State Superfund Program

#### **JANUARY 2023**

**NYSDEC REGION 9** 

# Old Upper Mountain Road, Lockport, NY Sewer Relocation Completed, Cleanup Action to Begin

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is committed to a careful and thorough clean-up of the Old Upper Mountain Road site (NYSDEC Site No. 932112) while keeping the Lockport Community informed of our actions. The remedy for the site is being executed in two phases: 1) relocation of the existing Gulf Interceptor Sewer out of Gulf Creek, which was completed in Fall 2022; 2) addressing the hazardous waste remaining at the site, which is to begin in early 2023 and completed in 2024. The site is listed as a class "2" site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health or the environment and requires cleanup action. This update includes the latest information on the completion of the sewer relocation work as well as details about the start of upcoming site cleanup activities.

# WHO TO CONTACT:

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. Please direct these to the following contacts:

Vincent Barber EA Science and Technology, Construction Management Inspector (717) 801-8297 vbarber@eaest.com Brianna Scharf DEC Central Office, Project Manager (518) 402-5987, Brianna.scharf@dec.ny.gov Stephanie Selmer NYS Department of Health, Project Manager (518) 402-7860, stephanie.selmer@health.ny.gov

# FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE SITE:

State Superfund Program DEC Old Upper Mountain Road Website (Site No. 932112): https://www.dec.ny.gov/cfmx/extapps/derexternal/haz/detail s.cfm?ProgNo=932112

## **Gulf Interceptor Sewer Relocation - Construction Complete**

Construction of the relocated Gulf Interceptor Sewer began in August 2021 and concluded in September 2022 at the Old Upper Mountain Road site. The new sewer connects the existing line at Old Upper Mountain Road to the north end of the site at Niagara Street, bypassing the site. Figure 1 details the historical sewer path, the newly constructed sewer path, and the limits of the site operable units, limits of waste removal, and footprint of proposed on-site and off-site disposal containment cells. The off-site containment cell will be located in the Lockport City Landfill, an adjacent state superfund site (Site No. 932010).



Restored surfaces along completed sewer alignment, access road left in place for future use

The completed sewer relocation work included:

- Installation of approximately 5,000 feet of sewer pipe with 32 precast concrete manholes.
- Soil excavation and disposal from an historical oil spill along the path of the new sewer. The contaminated soil was excavated and properly disposed of offsite.
- Installation of three subgrade railroad utility crossings.
- The entirety of the newly installed sewer has been tested and put into service. The historical Gulf Interceptor sewer has been blocked off and will no longer carry wastewater through the Old Upper Mountain Road Site.
- Ownership, operation, and maintenance of the relocated sewer infrastructure has been turned over to the City of Lockport, in accordance with the Consent Order agreement executed between the DEC and the City of Lockport.
- Drafting of a construction completion report, which describes the construction activities. Once completed, the report will be provided to the document repositories and posted on the DECinfoLocator on DEC's website.

## Site Background

The Old Upper Mountain Road site is located at the southeastern end of Old Upper Mountain Road in Lockport, NY. The site consists of the former dumping area to the north of Old Upper Mountain Road and the impacted sediment within Gulf Creek, which ends at Niagara Street.

From about 1921 through the 1950's, the site was operated as a municipal dump by the City of Lockport. A combined storm/sanitary gravity sewer (identified as the Gulf Interceptor) was installed in the vicinity of the site in 1941. Garbage and other wastes were apparently dumped at the site, burned, and then pushed into the ravine.



# **Construction Activities and Schedule**

Cleanup actions to address contamination at the Old Upper Mountain Road site will begin in March 2023 and are expected to continue through 2024. Areas of the site where cleanup activities will occur include the old dumping site located off Old Upper Mountain Road, the old dumping site located off Otto Park Place, and the Gulf Creek ravine floodplain. All cleanup areas are identified on Figure 1 as Operable Unit (OU)1, OU-3, and OU-2.

