

Anacortes Former Water Treatment Plant Site



Decommissioned Administration Building and Filtration Basin facing north, March 2018

Comments accepted:

June 1 – 30, 2021

Submit comments:

Online at www.bit.ly/Ecology-AnacortesFWTP-Comments2021

Or by mail to:

Cris Matthews, Site Manager
 WA Department of Ecology
 913 Squalicum Way, Unit 101
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 Phone: 360-255-4379
 Email: Cris.Matthews@ecy.wa.gov

Document review options:

www.bit.ly/Ecology-AnacortesFWTP

For document review assistance,
 please contact:

Ian Fawley
 Outreach Specialist
Ian.Fawley@ecy.wa.gov
 425-324-5901

Site info:

Facility Site ID: 79423677
 Site Cleanup ID: 13264

Cleanup Action Plan ready for public review

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to review a draft Cleanup Action Plan and associated documents for the Anacortes Former Water Treatment Plant (Plant) cleanup site (Site). The Site is located next to the Skagit River in Mount Vernon (see page 2) and is next to the current water treatment plant, which provides the drinking water for the City of Anacortes (City) and surrounding communities.

The following documents are available for review:

- **Cleanup Action Plan:** Ecology's plan that describes the cleanup work to address contamination at the Site.
- **Consent Decree:** Legal agreement between Ecology and the City of Anacortes requiring design and implementation of the work described in the Cleanup Action Plan.
- **State Environmental Policy Act-Determination of Non-Significance:** Ecology determination that the cleanup work is not likely to harm the environment.

Drinking water information

For more information on the City's drinking water monitoring, see page 3 and visit www.safeandcleanwater.com.

Online public meeting – registration required



In consideration of public health and safety, Ecology will hold an online public meeting to provide more information and answer questions:

Monday, June 7, 2021

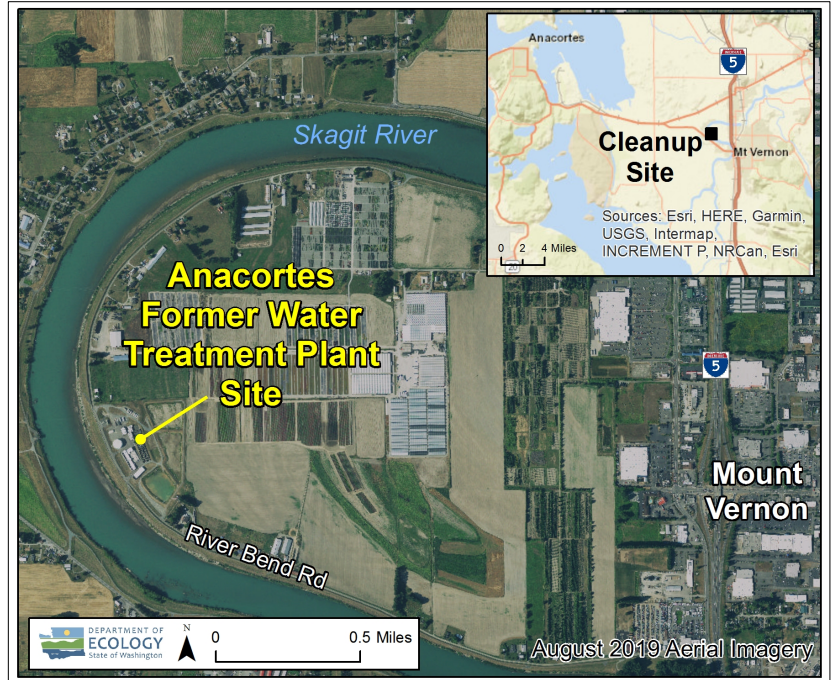
- **4:00 – 5:00 p.m.:** presentation
- **5:00 p.m.:** question/answer time (as needed)
- Visit www.bit.ly/Ecology-AnacortesFWTP for registration and login details.
- Call Ian Fawley, Outreach Specialist, 425-324-5901, for dial-in options and other online meeting support.

