



WASTE MATTERS!

Issue 2 Volume 1 May 2018

Historic Find — in Our Own Backyard!



Above: Photo of inside newly discovered structure showing intersection of the straight and curved walls. Image courtesy of Newport Environmental.

During environmental remediation work at the old Coffey Texaco Gas Station in Newport last November, an underground structure was accidentally found. It has become the talk of Newport as this location was purchased just a few short years ago by the Church Community Housing Corporation, according to the Newport Tax Assessor's Database. The notion is to turn it into an open space area for all to enjoy. The historic find extended

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The SUN is Shining
Brightly
in Rhode Island



The Office of Waste Management continues to approve solar projects on closed landfills and contaminated Brownfield sites. OWM has been very supportive of these proposals as a way to increase more renewable energy production here in RI, reuse these contaminated properties in a beneficial way, and generate income for

..... See SOLAR Page 3

Right: Aerial view of Rose Hill Superfund Project. Courtesy of Kearsarge Energy LP



CONTINUED from Previous Issue of

Waste Matters! ...



DO YOU REMEMBER.....

this site from our last issue? Flip to page 5 for the extraordinary conclusion to this unlikely story.

eighteen feet below street level and was filled with water. Ironically, it was found exactly next to the plaque that marks the site of an original spring who many historians believe has been around since Newport was founded in 1639. With the help of the Newport Fire Department, a substantial amount of water was pumped from this structure. Sofia Kaczor, Principal Scientist in the UST Management Program, and Rachel Simpson, Environmental Scientist in the Site Remediation Program were both at the remediation which brought forth this flood of history. “We were merely there to remove old underground storage tanks by the mandated deadline when all of a sudden, the construction crew hit a solid structure”, says Kaczor.

Initial inspections suggested that the stone structure may be quite old warranting further investigation and documentation by experts. The Historic Newport Spring Town Project collaborated with the Newport Historical Society and a team of archaeological experts last month to study and document the site. This team involved several individuals including two from the Roma Sotterranea, an Italian organization that specializes in the study of urban speleology.

“It’s not very often that a discovery of this magnitude is found. This is really exciting news”, exclaimed Kaczor. Although traffic seemed to be a little complicated in the area originally, it is now undergoing a test pattern as everyone tries to figure the best way to celebrate this original piece of history. If you are passing by the Newport area this summer, you may be able to experience the changes as this project unfolds in the coming months.

MORE PHOTOS FROM THE HISTORIC NEWPORT SPRING



Clockwise L to R: 1. RISD Professor, Nick De Pace, investigates below the surface. (courtesy Newport Historical Society) 2. Some of the items found at the site of the spring (courtesy Newport Daily News) 3. Photo of Plaque commemorating the site of the original spring (courtesy S. Kaczor) 4. UST removal in process (courtesy S. Kaczor) 5. Adriano Morabito from Roma Sotterranea inside the newly discovered underground structure (courtesy Newport Environmental/Leica Geosystems)



owners/operators/towns, etc. to facilitate compliance and achieve better closure and post-closure care into the future.

Leo Hellested, Chief of the Office of Waste Management at RIDEM, says “These projects are really a win/win, and we continue to assist and facilitate their regulatory approval here in OWM as much as practical.” Some of the projects the Office has currently approved and completed to date include the Rose Hill Landfill Superfund solar project, the URI Landfill Superfund project, and the Forbes St Landfill closure in East Providence. The East Providence project will generate 9 MW of electricity when it reaches its full potential. Two additional sites, the North Providence Facility and the Cece Macera Landfill are also moving towards construction. There are still others that have the potential of becoming a solar site, however, they are currently in their initial stages.

South Kingstown’s Public Services Director, Jon Schock, wrote in his Sept. 8, 2015 letter to the Town Manager, Stephen Alfred, “Both EPA and DEM have long advocated for beneficial reuse of closed Superfund landfills. However, owners of municipal landfills must balance the risk to humans versus a beneficial reuse of a landfill with significant exposure to humans. As such, solar projects have typically been deemed favorable by regulatory agencies since access by humans is relatively limited to construction.”



Above photos courtesy of Louis Berger Group

By: Cheyanne Briggs



1. Not depleted when used
2. To make a channel by digging
3. Scientific study of historic items by analyzing their artifacts or remains
4. Underground structure accidentally found during remediation in Newport
5. Designated place to dispose of waste material
6. Where one can access information electronically
7. Request to acquire funds
8. Relating to the sun
9. Process of correcting something that is bad
10. Fuel for generating heat and electricity
11. Used to measure underground contaminants (2 words)
12. Tank and any underground piping connected to it that has at least 10 % of its combined volume underground.

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Unscramble the words above to find your bonus word

BONUS: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ !

Brownfields Assessment and Remediation Funding Opportunities

By: Ashley Blauvelt



The Office of Waste Management is preparing the Request for Proposals for the next round of grants under the State's Brownfields Remediation and Economic Development Fund which will be coming out in May. To date, \$7.4 million has been awarded under the Fund to support 33 projects in 12 communities. The Brownfields Grant Fund reimburses up to 80% of a project's assessment and/or remediation costs. Approximately \$2.6 million will be available in the upcoming grant round and the OWM anticipates issuing a RFP, which will contain application details, in May 2018.

