

## Former Dzus Fastener Company Site Remediation Willetts Creek and Lake Capri

New York State Superfund Program

425 Union Boulevard West Islip, New York 11795

### WHO TO CONTACT @

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

#### PROJECT-RELATED QUESTIONS:

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Project Manager NYSDEC  
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625 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12233  
sarah.saucier@dec.ny.gov  
(518) 402-9675

#### HEALTH or PROPERTY SAMPLING-RELATED RESULTS QUESTIONS:

Scarlett McLaughlin, P.G.  
NYSDOH  
Empire State Plaza  
Corning Tower, Room #1787  
Albany, New York 12237  
(518) 402-7860  
scarlett.mclaughlin@health.ny.gov

FOR INFORMATION ON THE  
DZUS FASTENER SITE  
REMEDATION PROGRAM:  
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114710.html>

Questions/Concerns can also be directed to: Dzus@eaest.com

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is committed to a careful and thorough clean-up of Willetts Creek, Lake Capri, and the surrounding impacted properties while keeping the West Islip Community informed of our actions. Our top priority is ensuring that students, faculty, and all other community members do not come into contact with any site-related contamination. This update includes the latest information on progress to address sediment contamination in Willetts Creek and Lake Capri, contaminated soils on adjacent properties, as well as the status of the Willetts Creek Tidal Area Investigation. We encourage you to sign-up for our **LISTSERV** to receive updates on the project (provided on page 6).

The overall project is expected to be substantially complete by July 2020, with only minor restoration work remaining thereafter. The project should be entirely completed by August 2020.

Work hours are typically from 7:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. The total number of personnel on site will vary based on the work being performed and may include representatives from NYSDEC, New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), EA Engineering, P.C., Severson Environmental Services (SES), subcontractors, and vendors. EA Engineering is the NYSDEC's engineering consultant and will be conducting full-time oversight of the remedial project. The number of onsite workers is expected to range from approximately 5 to 25 individuals during remediation. Truck traffic in proximity to school entrances and footbridges will be limited during school arrival and dismissal time to allow students to access and leave school grounds safely. NYSDEC's contractors will provide adequate traffic controls including flagmen and traffic control devices such as cones, signs, and barriers to ensure safe access to and from the project, including school grounds.

DEC and DOH are coordinating closely with the project contractors to facilitate completing this work expeditiously to limit impacts to community stakeholders.

## Construction Activities and Schedule

The cleanup of Willetts Creek and Lake Capri involves the removal of sediments and soils contaminated with cadmium and chromium. The site clean-up activities will also result in improved drainage along Willetts Creek and reduce the potential for flooding of adjacent areas.

Tree clearing, fencing installation, and access road construction from behind the Stop and Shop Plaza, south to Lake Capri has mostly been completed. This initial phase of work is on schedule and being completed now to comply with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineering's requirement to complete the tree clearing prior to June 1 to prevent impacts to the northern long-eared bat.

A temporary fabric structure to house the contamination processing equipment will be erected next month at the Beach Street Middle School. The structure includes an air filtration system that will control odors, dust, and other nuisance concerns (such as noise) from leaving the work area. It will be used to facilitate the next phase of work, which includes the removal, processing, and offsite disposal of sediment and soil from the northern portion of Willetts Creek and adjacent properties identified for remediation.

Over the next several weeks, notifications to property owners along Lake Capri will be ongoing to provide details regarding the work to be performed on their properties. Cleanup work is expected to begin in late July/August 2019 for that phase of the project. Please contact the NYSDEC Project Manager if you would like to discuss potential impacts to your property. Any questions or concerns related to sampling conducted on your property can be directed to the NYSDOH. Contacts are on page 1 of this newsletter.

Sediment and soil removal in the vicinity of Beach Street Middle School is about to begin and is expected to be ongoing through mid-July 2019. Removal activities will progress southward, beginning behind the Stop and Shop Plaza. Placement of clean topsoil and sod at residential properties will follow soil removal activities. The temporary fabric structure at the middle school would be removed after soil and sediment removal is complete.



