



# FACT SHEET

## State Superfund Program

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**Friedrichsohn Cooperage  
546045  
Waterford, NY**

**February 2011**

### **Remedy Proposed for State Superfund Site; Public Comment Period and Public Meeting Announced**

The public is invited to comment on a remedy proposed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to address contamination related to the Friedrichsohn Cooperage site (“site”). The site is located at 153 to 155 Saratoga Ave in Waterford, Saratoga County. See map for site location.

#### **The Proposed Remedy**

The remedy proposed for the site includes excavation and removal of contaminated soil and sediment from the cooperage property and the Old Champlain Canal. The excavated contaminated soil and sediment will be disposed at the appropriate facilities.

The Proposed Plan will address the contaminated soil in the source area at the former cooperage and the contaminated sediments in the Old Champlain Canal.

**Public Meeting  
Wednesday March 16, 2011  
7:00 pm**

**Waterford Town Hall  
65 Broad Street  
Waterford, New York**

NYSDEC invites you to a public meeting to discuss the remedy proposed for the site. You are encouraged to provide comments at the meeting, and during the 30-day comment period described in this fact sheet.

The proposed remedy is described in a draft cleanup plan called a “Proposed Remedial Action Plan” developed under New York’s State Superfund Program. The document is available for public review at the Waterford Town Clerks Office and the NYSDEC office at 625 Broadway in Albany identified below under “Where to Find Information”.

**State Superfund Program:** New York’s State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC generally attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html)

#### **How to Comment**

NYSDEC is accepting written comments about the proposed remedy for 30 days, from February 28<sup>th</sup> through March 30<sup>th</sup> 2011.

Submit written comments to:

Mr. Daniel J. Eaton  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7010

Or by email at: [djeaton@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:djeaton@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

### **Summary of the Proposed Remedy**

The proposed remedy represents the alternative preferred by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to address site contamination. The draft cleanup plan has several goals:

- identify cleanup levels to be achieved
- summarize other alternatives considered
- explain why NYSDEC and NYSDOH believe the proposed remedy will protect public health and the environment
- provide a detailed description of the proposed remedy.

The proposed remedy was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and evaluation of alternatives to address contamination, called a “Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study”.

The Department has proposed to establish a clean up level for the sediments in the Old Champlain canal of 1 ppm for PCB between OConner Drive and Burton Ave. Levels of contamination above 1 ppm PCB in the sediment will be removed and disposed of offsite. In order to prevent the sediments from being re-contaminated, the Department proposes to remove the source area identified within the approximate footprint of former building #3 at the Cooperage. Sampling of the soil in this area found PCBs in the soil at levels above 50 ppm, the level at which PCB contamination is defined as a characteristic hazardous waste. Removing the PCB contaminated soil will also remove soil contaminated with other wastes such as: chlorobenzene, BTEX, chlorinated solvents (PCE, TCE, DCE and vinyl chloride), phenol, methyl phenol, and heavy metals (arsenic and lead).

The selected remedy is estimated to cost \$7,380,000.

### **Next Steps**

NYSDEC will consider public comments as it finalizes the remedy selection for the site. The selected remedy will be described in a document called a “Record of Decision” that will explain why the remedy was selected and respond to public comments. This document will be made available to the public (see “Where to Find Information” below).

The project then moves to designing and performing the cleanup action to address the site contamination.

NYSDEC will keep the public informed during the cleanup of the site.

### **Background**

The site is listed as a Class “2” site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment; action is required.

Location: The Friedrichsohn Cooperage site is located at 153-155 Saratoga Avenue in the Town of Waterford. The 0.45 acre property has approximately 315 feet of frontage on Saratoga Ave (Rte 32).

The Old Champlain Canal borders the parcel on the side opposite the road. There are residential properties adjacent to the site along Saratoga Ave. Residential properties and a commercial property are located across Saratoga Ave from the site.

**Site Features:** The area is served by a public water supply system and public storm water and sanitary systems. The commercial parcel opposite the site is located on property formerly known as the Friedrichsohn Cooperage Lot and was used by the cooperage to store drums.

