



# FACT SHEET

# Brownfield Cleanup Program

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**Site Name:** Gowanus Canal Northside  
**DEC Site #:** C224080  
**Address:** Union, Bond, Sackett and DeGraw Streets  
Brooklyn, NY 11231

Have questions?  
See  
"Who to Contact"  
Below

## Interim Remedial Measure to Begin at Brownfield Site

Action is about to begin that will begin to address the contamination related to the Gowanus Canal Northside site ("site") located at Union, Bond, Sackett and DeGraw Streets, Brooklyn, NY, under New York State's Brownfield Cleanup Program. Please see Figure 1 for the site location.

Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location(s) identified below under "Where to Find Information."

The cleanup activities will be performed by the Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) applicant with oversight provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).

### Highlights of the Upcoming Cleanup Activities

The goal of Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) for the site is to close and dismantle the existing Major Oil Storage Facility (MOSF) on the site to prepare it for a detailed environmental investigation. As part of the formal closure of the MOSF, the oil storage tanks, piping and associated shallow contaminated soil will be removed and disposed off-site. Following this, a geophysical survey will be conducted across the site to identify any remaining underground structures and/or piping not identified previously.

### Additional Details

All activities related to the closure of the MOSF and excavation of associated soil, will be conducted in accordance with a Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP). Engineering controls will be in place to minimize the release of volatile organic compounds and nuisance odors.

### Next Steps

Upon completion of the IRM, a Remedial Investigation (RI) will be performed to fully characterize the remaining contamination on the site. The results of the RI will be used to determine the remainder of the remedial program for the site.

Based on the RI results, a Remedial Action Work Plan will be prepared and made available for public comment. Based on comments received from the public, NYSDEC will ultimately issue a final Decision Document. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) must also concur with the remedy. The Decision Document will be made available to the public. The applicant(s) will then design and perform the cleanup action to address the site contamination, with oversight by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

## Background

### Location:

The Gowanus Canal Northside site is located in an urban area in the Gowanus section of Brooklyn, NY. The irregularly-shaped site is bounded by DeGraw Street to the north, the Gowanus Canal to the east, Union Street and multiple-story commercial buildings to the south, and Bond Street and multiple-story commercial buildings to the west.

### Site Features:

The site is comprised of four lots transected by Sackett Street. It is currently occupied by Bayside Fuel Oil Depot Corp, an out-of-service fuel distribution facility which includes a two-story office building, 1.5 million gallons of empty, aboveground fuel oil storage tanks, automobile maintenance garages, a parking lot, and equipment storage areas.

### Current Zoning/Use:

The site is located in a M2-1 manufacturing district, an intermediate between light and heavy industrial areas. The proposed redevelopment is still in early planning stages and is subject to change as potential zoning changes occur

### Past Use of the Site:

Historical uses of the site include box manufacturer, coal yard, fuel depot, and service garage.

### Site Geology and Hydrogeology:

The site is underlain by urban fill ranging from 10 to 20 feet in thickness, which overlies a discontinuous peat and silt layer approximately 4 feet thick. Beneath the peat are glacial outwash deposits consisting predominantly of sand, with lesser amounts of silt and clay. Bedrock is approximately 150 feet below the ground surface

Groundwater at the site has been observed at between 9 and 11 feet below ground surface. Based on regional hydrogeology, groundwater is expected to flow to the east, toward the Gowanus Canal.

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

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=C224080>

**Brownfield Cleanup Program:** New York's Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) encourages the voluntary cleanup of contaminated properties known as "brownfields" so that they can be reused and redeveloped. These uses include recreation, housing, business or other uses.

