

Community Fact Sheet

Kenilworth Park Landfill CERCLA Actions

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Capital Region
National Capital Parks – East

Kenilworth Park and Aquatic
Gardens



Summer 2010

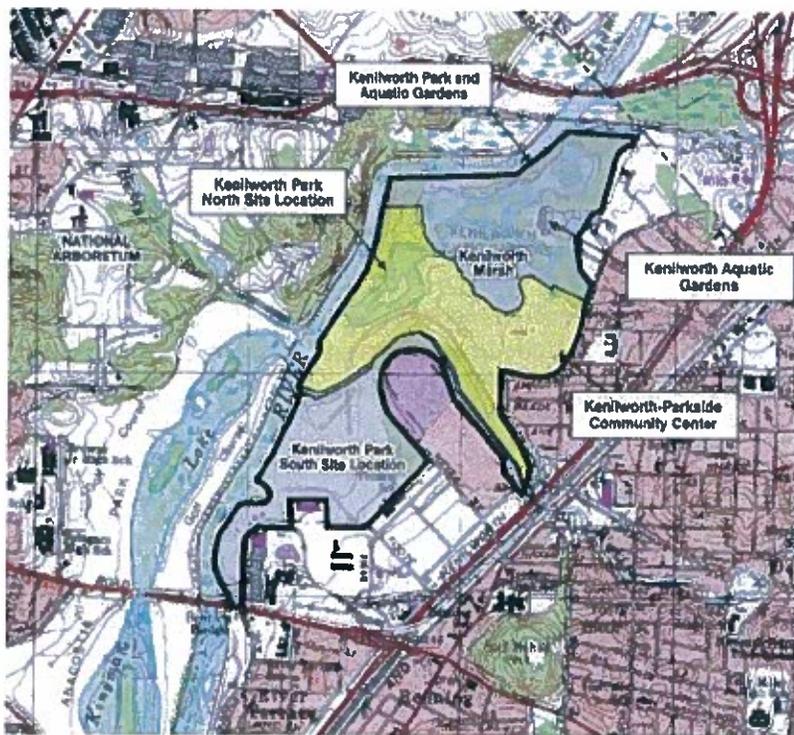
A SITE HISTORY...

The Kenilworth Park Landfill Site is located within the 700-acre Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens (Park) on the east side of the Anacostia River in N.E. Washington, D.C. Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens is a unit of the National Park Service (NPS), National Capital Parks-East.

From 1942 until 1968, the District of Columbia (District) operated a landfill on the northern portion of the Park (Kenilworth Park North, or KPN), between Watts Branch (a tributary to the Anacostia River) and the Aquatic Gardens. During this period, the KPN Landfill received municipal waste and incinerator ash. Municipal waste was burned at the KPN Landfill until 1968, followed by a brief period of landfilling without open burning, before landfill operations moved south of Watts Branch to the southern portion of the Site (Kenilworth Park South, or KPS). By the 1970s, the entire landfill (KPN and KPS) had ceased operations, was covered with soil, revegetated, and reclaimed for recreational purposes.

In 1973, the District Department of Parks and Recreation opened the Kenilworth-Parkside Community Center in the northeast portion of KPN; playing fields also were built on the northern and southern portions of KPN. KPS is currently undeveloped and not used for active recreation.

UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS...



Location map of the Kenilworth Park Landfill Site

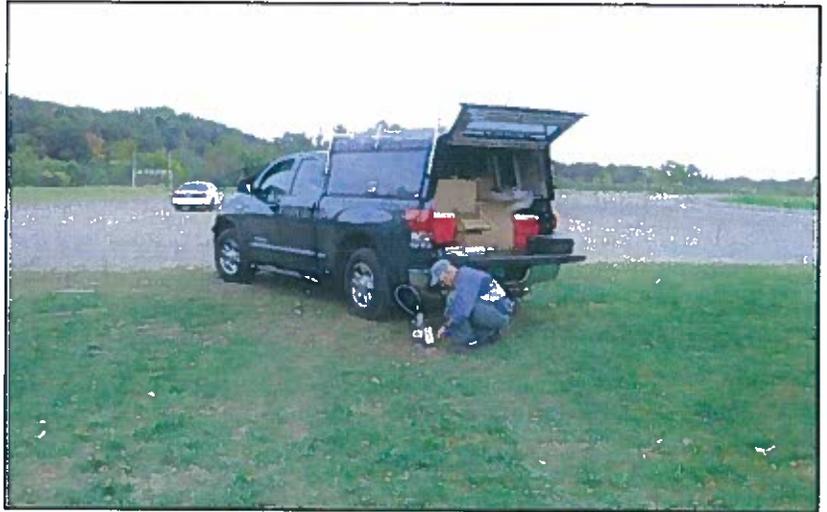
In late 1998, NPS began conducting environmental investigations at the Site to determine what risks, if any, the former landfills may pose to human health or the environment. A number of studies have been conducted since that time by NPS, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the District to determine the nature and extent of potential contamination associated with past waste disposal activities. The most comprehensive of these studies are the Remedial Investigations (RIs) conducted by NPS pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The RI for the KPN Landfill was completed in November 2007 and the KPS Landfill RI was completed in June 2008.

Contaminants of potential concern for human health and the environment identified by the two RIs include: polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), dieldrin (a pesticide), arsenic, lead, and methane. Both RIs

concluded that there is insignificant movement of contamination from the historically deposited wastes to groundwater or surface water.

Methane is a colorless, odorless, flammable gas generated in landfills as the byproduct of the anaerobic decomposition of organic matter, such as yard waste and food waste. Supplemental sampling performed in the fall of 2008 and spring of 2009 to further delineate methane identified methane in some Site soils. Methane, however, was found not to pose a risk at either the Kenilworth-Parkside Community Center or Thomas Elementary School.

NPS currently is developing a Feasibility Study (FS) to identify and evaluate potential remedial alternatives to address contamination at the Site. The results from this study will be used to select the permanent remedy. Due to the similarity and proximity of the two landfills, and to make the process more efficient, a single FS will be completed that will address both KPN and KPS. Completion of the FS is expected by December 2010. After that, NPS will prepare a Proposed Plan for public review and comment, followed by a Record of Decision (ROD), expected in 2011, selecting the preferred course of action for the Site.



Methane sampling at Kenilworth Park

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT...

Community involvement is an important part of the CERCLA process. Once the FS is complete and a Proposed Plan is published, NPS will host one or more public meetings to present the results of the study and to discuss the rationale for the Proposed Plan. This public meeting will provide the opportunity for interested parties to ask questions and provide comments. There also will be a 30-day public comment period for the Proposed Plan. Comments received during this period will be very important to NPS as it selects the preferred course of action.

Information repositories have been established in the two locations identified below. These repositories house copies of the Site administrative record file. CERCLA administrative record files consist of those documents that will form the basis for the selection of the remedy. They include documents such as reports of all Site-related environmental investigations, ecological and human health risk assessments, community relations materials, public comments, and NPS responses to significant comments.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION...

If you have questions about any aspect of the Kenilworth Park Landfill RI/FS process, please contact Greg Nottingham, NPS CERCLA project coordinator, at (303) 415-1483.