

Proposed Pine Street Canal Re-use: Summary

The City of Burlington is working with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC) to evaluate plans for the potential reuse of several properties as a publicly accessible conservation area within the Pine Street Canal Superfund Site. The proposed land use must comply with both the federal and state regulations.

A recent screening level risk evaluation by EPA's consultant, using historic data and original risk assessment assumptions, found that the cleanup remedy previously implemented at the Site under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (otherwise known as CERCLA or Superfund) remains within EPA's current acceptable risk management range for the areas proposed for public access. However, based on the Vermont Investigation and Remediation of Contaminated Properties Rule (known as the IRule), VT DEC has determined the available soil data is insufficient to conduct a current risk evaluation. Consequently, VT DEC will require the City collect additional soil samples to inform the proposed reuse and options to ensure it is health protective for public use. While it is too early to determine what types of protective measures will be required, possibilities include specific trail design coupled with restricted uses (known as institutional controls), in some areas of the properties.

EPA and VT DEC are supportive of the concept of using these properties as a publicly accessible conservation area and will work with the City to ensure compliance with applicable federal and state regulations. EPA will continue to evaluate site uses and cleanup goals every five years to ensure the remedy remains protective of human health and the environment.

For additional information, please visit [EPA's Site Profile Page](#) for the Pine Street Canal Site.