

# NPL Site Narrative for Northern Engraving Co.

## NORTHERN ENGRAVING CO. Sparta, Wisconsin

**Conditions at listing (September 1983):** Northern Engraving Co. owned and operated an acid pit and a lagoon from the early 1960s until 1983. The site is on the southwestern edge of Sparta, Monroe County, Wisconsin. The company disposed of wastes from its metal-finishing operations on the site. The lagoon lies in sandy soil, intercepts the water table, and lies less than 500 feet from the La Crosse River, which is used for recreational activities. About 4,400 cubic yards of sludges containing heavy metals, cyanides, and arsenic were deposited in the pit and lagoon, which were unlined and allowed wastes to seep into ground water. The pit and lagoon were abandoned in the late 1970s. Sludge from the lagoon was buried on-site on at least one occasion.

**Status (June 1984):** EPA is considering various alternatives for the site.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.