**Current Zoning/Use:** The site is currently a vacant lot and is zoned residential (R-75).

**Historical Use:** Friedrichsohn's operated at this location from 1817 to 1991. During its early operations, the cooperage made and refurbished wooden kegs and barrels. When the cooperage closed in 1991 the primary business was cleaning and refurbishing metal drums. Industrial facilities in the area used materials shipped in drums in their industrial process. A portion of the contents would remain in each drum, typically less than 1 inch of material in each drum. The drums would be sent to the cooperage to be cleaned, repainted and sold. During the cleaning and refurbishing operation some portion of the contents of the drums was spilled, lost or disposed of. The lost contents of these drums, and components of the cleaning and painting operation, comprise the contamination now found at the site.

Inspection and examination of the abandoned business in 1994 found thousands of metal drums, some leaking, and the buildings themselves unstable and in poor condition. At the request of the NYSDEC, the USEPA began an emergency removal action in 1994. Activities completed by the EPA between 1994 and 1996 included removing for proper off-site disposal; 322.5 tons of contaminated sludge/soil, 9,000 gallons of liquid waste, and 3,767 drums. The cooperage buildings were torn down and clean fill was brought in to replace contaminated soil which had been removed from the sump area of building 3. This emergency removal action properly addressed the exposed wastes present at the site.

During its most recent history, the cooperage operated out of 5 buildings at the site. Three of the five were constructed as slab on grade. Two of the buildings contained structures below grade. One of the buildings had a basement area, below grade, where the sumps were located. It is believed a majority of the wastes disposed of at the site, the lost contents of the drums and components of the cleaning and painting operation, were disposed of at or through this building. Contamination from the building ended up in the environment by; (a) sinking out of the bottom of the sumps and into the ground, (b) flowing out the basement windows onto the ground and into the canal, or (c) out a drain pipe and onto the ground and/or into the canal. One of the buildings on the southwest end of the site is labeled as a garage on historical drawings and had a service trench associated with it. The service trench is below grade and provided access to the undercarriage of vehicles.

In the spring of 2008 the DEC collected samples of the groundwater, the surface water in the canal, the soil, and the sediments. These samples formed the basis for the listing of the site in December 2008 as a class 2 on the NYS Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal sites.

**Operable Units:** The site was divided into three operable units. An operable unit represents a portion of a remedial program for a site that for technical or administrative reasons can be addressed separately to investigate, eliminate or mitigate a release, threat of release or exposure pathway

resulting from the site contamination. Operable unit 1 is comprised of the onsite and offsite soil at the former cooperage site. Operable unit 2 is comprised of the onsite and offsite groundwater. Operable Unit 3 is comprised of the sediments in the Old Champlain Canal between OConner Drive and Burton Ave.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

### **Where to Find Information**

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public to stay informed. These documents include the proposed cleanup plan for the site, called the “Proposed Remedial Action Plan”.

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

Mr. Daniel J. Eaton  
New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7010  
518-402-9620  
[djeaton@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:djeaton@gw.dec.state.ny.us)  
Monday thru Friday: 8:30 to 4:00  
{ Call for an appointment }

### **Who to Contact**

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

#### Project Related Questions

Mr. Daniel J. Eaton  
New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7010  
518-402-9620  
[djeaton@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:djeaton@gw.dec.state.ny.us)  
{ Call for an appointment }

#### Site-Related Health Questions

Mr. Nathan Freeman  
New York State Department of Health  
547 River Street  
Troy, NY 12180-2216  
518-402-7880  
[Ntf01@health.state.ny.us](mailto:Ntf01@health.state.ny.us)





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**We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.**

### **Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email**

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html) . It's *quick*, it's *free*, and it will help keep you *better informed*.



As a listserv member, you will periodically receive site-related information/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

You may continue also to receive paper copies of site information for a time after you sign up with a county listserv, until the transition to electronic distribution is complete.

**Note:** Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.