

**NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION**

Dear Interested Citizen:

This Fact Sheet is to inform you about the construction activities at the Mohasco Mills Complex located at the corner of Forest Avenue and Lyon Street in the City of Amsterdam. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact:

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Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233
(518) 402-9818

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

Mr. Bruce Donovan
Bureau of Environmental
Exposure Investigation
NYSDOH
Flanigan Square
547 River Street
Troy, NY 12180-2216
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FACT SHEET

Mohasco Mills Complex Environmental Restoration Program

**City of Amsterdam, New York
April 2006**

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health and the City of Amsterdam are pleased to inform you that cleanup activities are underway at the Mohasco Mills Complex under the Environmental Restoration Program.

Background

The Mohasco Mills complex is a 24-acre former carpet manufacturing facility which operated from 1889-1984. From 1984 to 1992, it was used as office and/or warehouse space. In 1992 and 1994, major fires destroyed thousands of square feet of multi-story industrial buildings. The City of Amsterdam acquired the site in 1994. The area surrounding the site consists of mixed industrial and residential properties. North Chuctanunga Creek flows through the center of the property.

Investigations

A Site Investigation under the Environmental Restoration Program was completed in 2000. Contamination at the site consists of semivolatile organic compounds, metals, PCBs, and pesticides in the soil. Two interim remedial measures removed leaking transformers, asbestos, and a 100,000-gallon storage tank from the former steam plant.

The Record of Decision, signed in 2001, called for removal of debris and contaminated soil from the creek bank, building demolition, and a 2-foot cover of clean soil over contaminated areas.

The State Assistance Contract for Remedial Design was executed in December 2004. The remedial design was approved in September 2005, and a contract was awarded to a joint venture between Bianchi Industrial Services and Pareene Trucking & Excavating in February 2006. The site is expected to be remediated by fall 2006.

Upcoming Activities

In preparation for demolition, crews are removing asbestos and other hazardous materials from buildings bordering Forest Avenue and Lyon Street. In addition, several building foundations left after the fires are also being torn down. Finally, in a move that will change Amsterdam's skyline, the large smokestack associated with the former steam plant will be removed. Rubble from the building demolition will be consolidated in the foundations and covered with two feet of clean soil. The site will be available for future non-residential redevelopment.

ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

The 1996 Clean Water/ Clean Air Bond Act provides funding to municipalities for the investigation and cleanup of brownfields. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used properties where redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. They typically are former industrial or commercial properties where operations may have resulted in environmental contamination. Brownfields often pose not only environmental, but legal and financial burdens on communities. Under the Environmental Restoration Program, the state provides grants to municipalities to reimburse up to 90 percent of eligible costs for site investigation and remediation activities. Once remediated, the property can then be reused.

MOHASCO MILLS COMPLEX - SITE LOCATION

