled out. Cliff explained that they pull out obvious larger waste, but typically they do not recover materials due to cost or timing. Dan Scollan (DNR) clarified that this site is above the water table, and asked what the depth of the waste is compared to the water table at Pig's Eye Dump. Cliff shared that a significant amount of the waste is sitting at or below the water table at Pig's Eye. David Bell (MDH) asked what the depth of excavation was at the case study site. Cliff shared that he thinks it was about 40-60 feet, but some of the other case studies he would be going over during the meeting are larger efforts. Jimmy Francis (City of South St. Paul) asked for clarification on why this landfill was chosen in comparison to Pig's Eye. Cliff shared that this landfill is an example of the Lift and Line process which is a possible method for Pig's Eye Dump. This landfill is smaller in size but provides an idea of cost and effort needed if it was scaled to Pig's Eye's size. Kirk Koudelka (MPCA) shared that it can be helpful to see what options there are for use of the site afterwards and restoration opportunities as well.

The **WDE Landfill in Andover, Minnesota** is an example of a hot spot removal of hazardous waste. Cliff provided background on the site history, contamination, and the cleanup process. The site is currently managed as a landfill and was not restored for public use. Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) asked if the waste was hauled elsewhere, and Cliff clarified that the waste was all hauled offsite and incinerated. Caleb asked if the location of the waste at this site made it easier to remove compared to Pig's Eye Dump. Cliff shared that the waste was not conveniently located, and it was a deep excavation. David clarified that even with hot spot removal there is continued monitoring of the site and Cliff confirmed that the site would need to be managed for a while.

Doyme Park is a site located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin that was used for waste disposal. There wasn't any major clean up at this site and the focus was on repurposing the space for the public. Cliff shared additional information on the site and how the waste is managed. They are currently doing public engagement to determine the use of the site. Possible options include a mountain bike park, dog park, or frisbee golf site. Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) asked if they were limited in the options they presented for reuse due to the waste staying in place. Cliff confirmed and said that most of the restoration options keep the area as open green space with some recreation use available. Dan asked Cliff to compare the site to Pig's Eye and to highlight some of the differences or similarities. Cliff shared that Doyme Park is a smaller site but that there is waste in

groundwater at this site. The big difference is the type of waste located at the site since Doyne Park's waste is not as complex as Pig's Eye Dump. Caleb asked if there was seasonal flooding at this site like Pig's Eye and Cliff shared that he did not think there is as much water level changes at Doyne Park.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park in Ohio was previously a dump site and was remediated through a dig and haul process. This process had a higher price tag and is smaller in size than Pig's Eye Dump. Cliff provided background on the type of contamination, how it was cleaned up, the companies that covered part of the clean-up cost, and how it was restored. Kirk asked if there was continued monitoring at this site and Cliff said he would check but he didn't believe there was continued monitoring needed. David asked how common it was for a landfill to not need continued monitoring and Cliff shared that it was uncommon. Melanie asked where they placed the contaminated soil and Cliff shared that it was placed in a landfill. Kirk clarified that this site is less of a landfill and more of a junkyard since most of the contamination was on the surface. Melanie asked if additional costs would be needed since they were focused on soil removal. Cliff said soil contamination can be tricky but solid waste is as well, so it can depend. Caleb asked if there is any wildlife monitoring or protection required at this site but Cliff was unsure.

Puente Hills Landfill in California was at one point the largest landfill in the country. No remedial action was taken at the site due to the size and amount of waste and is focusing on restoration instead. The current plan anticipates using decks over the site for recreation and reuse. Bill asked if the predicted landfill gas production was abnormally long, and Cliff said they would likely switch to passive gas management at the end of that period. Cliff shared that the comparisons to Pig's Eye may not be super strong with this case study, but it is an example of future use of a site without removing all waste.

Big Marsh Park is a site in Chicago that was remediated through hot spot removal. Cliff provided background on the site history and cleanup, partner organizations, and site use. The site was restored as a mountain bike park with biking and walking trails and an environmental center. Nathan clarified that this site wasn't a dump and instead was an industrial space with waste. Cliff confirmed and added that the area had clay caps added to cover the waste and allowed for different types of reuse. Cliff shared that this site is similar size to Pig's Eye Dump and they were able to reuse most of the space. Dan asked if there was gas extraction or management needed at the site and Cliff said there is not due to the type of waste. Caleb asked if the entire 300-acre site was disturbed or just portions, and Cliff confirmed that it was just the portions where there is not water. Bill mentioned that they frequently talk about the use of clay and if that was a resource that was available or limited. Cliff said that it may be limited near Pig's Eye Dump but there are other options.

