

Raytheon site to have sample testing

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Representatives and engineers from Raytheon will be overseeing additional sample testing that residents and public officials had demanded two months ago at the former site on Boston Post Road.

Site manager Bob Lahrs released information that Raytheon had acquired from the Department of Environmental Protection on Tuesday night at a public involvement meeting. DEP began testing near the site after concerns that contaminants known to be on the Route 20 property may be moving towards the Baldwin Pond Field, a drinking source for Wayland.

"We will be doing further investigations above and beyond the questions raised by the public and DEP concerning groundwater, soil and wetlands contamination," said Lahrs.

The DEP investigation sampled several wells that Raytheon had dug on-site and 21 locations north of the property, near the Baldwin Pond wells.

"There were no major concerns with the Baldwin Pond Field at this point," said Lahrs.

The investigation was consistent with the information Raytheon had presented, claiming that chlorinated solvents, degradation products and gasoline constituents were detected around the property.

Lahrs said that Raytheon is planning to install an additional 24 wells, at varying soil depths, to analyze groundwater around the site and outside property lines to see any potential contamination due to runoff. An additional six wells will be placed in the area of wetlands that was effected and 33 more monitoring wells at various locations on the site.

"These additional test sites will present a tremendous amount of data. If we do find additional information we will make changes to the risk assessment reports," Lahrs told residents.

Raytheon leased property at 430 Boston Post Road for over 40 years. For the past 20 years, the company has been working with state environmental agencies to identify and clean toxins in the land. Wayland and Raytheon are married through a Public Involvement Plan, which mandates that all documentation of the environmental cleanup must be kept

at a repository in the town library so any resident has access to all information.

Currently in Phase IV - the physical remediation - of the cleanup effort, Raytheon has decided to delay submission to the Department of Environmental Protection until more public discussion takes place.

Phase IV has been delayed because of the expected release of water into the Sudbury River by the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority. The delay is being looked at as time to better educate residents about test findings and the remediation process.

The town was able to hire a consultant because of \$25,000 paid by Raytheon for a license site professional (LSP) - an engineer who will recheck data acquired in Raytheon's cleanup efforts. Ben Gould, a certified LSP, was hired recently and attended the public hearing on Tuesday night.

"I was pleased that the additional testing will be done," said conservation administrator Brian Monahan. "I am hopeful that they are moving in the direction in which we will all look at as positive."