

**NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION**

**Public Meeting Invitation**

The public is invited to attend a meeting about the Johnny Cake Road Farm Site on:

Wednesday, March 18, 2009  
7:00 pm

Town Garage/Meeting Room  
438 Creek Road  
Little Falls, NY 13365

At the public meeting state representatives will describe the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) for the site. The PRAP is available at the document repositories listed on Page 3.

**Public Comments  
Accepted**

Public comments on the PRAP will be accepted at the meeting and in writing through March 30, 2009. Please send written comments to:

**Mr. William Bennett**  
**Project Manager**  
NYSDEC  
625 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-7014  
**(518) 402-9662**

For site-related health questions, please contact:

**Mr. Greg Rys**  
NYSDOH Field Office  
5665 State Route 5  
Herkimer, NY 13350  
**(315) 866-6879**

# FACT SHEET

## Johnny Cake Road Farm Site

**NEW YORK STATE SUPERFUND PROGRAM**

**Site No. 6-22-016**

**February 2009**

### **PUBLIC MEETING, COMMENT PERIOD ANNOUNCED**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) invite public participation in the selection of a remedial action plan for the Johnny Cake Road Farm Site, located on Johnny Cake Road in the Town of Danube, Herkimer County (see Figure 1). A small portion of the site is located in the Town of Stark. The site is listed as a Class 2 site on the New York State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites.

A public meeting will be held to discuss the results of past environmental investigations of the site, present the State's Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP), and solicit comments from the public about the plan. The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the Town Garage/Meeting Room, 438 Creek Road, Little Falls, NY 13365. The NYSDEC is proposing No Further Action with Site Management including groundwater monitoring and institutional controls as the proposed remedy for the site. A summary of the plan is included below. The NYSDEC will accept written public comments on the PRAP through March 30, 2009.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Johnny Cake Road Farm Site as defined by the PRAP encompasses 3.24 acres of rural farmland (see Figure 2). The site slopes from south to north. Overburden groundwater follows topography and ranges between 3 and 10 feet below the ground surface. The site was formerly part of a dairy farm which was used for an illegal drug manufacturing operation in the mid-1980's. As part of the drug manufacturing operation significant quantities of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), primarily chlorinated solvents, were used to refine the drugs. The spent solvents were dumped on the ground surface and discharged into an underground septic tank. These discharges resulted in contamination of site soils and groundwater with VOCs. In 1987 the United States Marshals Service (USMS) took possession of the dairy farm as part of a long-term drug investigation. At the time of the seizure, the site consisted of the entire 377 acre dairy farm. Site investigations have shown that only a small portion of the former dairy farm property, in the vicinity of the former site structures, contained impacted soil and groundwater. Over time the USMS has sold off portions of the dairy farm which were not contaminated.

## SITE INVESTIGATION & INTERIM REMEDIAL MEASURES

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and NYSDEC have conducted several Site Investigations and Interim Remedial Measures (IRMs) since 1990 at the Johnny Cake Road Farm Site. Site Investigations and IRMs related to the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) are summarized below:

- In the early 1990's, the EPA removed waste materials containing VOCs from on-site drums and the septic tank and transported the waste off-site for disposal at a permitted facility. All on-site structures were demolished and removed from the site including a farmhouse, garage, pool, stable building, and dairy barn.
- In 2005, the EPA excavated and disposed off-site soil identified as source contamination to groundwater. Following this IRM, EPA initiated a comprehensive groundwater monitoring program which indicated that the groundwater plume was stable. A "Removal Action Report" dated November 2006 documents the work completed by EPA.
- In October 2008, the NYSDEC continued the groundwater investigation. Analytical results are presented on Figure 2. Based on this investigation, the NYSDEC established a proposed 3.24-acre site boundary. This site boundary establishes the limits of groundwater contamination in the overburden groundwater. The results of this investigation are documented in the February 2009 "Site Investigation Report" prepared by the Department.

## NO FURTHER ACTION REMEDY PROPOSED

The NYSDEC, with concurrence from the NYSDOH, has prepared a **Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP)** outlining the preferred cleanup plan for the Johnny Cake Road Farm site. The plan calls for:

- No Further Action with Site Management including groundwater monitoring and institutional controls.

The IRMs conducted by the EPA in the early 1990's and 2005 have removed all waste materials and contaminated soil from the site to the extent feasible. Groundwater in the overburden aquifer is contaminated with VOCs within the proposed site boundary. However, the plume is stable and not migrating, and the source of the groundwater contamination has been removed. Therefore under the proposed plan, a Site Management Plan would be developed. The Site Management Plan would include groundwater monitoring, land use restrictions, and evaluation of the potential for vapor intrusion for any buildings developed on the site.

The proposed plan would establish the site boundary as the 3.24 acres identified on Figure 2 and include the placement of an Environmental Easement on the site. The Environmental Easement would require limiting the use and development of the property to residential use, which would permit agricultural, commercial or industrial uses, compliance with the approved Site Management Plan, restricting the use of groundwater as a source of potable or process water, and completion of a periodic certification of institutional controls by the remedial party or site owner.