Cliff shared a table comparing the six case studies with Pig's Eye Dump and discussed some of the future meeting topics the Task Force could look into.

4. Task Force discussion

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) kicked off the discussion portion of the meeting and shared questions to go over. Cliff Shierk (MPCA) added that it would be helpful to know if the case studies were beneficial and what additional information they would like to see.

Melanie McMahon (City of St. Paul) shared that it was helpful to see the different types of sites, the scale, and types of remedial options that were used. She said it would be helpful to investigate funding opportunities and sources that are available and examples of pulling together funding for an effort like this. Cliff responded that

there is an example in Minnesota where large groups of people came together to gather funding and he would look into having a possible guest speaker.

Caleb Johnson (Washington County) thought it would be helpful to hear if there were any neighbor considerations at the sites in the case studies since Pig's Eye has the rail yard to consider.

Nathan Wallerstedt (Army Corps of Engineers) said they have talked about restoration some, but it could make sense to start discussing that during Task Force meetings. Cliff said that he thinks most of the case study sites were driven by remediation and restoration followed. Melanie mentioned that costs and funding could determine what types of remediation and restoration efforts are available.

Dan Scollan (DNR) mentioned that some of the case studies were urban or industrial sites, and is interested in learning about how they facilitated the restoration options there. Aneesha added that there was a lot of community groups that advocated to use the Chicago site as a park.

Caleb asked if there was a restriction on what type of plantings can be used on the sites that were remediated with hot spot removal. Cliff shared that they intentionally plant native plants that won't harm the landfill cover due to long roots. The sites are regularly monitored to prevent trees and other large plants that could damage the landfill cover.

Jimmy Francis (South St. Paul) thought it was helpful to see the case studies and shared that he is still interested in fully remediating the site. He added that it would be a good use of funds and there are plenty of people in the government that would want to be involved in a successful full remediation. He emphasized that engagement should focus on public access entities that can share information about this site.

David Bell (MDH) said that it was helpful to see the case studies as it reiterated how unique Pig's Eye Dump is. He asked if there are other examples of projects that were phased processes when dealing with a landfill. Cliff said he would look into examples of cleanups that occurred over different phases.

Dave Magnuson (Dakota County) emphasized that he doesn't want to lose sight of the amount of waste and where that waste would be disposed of if they fully remediated Pig's Eye Dump. He shared that the landfills in the metro area may not be able to hold all the waste from Pig's Eye Dump and would result in additional steps and costs to safely dispose of the waste.

Caleb mentioned that some of the costs seem large but comparing them to other infrastructure projects they may not seem as drastic. Cliff and Pam Anderson (MPCA) mentioned that costs have also inflated over time so that is a consideration as well.

Bill Sumner (City of Newport) asked if burning the waste and using plasma was an option. Cliff said that he has not seen it done at the scale needed for Pig's Eye Dump, but they could look into it.

5. Public questions/comments

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) kicked off the public comment portion of the meeting.

A member of Friends of the Mississippi River asked if the meetings could be announced to the public sooner and more clearly on the MPCA website.

A member of Pig's Eye Park Friends shared that there have been two floods recently at the site and thought it would be helpful to have a map that shows the flooding and waste at the site. She mentioned that the Pollinator



Festival would be a good place to host a pop-up and share information about Pig's Eye Dump. She would also like to see more surveys on wildlife in the area.

Another member of the public said that he appreciated the comments about how significant this site is and the importance of cleaning it up. He emphasized the importance of wildlife and habitat at the site. He would like to see the Task Force investigate federal funding and other sources to fully remediate the site.

6. Final Task Force comments

Aneesha Marwah (Zan Associates) shared the next task force meeting dates. The task force did not have any final comments.

7. Adjourn

Cliff Shierk (MPCA) adjourned the meeting.



