



# FACT SHEET

April 2007

## Cleanup & Restoration Activities to Begin at Franczyk Park



Project Start: May 2007

Project No. B00174-9

You are invited to attend a  
**PUBLIC MEETING**

Regarding  
**Franczyk Park**  
to be held

**April 18, 2007**  
at  
**6:00 PM**

at the  
**T.J. Dulski Community Center**  
**129 Lewis Street,**  
**Buffalo, NY 14206**

This meeting is an opportunity for you to meet the contractor that has been selected to complete cleanup and restoration activities at Franczyk Park. It is also an opportunity to ask questions and receive an update on details of upcoming site cleanup activities.

The City of Buffalo and NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) welcome you to attend an upcoming meeting to regarding upcoming site cleanup and restoration activities for Franczyk Park. (See box at left for meeting time and location.)

This meeting is an opportunity for you to receive an update on planned cleanup activities, and to meet the contractor, Hohl Industrial Services, who has been selected to complete project work at Franczyk Park. At the meeting, the cleanup and restoration schedule will be discussed, as well as cleanup details such as what equipment you can expect to see at the site, and what steps will be taken to minimize disruption to the community during the project. Representatives from the City of Buffalo and DEC will be available to answer questions regarding the project.

Cleanup and restoration activities are scheduled to begin in May of 2007, and are described in greater detail on the back of this page.

### SITE BACKGROUND

Franczyk Park is a 16.5 acre public park located at 564 Babcock Street in the City of Buffalo, Erie County. The site was first developed in the late 1800's as an agricultural fertilizer manufacturing facility where operations continued for nearly a century. In the late 1930's the southeast corner of the site was sold to rendering and soap manufacturers. In 1977, an automobile salvage yard purchased the site. When the automobile salvage yard went bankrupt in 1981, a real estate company acquired the site and later sold it to the City of Buffalo in 1984.

Due to the results of investigation conducted in 1985 indicating that environmental contaminants were present in site soil/fill material, the City used additional off-site soil/fill and topsoil during the construction of the public park in 1987.



The project site has been the subject of multiple environmental assessments and investigations as well as a limited interim remedial (cleanup) measure. In March 2005, DEC issued a Record of Decision (ROD) that proposed additional cleanup activities to ensure that the park is suitable for future public use. A public meeting was held on January 12, 2006 to review cleanup actions selected for Franczyk Park and to gather public input regarding the park's redesign.

## WHAT WILL THE UPCOMING SITE CLEANUP ACTIVITIES INVOLVE?

To reach the goal of restoring Franczyk Park for public recreational use, the City and DEC will oversee completion of the following cleanup activities:

- Excavating contaminated soil/fill material and disposing of it properly at an off-site location;
- Placing at least 18 inches of clean fill in all park areas to restore and increase cover;
- Placing at least six inches of topsoil and establishing a vegetative cover in all greenspace areas, or placing at least six inches of concrete or asphalt paving in non-vegetated areas;
- Installing geo-textile and placing at least six inches of pea gravel (or other suitable material) in playground areas;
- Installing a groundwater interceptor trench along Fleming Street;
- Demolishing and replacing all athletic facilities and playground equipment to install the cover system; and
- Establishing an environmental easement to ensure that the cover system installed remains intact throughout the future.

## HOW WILL UPCOMING CLEANUP ACTIVITIES IMPACT THE COMMUNITY?

It is expected that cleanup activities and improvements to the park will begin in May of 2007. Franczyk Park will be closed during cleanup so that heavy machinery can operate safely, and during restoration so that grass planted has a chance to grow. Excavators, dump trucks and other construction equipment will be onsite throughout cleanup and restoration of the park. During cleanup activities, air monitoring equipment will be installed at the site to ensure that dust levels from cleanup and construction remain minimal and do not affect nearby residents. Cleanup work is scheduled to take place during normal weekday working hours. The City anticipates that Franczyk Park will be re-opened to the public by the summer of 2008.

## ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (ERP)

Environmental investigation and cleanup work at this site is being completed through the "Environmental Restoration Program" (ERP) under the New York State 1996 Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act. Through the ERP, DEC provides local governments with up to 90% reimbursement for on-site eligible costs for the cleanup and restoration of select sites. The City of Buffalo applied for the environmental investigation and cleanup of the Franczyk Park site through the ERP Program, and has sponsored 10% of the project's approximate 1.7 million dollar cost. For more information about the ERP, please visit: [www.dec.state.ny.us/website/der/erp](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/der/erp).

## WHO SHOULD I CALL IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FRANCYK PARK SITE?

### Project related questions

Mr. Edward Porter  
City of Buffalo Dept. of Public Works  
612 City Hall  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
(716) 851-5014

### Environmental related questions

Mr. Thomas Biel  
NYSDEC  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 851-7220

### Health related questions

Mr. Cameron O'Connor  
NYS Department of Health  
584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
(716) 847-4385

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Public understanding and involvement in this project is valued and appreciated. To keep you informed, the City of Buffalo and DEC have established two locations at which you can view site-related project documents. These locations include:

T.J. Dulski Community Center  
129 Lewis Street  
Buffalo, NY 14206  
(716) 847-2860

Department of Environmental Conservation  
270 Michigan Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 851-7220  
(Please call for an appointment.)

*Thank you for your interest in this project, and we hope that you will join us at the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.*