

**NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF**



**ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION**

June 2006

Environmental Cleanup Activities Continue at Wyoming County Fire Training Center

Site # V-00604-9

Wethersfield, Wyoming County

INTRODUCTION

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is providing this fact sheet to update you on upcoming environmental cleanup activities at the Wyoming County Fire Training Center, located at 3651 Wethersfield Road in the Town of Wethersfield, Wyoming County. (See figure on right.)

Environmental investigations conducted at the site revealed the presence of contaminated soil and groundwater due to previous site usage. Contaminated soil in the source area of the site has already undergone cleanup; upcoming cleanup activities will address remaining groundwater contamination at the site. Groundwater cleanup activities will begin in mid-June and are expected to take about four weeks to complete.



Cleanup work at Wyoming County Fire Training Center is being completed voluntarily by Wyoming County, the site's owner, through New York State's Voluntary Cleanup Program. Through this program, Wyoming County has agreed to investigate, remove and clean up any contaminated soils and groundwater from affected areas of the site. All cleanup work at the site will be performed according to a work plan approved by DEC.

SITE BACKGROUND

The Wyoming County Fire Training Center is a 6.8 acre property that includes several permanent structures and is completely enclosed by a perimeter chain link fence. Wyoming County began operating a Fire Training Center on the property in the 1970s. Since 1970, flammable liquids were periodically stored at the site in above ground storage tanks and drums. During routine fire training exercises, the flammable liquids were fed into two concrete-lined fire pits through an underground steel piping/valve system. After being conveyed to the fire pits, the liquids were ignited and extinguished. The flammable liquids impacted the environmental quality of soil and groundwater at the site.

Wyoming County began cleanup work at the site in 2001, when it removed and disposed of the above ground storage tank and all of the drums containing flammable liquid. In addition, Wyoming County conducted an environmental site investigation in 2001 that revealed the presence of contaminated groundwater and soil at the site. To address the soil contamination, soils were excavated to the top of the groundwater table in four areas on the site as an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM). Contaminated soil was treated in specially designed on-site treatment cells to remove contaminants. The soil treatment process is ongoing.

DETAILS OF THE SITE CLEANUP

The final step in cleaning up the site is addressing contaminated groundwater. Beginning in mid-June, the following groundwater methods will be used to treat contaminants remaining in the groundwater:

1. contaminated groundwater in the vicinity of the fire pit will be addressed through a cleanup technique called in-situ chemical oxidation, in which liquid hydrogen peroxide is used to break down contaminants through a chemical process; and
2. off-site groundwater contamination will be addressed through the installation of two permeable reactive walls. Contaminated groundwater is treated as it passes through the permeable reactive walls.

In addition, when appropriate, the treated soil on-site will be monitored to determine proper disposal options. During cleanup activities, Health and Safety Plans, and Air Monitoring Plans will be implemented to protect workers and the nearby community.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Following completion of the groundwater cleanup activities and the soil disposal, both a Site Management Plan and a Construction Closeout Report will be submitted to DEC for review. Long term monitoring of groundwater quality at the site will continue to ensure the effectiveness of cleanup methods. Wyoming County plans to continue maintenance of the site as a county facility, therefore the property will remain in industrial and commercial use.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Questions regarding the cleanup of this site are welcome. Should you have any questions, please contact the following representatives:

Site Related Environmental Questions

Ms. Linda C. Ross , Project Manager
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220

Site Related Health Questions

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

LOCATIONS TO VIEW PROJECT DOCUMENTS

Public understanding and involvement are important to the success of New York's Voluntary Cleanup Program. You are welcome to view project related documents at the following locations:

Warsaw Public Library
130 North Main Street
Warsaw, NY 14569
(716) 786-5650

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

Additional Information on the Voluntary Cleanup Program

The **Voluntary Cleanup Program** (VCP) is a New York State program designed to address the environmental, legal and financial barriers that often hinder the redevelopment and reuse of contaminated properties. The program was developed to enhance private sector cleanup of properties by enabling businesses to cleanup sites using private (rather than public) funds, as well as to reduce development pressures on "greenfield" sites. Under the Voluntary Cleanup Program, a volunteer agrees to investigate and clean up a site to a level that is protective of public health and the environment for the present or intended use of the property. Investigation and cleanup is carried out under the oversight of DEC. When the volunteer completes cleanup work, the State provides a release from State liability for the work done, enabling the site to return to productive use. For more information about New York's Voluntary Cleanup Program, please visit DEC's website at www.dec.state.ny.us/website/der.