



US Army Corps of Engineers

Norfolk District

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Corps contractor to conduct aerial herbicide spraying over Craney Island, Portsmouth landfill to protect native vegetation

Using a specially equipped helicopter, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contractor will conduct spraying of an herbicide, called Habitat, over stands of phragmites at the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area (CIDMMA), as well as an adjacent Portsmouth landfill.

The aerial spraying will begin about 3:30 p.m., this afternoon (Friday, Sept. 23), and last for several hours. Phragmites, often referred to as common reed, is an invasive species that overruns native vegetation that many wildlife species depend upon. Approximately 75 acres on the east side of Craney Island and 28 acres of an adjacent city of Portsmouth landfill will be treated.

The spraying is a joint effort sponsored by the Army Corps of Engineers and the city of Portsmouth to eradicate the invasive vegetation.

Habitat herbicide leaves no visible residue and is not harmful to animals. Nearby residents do not need to take any special precautions; controlled spraying measures will be taken to reduce spray drifting.

For more information, contact Keith Lockwood, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District, at 757-201-7127.

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