**From:** Kopf, Jeff
**To:** Tougas, Stephanie
**Subject:** RE: Wetlands concern in Gardner, MA
**Date:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 12:38:54 PM

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Hi Stephanie:

(b) (5) [redacted]

[redacted]

Jeff Kopf, Senior Enforcement Counsel
US EPA Region 1
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Mail Code 04-3
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Tel: (617) 918-1796
Fax: (617) 918-0796
kopf.jeff@epa.gov

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**From:** Tougas, Stephanie <tougas.stephanie@epa.gov>
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 06, 2020 11:54 AM
**To:** Kopf, Jeff <Kopf.Jeff@epa.gov>
**Subject:** FW: Wetlands concern in Gardner, MA

See attached photo showing where the discharge is located according to Mr Demeo

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**From:** PAUL DEMEO <ryanrealty@comcast.net>
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 11:47 AM
**To:** Tougas, Stephanie <tougas.stephanie@epa.gov>
**Cc:** Alan <rousseaua@verizon.net>; matthewmarro@gmail.com; ryanrealty <ryanrealty@comcast.net>
**Subject:** RE: Wetlands concern in Gardner, MA

Stephanie,

I have marked the map of the "Stormwater/ Sludge Landfill Discharge Pipe along with the "check dam" wash-out location. These "check dams" were a band-aid approach to a serious issue. As you can see from the discharge pipe, its nearly full of "what we don't know what. This is why soil and water samples need to be taken and analyzed.

Paul DeMeo

On May 6, 2020 at 10:53 AM "Tougas, Stephanie" <tougas.stephanie@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Mr. Demeo. Are you able to mark on this image where you took the photo of the outfall and rip rap? Trying to have an understanding of exactly where the discharge is, thank you

Stephanie

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**From:** PAUL DEMEO <ryanrealty@comcast.net>
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:55 AM
**To:** Tougas, Stephanie <tougas.stephanie@epa.gov>
**Cc:** Alan <rousseaua@verizon.net>; ryanrealty <ryanrealty@comcast.net>; matthewmarro@gmail.com
**Subject:** RE: Wetlands concern in Gardner, MA

Stephanie,

This photo shows the failure of the "check dam and washout" so they are not working well. The second photo shows the discharge pipe nearly filled with silt and possible pollutants. (photos attached)

Does the city of Gardner have a "stormwater permit" to discharge into the wetland. If not, then this discharge needs to cease and corrective measures taken.

I would like like a site investigation by the EPA with soil and water samples taken and fines levied for the violation.

Rousseau's Property, State and Federally controlled waterways are being damaged by this "sewage sludge landfill".

Alan Rousseau and Matt Marro, a wetlands consultant have been copied.

Best Regards,

Paul DeMeo

On May 6, 2020 at 8:31 AM "Tougas, Stephanie" <tougas.stephanie@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes I did thank you very much.

I have spoken with the operator of the sludge landfill and he says he was aware of the problem and has been in discussions with the concom and the city and they have installed a series of check dams that are working well.

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**From:** PAUL DEMEO <ryanrealty@comcast.net>
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020 11:08 PM
**To:** Tougas, Stephanie <tougas.stephanie@epa.gov>
**Subject:** RE: Wetlands concern in Gardner, MA

Hi Stephanie,

Did you receive this okay?

Thanks for your assistance.

Paul DeMeo

On May 4, 2020 at 2:14 PM PAUL DEMEO <ryanrealty@comcast.net> wrote:

Hello Stephanie,

It was nice chatting earlier today.

Attached are two identical GIS Maps showing the Gardner Sludge Landfill and the Rousseau Property with the three ponds showing and the extensive

wetlands.  GIS MAP was obtained from City of Gardner engineering website.

Circle in **red** is the approximate area of the discharge pipe into the wetland area.

I have attached a photo of the discharge pipe into the wetland and as you can see, it is pretty much filled with silt and debris.  Who know what else is discharging from the "sewage sludge".

Anything else I can help with, please let me know.

Can we do water and soil sampling?

I would be happy to meet any EPA Official that is sent out to view the complaint.

Best Regards,

Paul DeMeo

On May 4, 2020 at 12:25 PM "Tougas, Stephanie" <tougas.stephanie@epa.gov> wrote:

Hello thanks for the additional information but I am having trouble finding the exact location of the alleged discharge (cannot locate Rousseau Pond on a map) could you

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**From:** PAUL DEMEO <ryanrealty@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Monday, May 4, 2020 11:53 AM
**To:** Tougas, Stephanie <tougas.stephanie@epa.gov>
**Cc:** Alan <rousseaua@verizon.net>; ryanrealty <ryanrealty@comcast.net>
**Subject:** Re: Wetlands concern in Gardner, MA

Hi Stephanie,

Route 68 Gardner behind Wildwood Cemetery and the Gardner Transfer Station.

Rousseau Pond being endangered with Sewage Sludge Landfill in the back.

This feeds into Otter River, then Miller's River and onto Connecticut River.

I do not believe this is covered in Gardner's MS-4 sotorm water discharge permit.

How else can I help?

Mr. Alan Rousseau has been copied on this e-mail as he is the landowner directly affected.

Thanks!

Paul DeMeo

On May 4, 2020 at 10:46 AM

"Tougas, Stephanie"
<tougas.stephanie@epa.gov>
wrote:

Hello Mr. Demeo. I received the tip regarding the alleged wetlands violation by the landfill. I was wondering if you could provide me a bit more detail on the exact location so I can properly follow up on this? Thank you

Stephanie Tougas

Water Enforcement Officer

EPA Region 1

617-918-1798