



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
MASSACHUSETTS

Water Department
250 Fresh Pond Parkway
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

(617) 349-4770

Status Report

September, 2002

Re: Hazardous materials containment and cleanup equipment for emergencies in the
Cambridge Watershed

Prepared by Peter Varga, Watershed Protection Supervisor

The following is a summary of Cambridge Water Department preparations for an emergency in the watershed resulting in the introduction of hazardous materials to the water supply pursuant to the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan (April 3, 2000). The system that is being implemented requires equipment to be stored at strategic access locations throughout the watershed. Vacant stations, once used to house automated water quality equipment, are located at several tributaries where easy access to hazardous materials response equipment is available. Gatehouses at the two primary dams in the watershed will also house equipment. Stations where response equipment is stored will contain a 100-foot, 50-foot, or 25-foot containment boom and blue plastic bins with absorbent materials that are relatively easy for one person to carry. An inventory list (sample attached) will be placed in every station where equipment is stored. This inventory list must be updated and kept complete as equipment is used.

In addition to emergency response equipment, Early Warning Systems have been installed at two key reservoir locations, and two key tributary locations in the watershed. These systems upload water quality data on a real-time basis to the Internet so that various water quality and quantity parameters can be remotely accessed at any given moment in time. Any suspicious patterns detected by the systems can be used to indicate the need for further investigation in the field.

Below is a list of all stations that now contain emergency response equipment. Each station is outfitted with a standardized bin that is easily transportable and can be used in the event of a spill. Each storage location contains either a 25- or 50-foot containment boom depending on the location, with the exception of Truck 31, Truck 10, and the Fresh Pond Grounds Crew location.

Following is a list of each site and its associated equipment bin list:

Spill Kit for the Tracer Lane, Waltham Gaging Station which houses at 25-foot containment boom.

Contents (replace after using):

1. **One 8"x10" blue snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
2. **One 4"x10" white snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
3. **Fifty blue absorbent pads** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
4. **Twenty five *all-purpose* yellow absorbent pads** (absorbs water-based substances, can also be used for oil-based substances)
5. **Two pairs of gloves** – 1 green pair, 1 black heavy-duty pair
6. **Two pairs of yellow boot covers**
7. **Two 10-foot lengths of yellow polypropylene line**

Spill Kit for the Mill Street, Lincoln Gaging Station that houses a 25-foot containment boom.

Contents (replace after using):

1. **One 8"x10" blue snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
2. **One 4"x10" white snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
3. **Fifty blue absorbent pads** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
4. **Twenty five *all-purpose* yellow absorbent pads** (absorbs water-based substances, can also be used for oil-based substances)

5. **Two pairs of gloves** – 1 green pair, 1 black heavy-duty pair

6. **Two pairs of yellow boot covers**

7. **Two 10-foot lengths of yellow polypropylene line**

Spill Kit for the Kendall Green, Weston Gaging Station that houses a 50-foot containment boom.

Contents (replace after using):

1. **One 8"x10" blue snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)

2. **One 4"x10" white snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)

3. **Fifty blue absorbent pads** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)

4. **Twenty five *all-purpose* yellow absorbent pads** (absorbs water-based substances, can also be used for oil-based substances)

5. **Two pairs of gloves** – 1 green pair, 1 black heavy-duty pair

6. **Two pairs of yellow boot covers**

7. **Two 10-foot lengths of yellow polypropylene line.**

Spill Kit for the Route 20, Waltham Gaging Station, which houses a 50-foot Containment boom. This is also an Early-Warning-System site.

Contents (replace after using):

1. **One 8"x10" blue snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)

2. **One 4"x10" white snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)

3. **Fifty blue absorbent pads** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
4. **Twenty five *all-purpose* yellow absorbent pads** (absorbs water-based substances, can also be used for oil-based substances)
5. **Two pairs of gloves** – 1 green pair, 1 black heavy-duty pair
6. **Two pairs of yellow boot covers**
7. **Two 10-foot lengths of yellow polypropylene line**

Spill Kit for the Winter Street Gate House, Waltham which houses a 50-foot Containment boom and a 100-foot containment boom. This is also an Early-Warning-System site.

Contents (replace after using):

1. **One 8”x10” blue snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
2. **One 4”x10” white snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
3. **Fifty blue absorbent pads** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
4. **Twenty five *all-purpose* yellow absorbent pads** (absorbs water-based substances, can also be used for oil-based substances)
5. **Two pairs of gloves** – 1 green pair, 1 black heavy-duty pair
6. **Two pairs of yellow boot covers**
7. **Two 10-foot lengths of yellow polypropylene line**

Spill Kit for the Fresh Pond, Cambridge Grounds Crew

Contents (replace after using):

1. **One 8"x10" blue snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
2. **One 4"x10" white snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
3. **Fifty blue absorbent pads** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
4. **Twenty five *all-purpose* yellow absorbent pads** (absorbs water-based substances, can also be used for oil-based substances)
5. **Two pairs of gloves** – 1 green pair, 1 black heavy-duty pair
6. **Two pairs of yellow boot covers**
7. **Two 10-foot lengths of yellow polypropylene line**

Spill Kit for Watershed Truck # 31 which also carries a catch basin cover

Contents (replace after using):

1. **One 8"x10" blue snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
2. **One 4"x10" white snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
3. **Fifty blue absorbent pads** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
4. **Twenty five *all-purpose* yellow absorbent pads** (absorbs water-based substances, can also be used for oil-based substances)
5. **Two pairs of gloves** – 1 green pair, 1 black heavy-duty pair

6. Two pairs of yellow boot covers

7. Two 10-foot lengths of yellow polypropylene line

Spill Kit for Watershed Truck # 10, which also carries a catch basin cover.

Contents (replace after using):

- 1. One 8"x10" blue snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
- 2. One 4"x10" white snake boom** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
- 3. Fifty blue absorbent pads** (use for absorbing non-water-based substances; oil, hydraulic fluid, gas, diesel, anti-freeze, etc.)
- 4. Twenty five *all-purpose* yellow absorbent pads** (absorbs water-based substances, can also be used for oil-based substances)
- 5. Two pairs of gloves** – 1 green pair, 1 black heavy-duty pair
- 6. Two pairs of yellow boot covers**
- 7. Two 10-foot lengths of yellow polypropylene line**

Summary of Action Items

- Install knock box on Stony Barn and Hobbs Gatehouse and coordinate with the Waltham Fire Department
- Fall, 2002 training of boom deployment at specific locations
- HAZWOPER refresher training for the fall, 2002
- Purchasing requirements:
 - Additional vehicle essential to meet current staff needs and increase response capability
 - Two-way radios to efficiently communicate between watershed staff in an emergency situation, and for daily operations
 - 4 Pipe gates to clearly identify and secure emergency access locations
 - Supply of 50 lb sand bags
 - balloon to block culvert(?)

Kendal Greet Gaging Station

___ 50-foot deployment boom bound with bungees

___ Blue bin(s) containing:

___ absorbent booms

___ absorbent pads

___ pairs of neoprene gloves

___ feet of nylon line

Date used equipment in gaging station _____

Date replaced equipment in gaging station _____

Personnel who were on-site _____

Equipment Storage Locations

