DELAWARE RIVERKEEPER NETWORK

DELAWARE RIVERKEEPER NETWORK
925 Canal Street, Suite 3701
Bristol, PA 19007
Office: (215) 369-1188
fax: (215)369-1181
drn@delawareriverkeeper.org
www.delawareriverkeeper.org

ACTION ALERT: BISHOP TUBE SITE

Send Your Letters Today To ...

OPPOSE ...

- ***Only Partial Cleanup of Dangerous Contamination Using a Taxpayer Funded Grant to Benefit a Private Developer***
- ***Devastation of Woodlands***
- ***Damage to Wetlands***
- ***Ongoing & Increasing Pollution of Little Valley Creek, an Exceptional Value Stream***

SUPPORT ...

- ✓ ***Full Clean Up of the Toxic Contamination at the Site at the Expense of Responsible Parties***
- ✓ ***Protection of the Woodlands, Wetlands and Creek***
- ✓ ***Protection as Public Open Space for Community Enjoyment and Benefit***

BACKGROUND: The 13.7 acre Bishop Tube site (located in Chester County, PA, on the east side of Malin Road, south of US Route 30) has been abused by industry for over 50 years. The site, formerly used to process precious metals and fabricate tubing and pipeline products, is heavily contaminated with chlorinated solvents, acids and heavy metals. This contamination has impacted neighboring communities and the environment.

Rather than continue the abuse, and destroy all the natural beauty of the site for a massive, oversized, development, the community wants the site contamination fully cleaned up by responsible parties and the site protected as natural open space. Protection will benefit all who live around the site in Frazer, Malvern and East Whiteland, and will benefit all who appreciate, enjoy, and live along Little Valley Creek, tributary to Valley Creek, the stream directly in jeopardy from the proposal.

Contaminants currently at the site include TCE, nitric and hydrofluoric acids; various oils; and other hazardous materials not properly handled or disposed of. Industrial operations began in 1951. The plant closed in 1999.

While the site is dangerously contaminated, there is also beautiful nature worthy of saving. Woodlands, wetlands and Little Valley Creek, part of the exceptional value Valley Creek watershed, grace the location as well.

The proposed development, including approximately 200 new homes, would cut trees, damage the creek and wetlands, and only partially address contamination at the site. Saturated soils and groundwater would remain highly contaminated. Contamination would continue to affect the surrounding environment and community, including ongoing discharges of contaminated groundwater to Little Valley Creek. It is unknown if full remediation would take place under this current plan.

We need your support to ensure full clean up and natural protection for the site, so the community that has been most affected all of these years is not just protected but is also benefitted. We want to ensure that the known responsible parties are the ones held accountable for the costs of clean up. We do not want to see a $1 million grant used to fund only a partial clean up that will support a massive development which will financially benefit a private development corporation and harm the community.

SEE REVERSE FOR ACTION STEPS

ACTION STEPS

Action 1) **Sign on today to a set of community letters targeting key decisionmakers.**
You can sign on at: http://bit.ly/BishopTubeCleanUpNotDevelopment

Action 2) **Send your personal letters to:**

- ✓ Patrick McDonnell, Acting Secretary, PA Department of Environmental Protection
  Rachel Carson State Office Building, 400 Market St., Harrisburg, PA 17101
- ✓ Dennis Davin, Secretary, PA Department of Community & Economic Development
  Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, 4th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225
- ✓ Chester County Commissioners, 313 West Market St., West Chester, PA 19380
- ✓ Representative Duane Milne
  District Office 70, Lancaster Avenue, Suite B, Malvern, PA 19355

Consider Including the following points:

- ➲ "I oppose only a partial clean-up of the Bishop Tube site in support of a massive development."
- ➲ "I oppose public funds (including a potential $1 million grant) being given to support only a partial cleanup of the Bishop Tube site in support of a private development venture."
- ➲ "For over 50 years the community has been exposed to the site's dangerous contamination. DEP, the County and the Dept of Comm & Economic Development should only be advancing remediation plans that will ensure full clean up at the expense of the responsible parties."
- ➲ "I do not agree with DEP, the state, county, or municipality helping, in any way, to advance a massive residential development at the Bishop Tube site knowing that significant contamination will remain for an unknown period of time given the level of environmental harm and adverse community impacts that will result."
- ➲ "I do not agree with DEP, the state or the county helping, in any way, to advance a residential development at the site that will result in the cutting of the existing woodlands; that will have adverse impacts on the Little Valley Creek and its exceptional value wetlands; that will result in increased stormwater discharges that will affect downstream communities and the health of the Creek and its wetlands; that will take from the community, a community that has already been suffering because of the site's contamination, the beautiful nature at the site that has enhanced our community's quality of life."
- ➲ "I do not support a development that brings new families to the site knowing there will remain significant contamination, including of the saturated soils and groundwater, for an unknown period of time."