

**NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION**

**Dear Interested Citizen:**

This Fact Sheet is to inform you that remedial construction at the River Road and Cherry Farm sites in the Town of Tonawanda has been completed. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

**Mr. Michael Hinton**  
Project Manager  
NYSDEC

270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
**(716) 851-7220**

or

**Mr. Michael Podd**  
NYSDEC

270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
**(716) 851-7220**

For site related health questions, please contact the following New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) representatives at:

**Mr. Cameron O'Connor**  
Public Health Specialist III  
NYS DOH

584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
**(716) 847-4502**

or

**Mr. Mark VanValkenburg**  
Chief, Western Section  
NYS DOH

547 River Street  
Troy, NY 12180

**1 (800) 458-1158, Ext. 27860**

# FACT

## RIVER ROAD and

**Hazardous Waste Sites**  
(Site #9-15-031 & 9-15-063)

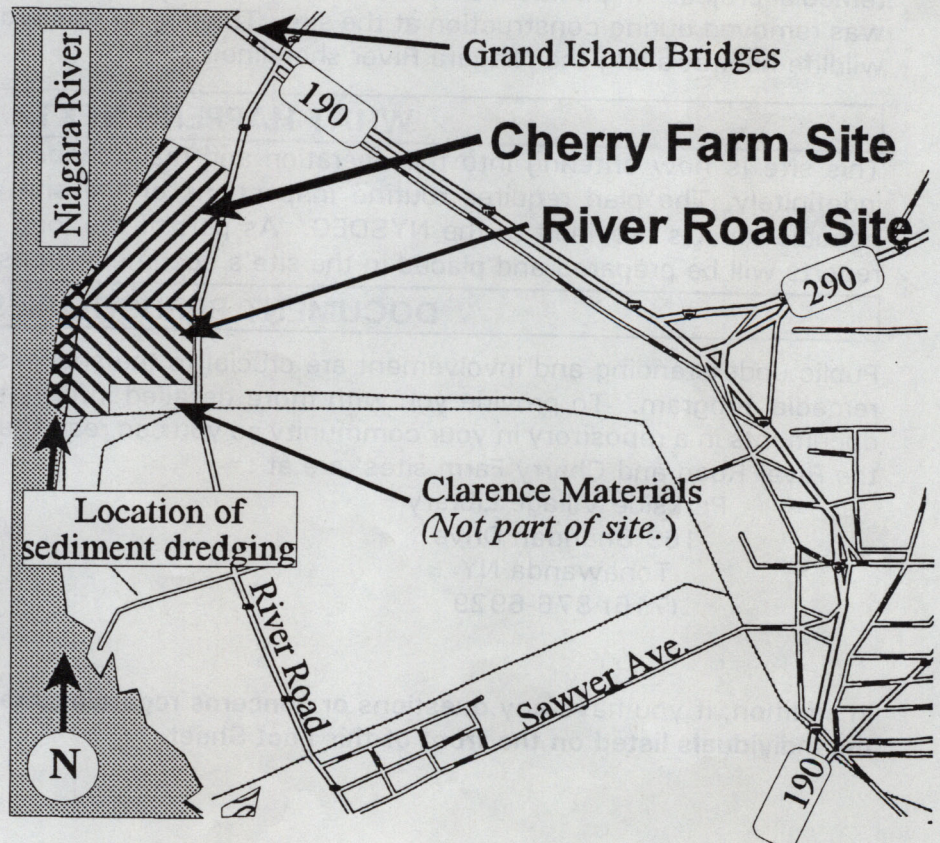
Town of Tonawanda  
February 2000

### INTRODUCTION

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), are pleased to inform you that Remedial Construction at the River Road and Cherry Farm sites, begun in May 1996, has been completed. This site is located along the Niagara River on River Road, south of the Grand Island Bridge.

### BACKGROUND

The River Road site is about 23 acres in size. The adjoining 55 acre Cherry Farm site is immediately north of the River Road site. These two sites were at one time part of a larger piece of property owned by Wickwire-Spencer Steel Co. The Cherry Farm and River Road sites were used for the disposal of waste from steel manufacturing from about 1908 to 1963, and were operated as a landfill for disposal of industrial wastes from facilities in the area from 1963 to until about 1970. Flyash, bottom ash, foundry sand, slag, sludge, liquid boiler cleaning waste, concrete rubble and miscellaneous fill were disposed on the sites.



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CP FILE  
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270 Michigan Avenue  
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## CURRENT STATUS

The Records of Decision (RODs) for the River Road and the Cherry Farm sites were signed on February 15, 1991 and October 7, 1993 respectively. Due to the common history, former common ownership, and similar remedial programs, a joint Order on Consent was signed on September 27, 1994 by the parties responsible for the site which led to the just completed remedial program.

Construction began in May of 1996. The remediation included the following:

- consolidation of waste;
- stabilization of the site's shoreline along the Niagara River;
- removal and consolidation of contaminated sediments located within Site wetlands;
- installation of permeable and impermeable barriers over the consolidated wastes;
- installation of soil covers to support vegetation;
- installation and operation of groundwater extraction wells and collection trenches;
- collection and disposal of light non-aqueous phase liquids reported present in groundwater;
- groundwater treatment and subsequent discharge of groundwater to the Town of Tonawanda Wastewater Treatment Facility; and,
- enactment of deed restrictions affecting future use of the properties.

On May of 1998 the remedial project was expanded to include removal of contaminated sediments from the Niagara River adjacent to the sites. The sediment removal project was successfully completed by the end of November 1998. About 50,000 cubic yards of excavated sediments were properly disposed of on the River Road site.

## HABITAT RESTORATION

Wetland and vegetated shallow water areas were constructed along 2600 feet of the River's shoreline at the Cherry Farm Site. These areas were planted with cattail, bullrush and wild celery to replace on-site wetlands impacted by this remedial project and the 102nd Street Landfill Site remedial project. In addition, shrubs and trees were planted to replace the wooded shoreline which was removed during construction at the site. The goal of this work was the restoration of fish and wildlife habitat along the Niagara River shoreline.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

This site is now entering into the operation and maintenance phase, which will be carried out indefinitely. The plan requires routine inspections of the site and groundwater sampling, with periodic reports provided to the NYSDEC. As part of the long term monitoring program, annual reports will be prepared and placed in the site's document repositories.

## DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

Public understanding and involvement are crucial to the success of New York's hazardous waste remedial program. To provide you with more detailed information, the NYSDEC has placed site documents in a repository in your community so you can read them. The document repositories for the River Road and Cherry Farm sites' are at :

Parkside Village Library  
169 Sheridan Drive  
Tonawanda NY  
(716) 876-6929

or, by appointment at  
NYSDEC's Buffalo Office  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, N.Y.  
(716) 851-7220

In addition, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the project, you are urged to contact the individuals listed on the front of this Fact Sheet.