Site Information

The Site is located at 14489 River Bend Road in Mount Vernon. The former plant was constructed on the property between 1969 and 1970 to treat water from the Skagit River prior to transfer to the City of Anacortes municipal water storage and distribution network. The former plant's structures were decommissioned in 2013 when the new water treatment plant (built on a different part of the same property) became active.

Based on the Remedial Investigation, the Site consists of these **decommissioned structures** and the **adjacent contaminated soils** (see figure below):

- **Filtration Basin:** a nearly 8,000 square foot concrete basin that used anthracite, sand, and gravel for water purification.
- **Sedimentation Basin:** an over 19,000 square foot concrete basin that featured gravity flow through the system into clean water overflow troughs for settled particulate collection.



Location of Site next to the Skagit River

Cleanup Action Plan

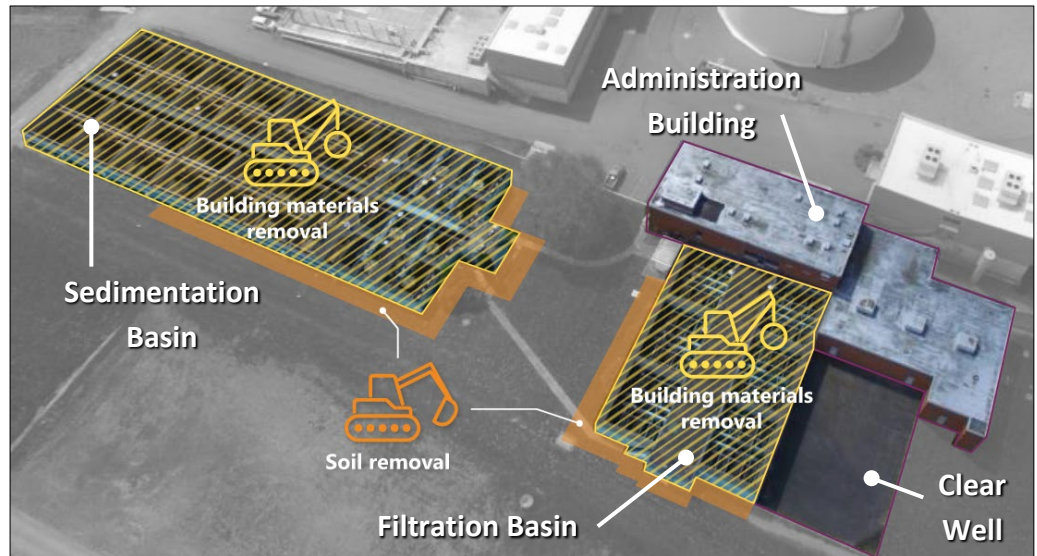
The City, with Ecology oversight, completed an environmental study (Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study) of the Site and assessed cleanup options. Based on this work, which was approved in May 2020, Ecology has prepared a Cleanup Action Plan to address soil contamination at the Site.

Removal and Off-Site Disposal

All soils exceeding the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Method A Unrestricted Land

Use cleanup level¹ for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (1 mg/kg) will be excavated and disposed off-Site in a permitted landfill. Structures that represent a source of PCB contamination to shallow soil (the Sedimentation and Filtration Basins) will be demolished and also properly disposed off-Site.

Other decommissioned Plant structures that are not sources of PCBs to soil (former Clear Well and Administration Building) will be demolished as needed to enable property reuse.



Cleanup actions at the Anacortes Former Water Treatment Plant site

¹ See fact sheet for more details on cleanup standards: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/documents/ftc94130.pdf>

Contamination source

In 2015, while conducting a demolition and hazardous materials assessment of the decommissioned Site, samples of building materials and soil were found to contain PCBs.

