NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

This Fact Sheet is to inform you about the listing of the Friedrichsohn Cooperage site on the NYS Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites. If you have any questions regarding the site, please contact:

Mr. Daniel J. Eaton
Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7015
(518) 402-9620
djeaton@gw.dec.state.ny.us

For Citizen Participation questions, contact:

Mr. David Winchell Citizen Participation Sp. NYSDEC (518) 897-1248

For site related health questions, please contact the following New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) representative:

Mr. Nathan Freeman Public Health Specialist NYSDOH 547 River Street Troy, NY 12180 1 (800) 458-1158

FACT SHEET

Friedrichsohn Cooperage

State Superfund Investigation

Site Number 546045 January 2009

Class 2 Registry Classification Fact Sheet

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), has placed the former Friedrichsohn Cooperage facility on the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal sites with a classification of 2. A class 2 site is a site where hazardous wastes have been disposed of and the disposal of the wastes presents a significant threat to the environment and/or public health. The Friedrichsohn Cooperage site is located at 153 to 155 Saratoga Avenue in Waterford.

The next step in the process at this site will be to conduct a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study. The Remedial Investigation (RI) will determine the nature and extent of the contamination. This will involve determining the location of the contamination, the media that is contaminated, such as soil, water, or soil vapor and what is happening with the contamination. Once that information is gathered, the DEC will use the RI information to perform a Feasibility Study (FS). The FS becomes the basis for the selection of a remedy that effectively eliminates the threat posed by the contaminants at the site. The selection of a remedy will be memorialized in a Record of Decision (ROD).

Throughout the remedial process, the State encourages public involvement by giving the public a key role in the remedy selection process of the RI/FS. Public meetings, newsletters, fact sheets and project documents contribute to the exchange of information and provide for community comment.

The RI/FS process requires a detailed examination of the site. Because of this, professionals at the DEC, in consultation with the DOH, work with consultants, contractors, the municipality, potentially responsible parties, and the community to investigate the contamination and select the remedy. The process can take up to two years to complete.

Summary of Site Information

The Friedrichsohn Cooperage site is located at 153-155 Saratoga Avenue in Waterford. This former cooperage operated from approximately 1901 to 1991. Inspection and examination of the buildings in 1994 found thousands of drums, some leaking, and the buildings themselves in poor condition. The USEPA conducted an emergency removal action between 1994 and 1996, removing 322.5 tons of contaminated sludge/soil, and 9,000 gallons of liquid waste. 3,767 drums were removed from the property. The buildings were also torn down. This emergency removal action addressed a majority of the exposed wastes present at the site. The site now looks like a vacant lot. DEC installed groundwater monitoring wells on the southeast side of the Old Champlain Canal and northwest of Saratoga Ave. Samples of the groundwater, surface water in the canal, soil, and sediments were collected in the spring of 2008. These samples formed the basis for the listing of the site as a class 2.

Wastes were found exposed on the Friedrichsohn property, on the bank of the canal. The State has contracted to have a fence put up around the site to eliminate potential contact with the waste exposed on the bank. The property corners will be located by a surveyor and the fence will be erected in February 2009.

Contaminants were found in the subsurface soils at levels exceeding the Part 375 soil cleanup objectives for unrestricted use. Contaminants are impacting the sediments at levels which exceed the DEC Guidance for Screening Contaminated Sediments. Contaminants are impacting the surface water and groundwater at levels which exceed NYS Standards.

The USEPA emergency removal action was completed at the end of 1996. The site was evaluated by the DEC and follow up sampling was planned and prioritized for a site that had had contamination removed. Between 1997 and 1999, the Department worked to set up the sampling; working on access to properties, preparing work plans, and tasking contractors. The Department was able to contract to install the monitoring wells necessary to evaluate the groundwater around the facility. The wells were installed in April of 2000. In 1999 the State Superfund (SSF) reserve was diminished and some sampling activities were placed on hold. The SSF was reauthorized by the legislature in 2003. 2003 was also the year that the Division of Environmental Remediation reorganized to adapt to shifting resources. In April 2006 the site was reassigned to the Remedial Bureau A and shortly thereafter the project was assigned to Mr. Daniel Eaton as project manager. In 2008, the contract was established to complete the sampling effort. In April of 2008 the samples were collected, sent to an analytical laboratory and in October 2008 the report documenting the sampling event was completed. The site was classified as a class 2 in December of 2008.

Public Repositories

Your understanding and involvement in this project will help insure its effectiveness. If you would like more information about this project, please feel free to contact the NYSDEC and NYSDOH individuals listed on the front of this Fact Sheet at any time with your questions and concerns. Additional documents for this site may be found at the following Public Repositories.

Waterford Town Hall 65 Broad Street Waterford, NY 518-235-8282

Hours: Mon: 9 am to 7 pm
Tue thru Thu: 9 am to 4 pm
Fri: 9 am to 2 pm

NYSDEC 625 Broadway Albany, NY 518-402-9620

Hours: Mon – Fri: 8:30 to 4:30