

## What's Happening at Gasworks Park?

Gasworks Park visitors are going to see a lot of activity in the park, starting in Fall 2014. City of Seattle, Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks) and Puget Sound Energy (PSE) will be renovating Kite Hill to improve access, and repair high use areas there and in surrounding areas at Gas Works Park.

Ecology oversees work at Gas Works Park to ensure previous cleanups continue to protect human health and the environment and are consistent with the existing legal agreements (Consent Decree and Agreed Order) between Ecology, Parks and PSE.

The park uplands underwent environmental cleanup actions in 2000/2001, 2005 and 2012. A cap of up to two (2) feet of clean topsoil and a geotextile fabric as an indicator were placed over the contaminated soil below. Between 2001 and 2006, soil and groundwater were cleaned up in the SE corner of the park. Now the groundcover needs to be improved to maintain the integrity of the cap on Kite Hill. The work is being done before the in-water cleanup of contaminated sediment is expected to begin in 2017.

## Kite Hill closed September 2, 2014 to May/June 2015

PSE and Parks will begin heavy construction work in early September 2014; the bulk of the cover work will be completed by mid-October. The area will remain closed until late May or early June 2015 to allow the new grass to become well established.

## What can you expect to see at the Park?

PSE began staging equipment and vehicles and installed temporary construction fencing at the park August 18, 2014. A fence will be constructed around the entire construction area. Once work begins in early September, it will take 4-8 weeks to remove areas of sod and the existing pathways and irrigation, place new soil over the protective geotextile barrier, hydroseed and/or sod the area and install new pathways and irrigation. The low-lying swale between Kite Hill and the Cracking Towers will be filled to improve drainage.

## For More Information

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State Department of Ecology  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
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## Ecology's Toxics Control Program Cleanup Website



<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gsp/Sitepage.aspx?csid=2876>

Facility Site ID #:139  
Cleanup ID #: 2876

## Gas Works Park Kite Hill Update

Baker Tanks staged north of the walking pathway will hold surface water draining from the construction site. This water will be treated in the Baker Tanks and released to the sanitary sewer lines in accordance with the Parks permits.

### Other nearby projects

Touchstone North Lake Union: In addition to the construction work occurring at Gas Works Park, property located near Gas Works Park at 1601 N. 34<sup>th</sup> St. is being redeveloped and construction will begin in the fall. Work at that property may contribute to traffic disruptions in the area.

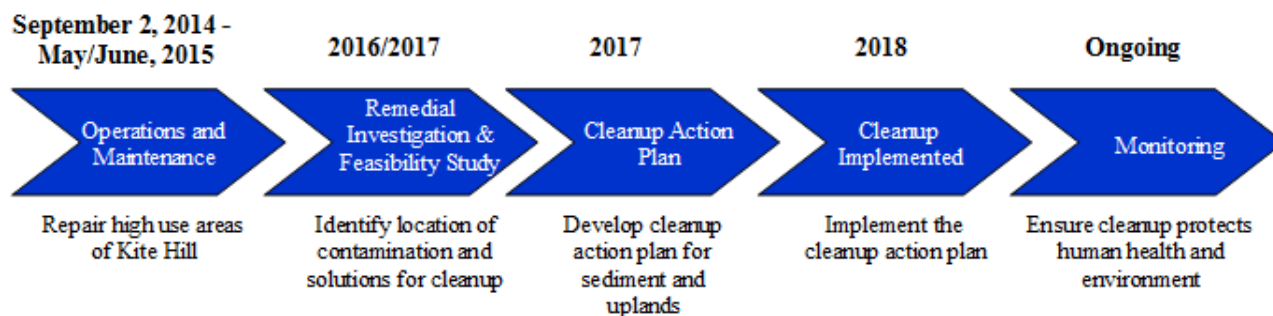
Play Area Renovation: In 2008, Seattle voters approved a Parks and Green Spaces levy that included money to improve the existing play area at Gas Works Park. Seattle Parks will use the funds to replace play equipment, improve access and bring the play area into compliance with current safety standards and requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

### What's next for the cleanup?

Ecology is responsible for making the final decision about how the site will be cleaned up. The City of Seattle and PSE are preparing two reports that Ecology will review for the in-water sediments surrounding Gas Works Park- the site-wide Remedial Investigation (RI) and the Feasibility Study (FS). The RI will describe how the upland contaminated soil and groundwater might be impacting the sediment in the lake. The FS will propose the alternatives for remediating and cleaning them up. Ecology will make the completed draft RI/FS available for public review and comment, sometime in 2017.

In March 2013, (PSE) and the City of Seattle performed a Supplemental Investigation to further delineate the contamination previously identified in the soil and groundwater. The investigation provided information about movements of pollutants from land to the lake and in-water sediments. Any new information will be incorporated into the site-wide Remedial Investigation Report (RI). Ecology will use it to develop a cleanup plan for the sediment.

### Cleanup Timeline



### Park History

## Gas Works Park Kite Hill Update

Gas Works Park is a 20-acre park located at 2101 North Northlake Way north of downtown Seattle. The Park peninsula extends into Lake Union along the north shore and the lake lies to the east, south and west of the Park. In the 1970s, the area was fully renovated and Gas Works Park became a city park in 1976. During the park construction, the environmental contamination was partially cleaned up. Clean up of the park upland continued through 2005.

From the early 1900s until 1956, gas companies operated a plant at the site that converted coal and oil into manufactured gas. A tar refinery also operated at the site, refining materials obtained as a by-product of the gas manufacturing process, and producing coal tar-based products.

### Who's involved in the cleanup?

PSE purchased Washington Natural Gas, the previous owner of the manufactured gas plant that operated on the site. The City of Seattle received the title to the land in 1973. PSE and the City of Seattle are responsible for investigating and paying for the cleanup. As part of legal agreements called a Consent Decree and Agreed Order, the Department of Ecology oversees the cleanup of Gas Works Park and the surrounding sediments in Lake Union. This includes review of projects, like the Kite Hill renovation, to ensure that the work does not adversely impact the environment or human health and complies with the existing Consent Decree and Agreed Order.



— Approximate boundary of fenced area  
----- Area for proposed play area renovation



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
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## **What's New at Gas Works Park?**

**Kite Hill Closed September 2, 2014 - May/June 2015**



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