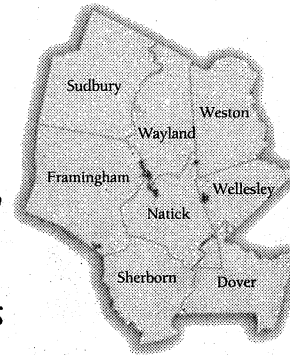


# LOCAL

News for Framingham, Natick,  
Sudbury, Wayland and Surrounding Communities



Community	B3
Obituaries	B4
Business	B6-8



## Raytheon moves ahead on cleanup

### WAYLAND

By Michael Wyner  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

WAYLAND – An environmental engineer from Raytheon Corp. provided an update to residents last week on the cleanup efforts of the former Raytheon facility on Boston Post Road.

Edwin Madera, who works on restoration projects, said Raytheon recently injected 45,600 pounds of sodium permanganate into the ground to clean up the groundwater on the southern portion of the site, located near Russell's Garden Center. The last injections were done in July.

"When the sodium permanganate comes into contact with contaminants, it breaks them down into harmless byproducts like carbon monoxide, water, some magnesium dioxide, which is why we decided to use that technology," Madera said.

By performing the injections at a high pressure, Raytheon was able to reach a larger portion of the site.

"We wanted to make sure we covered the entire area," Madera said. "Making sure we got all the permanganate into the ground was a very labor-intensive program."

It will probably take two years before Raytheon can determine how effective the program was for reducing volatile organic compounds in the groundwater, according to Madera, but the process was shown to be effective in a smaller "pilot program."

"Scaling it up to such a degree, we need to make sure that we drop those concentrations of contamination down," Madera said.

Another massive part of the Raytheon project has been excavating two acres of contaminated soil in the southern portion of the site and restoring the wetlands. This project began one year ago.

"Right before we started doing the exca-

vation, we had some stunted growth out there. The plants were not doing very well because of the high levels of metals and contamination, which prompted us to come out here and remediate," said Madera.

Raytheon worked with various agencies to come up with a plan for the wetlands restoration, including the Wayland Conservation Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers. The permitting process alone took two years.

The wetlands restoration work was finished in February despite some weather challenges. Workers put down clean soil and planted 71,000 plants of 11 native wetlands species, another "labor-intensive project."

"We wanted to get the project done, and thankfully we did," said Madera.

Nearly 300 samples of the ground were taken to make sure that Raytheon was meeting its goals of reducing compounds.