Pigs Eye Dump Task Force Meeting #5

July 18, 2024

Agenda

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Welcome and Introductions

- Consultant introductions
- Taskforce members to share:
 - Name
 - Title
 - Organization



Recap from last meeting and engagement update

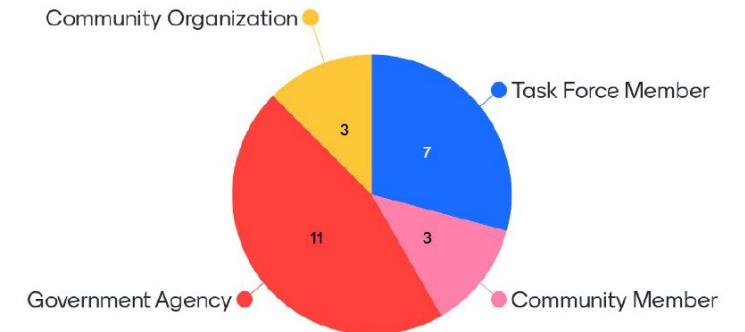
Last meeting recap

What word(s) come to mind when you envision the future Pig's Eye Dump site?

29 responses

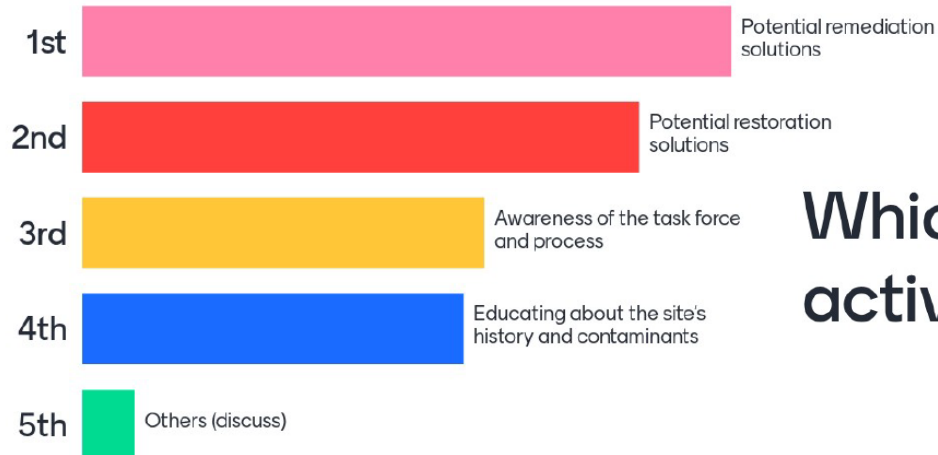


What "hats" do you wear in your community?

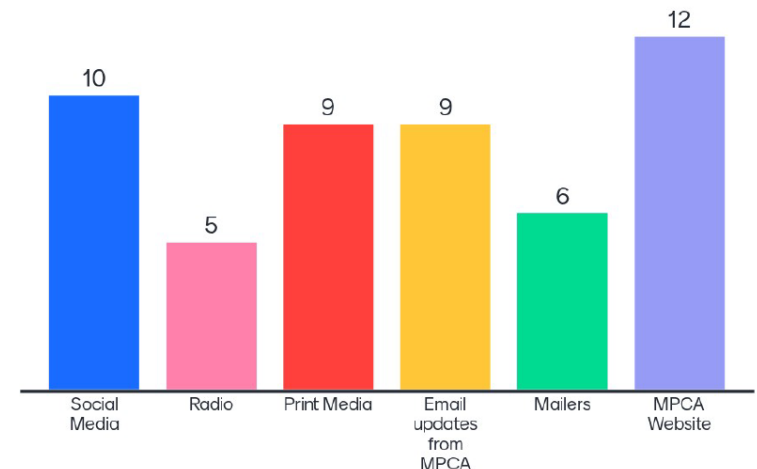


Engagement update

Rank: What are your priorities for engagement at this stage?



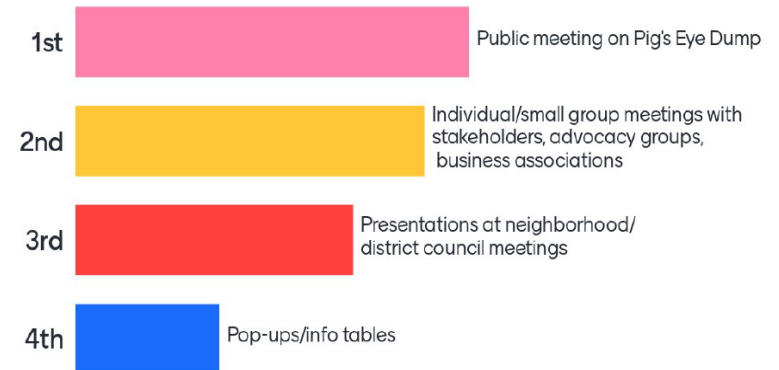
Which of the following COMMUNICATION activities do you want prioritized?



