

# Contaminated Sites Management

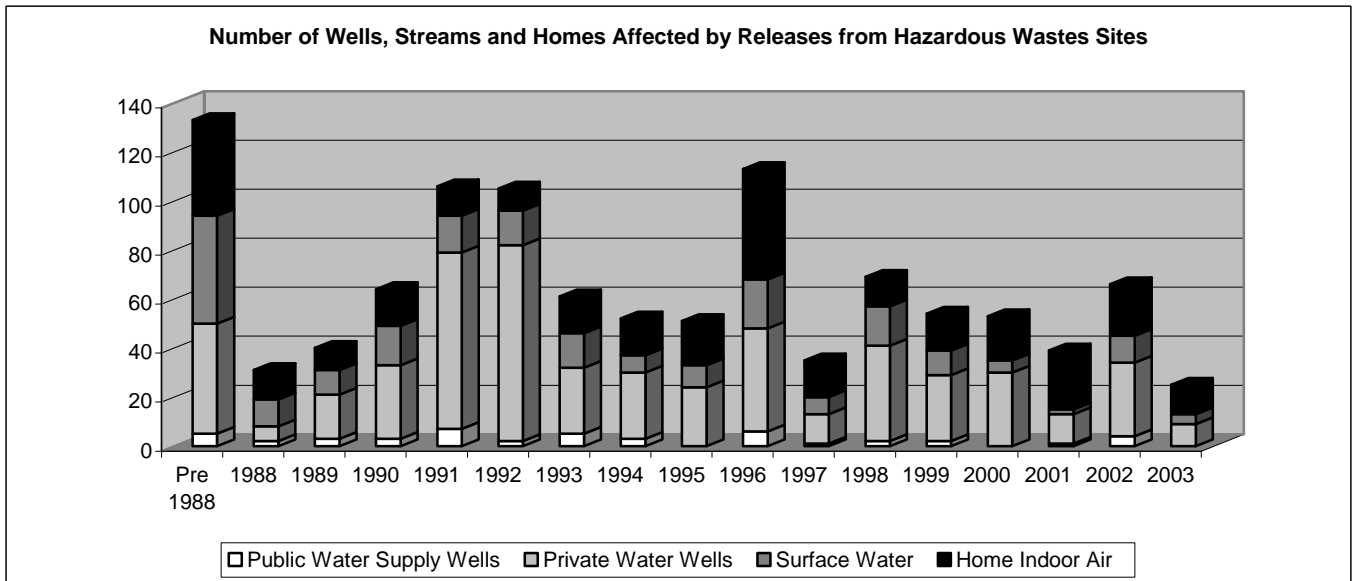
Waste Management Division,

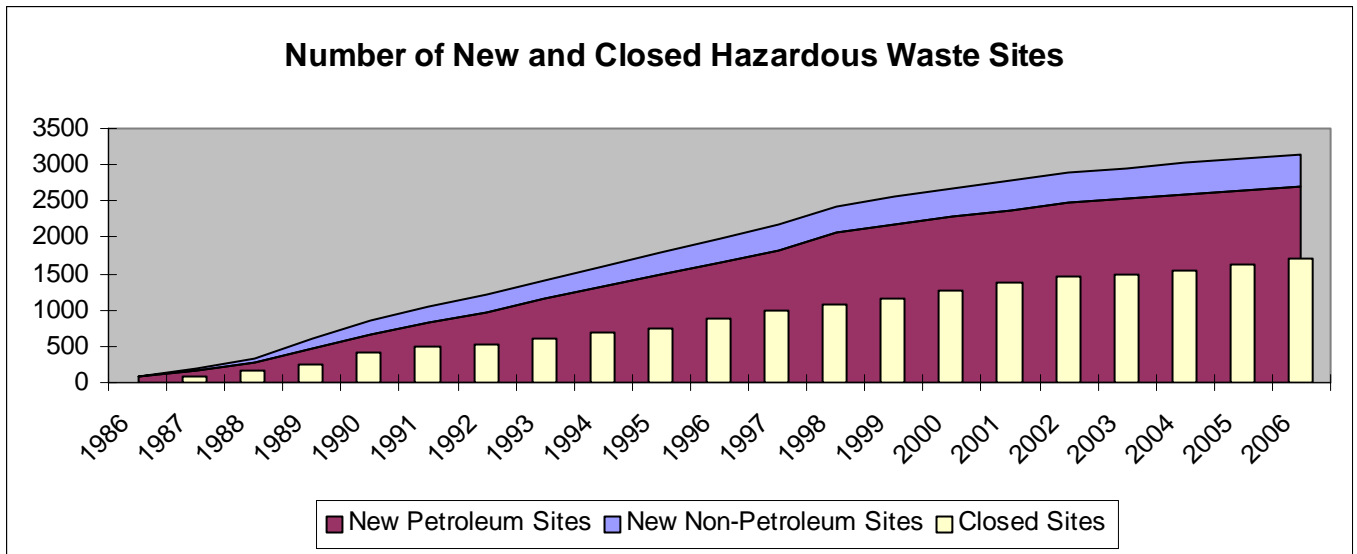
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## Results

