

CORNING, NY

DEC's Planned Site Investigations for 2022

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the New York State Department of Health (DOH) are committed to a careful and thorough investigation of properties impacted with contaminated fill containing potentially hazardous ash, brick, and/or glass located in Corning.



Examples of ash/brick/glass encountered in the Study Area

DEC is overseeing the active cleanup of the Corning Study Area to address contamination left behind from decades of industrial manufacturing. In addition to that cleanup, DEC is also working with DOH to investigate and clean up other properties contaminated with fill containing glass, ash, and/or brick which are outside of the defined Study Area.

These properties are designated as a Potential Inactive Hazardous Waste Site (or P-Site) and will be fully assessed to determine the actions necessary to ensure the protection of public health and the environment.

What is a “Significant Threat”?

- In making a finding of whether a significant threat exists, the data and information is evaluated against factors such as type, toxicity, quantity and persistence of contaminants present at the site
- The proximity of a site with contamination to residences, recreational facilities, public buildings or property, school facilities, places of work or worship, and other areas where individuals may be present
- Other relevant, site-specific factors which might include wetlands, aquifers and the potential for wildlife or aquatic life exposure
- Note the mere presence of contaminants at a site or in the environment is not a sufficient basis for a finding that a site constitutes a significant threat to the environment. Metals, for example, can be naturally occurring.

The evaluation of a P-site begins with a Site Characterization (SC), the preliminary investigation of a site where hazardous materials have or may have been disposed. The goal of the SC is to determine whether a site meets the State's definition of a hazardous waste site by confirming or denying the presence of hazardous waste and determining whether the site poses a significant threat to public health or the environment. This investigation work is performed by DEC or the potentially responsible party under DEC's oversight, and may include surface soil, soil borings, surface water, and groundwater sampling efforts to determine the nature and extent of contamination. After the initial sampling is complete, the data and other information are further evaluated to determine whether the site should be added to the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites.

What are the contaminants previously found in Corning?

Data taken from surface soil and subsurface soil samples on properties in Corning at a site known as the “Study Area” show the presence of arsenic, cadmium, lead and Semi-volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs). Toxicity characteristic leaching procedure (TCLP) test results for these contaminants, or ‘constituents of potential concern’ (COPCs) exceeded state regulatory thresholds for hazardous waste in some locations, often correlating to the presence of ash, brick and/or glass (ABG). Given this, identification of potentially hazardous ABG is a factor that DEC evaluates to determine the need for further investigation to identify and delineate potential hazardous material.

How are the contaminants determined?

Soil cleanup objectives (SCOs) in state regulations determine the remedial standards that apply to a property based on an appropriate land use category (e.g., commercial industrial, residential, restricted residential or unrestricted). A soil sample extraction sampling method called the “**Toxicity characteristic leaching procedure**”, or **TCLP**, is used as an analytical method to determine if a waste is characteristically hazardous, i.e., classified as one of the “D” listed wastes under state regulation. The data collected leads to the definition of the constituents of potential concern at any given site, which then leads to the need for further investigation to identify the locations of potential hazardous material.

Ongoing DEC Activities and Plans for 2022

Site investigations are currently planned at the following locations in Corning in 2022 (see the attached figure for their location):

- 343 Woodview Avenue (Site # 851065)
- Centerway Pedestrian Bridge Approach (Site # 851047)
- Denison Park (Site # 851066)
- Connector Street (Site # 851064)
- Conhocton Street (Site # 851063)
- South Corning Spoils Area/Caton Road (Site # 851068)
- Gridley Disposal Area (Site # 851070)
- 247 Dodge Avenue (Site # 851071)
- 29 Townsend Street (Site # 851072)
- Rose Rd (Site # 851073)

Field activities at these sites will begin late spring/early summer and progress throughout the year. Field work will progress in a linear fashion (once field activities are completed at one site, the field crews will progress to the next site). In general, a drill rig will be used to collect samples at most sites, but other activities such as surveying will also be completed.

Once field activities have been completed and analytical results are received, a Site Characterization report will be completed for each site that evaluates the data and makes recommendations for further action, as may be appropriate. Any property owners that may be impacted by the investigations have been or will be contacted directly by DEC.



Example of a drill rig at a residential property in Corning

DEC Area-Wide Study

DEC is also planning an Area Wide Study (AWS) to evaluate fill containing ABG and related contamination throughout the greater Corning area. The overall objectives of the AWS include:

- Evaluate the extent of ABG and/or ABG-related contaminants in soil and sediments at concentrations greater than DEC's standards, particularly for residential and public/recreational properties;
- Evaluate if groundwater is impacted by metals and other contaminants related to ABG; and,
- Conduct preliminary screening to determine the potential for aerial deposition from past glass manufacturing/disposal practices.

Various historical information sources will be evaluated as part of the AWS, including:

- Historical records, including photographs, maps and files maintained by government agencies, local entities, or similar;
- Environmental investigation data from other sites within the Corning area (e.g., Brownfields) and available groundwater and background soil and groundwater data; and
- Identification of any sites with confirmed ABG or existing groundwater wells in the area that could potentially be sampled to supplement existing groundwater data.

Similar to site investigations described above, drill rigs will be used to collect samples and other contractors such as surveyors will be used to record site information. Conceptually, this AWS would begin in 2022 with the initial evaluations with field investigations possibly extending into 2023. Once field activities have been completed and analytical results are received, a report will be developed.