FY 2025 Engagement Plan

- **Public Meeting/Open House** on Pig's Eye Dump (Fall 2024)
- **Individual/Small Group meetings** – planning to reach out to the following groups:
 - Wakan Tipi
 - Urban Roots
 - Great River Passage Conservancy
 - U of M Long Term Ecological Research Group
 - Pigs Eye Park Friends
 - Friends of the Mississippi River
 - Lions Club
 - Rotary Club
 - **Others?**

Rank the following **ENGAGEMENT** activities in order of importance:



Pig's Eye Dump Cleanup



Overview

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is leading a multi-agency task force charged with developing a plan to clean up and restore Pig's Eye Dump. The task force will provide recommendations on what actions should be performed for cleanup and restoration of the area and will consider public input. The task force will also address contamination of Battle Creek, Pig's Eye Lake, and nearby groundwater.

What is the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency?

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) focuses on preventing and reducing pollution across the state. The MPCA monitors environmental conditions of the air, land, and water. The MPCA works with businesses, governments, organizations, and tribal nations to improve human health and protect natural resources.

What is Pig's Eye Dump?

Pig's Eye Dump was an unregulated municipal, commercial, and industrial waste dumping area from 1956 to 1972. Despite initial cleanup efforts in the early 2000s, significant environmental concerns remain at the site. The surrounding area has several important shared uses, including Dakota homeland and sacred sites, a regional park, a wastewater treatment plant, and natural areas that serve as a bird migration route.

Size: 200 Acres

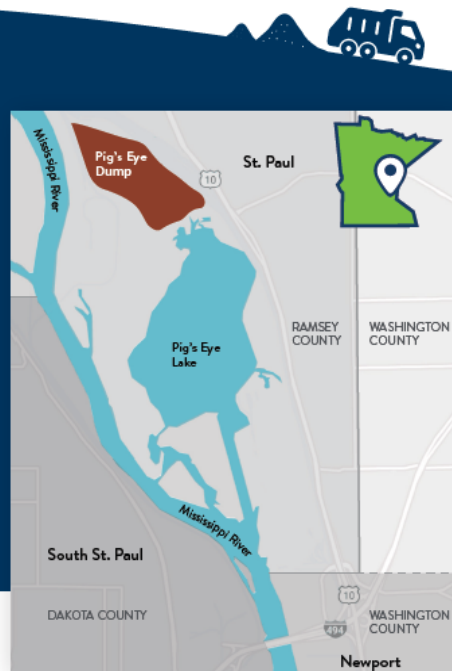
Owner: City of St. Paul

Location:

800 feet east of the Mississippi River, north of Pig's Eye Lake

Characteristics:

- Within the Mississippi River's floodplain
- Battle Creek flows through the central portion of the site



Task Force Meetings

Meetings of the task force are open to the public and will continue every two months until January 2026. The cleanup and restoration plan will be completed in February 2026.

Past meeting information is available on the task force webpage.



Stay connected



Learn more about the Pig's Eye Dump Task Force and sign up to receive updates.
mnpca.info/pedtf



pedtf.pca@state.mn.us



651-757-2244

FY 2025 Engagement Plan

- **2 Additional Pop-ups** focused on Information Sharing.
 - Art in the Hollow June 2024 – Completed
 - Location 2 TBD (Summer 2024)
 - Location 3 TBD (Fall 2024)
 - Location ideas?
- New pop-ups and materials for summer 2025 on remediation/restoration options
- **5 Task Force Meetings** (In-person with virtual options)

Case Studies

Pig's Eye Dump

Site Name: Pig's Eye Dump

Owner: City of St. Paul

Location: St. Paul, Minnesota

Remedial Action: TBD

Year Completed: TBD

Cost: TBD

Volume / Acreage: 6+ million CY / 220 acres



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Site Name: Washington County Landfill