A temporary fabric structure will also be built at the high school to facilitate sediment and soil removal and contain odors, dust, and noise from operations in the southern portion of Willetts Creek and Lake Capri. Sediment and soil removal in the vicinity of West Islip High School is expected to begin in mid-late July 2019 and continue through early September 2019. Removal and restoration activities will progress southward from the high school to Lake Capri. Dredging activities in Lake Capri are currently scheduled to begin this fall and finish in January 2020.



## How will disturbed areas be restored?

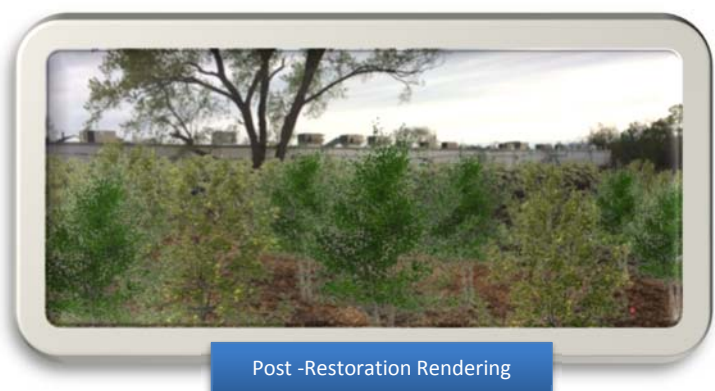
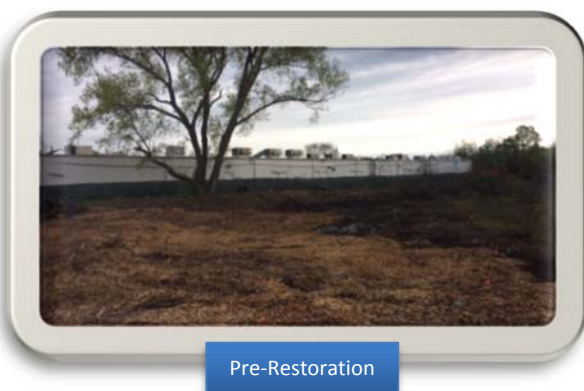
The NYSDEC will work with each individual property owner to address any concerns related to the clean-up and restoration of their property. The soil removal and restoration will be paid for by the State Superfund; there will be no cost to the property owner. The goal of restoration will be to return your property to its condition before the excavation work began, to the extent feasible. An inventory of property features obtained during a pre-construction survey will be used as a guide during restoration to inform future plantings, sodding, and replacement of other features.

NYSDEC will restore the majority of grassed areas with sod, as installing sod tends to result in a full, usable lawn faster than seeding. However, it will still take a number of months for the sod to fully root where it is placed. NYSDEC's construction contractor will water newly sodded areas for an initial period of four weeks after installation; then care of the lawn will be passed on to the property owner. Small areas of yards may be seeded rather than sodded (e.g., to complete or repair lawns in the narrow areas alongside new driveways, patios, and sidewalks).

Trees and plantings that are removed will be replaced with similar species normally stocked in local nurseries after consultation with the property owner. Homeowners should note that it may take several growing seasons for planted tree canopies and wetland vegetation to "fill in" as seen below.



Trees that may be planted on your property (depending on soil characteristics) during restoration include: Scrub Oak, Beach Plum, Atlantic White Cedar, Quaking Aspen, Red Maple, River Birch, White Pine, Pitch Pine, and Alder. All of these species are native to Long Island and are adapted to habitat conditions of the site. Survival of plantings will be monitored to ensure successful establishment of planted stock. During initial tree and vegetation removal, cleared areas will appear in disrepair and typical of a construction area. Once restored, the areas are expected to be more visually appealing and will continue to mature into a natural stream-side environment. Below is an example of the area north of the Beach Street Middle School showing pre-restoration and rendered post-restoration conditions.



