



# FACT SHEET

## Environmental Restoration Program

**350-352 Liberty Street Site**

**April 2010**

**Site No. B00189**

**City of Newburgh, Orange County, New York**

### Investigation to Begin at Municipal Brownfield Site

The City of Newburgh (“municipality”), with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), will soon begin a detailed environmental study at the 350-352 Liberty Street Site (“site”) in the City of Newburgh, Orange County. See map for site location.

The study to be done at the site will include a “Remedial Investigation” and an “Interim Remedial Measure”. The work plan, called a “Remedial Investigation/Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan,” was submitted to NYSDEC by the municipality under New York’s Environmental Restoration Program. The investigation work plan is available for public review at document repositories established at the NYSDEC Region 3 Office and Newburgh Free Library identified below under “Where to Find Information”.

#### Highlights of the Site Investigation

The site investigation has several goals:

- 1) define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other parts of the environment that may be affected
- 2) identify the source(s) of the contamination
- 3) assess the impact of the contamination on public health and the environment
- 4) provide information to support an Interim Remedial Measure and the development of a proposed final remedy for the site to address the contamination.

The site is the location of a former gas station that operated from 1954 to the mid-1980s. No

previous environmental investigations have been conducted at the site. The presence of degrading underground and above ground storage tanks, and the previous use of the site as a gas station may have lead to contamination of site soils and groundwater with petroleum-related compounds, solvents, and metals. Highlights of the Site Investigation include:

#### **Environmental Restoration Program:**

New York’s Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) reimburses municipalities for their costs to investigate and clean up municipally owned contaminated properties. Once cleaned up, the properties may be redeveloped for commercial, industrial, residential or public use.

A **brownfield** is any real property that is difficult to reuse or redevelop because of the presence or potential presence of contamination.

For more information about the ERP, visit:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8444.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8444.html)

- Ground penetrating radar and test pits will be used to identify the locations of underground storage tanks and other possible sources of contamination at the site.

- An Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) will be conducted to demolish the on-site building and remove all underground and above ground storage tanks from the site including sources of contamination which may be present in these tanks.
- Following the IRM, additional investigation activities will be conducted at the site including the installation of monitoring wells, the evaluation of soil vapor contamination (since there are no buildings for vapor to intrude into), and the collection of surface soil samples.

### **Next Steps**

Based on the findings of the initial investigation and the results of the IRM, NYSDEC will determine whether additional cleanup of site contamination is needed. If cleanup is necessary, the municipality will analyze potential alternatives which will be considered to address the contamination. When the municipality completes the site investigation and the analysis of alternatives, it will submit the results in a report called a “Remedial Investigation/Alternatives Analysis Report” for NYSDEC review.

NYSDEC will then develop a draft cleanup plan for the site, called a “Proposed Remedial Action Plan”. This plan describes the remedy preferred by NYSDEC or a no action or no further action alternative. The goal of the cleanup plan is to ensure the protection of public health and the environment. NYSDEC will present the draft cleanup plan to the public for its review and comment during a 45-day comment period and at a public meeting.

NYSDEC and the municipality will keep the public informed throughout the investigation and cleanup of the site.

### **Background**

NYSDEC previously accepted an application from the municipality to participate in the Environmental Restoration Program. The application proposes that the site will be used for restricted light industrial or residential use.

The 350-352 Liberty Street site is a rectangular shaped 0.12-acre parcel. The site is in a generally residential area with interspersing commercial development. The site is the location of a former gas station that operated from 1954 to the mid-1980s. The property was taken by the City of Newburgh for back taxes and is currently owned by the City of Newburgh. The site is currently not occupied and predominantly flat. There is a single-story structure on the site’s eastern end and a combination of pavement and concrete at the ground surface on the site’s western end. Underground and above ground storage tanks exist on the site and may have contaminated site soils and groundwater.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed. These documents include the Remedial Investigation/Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan and a Citizen Participation Plan for the site.

