

Amherst Central Park (Former Westwood Country Club)



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

State Superfund Program

Site No. 915291

Williamsville, Erie County

April 2026

Interim Remedial Measure Proposed and Public Comment Announced

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), is proposing a cleanup of contamination at the Amherst Central Park site, formerly the Westwood Country Club site ("site") located at 772 North Forest Road, Williamsville, Erie County. Please see the map for the site location. DEC is conducting a public comment period because this Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is likely to represent a significant part of the cleanup for the site. The cleanup activities are expected to begin in May 2026 and last about 2 months. The activities will be performed by Erie County ("remedial party") with oversight provided by DEC.

How to Comment

DEC is accepting written comments about the proposed plan for 30 days, from **April 1, 25** through **May 1, 2026**.

- Access the Draft IRM Work Plan and other project documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/915291/> .
- Documents also are available at the location(s) identified under "Where to find information."
- Please submit comments to the DEC project manager listed under Project-Related Questions in the "Who to Contact" area.

The site is classified as a Potential site (P-Site). This classification is used for sites where preliminary information indicates that a site may have contamination that makes it eligible for consideration for placement on the Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites (commonly referred to as the list of State Superfund Sites). Further information and/or investigation, in the form of a site characterization, is needed to determine if a Class P site qualifies for listing of the site on the Registry.

Draft Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) 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 waiting for an extensive investigation and evaluation.

The draft IRM work plan describes the proposed cleanup activities that include:

- Excavation and off-site disposal of up to 5,000 cubic yards of soil contaminated with heavy metals;
- Collection and analysis of post-excavation soil samples to evaluate the effectiveness of the cleanup;
- Import of clean material that meets the established soil cleanup objectives for use as backfill; and
- Implementation of a Health and Safety Plan and Community Air Monitoring Plan during all ground intrusive activities.

Next Steps

DEC will consider public comments, revise the plan as necessary, and approve the IRM work plan in consultation with the New York State Department of Health. The approved work plan will be made available to the public (see “Where to Find Information” on front page).

Upon completion of the expedited cleanup activities, a Construction Completion Report will be prepared that documents the activities that were performed.

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

Site Description

The approximately 170-acre site is located at 772 North Forest Road in Williamsville. The site is bound by Sheridan Drive to the south; Maple Road to the north; North Forest Road, Ellicott Creek, and the Audubon Par 3 Golf Course to the east; and Frankhauser Road and Fairways Boulevard to the west. The site was formerly used by the Westwood Country Club from 1921 to 2014 and included an 18-hole golf course and with several buildings associated with Country Club use, tennis courts, and a swimming pool.

The site was previously accepted into the New York State Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) in 2015 as the “Westwood Country Club” site, site code C915291. Several investigations were conducted under the BCP and documents are available at the location(s) identified under “Where to find information.” The former BCP applicant terminated the Brownfield Cleanup Agreement in April of 2023.

Erie County plans to redevelop the site with a 9-hole golf course and a passive park with walking trails on the former golf cart paths.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, 915291) at:

<https://appfactory.dec.ny.gov/DERExternalSearch/ERDSearch>

Summary of the Investigation

Investigations completed under the BCP and P-Site found the primary contaminants of concern are the heavy metals arsenic, cadmium, and mercury, which are present in soil, primarily in the areas associated with former greens and tee boxes on the golf course, likely due to the historic use of heavy metal-based pesticides at the golf course.

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.

DEC attempts to identify parties responsible for site contamination before committing State funds for investigation and cleanup.

For more information about the SSF, visit: <https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/brownfield-and-state-superfund-programs/state-superfund-sites>

Stay Informed with DEC Delivers

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.

Sign up to receive site updates by email:

<https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>

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

DECinfo Locator

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites: <https://dec.ny.gov/maps/interactive-maps/decinfo-locator>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Project-Related Questions

Andrew Zwack, Project Manager
DEC, Division of Environmental Remediation

700 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
p: (71) 851-7220
andrew.zwack@dec.ny.gov

Project-Related Health Questions

Megan Rivera
NYSDOH, Bureau of Environmental Exposure and Investigation

Empire State Plaza, Corning Tower, Rm 1787
Albany, NY 12237
p: (518) 402-7877
beei@health.ny.gov

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION

Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator and at this location:
<https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/915291/>

Additional documents associated with the property generated under the Brownfield Cleanup Program can be accessed through the DECinfo Locator and at this location:
<https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C915291/>

Site Location





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