The **Proposed Remedial Action Plan** is available for review at the document repositories listed on Page 3 of this fact sheet. Public comments will be accepted on the proposed cleanup plan at the public meeting, and in writing until March 30, 2009. Please send your written comments to Mr. William Bennett at the address shown on the front of this fact sheet. After considering comments on the PRAP, the NYSDEC will select a remedy for the site and issue the Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will contain a "Responsiveness Summary" which will address questions and concerns raised during the comment period. A copy of the ROD will be placed in the document repositories, and a "Notice of ROD Availability" will be mailed to the site's contact list.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about this project, you are encouraged to contact the project personnel listed on the cover of this Fact Sheet. This Fact Sheet has been circulated based on a contact list maintained by the NYSDEC of interested parties. If you would like to be added to the contact list, please contact the NYSDEC Project Manager listed on the cover of this Fact Sheet. You are also invited to visit the document repositories listed below. The repositories include a copy of the PRAP dated February 2009, the "Removal Action Report" dated November 2006, and the "Site Investigation Report" dated February 2009.

Little Falls Public Library

Attn: Marietta Phillips

10 Waverly Place

Little Falls, NY 13365

(315) 823-1542

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Friday - Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

NYSDEC

Attn: William Bennett

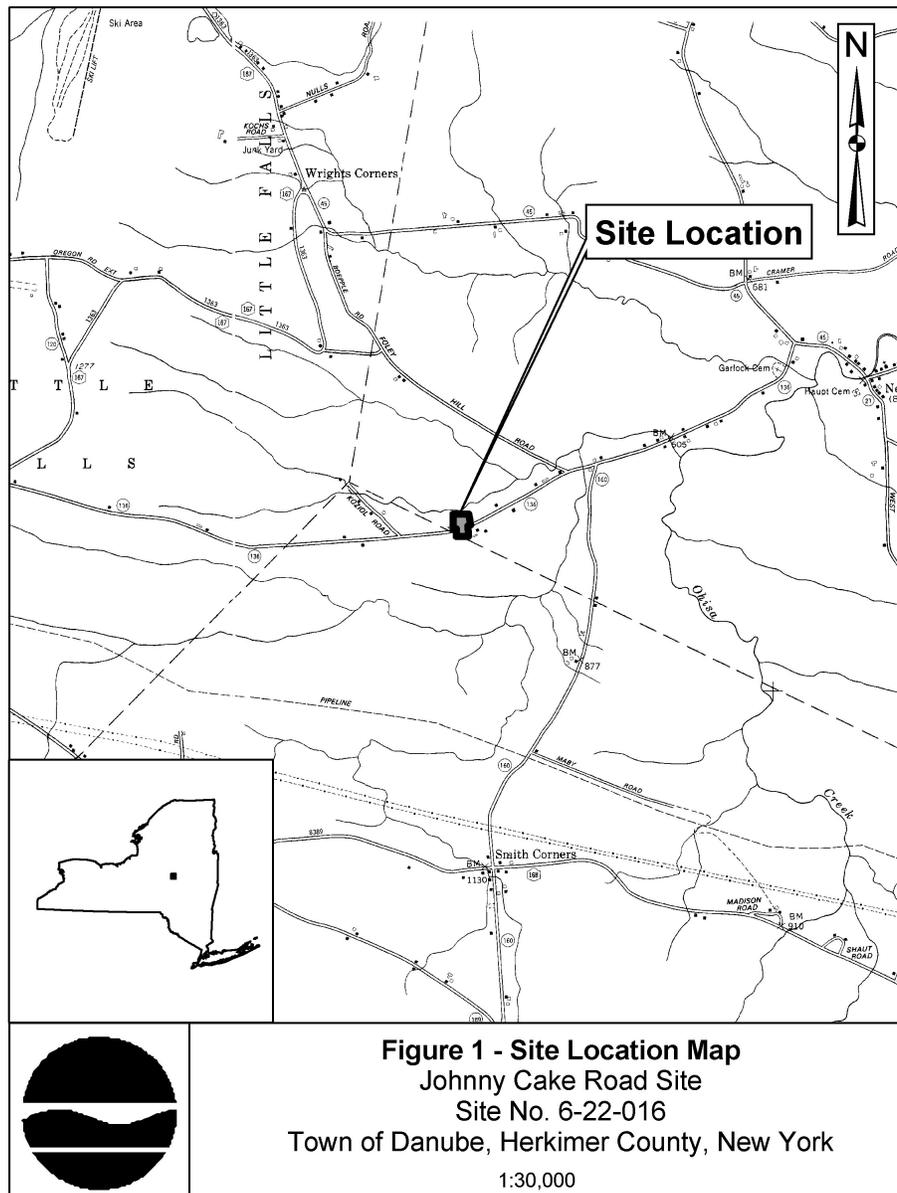
625 Broadway

Albany, NY 12233-7014

(518) 402-9662

(By appointment only)

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm





**Figure 2**  
**Johnny Cake Road Site**  
**Site No. 6-22-016**  
**October 2008**  
**GW Investigation &**  
**Proposed Site Boundary**

**1991 Aerial Photo**  
**1:800**

**3.24 Acres**

**Legend**

- Proposed Site Boundary
- Plume Monitoring Wells
- Deeper Monitoring Wells

**Total VOCs**

- < 5 ppb
- 5 - 50 ppb
- 50 - 100 ppb
- > 100 ppb

GW Contour Lines

Notes:

- PCE = Tetrachloroethene  
 TCE = Trichloroethene  
 cis-1,2-DCE = cis-1,2-Dichloroethene  
 VC = Vinyl Chloride  
 1,2-DCA = 1,2-Dichloroethane  
 ND = Not Detected
- All concentrations in parts per billion (ppb)
- No Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) were detected in MW-15, MW-16, MW-17, or MW-18. These wells are screened below the level of groundwater contamination and were not used to generate groundwater contours.