WHO TO CONTACT

FOR INQUIRIES DIRECTED TO THE AGENCIES:

- Email the DEC Team:
StudyArea.Corning@parsons.com
- Call the DEC Corning Area? hotline at the toll free number: 833-770-1716
- Filling out our online form at:
<https://StudyAreaCorning.com/contact-us/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Project documents are made available at the [Southeast Steuben County Library \(607-936-3713\)](#) and [Region 8 DEC Headquarters \(585-226-5324\)](#).

For key project documents and more information:

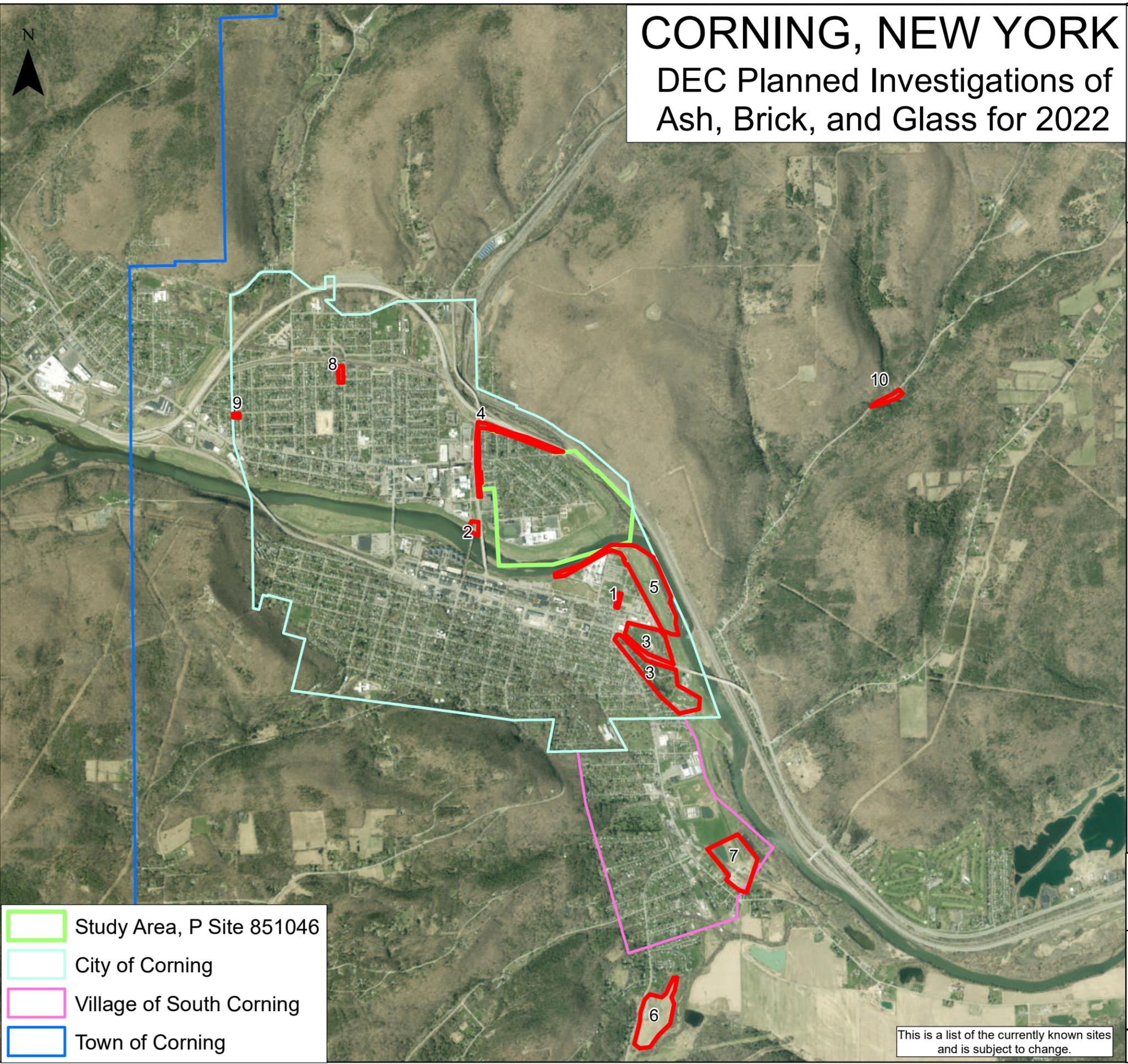
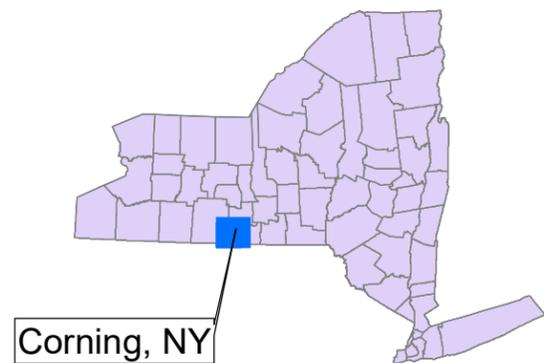
DEC Study Area Site Website:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/97180.html

DECinfo Locator (Online Repository):
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/851046>

To Receive Periodic Fact Sheets by Email:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

CORNING, NEW YORK

DEC Planned Investigations of Ash, Brick, and Glass for 2022



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10. Rose Rd (Site # 851073)



- Study Area, P Site 851046
- City of Corning
- Village of South Corning
- Town of Corning

This is a list of the currently known sites and is subject to change.