PCBs were found in the exterior wall coatings of the Sedimentation and Filtration basins and adjacent soils (see “Soil Removal” areas on page 2). The thin veneer coating on the exterior of the concrete basin walls of the Sedimentation and Filtration Basins is the source of localized PCB contamination in shallow soils. PCBs in the coatings were also absorbed into the top 1- to 3- centimeters (cm) of the concrete walls, which are just over 20 cm thick. The figure to the right shows the typical PCB concentrations in the coating and adjacent concrete of Site structures.

No contamination was found in the Sedimentation and Filtration basin interior walls.

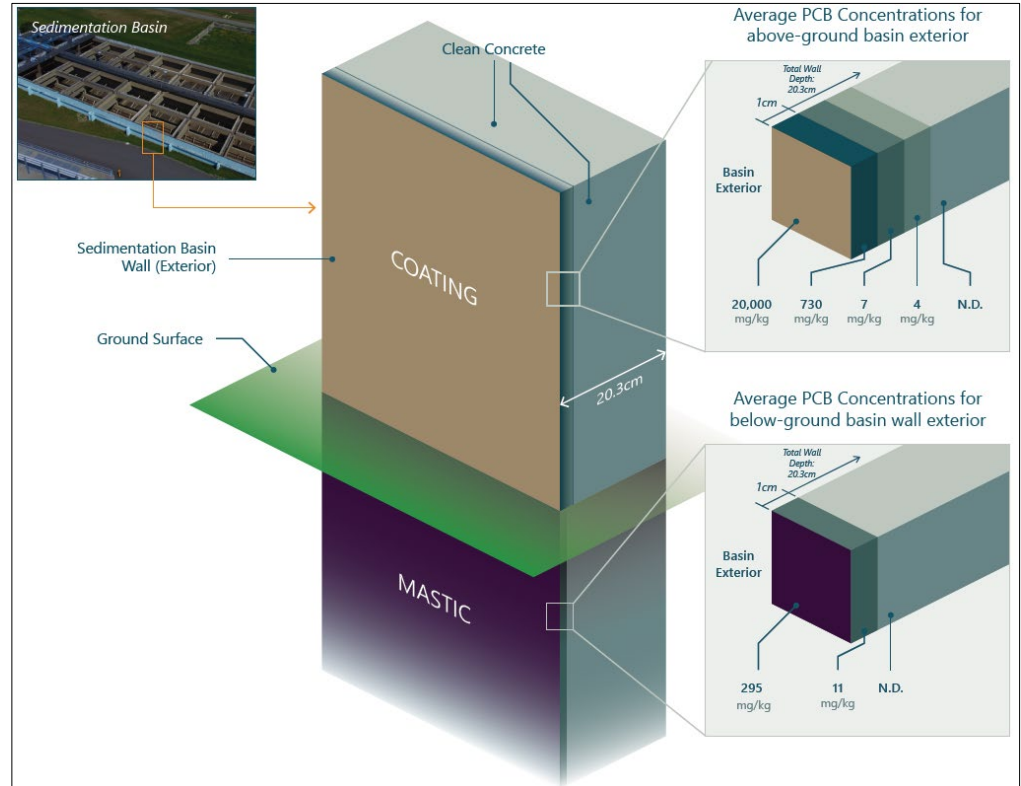


Figure displaying PCB concentrations in structure exterior walls (Acronym notes: “N.D.” means “not detected” and “mg/kg” means “milligrams per kilogram”)

Drinking Water Monitoring and Risk Assessment Findings

The City conducted regular sampling of drinking water produced from the former Plant beginning in 1976 and continuing throughout operation. No samples of drinking water tested for PCBs ever contained detectable concentrations of PCBs.

In 2017, the City conducted an evaluation of potential human health risks associated with contamination at the Site and determined that no adverse health effects are likely to have occurred to customers, workers, or water plant visitors as a result of PCBs at the former Plant.

