

**NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION**

**Dear Interested Citizen:**

This Fact Sheet provides an update for the former Sciorie's Dry Cleaners site. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact one of the following:

**Jeffrey McCullough**  
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NYSDEC

625 Broadway, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-7013  
(518) 402-9812

**Lisa LoMaestro Silvestri**  
Citizens Participation  
Specialist  
NYSDEC

Region 8 Office  
6274 E. Avon-Lima Rd.  
Avon, NY 14414-9519  
(585) 226-5326

For site related health questions, please contact the New York State Department of Health's representative:

**Charlotte Bethoney**  
NYSDOH

Flanigan Square  
547 River Street  
Room 300  
Troy, NY 12180-2216  
(800) 458-1158  
Ext. 27860

# Fact Sheet

## Former Sciorie's Dry Cleaners

Site No. 8-49-003

June 2004

### REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION TO BEGIN AT FORMER DRY CLEANING SITE

#### INTRODUCTION

The New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and Health (NYSDOH) will begin a detailed environmental study at the parking lot and building housing the former Sciorie's Dry Cleaners, located at 129-135 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street in the Village of Watkins Glen (see map). This work will involve conducting a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). The purpose of the RI/FS is to determine the nature and extent of chemical compounds related to the former dry cleaner operations at the site in groundwater and soil. The field investigation work for the project will begin in June 2004. This informational fact sheet is part of a continuing citizen participation program for the site and provides a summary of remedial activities scheduled for this site.

#### BACKGROUND

The site is situated on 0.34 acres in a commercial and residential area and consists of a paved/gravel parking lot, a small grassy yard, and a large building of unknown age. The building contains numerous stores, two apartments, a restaurant and a bakery in the northeast side of the building. A two-story wooden addition and walk in cooler were constructed in the south corner of the building in 1981. The area is serviced by public water and sewer.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

A small shed to the rear of the building and the store in the center of the building was reportedly the location of the former dry cleaner (Sciorie's) that operated from the early 1950s until the late 1970s. It has been reported that a shed to the rear of the building was also used to store dry-cleaning solvents. The shed was removed in approximately 1981. The site came to the attention of the NYSDEC in September 1999 after tetrachloroethene (PCE) was detected in groundwater samples collected from the property during an investigation for the sale of the property. PCE is a widely used solvent and is commonly used as a dry-cleaning agent. The NYSDEC conducted a Preliminary Site Assessment (PSA) in March 2002. The purpose of the PSA was to gather sufficient information to evaluate any environmental problems present at a site. The proposed RI/FS investigation will attempt to determine, to the extent possible, the source of the PCE contamination including, but not limited to, the source of low level volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the area of the site.

## **REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION / FEASIBILITY STUDY**

The study to be conducted at the site is called a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study or RI/FS. The RI will determine the nature and extent of the contamination at the site, as well as potential threats to public health and the environment. As part of the investigation, various environmental media (including groundwater, surface water, soil gas vapors and soil) will be sampled and analyzed. The FS will be conducted along with and after completion of the RI. The FS will evaluate possible actions to clean up the site. Based on the RI/FS results, NYSDEC will propose a means for remediating the contamination at the site. Following consideration of public comments on the proposed cleanup plan and its alternatives, the NYSDEC will select the remedy and implement it.

The following RI activities are anticipated for the site:

- Indoor Air Sampling - Conduct indoor/subslab and ambient air sampling and analysis to evaluate air quality on and near the site.
- Surface Soil Sampling - Conduct surface soil testing to determine if contaminants are present and if they pose a threat through direct contact.
- Soil Borings - Conduct subsurface soil testing to determine the presence of contaminants and to determine site geologic and geotechnical characteristics.
- Monitoring Well Installation - Install additional monitoring wells to further define the contaminant plume.
- Groundwater Sampling - Conduct sampling and analysis of groundwater taken from existing and proposed monitoring wells to confirm the extent and conditions of the contaminant plume emanating from the site.
- Surface Water and Sediment - Conduct sampling and analysis of surface water and sediments, if applicable, to determine if water bodies are impacted with site contaminants.
- Fish and Wildlife Impact Analysis - Evaluate if site contaminants are impacting fish and wildlife on or near the site.

## **DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES**

Public understanding and involvement are crucial to the success of New York's hazardous waste remedial program. For more information, please contact those listed in the side bar on the previous page. Various site related documents will be available for review at the following locations:

Watkins Glen Public Library  
610 Decatur Street,  
Watkins Glen, NY 14891  
(607) 535-2346  
Hours: Monday - Friday  
11am -5pm & 7pm-9pm  
Saturday 10am-2pm  
Sunday 2pm-4pm

NYSDEC  
Central Office  
Division of Environmental  
Remediation  
625 Broadway, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-7013  
(518) 402-9812

NYSDEC  
Region 8 Office  
6274 E Avon-Lima Rd.  
Avon, NY 14414 - 519  
(585) 226-5326  
Hours: Monday- Friday  
8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
(Contact Lisa LoMaestro  
Silvestri for an appointment)

If you know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact one of the people listed on the first page side bar. If you received this fact sheet in the mail, your name will automatically remain on the mailing list unless you move. Because our mailing list included property owners, we encourage you and any building owners to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for tenants, employees and visitors to view.

