

York leads way with metric speed signs

By ERIN FARRELL
Democrat Staff Writer

YORK, Maine - Drivers in town should be aware that if a speed limit sign in town says 40, it may just mean 40 kilometers per hour, which is actually 25 miles per hour.

The first metric speed limit sign will be erected Wednesday at 9 a.m. in front of Town Hall. It is the first of 12 signs that will be put up in town.

During the summer months, Brent Maynard approached selectmen with the idea of having metric speed limit signs under the existing miles per hour signs.

Maynard told selectmen there are many tourists from Canada or

Cap at shipyard prevents runoff into the Piscataqua

By D. ALLAN KERR
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KITTERY, Maine - A protective cap is being installed over a contaminated salvage yard at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard as part of an ongoing effort to correct past hazardous waste practices.

A Maine private contractor is installing a protective sealing layer of clay textile and a 12-inch thick layer of rock and cement to seal contamination at the salvage yard used for the storage of lead acid batteries prior to 1970.

The cap, being installed over the two-acre salvage yard by STS Construction of East Lebanon, Maine,

for a cost of \$300,000, consists of two layers of fabric and bentonite clay below the 12 inches of rock and cement.



The cap is being installed to prevent the soil from washing into the Piscataqua River, or being blown away by the wind. The site is located on the south side of Seavey's Island.

"The Navy decided to take this corrective action while the environmental investigations are being conducted on the rest of the shipyard, to protect the river," Naval Facilities Engineering Command project manager Debbie Carlson stated.

The cap is an interim corrective measure being taken until a final solution is adopted. The project is to be completed by the end of this month.

The shipyard is operating under a corrective action permit, issued by the federal Environmental Protection Agency, to study and clean up lead and other chemicals at the shipyard as a result of past hazardous waste practices.

The shipyard will conduct a public information workshop Jan. 25 to discuss ongoing environmental studies of the shipyard and the Great Bay Estuary.

This will be followed by a public comment period, including a February public hearing, conducted by the EPA.