For more information, to sign-up for updates, and to view the Human Health Risk Assessment go to:

www.safeandcleanwater.com

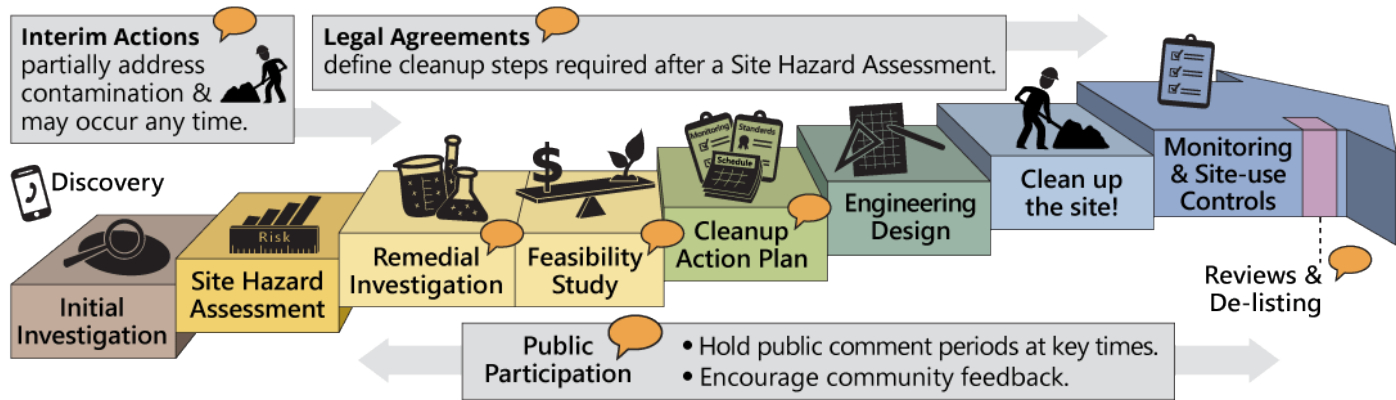
Contact the City of Anacortes

info@safeandcleanwater.com

360-299-1950

Washington's formal cleanup process

The Model Toxics Control Act ([MTCA](#)²) is Washington's environmental cleanup law. It provides requirements for contaminated site cleanup and sets standards that protect human health and the environment. Ecology enacts the MTCA and oversees cleanups. The [MTCA site cleanup process](#)³ is completed in steps over a variable timeline (see graphic below).



Washington's formal cleanup process steps

What Happens Next?

- **June 1 – 30, 2021:** Hold 30-day public comment period.
- **June 7, 2021:** Hold an online public meeting.
- **Summer 2021:** Finalize the Cleanup Action Plan and associated documents. Ecology will review and consider all comments received and respond accordingly.
- **2021-2022:** Complete design of the cleanup and implement the cleanup action (removal and demolition).

En español

Comentarios aceptados: junio 1 – 30, 2021

Someta sus comentarios en línea en www.bit.ly/Ecology-AnacortesFWTP-Comments2021

Si desea leer esta hoja informativa en español y aprender más acerca del proyecto:

- Obtenga una copia digital traducida en línea en: <http://bit.ly/Ecology-AnacortesFWTP>
- Atienda nuestra reunión pública:

lunes 7 de junio del 2021, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Reunión en línea: <http://bit.ly/Ecology-AnacortesFWTP>

Visite la página web de la Antigua Planta de Tratamiento de Agua de Anacortes de Ecology que figura arriba para obtener información de la reunión en línea y detalles de inicio de session.

² <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Rules-directing-our-cleanup-work/Model-Toxics-Control-Act>

³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Cleanup-process>

Toxics Cleanup Program
913 Squalicum Way, Unit 101
Bellingham, WA 98225

Anacortes Former Water Treatment Plant Site Cleanup Action Plan ready for review



Aerial view of cleanup site area

Public comment period

June 1 - 30, 2021

www.bit.ly/Ecology-AnacortesFWTP

www.bit.ly/Ecology-AnacortesFWTP-Comments2021

Online public meeting

June 7, 2021; 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Visit Ecology's webpage listed above for registration and login details.

See page 1 for more information.



Información en español incluida (página 4)

Accommodation Requests: To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 425-324-5901 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.