

Project Title and Location: Williams & Sawins Ponds, Watertown, Massachusetts.

Scope of Services Demonstrated by this Project: MCP Phase II; PIP Site; Downgradient Property Status.

Project Description: Williams and Sawins Ponds are two man-made ponds that were originally used for recreational purposes. In the early 1900s, the ponds were purchased by the Hood Rubber Company, which later was purchased by the B.F. Goodrich Company. In the mid 1960s, landfilling of solid waste by B.F. Goodrich occurred along the banks of Sawins Pond. In addition to the landfilling, the ponds have been exposed to surface runoff from storm drains that received drainage from more than 600 acres of Watertown. Oils and other contaminants associated with the surface runoff have historically accumulated in the ponds. Included with these contaminants was a release of PCBs from a nearby electric company facility. Interest in the ponds by the Watertown Board of Health resulted in listing of the ponds and adjacent properties on the CERCLIS List and subsequent investigation by the USEPA. Based on USEPA's findings, the site was delisted; however, a Notice of Responsibility was issued by MADEP to the current property owner in 1987. The site became a Public Involvement Pan (PIP) site in 1990.



In 2007, Vineyard was contracted to prepare a Tier II Extension to complete the Phase II assessment of the site. Following submittal of the Tier II Extension, Vineyard filed a Determination of Applicability with the Watertown Conservation Commission for work within the buffer zone. The Watertown Conservation Commission made a negative determination, which allowed the proposed Phase II assessment to proceed. Vineyard initiated the proposed Phase II, which included installation of six borings and monitoring wells (from which soil and groundwater samples were collected) and the collection of 17 sediment samples and 5 surface water samples. The samples were analyzed for petroleum hydrocarbons, metals, volatile

and semi-volatile organic compounds, and PCBs. Based on the data collected, a Downgradient Property Status submittal was filed with the DEP for the portion of the site occupied by the ponds, and additional Phase II investigation was proposed to further assess site conditions on the upland portion of the site. The results of the sampling and proposed work were presented to the public at a PIP meeting.

The proposed work included the installation of eight additional borings/wells and further soil and groundwater sampling. Based on the results of the investigation, a Method 1 risk assessment was performed and a RAO for the upland portion of the site was completed, closing a site that had been in the MCP process since the 1980s.