Location: Lake Elmo, Minnesota

Owner: City of Lake Elmo

Remedial Action: Lift and Line

Year Completed: 2012

Cost: \$24 million (\$8 million contribution from 3M)

Volume / Acreage: 1.9 million CY / 25 acres



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Site History

- Operated from 1969-1975
- Municipal solid waste landfill
 - Accepted wastewater sludge from 3M's Cottage Grove facility
- Added to USEPA Superfund list in 1984
- De-listed in 1996 when it entered the MPCA Closed Landfill Program
- Groundwater impacted with VOCs, 1,4-dioxane, and PFAS



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Cleanup

- Closed and covered with soil in 1975
- Groundwater treatment system installed in 1981; operated until 2009
- Cover upgraded in 1996 with landfill gas extraction system
- Lift and line performed from 2009-2012
- Legacy groundwater contamination remains
 - Part of larger East Metro PFAS groundwater area of concern



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Cleanup (continued)



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Cleanup (continued)



Washington County Landfill (Lake Elmo, MN)

Site Use

- Continuing obligations for landfill operations and maintenance:
 - Groundwater monitoring
 - Landfill gas collection and destruction (flare)
 - Leachate collection and disposal
- 40 kW solar array installed in 2016
- City of Lake Elmo municipal operations
- Dog park on northern portion (no waste present)



WDE Landfill (Andover, MN)

Site Name: Waste Disposal Engineering (WDE) Landfill

Owner: MPCA

Location: Andover, Minnesota

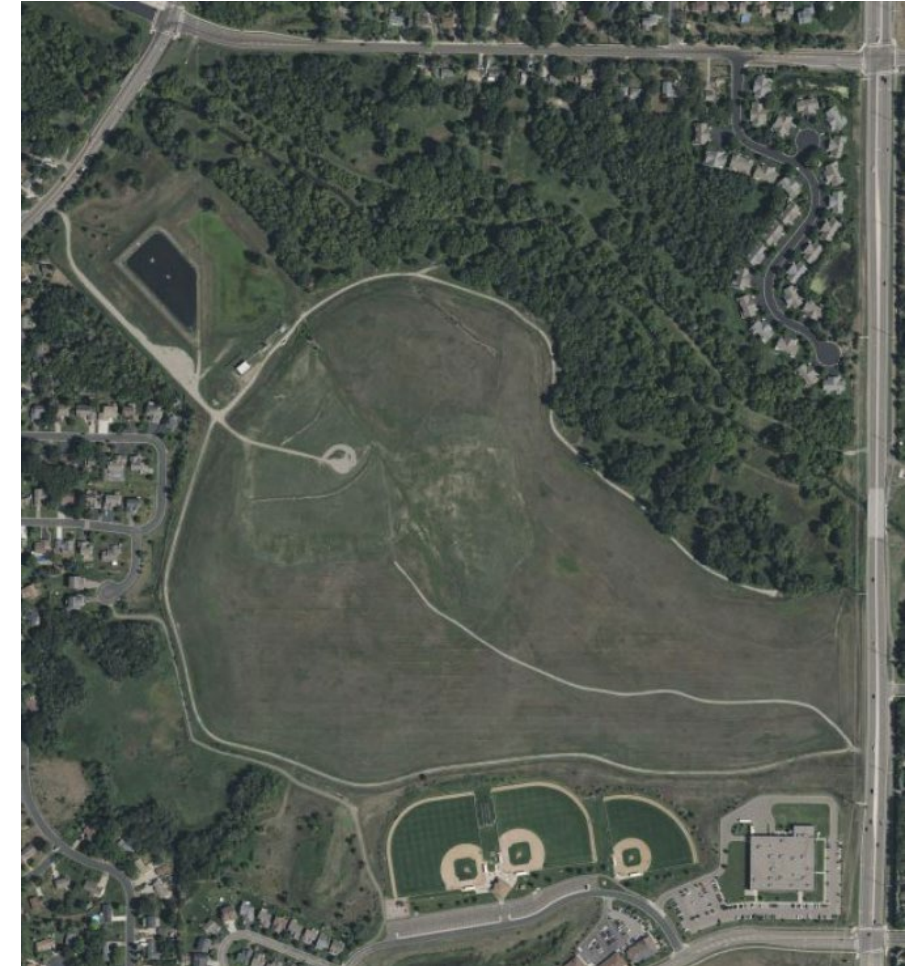
Remedial Action: Hotspot Removal

Year Completed: 2021

Cost: \$22 million

Volume / Acreage:

- Landfill: 2.4 million CY / 76 acres
- Cleanup: ~30,000 CY / 14 acres



WDE Landfill (Andover, MN)

Site History

- Operated from 1963-1983
- Municipal solid waste landfill
 - Asphalt-lined hazardous waste pit from 1971-1974
- Added to USEPA Superfund list in 1983
- De-listed in 1995 when it entered the MPCA Closed Landfill Program
- Groundwater impacted with 1,4-dioxane, vinyl chloride, and PFAS



WDE Landfill (Andover, MN)

Cleanup

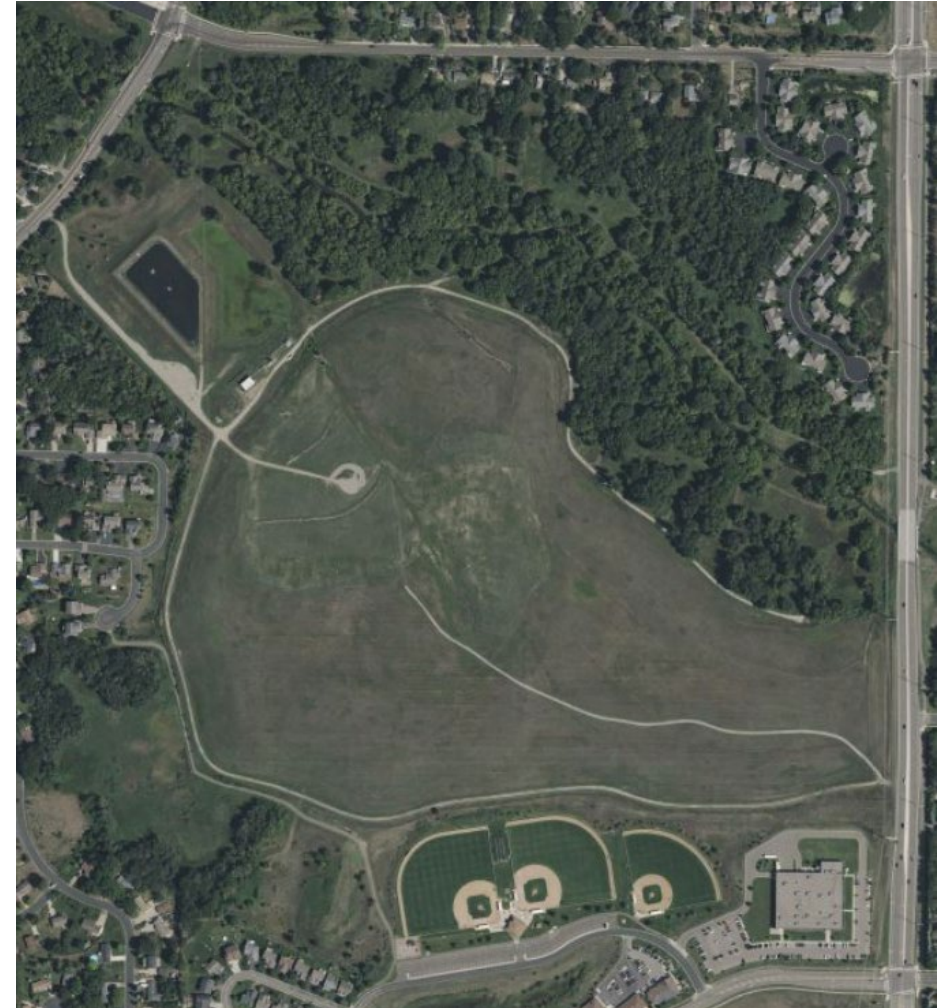
- Covered with soil in 1983; cover upgraded in 1993
- Groundwater pump and treat system operated from 1992-present
- Vapor extraction system installed in hazardous waste pit area 2009-2018
- Hazardous waste pit removal performed from 2019-2021
- Legacy groundwater contamination remains



WDE Landfill (Andover, MN)

Site Use

- Continuing obligations for landfill operations and maintenance:
 - Groundwater pump-and-treat system
 - Groundwater monitoring
 - Landfill gas collection and destruction (flare)
 - Leachate collection and disposal



Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

Site Name: Doyne Park

Owner: City of Milwaukee

Location: Milwaukee, WI

Remedial Action: Manage in Place

Year Completed: Ongoing

Cost: Unknown

Volume / Acreage: 2.4 million CY / 60 acres



Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

Site History

- Two former quarries from mid-1800s
- Purchased by City of Milwaukee in the 1930s for waste disposal
 - Not MSW (wood, appliances, C&D waste)
- Operated until 1973
- Redeveloped as golf course in 1976
- Minimal groundwater impacts observed
 - State requested that 1,4-dioxane and PFAS be sampled in 2020



Doyne Park (Milwaukee, WI)

Cleanup and Site Use

- Groundwater monitoring wells installed in 1990
- Clay cap (3 feet thick) identified in 1996
- Landfill gas migration control system installed in 1997-1998
 - 38 extraction wells, 25 monitoring points, and 3200 feet of pipe all below grade
- Golf course closed; currently soliciting public input for future use



Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)

Site Name: Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Owner: National Park Service

Location: Ohio

Remedial Action: Dig and Haul

Year Completed: 2020

Cost: \$50-60 million

Volume / Acreage: ~560,000 CY / 48 acres



Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)

Site History

- Krejci Dump Site operated as salvage yard and dump from mid-1940s to late 1970s
- Became part of CVNP in 1980; property officially acquired in 1985
- Closed to public in 1986 after initial EPA investigation
 - ~5,000 leaking drums found
- Eligible for Superfund program after comprehensive investigation
 - Groundwater impacts included PCBs, dioxin, PAHs, pesticides, benzene, and metals



Krejci Dump in 1985 (NPS Collection)

Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)

Cleanup

- Began in 2005
- First major excavation of material (225,000 tons of soil) completed in 2007
- Additional 150,000 tons removed in 2009
- Ford led the cleanup; recovered \$24 million (~80%) from responsible parties
 - GM, Chrysler, Chevron, 3M were RPs



Courtesy: Dept of Interior



Ravine after removal in 2006 (NPS Collection)

Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Ohio)

Site Use

- Restoration of the site largely completed in 2014
 - Includes meadows, pools, and wetland habitat
- USEPA awarded 'Excellence in Site Reuse' award



Puente Hills Landfill Park (California)

Site Name: Puente Hills Landfill Park

Owner: Los Angeles County

Location: Los Angeles, CA

Remedial Action: None Planned

Year Completed: TBD

Cost: TBD

Volume / Acreage:

130 million tons / 602 acres

(deepest fill area = 500 feet)



Puente Hills Landfill Park (California)

Site History

- San Gabriel Valley Dump opens in 1957
- Purchased in 1970 by Los Angeles County Sanitation District
- Stops accepting waste in 2013
- Master Plan for site published in 2016



Puente Hills Landfill Park Master Plan, 2016

Puente Hills Landfill Park (California)

Site Use

- Current proposal leaves waste in place and uses “decks” for park areas
- Long range planning for phased development to account for:
 - Settlement (30 years)
 - Landfill gas production (75 years)



Big Marsh Park (Chicago)

Site Name: Big Marsh Park

Owner: Chicago Parks District

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Remedial Action: Hotspot Removal

Year Completed: 2021

Cost: Unknown

Volume / Acreage:

- Site: 300 acres
- Cleanup: ~30,000 CY / 14 acres



Big Marsh Park (Chicago)

Site History and Cleanup

- Heavily industrialized area since 1800s
- Dumping ground for slag and other industrial waste from nearby steel mills
- Chicago Park District acquired property in 2011
- Soil cap (clay) was installed as restoration activities progressed
- Many partners including Friends of Big Marsh and REI

