

# Community Update

## Kenilworth Park Landfill Site

### CERCLA Actions

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of Interior



National Capital Parks – East  
Washington, D.C.

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#### A SITE HISTORY

The Kenilworth Park Landfill Site (Site) is located within Anacostia Park, a unit of National Capital Parks – East (NACE), on the eastern bank of the Anacostia River. The Site is divided into two areas, Kenilworth Park North (KPN) and Kenilworth Park South (KPS). The areas are separated by Watts Branch, a stream that flows into the Anacostia River.

From 1942 until 1970, the District of Columbia (DC) used the Site for municipal solid waste disposal. Open burning of municipal waste, incinerator ash disposal, and landfilling of unburned municipal solid waste occurred at the Site. By the 1970s, the entire landfill (KPN and KPS) had ceased operations, was covered with soil, revegetated, and reclaimed for recreational purposes. KPN currently contains athletic fields which are actively used for recreation. KPS is currently undeveloped and not used for active recreation.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS

In 1998, NPS began conducting environmental investigations pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) to determine what risks, if any, the former landfills may pose to human health or the environment.

Under CERCLA, remedial investigations (RIs) are conducted to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Site and to determine whether any contamination found poses risks to human or ecological health. In 2007, NPS completed an RI Report for KPN and in 2008, an RI Report for KPS was completed. Based on results of the RIs completed at the Site, NPS identified polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), lead, and methane gas as contaminants of concern.



#### CLEANUP OPTIONS

Under CERCLA, the RI process is followed by a “feasibility study” or FS. Feasibility studies take the information collected during the RI and evaluations of risk posed by the Site and develop, consider, and evaluate a range of cleanup alternatives, including a “no action” alternative.

NPS completed an FS for the Site in April 2012 and in 2013 released a “Proposed Plan” for cleaning up the Site. The Proposed Plan included placement of a 24-inch thick soil cap over both the north and south landfill areas. After receiving public comments and determining that additional groundwater sampling was required to fully evaluate the Site’s impact on underlying groundwater and surface water, NPS decided to defer implementation of the Proposed Plan until the results of additional investigations could be considered.

From 2013 through 2018, NPS conducted additional sampling investigations at the Site. The results of these investigations were summarized in a RI Addendum Report that was completed in 2019. NPS is currently preparing a FS addendum that will provide an updated evaluation of alternatives to clean up the Site.

## **NEXT STEPS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Using information from the FS Addendum, NPS will select an alternative and issue a new Proposed Plan for cleaning up the Site. The Proposed Plan will be released for public review and comment in late spring/summer 2020. NPS will hold a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan and accept public input. There will be a minimum 30-day public comment period for the Proposed Plan after it is released to the public.

After consideration of comments received, NPS will determine if any changes are required to the Proposed Plan and will select a final remedy for the Site which will be presented in the "Record of Decision" (ROD). The ROD will describe the selected remedy which will be implemented to clean up the Site.

Key Site-related documents are included in the Site Administrative Record. The Site Administrative Record file includes all documents that will form the basis for the selection of the cleanup alternative. Compact diskettes that contain the Administrative Record have been provided to the Deanwood Neighborhood Library at the address provided below. The public may view these diskettes on computer available for public use at the library. Electronic copies of the administrative record may also be requested by contacting the NPS Kenilworth Park Landfill CERCLA project manager, Donna Davies, at [donna\\_davies@nps.gov](mailto:donna_davies@nps.gov) or (202) 359-3234. Documents prepared after the last Administrative Record update including the July 2019 RI Addendum Report are available on the NPS Kenilworth Park Landfill webpage which can be accessed at: <https://www.nps.gov/anac/learn/management/kpls.htm>.

DC Library System  
Deanwood Neighborhood Library  
1350 49th St. NE  
Washington, DC 20019  
Phone: (202) 698-1175  
Email: [deanwoodlibrary@dc.gov](mailto:deanwoodlibrary@dc.gov)  
<https://www.dclibrary.org/deanwood>

If you have questions about the Kenilworth Park Landfill cleanup process, please contact the Kenilworth Park Landfill Site NPS CERCLA project manager, Donna Davies, at [donna\\_davies@nps.gov](mailto:donna_davies@nps.gov) or (202) 359-3234.