

**FACT SHEET****State Superfund
Program****Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*.** See "For More Information" to Learn How.

Site Name: Former Karg Brothers Tannery, Off-Site Properties
DEC Site #: E518022
Address: 126 – 222 North Perry Street
City of Johnstown, NY

Have questions?
See
"Who to Contact"
Below

Interim Remedial Measure Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and the City of Johnstown (City), is pleased to inform you that an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is planned to begin mid-October 2013 at the Former Karg Brothers Tannery site located at 126 – 222 North Perry Street in the City of Johnstown, Fulton County, New York. Please see the map for the site location.

The City of Johnstown is participating in the New York State's Environmental Restoration Program (ERP). This fact sheet highlights the planned IRM.

Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan

An IRM is a cleanup activity that may be performed when a source of contamination or exposure pathway (the way in which a person may contact contamination) can be effectively addressed without extensive investigation and evaluation. The work plan is available for review at the locations identified below under "Where to Find Information."

Summary of the Investigation

The remedial investigation (RI) was performed to define the nature and extent of contamination at the site. RI activities included surface soil sampling, analysis, soil boring and monitoring well installation, surface soil sampling and analysis, groundwater sampling and analysis. The RI field work activities detected inorganic (metals) surface soil and subsurface soil contamination on-site. The City plans to address this contamination by performing an IRM of installing a soil cover system.

The IRM work plan describes the proposed cleanup activities that include installing a soil cover system. A site cover currently exists in portions of the site, including the paved access roads on-site, along with the existing building foundations on-site. These existing site covers will be voluntarily covered by the City of Johnstown with an additional two feet of soil cover to allow for restricted residential use of the site. For all remaining exposed surface soil on-site, a soil cover will be constructed to allow for restricted residential use of the site. The soil cover will be placed over a demarcation layer, with the upper six inches of the soil of sufficient quality to maintain a vegetation layer.

Upon completion of the IRM work, an IRM report will be prepared that documents the activities that were performed.

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

Background

The site is a former tannery located in an urban setting of the City of Johnstown, Fulton Co. The site consists of 6.5 acres of vacant property covered with light vegetation and concrete building foundations. The site is bordered by Cayadutta Creek on the east, southeast and south; a residence and two abandoned gasoline stations to the west; and 13 residences to the north. The historical tanning operations required the use of acids, solvents, sulfonated oils, soaps, oil-based dyes, lacquered-based paints and pigments. In 2001, the USEPA performed a CERCLA removal action to remove the immediate hazards which included the removal of all containerized wastes, residues, liquids, and sludge; and the decontamination, demolition and disposal of contaminated building structures. The post-removal 2001 USEPA integrated site assessment revealed metals contamination in the sediments of Cayadutta Creek, site soils and groundwater, as well as the surface soils of nearby residences. Although the immediate environmental and health concerns were addressed by the USEPA removal action, a comprehensive investigation of residual contamination is still required. The City of Johnstown has entered the ERP to perform the required investigation of the site and adjacent affected residences. This investigation is currently underway.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on NYSDEC's website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/extapps/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=546028>

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

NYSDEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Where to Find Information

Project documents are available at the following location(s) to help the public stay informed.

Johnstown Public Library
38 Market Street
Johnstown, NY 12095
phone: (518) 762-8317

City of Johnstown - City Hall
City Engineer's Office
33 – 41 E. Main Street
Johnstown, NY 12095
phone: (518) 736-4014

Who to Contact

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

Project Related Questions

Alicia Purzycki, P.E.
NYSDEC – Region 5
232 Golf Course Rd
Warrensburg, NY 12885
518-623-1272
ajpurzyc@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Site-Related Health Questions

Scarlett McLaughlin
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza - Corning Tower Rm 1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 402-7860
BEEI@health.state.ny.us

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.

Receive Site Fact Sheets by Email

Have site information such as this fact sheet sent right to your email inbox. NYSDEC invites you to sign up with one or more contaminated sites county email listservs available at the following web page:
<http://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/announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.