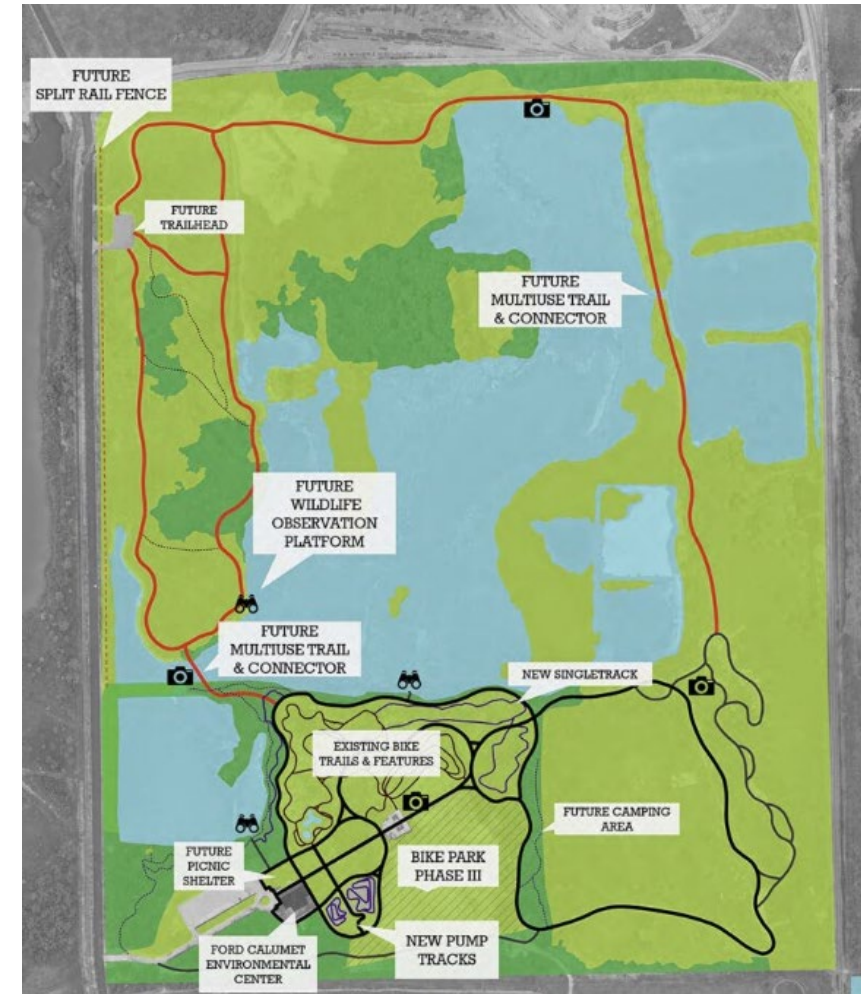


Courtesy: Google Maps
Aerial from 2004

Big Marsh Park (Chicago)

Site Use

- Phase 1 of mountain bike park opened in 2016 (45 acres)
- Biking and walking trails constructed throughout the park
- 45 acres of hemi-marsh wetlands
- Ford Calumet Environmental Center completed in 2021 (\$7.8 million)



Summary Table

	Pig's Eye LF	Wash. County LF	WDE LF	Doyne Park	Cuyahoga Valley National Park	Puente Hills Landfill Park	Big Marsh Park
Location	St. Paul, MN	Lake Elmo, MN	Andover, MN	Milwaukee, WI	Ohio	Los Angeles, CA	Chicago, IL
Owner	City of St. Paul	City of Lake Elmo	MPCA	City of Milwaukee	National Park Service	Los Angeles County	Chicago Park District
Remedial Action	TBD	Lift and Line	Hotspot removal	Landfill Gas Extraction	Dig and Haul	Ongoing Maintenance	Soil Capping
Volume Addressed (CY)	TBD	1,900,000	~30,000	0	~500,000	0	0
Cost	TBD	\$24MM	\$22MM	Unknown	\$50-60MM	TBD	Unknown
Funding Source	TBD	State Bonding / 3M	State Bonding	City of Milwaukee	Public w/ RP contributions	TBD	Chicago Park District
Final Site Use	TBD	Landfill w/ dog park, solar	Landfill	Golf course (new use TBD)	Parkland	Park	Park w/ bike trails and env. center

Task Force Discussion

Task Force Discussion

1. What type of **additional research** would you like the MPCA to do on these case studies?
2. Would you like to learn more about any of the case studies presented?
3. What was the **most surprising** thing about the case studies?
4. Public **engagement ideas** continued- places for pop-ups? Other groups for small group meetings?
5. **Next meeting topic?** Restoration, deeper dive into a few case studies? Guest speakers?



Public Comment

Please limit your comments to two minutes.

Start by sharing:

- Your name
- Your interest in the project



Task Force Final Comments

Next Meeting Dates/Times:

Meeting #6 – September 23rd, 2:00-4:00 pm (In person)

Meeting #7 – December 6, 9:30-11:30 am (Virtual)

Thank you!