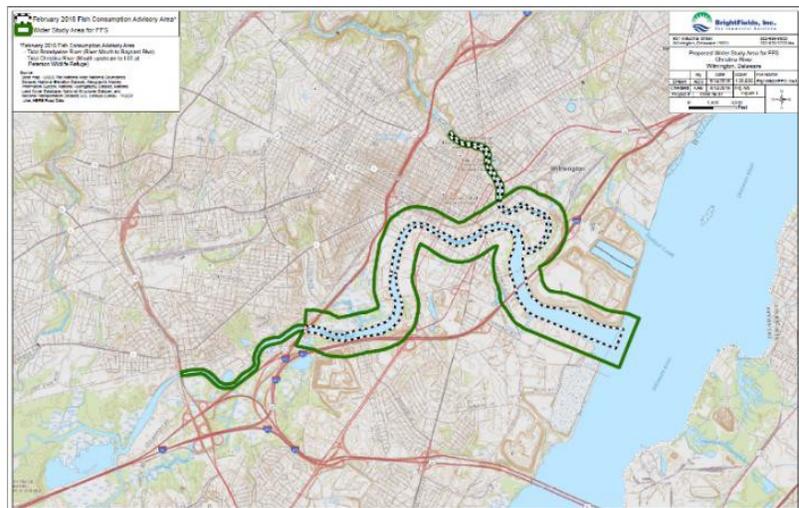




CHRISTINA-BRANDYWINE RIVER REMEDIATION RESTORATION RESILIENCE [CBR4]

APRIL 2020

The CBR4 project area is approximately 2,183 acres / 7 linear miles of the tidal main stems of the Christina and Brandywine Rivers and surrounding riparian areas in the City of Wilmington and New Castle County, Delaware. This area corresponds with the February 2018 Delaware Toxics Fish Consumption Advisory Area and is the study area shown on this map (Delaware River along right hand side.)



The current stage of the CBR4 is a feasibility assessment and plan to guide and complete the transformation of the lower Christina and Brandywine Rivers in Wilmington into a fishable,

swimmable and potable river in the shortest timeframe possible. This will include using a logical step-wise ecosystem-based approach to assess, prioritize and plan for a suite of coordinated projects. These projects will remediate legacy toxic contaminants such as PCBs on uplands and in river sediment while protecting and restoring tidal wetlands, shoreline, shellfish beds and riparian areas.

After years of industrialization that left Wilmington's riverfront abandoned and polluted, the Christina and Brandywine are coming back to life. This is due largely to the City and State's investment in the Wilmington Riverfront through economic development and Brownfield remediation. Today, the City is well on its way to controlling Combined Sewer Overflows, the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) is addressing land-based contaminants following the Watershed Approach to Toxics Assessment and Restoration (WATAR) and, the Riverfront Development Corporation (RDC) is actively bringing businesses and people back to the river. As a result, the vibrance of the waterway and our positive interactions have been increasing.

This project will address two of the greatest remaining challenges to realizing this restorative vision: cleaning up legacy contaminants in sediments within the river itself and protecting and restoring shoreline and riparian areas as economic development continues. This initiative will establish a comprehensive plan to guide remediation, restoration and resilience efforts from sediment to shore, with support and input from key stakeholders. (Link to Christina Conservancy CBR4 webpage here)

CBR4 will be built on thorough examination of current conditions by experts, the application of verified approaches where they work best, and innovative techniques backed by science. It will provide a Christina-Brandywine Riverfront that thrives economically and environmentally, a practical blueprint to guide decision-making and leveraging of resources for implementation and an eye towards long-term solutions. Thirty years ago Governor Russell W. Peterson and the Task Force for the Future of the Brandywine and Christina put forth a bold vision for the Riverfront and it's the success of that original vision that drives CBR4.

DNREC -WATAR will take the lead on assessing and planning for upland and in-stream remediation of contaminated sediments, engaging with a variety of contractors first in a feasibility study to identify and diagnose contaminant hot-spots and the best approaches/technologies to remediate them.