Additionally, the OWM is continuing its partnership with the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank to provide long-term, low-cost financing to public and private businesses for the cleanup of Brownfield sites through the Brownfields Remediation Revolving Loan Fund. Application for funding via the Brownfields Cleanup RLF can be submitted to the OWM on an ongoing basis.

Finally, the Targeted Brownfield Assessment (TBA) Program which provides funding to municipalities and non-profits to help evaluate brownfields sites and costs associated with remediation, is also accepting applications for funding on an ongoing basis. For more information on the TBA Program, please contact Cory Dipietro at cory.dipietro@dem.ri.gov.

For more information on Brownfields funding opportunities or to apply for any of the above opportunities, please visit the "Site Cleanup Funding Opportunities" section of the Site Remediation page at www.dem.ri.gov/programs/wastemanagement/site-remediation. There is a single application form that can be used to apply for any of the above funding opportunities. Deadline for final proposals and supporting materials is 4PM on Friday, June 29th, 2018.

BURRILLVILLE

WATER

Update...



By: Nicholas Noons

Source investigation was successfully completed in January, which involves sampling soil and groundwater throughout the Village of Oakland. The Office of Waste Management is working with the responsible party to evaluate options for further investigation and remediation, if warranted, of the identified source area.

The OWM is working closely with the RI Infrastructure Bank (RIIB), RIDOH, and the Harrisville Fire District Water Department to provide access to clean, public water to all Oakland residents, including private well owners and those currently served by the Oakland Water Association, through the expansion of the Harrisville water system into the affected area.

The Office of Waste Management is also still providing drinking water (water coolers with regularly scheduled bottle deliveries) to households which are part of the Oakland Association and to households with private wells that exceeded the EPA Health Advisory for PFOA/PFOS. Highest risk private wells were resampled in April, to ensure that all private wells still being used remain below the EPA Health Advisory and RI GA Groundwater Objective.



WE are ONLINE !



Anyone can now search for some of our files online simply by going to the DEM website (www.dem.ri.gov), and clicking on "Doing Business with US". Once there, click on "Enviro Site Search". LUST/UST files are not up yet, but are expected in the near future. Look for more enhancements coming soon.

If the 100-year history of textile, metal work and printing industrial operations weren't enough to scare you away, just imagine the arduous task of remediating the contaminated soil and groundwater, before being able to construct two 65,000 square feet buildings within a window of two years. With the help of many dedicated individuals, two brand new state-of-the-art middle schools were built in Woonsocket. A total of 38,000 tons of soil containing fuel oil and cutting oil were excavated from the subsurface for remediation and nine underground storage tanks with oil and gasoline were closed at the site. The result of this clean-up saw recycled and sustainable material that benefited the site, such as backfill, structural grading and asphalt pavement sub base. A cap was also added across the entire 20-acre site. In total over 128,000 tons of clean loam, sand and gravel fill were tested and imported to the site for cap construction. After completion, follow-up groundwater monitoring indicated that all groundwater cleanup criteria were met within 6 months. While the 2 new school buildings were not constructed above areas where the highest concentrations of VOC in soil vapor were detected, the redevelopment plan included the preemptive construction of a sub slab ventilation and vapor barrier system beneath the two new school buildings as a conservative and redundant safeguard to mitigate the potential for migration of soil vapors containing VOC to indoor air. Since the remediation and construction, these two buildings have become the home of a group of middle schoolers for the next 3 years of their life where they will hopefully take advantage of what is offered and move on to, maybe one day, remediate a site of their own for the next generation.



Photos courtesy of Fuss & O'Neill

UPCOMING EVENTS

★ RCRA and Solid Waste Stakeholder Meeting: Friday, June 8, 2018 from 10-11:30AM to be held at 235 Promenade St., Providence, Room 300. This informal meeting will discuss conceptual changes the Department is considering to the Hazardous Waste Regulations. It is an effort to allow input from all parties prior to Regulations being drafted.

★ USEPA New England Presentation on E-manifest: Tuesday, June 12, 2018 from 10:00AM-12PM tentatively scheduled at 235 Promenade St., Providence, Room 300. This training is being offered by USEPA staff to help generators understand the new e-manifest rule that will take effect on June 30, 2018. EPA will also demonstrate how to use the new e-manifest system. Training is free but space is limited and pre-registration is required. Please visit the link below to register via google forms. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScwkTrpjqsV8VGFsZdr9SqKhJtu2MtA6QcDukvoKg/viewform?c=0&w=1>



"Great location, new roof, central air, underground storage tanks full of toxic waste, double garage, ceramic tile..."

WORD FIND Answers

Renewable, Excavate, Archeology, Spring, Landfill, Online, Application, Solar, Remediation, Petroleum, Monitoring Wells, UST. Bonus: Waste Matters!