Cleanup activities in these areas will include excavation of contaminated soil and sediment, solidification, and consolidation of excavated soil in on- and off-site areas that will be fully covered and contained by an engineered cover.



Portion of Old Upper Mountain Road Site OU-2 to be remediated and restored during the remedial construction phase at the site.

Zoladz Construction Company, Inc. has been selected to perform remediation work at the site, with oversight provided by DEC and EA Engineering, P.C., and its affiliate EA Science and Technology. The current estimated cost to implement site cleanup work is approximately \$23,746,000.

#### Efforts to Minimize Community Disruption

The remedial construction design was revised to reduce the impacts on the local community and the environment through reduction of construction noise and vibration impacts, reduction impacts to wetland disturbance, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from construction vehicles. The revised approach includes use of the Closed Lockport City Landfill (NYSDEC Site No. 932010) for disposal of impacted sediment and floodplain soils from the downstream (north) end of the site in lieu of transportation of that material on public roads. Additionally, the revised approach includes installation of a treatment system for impacted groundwater that was identified as originating from a seep adjacent to the Closed Lockport City Landfill (NYSDEC Site No. 932010) and flowing into Gulf Creek.

The revisions to the remedial construction design were documented in an Explanation of Significant Difference for Operable Unit Numbers 01 and 02, dated July 2022. The purpose of

that document is to explain the modifications of the original Record of Decision for the site. Once cleanup actions are complete at the Old Upper Mountain Road Site, DEC will develop a Site Management Plan that identifies and maintains permanent institutional and engineering controls required for the site to ensure that cleanup actions continue to remain effective into the future. evaluate the continued effectiveness of the implemented remedy.

#### Key Documents can be found on the DECinfo Locator:

#### https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/932112/

As the remedy implementation progresses, this Community Newsletter will be updated and provided to the community with the latest information.

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

You can have site information like this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox via DEC's listserv. Sign up to receive DEC emails for updates about ongoing cleanups at:

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 and announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.



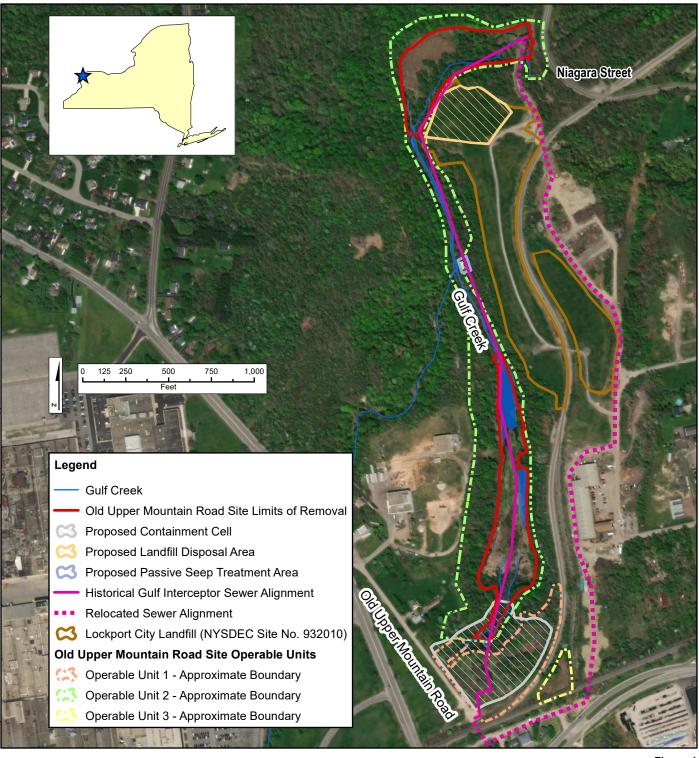


Figure 1 Site Layout Old Upper Mountain Road (932112) Lockport, New York

Map Date: 1/20/2023 Projection: NAD 1983 StatePlane New York West FIPS 3103 Feet





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