**To:** Pietrykoski, Thomas[Thomas.Pietrykoski@mail.house.gov]
**From:** Sebastian, Chris
**Sent:** Wed 7/31/2013 3:13:24 PM
**Subject:** FW: Dioxin removal to begin on Passaic River

Hi Tom – just checking in about next Wednesday at 11:00…

Re other attendees, we believe NJDEP commissioner Bob Martin will attend, but we are awaiting final confirmation – Sen Menendez cannot attend, but Carolyn Fefferman will represent him.

We are going out to the park tomorrow to scope out a final location based on where the actual dredging is taking place (dredging starts Friday) so we make sure we get a good visual during the event – will keep you posted.

Otherwise, we're good to go.

Thanks!

**From:** Sebastian, Chris
**Sent:** Monday, July 29, 2013 2:39 PM
**To:** 'Pietrykoski, Thomas'
**Subject:** RE: Dioxin removal to begin on Passaic River

Hi Tom – Yes, it's my understanding that under the terms of the legal agreement they have to start dredging as soon as they are able to do so.

But I also understand that we are still planning to hold our press event on 8/7.

More details to follow on that this week.

Thanks.

**From:** Pietrykoski, Thomas [mailto:Thomas.Pietrykoski@mail.house.gov]
**Sent:** Monday, July 29, 2013 2:35 PM
**To:** Sebastian, Chris
**Subject:** FW: Dioxin removal to begin on Passaic River

So I guess CPGs couldn't wait for press, huh?

**From**: Kluesner, Dave [mailto:kluesner.dave@epa.gov]
**Sent**: Monday, July 29, 2013 11:35 AM
**Subject**: Dioxin removal to begin on Passaic River

# Dioxin removal to begin on Passaic River

MONDAY, JULY 29, 2013

BY SCOTT FALLON

STAFF WRITER

THE RECORD

PRINT | E-MAIL

LYNDHURST — After a month's delay, preliminary work to remove dioxin-laden mud from the banks of the Passaic River next to a popular county park is scheduled to begin Tuesday, according to the companies funding the $20 million project.

The delay came when workers were unable to open the Bridge Street Bridge in Newark, preventing barges from hauling mud to a processing facility down river.

While the bridge is still not fixed, workers will be able to open it manually once a day starting early Tuesday. Barges will be able to bring equipment to the site about nine miles north of the bridge where the highest levels of dioxin ever recorded at the river's surface sit just feet away from Riverside County Park.

About 20,000 cubic yards of contaminated mud will be scooped out of the river and eventually hauled out. But the bridge must be fixed first. The companies are still waiting for new motors to be delivered and installed on the busy bridge, which was damaged during Superstorm Sandy. It connects Newark to Harrison and is owned by Essex and Hudson counties.

"The first barge containing dredged material would be transported back downriver after the bridge is repaired," said Jonathan Jaffe, a spokesman for Cooperating Parties Group, a collection of about 70 companies that either polluted the river or inherited the liability of past polluters and are paying for the cleanup.

The Bridge Street Bridge is one of 11 mostly low-lying bridges along the Passaic that the barges will have to travel under.

The companies had hoped to finish work by the Head of the Passaic Regatta, a major crew competition on Oct. 12 that has drawn more than 1,000 rowers in the past. With work scheduled to go beyond that date, contractors will stop work and secure all of their equipment before the race.

Despite a history of pollution that dates to the late 18th century, the Passaic is popular among competitive rowers because of its calm current and lack of commercial boating.

Email: fallon@northjersey.com

http://www.northjersey.com/news/217336171_Dioxin_removal_to_begin_on_Passaic_River_removal_to_begin_on_Passaic.html

David Kluesner

U.S. EPA - Manhattan Office

Public Affairs Division

290 Broadway, NY, NY 10007

work - 212/637-3653

cell - 347/330-9439

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