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 BCP, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8450.html>

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Where to Find Information

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

Carroll Gardens Branch Library  
396 Clinton Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11231  
Tel: 718-596-6972

Brooklyn Community Board 6  
250 Baltic Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
Tel: 718.643.3027

Project documents are also available on the NYSDEC website at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37550.html>

### Who to Contact

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

#### Project Related Questions

Henry Willems  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7014  
Tel: 518-402-9473  
Email: [henry.willems@dec.ny.gov](mailto:henry.willems@dec.ny.gov)

#### Site-Related Health Questions

Christopher Doroski  
New York State Department of Health  
BEEI Empire State Plaza Corning Tower  
Room 1787  
Albany, NY 12237  
Tel: 518 402-7860  
Email: [BEEI@health.ny.gov](mailto:BEEI@health.ny.gov)

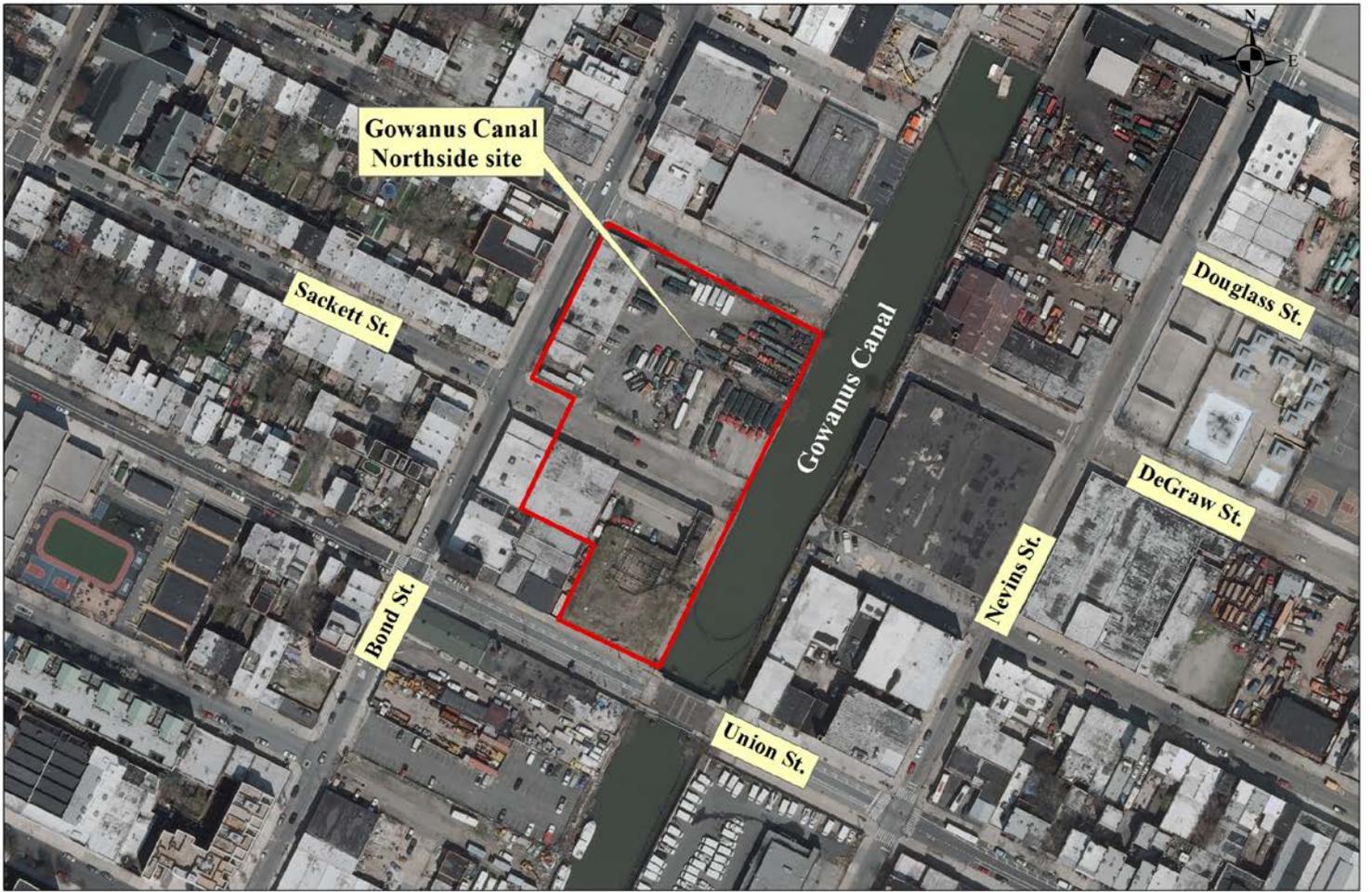
**We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.**

### 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.



**Figure 1 Site Location**