Newburgh Free Library  
124 Grand Street  
Newburgh, NY 12550  
Phone: (845) 563-3601  
Hours: Mon to Thu: 9 am – 9 pm  
Fri to Sat: 9 am – 5 pm  
Sun: 1 pm – 5 pm

NYSDEC Region 3 Office  
Attn: Michael Knipfing  
21 S. Putt Corners Road  
New Paltz, NY 12561-1696  
Phone: (845) 256-3154  
By appointment only

### Who to Contact

Comments and questions are always welcome and should be directed as follows:

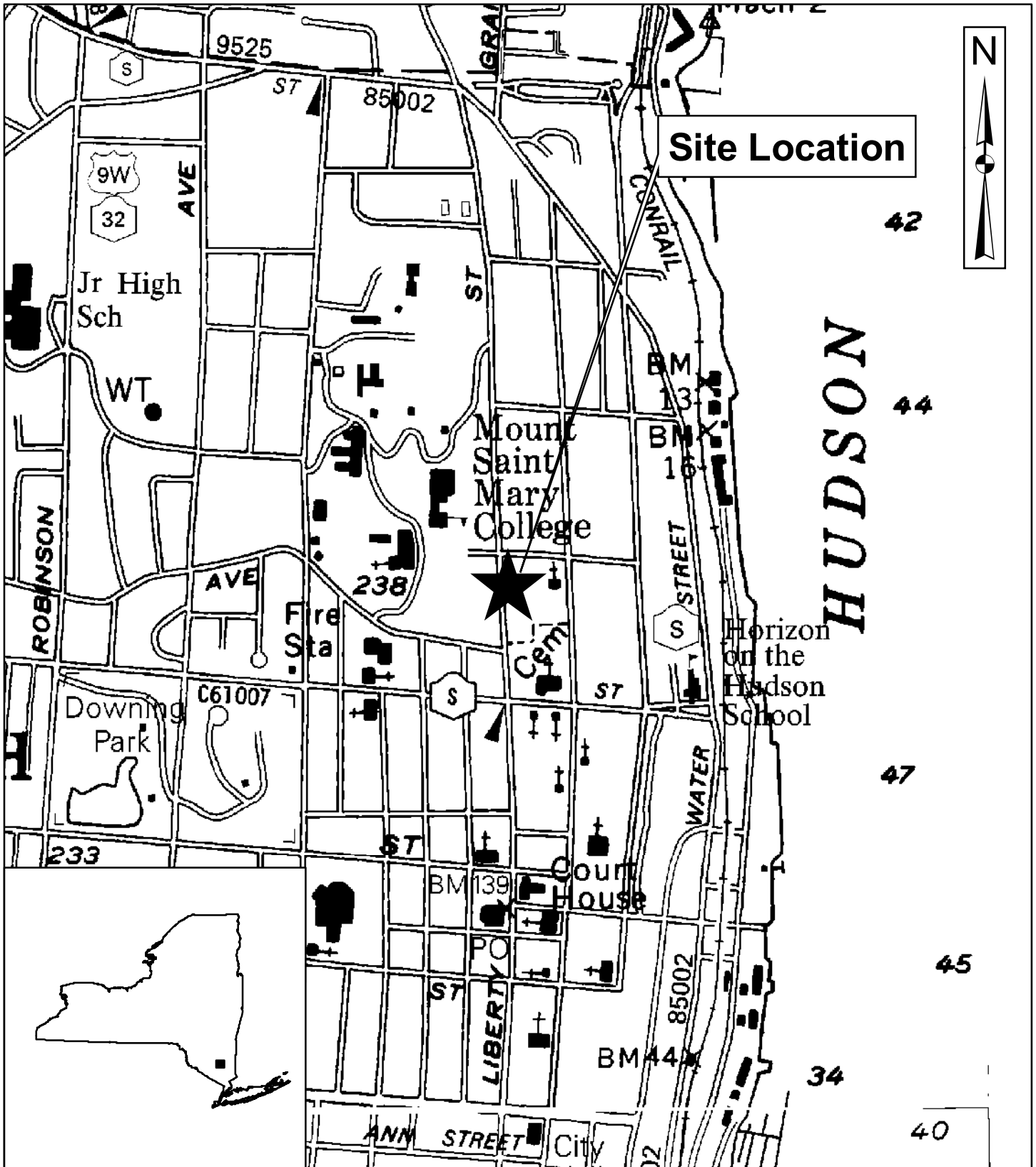
#### Project Related Questions

William Bennett, Project Manager  
NYSDEC  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7014  
(518) 402-9662  
wbbennet@gw.dec.state.ny.us

#### Site-Related Health Questions

Kristin Kulow  
New York State Department of Health  
Oneonta District Office  
28 Hill Street, Suite 201  
Oneonta, NY 13820  
(607) 432-3911  
kxk07@health.state.ny.us

**If you know someone who would like to be added to the site contact list, have them contact the NYSDEC project manager above. We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.**



Site Location

HUDSON

**Site Location Map**

350-352 Liberty Street Site

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City of Newburgh, Orange County, New York

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