## Willetts Creek Tidal Area Investigation

In addition to the clean-up efforts of Willetts Creek, Lake Capri and surrounding impacted properties, NYSDEC and NYSDOH will continue to manage the ongoing investigation of potential offsite migration of contaminants into the tidal area of Willetts Creek. Due to the complex nature of the site, this tidal area has been designated as a separate operable unit, "Operable Unit 5" (OU5), to enable the remediation work north of Montauk Highway to proceed while a Remedial Investigation (RI) of the tidal area is performed. The RI work includes sediment sampling in the tidal area and soil sampling at adjacent properties in the floodplain.

Sediment sampling from the tidal portion of Willetts Creek was completed between April 16 and May 9, 2019. Sediment was collected from 90 separate locations in the tidal area and was sent to a laboratory for analysis of cadmium and chromium. Sampling on residential properties began on May 6, 2019. To date, 29 of 85 adjacent properties have been sampled. Results will be communicated to individual property owners by NYSDOH. The schedule for the remaining residential sampling is being coordinated by NYSDEC. It is anticipated that access will be required for a period of 1–2 hours on each property.

Once all the sampling is complete, an RI Report will be prepared to summarize all results of the investigation work. Following the RI Report, a Feasibility Study will be conducted to develop and evaluate various alternatives for the clean-up of contamination found during the investigation. These two reports are scheduled to be completed in early 2020. Following the Feasibility Study, public comments on the proposed plan for clean-up will be solicited during and following a public meeting to discuss the selected alternative.



Sediment Core from Tidal Area

## What safeguards are in place during construction?

Every effort will be made to minimize dust, odor, and noise during construction activities.

- **Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP)** — air quality monitors are being used on the site perimeter to ensure that dust is not migrating outside the work zone. No visible dust emissions from the work zone will be permitted. The air monitoring action levels are conservative for triggering additional dust controls, work shut down and other corrective measures.
- **Engineering Controls during Sediment Processing** — a temporary fabric structure will be used to control dust generated during sediment processing. Other methods may include covering exposed soil piles with tarps or using foam sprays. Stormwater management and erosion controls are deployed to prevent runoff from the site. Temporary fencing with a privacy screen is being used to close-off the work zone.
- **Personal Protective Equipment** — onsite workers are specially trained to work near contaminants and have protective clothing and equipment available to them.
- **Pedestrian Corridors (footbridges)** are being separated from the work by a chain-link gate system and the presence of a flag person.
- **Rodent Control** – Child and pet-proof rodent control devices are placed within the work zone along the temporary fence.



Open chain-link gate system at foot bridge to allow pedestrian passage



Air quality monitor deployed onsite



Rodent control device inside construction fencing with privacy screen



Straw wattles being used for erosion control



## WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION



Project documents are  
at these location(s):

**West Islip Public Library**  
3 Higbie Lane  
West Islip, New York 11795  
(631) 661-7080

**Region 1 NYSDEC**  
Headquarters  
SUNY at Stony Brook  
50 Circle Road  
Stony Brook, NY 11790  
(631) 444-0200  
(call for an appointment)

Project documents are also  
available on the NYSDEC  
website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114710.html>

## Community Liaison Plan

DEC developed a Community Liaison Plan as a roadmap to the sources for information regarding the Dzus Superfund Site itself, as well as those project activities that may engender public interest and inquiries.

Visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114710.html> for a copy of Community Liaison Plan.

## Project E-mail Address

An e-mail address has been established to address comments, questions, or concerns raised by residents during construction. Inquiries can be sent to [Dzus@eaest.com](mailto:Dzus@eaest.com).

## Air Monitoring

Data from the CAMP will be posted at the following website:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114710.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/114710.html).

## LISTSERV: SIGN-UP TO STAY INFORMED

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