Cleanup of petroleum and other hazardous materials spills and releases to restore sites to standards related to human health and the environment. Provide opportunities for redevelopment of vacant, abandoned or substantially underutilized hazardous waste sites.

## Key Indicators:





**Story Behind Baseline Performance**

Vermont has over 1400 sites contaminated with hazardous waste in need of clean-ups. Petroleum form leaking under and above ground storage tanks make up most of the sites, while others are caused by improper disposal of hazardous wastes. Each year these sites contaminate additional public and/or private drinking water wells, surface waters or indoor air creating public health concerns and/or environmental degradation.

The Contaminated Sites Management program performs identification, evaluation, control and remediation of hazardous waste sites from petroleum, chemical and industrial releases. Cleanups are conducted under federal and state authorities to protect public health and the environment. Costs for cleanup and liability for restoration are borne by legally responsible parties. Where responsible parties are incapable, costs may be paid from the Petroleum Cleanup or Environmental Contingency Funds.

The program is also taking an active role in overseeing remediation of the sites, and is working to establish the level of cleanup that is appropriate to protect human health and the environment. The program will help insure a higher degree of groundwater protection, air and surface water quality and provide opportunities for redevelopment of vacant, abandoned or substantially underutilized hazardous waste sites, which provides a combined economic and environmental benefit; a so-called "Brownfields" program.

**Strategies/ Performance Measures / Proposed Accomplishments**

Regulation, Compliance Assistance, and Enforcement

Where appropriate enforcement actions are taken to address parties responsible for violating Vermont Groundwater Rules.

Grants and Loans

The program administers the state Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF) and Environmental Contingency Fund (ECF) as well as the federal Superfund and Brownsfield programs to provide support for site clean ups.

The PCF provides grants to homeowners to help with the removal of underground home heating oil tanks, and an insurance policy for commercial purveyors of petroleum products to protect against the costs of clean ups and related costs. The ECF is used to in cases where responsible parties are not available to complete needed clean ups associated with releases of non-petroleum wastes to the environment. An annual report on the PCF and ECF is available on the Department’s WEB site.

The Federal Superfund program provides assistance to the state to cover non-reimbursed expenses from responsible parties for federally designated sites. The Brownsfield program is under development and may provide funds for clean up of sites that support economic development.

Performance Measure	“P”=Projected and A”=Actual Values	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Heating Oil Tank Releases (* = as of 5/23/03)	P							84	75	70
	A	74	76	91	93	75	42*			

Performance Measure		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Cumulative number of new petroleum sites	P								2528	2598	2658	2708
	A	1651	1816	2057	2176	2287	2380	2490				
Cumulative number of new non-petroleum sites	P								412	420	428	436
	A	329	368	375	378	383	391	406				
Cumulative number of closed sites	P								1477	1552	1627	1702
	A	878	987	1069	1169	1276	1375	1452				
Cumulative number of closed petroleum sites	P								1333	1403	1473	1543
	A	785	873	949	1043	1145	1239	1310				
Cumulative number of closed non-petroleum sites	P								144	149	154	159
	A	93	114	120	126	131	136	142				

Regulation, Compliance Assistance, and Enforcement

Education and Technical Assistance – Articles and press releases encouraging home owners to perform maintenance and Make improvements to their heating oil storage tank system that will prevent releases. Work with VT Fuel Oil Dealers organization to educate Fuel Dealers on regulatory and cleanup requirements.

Performance Measure		1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Press Releases Issued	P						2	2	2	2
	A	0	0	0	2	2				
Number of Organizations Contacted for Outreach	P						3	4	4	5
	A	0	1	1	1	1				

Proposed Accomplishments

2004, 2005, 2006 – Target education towards Fuel Oil delivery companies, cities and towns, and mobile home parks to reduce the number of releases from home heating oil tanks. Recent trend is upward as awareness of reporting requirements is increasing, and as state programs to assist home owners have been developed; however, releases from above-ground systems are weather dependent, increasing during years of heavy snow.