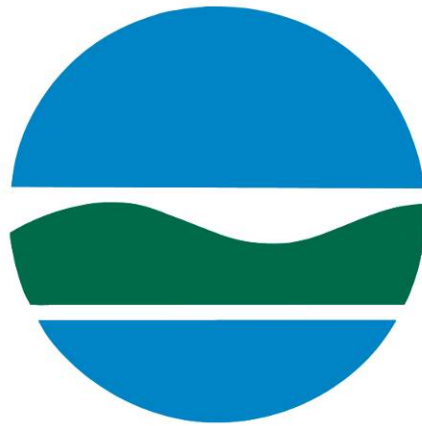

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR
THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM
SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

MARCH 2009



**NEW YORK STATE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
REGION 7
SYRACUSE, NY**

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

**The Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) for
the Onondaga Lake Bottom Subsite Remedial Design Program
was developed by the New York State Department of Environmental
Conservation in cooperation with Honeywell and Parsons.**

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1.0 OVERVIEW OF THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN	1
2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION	1
3.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND	2
4.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION.....	3
5.0 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES.....	4
6.0 PROJECT CONTACTS	9
7.0 LOCATION OF REPORTS AND INFORMATION.....	10
8.0 INTERESTED PUBLIC (CONTACT LIST).....	11
9.0 REFERENCES	11

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A NYSDEC FACT SHEET

APPENDIX B ONONDAGA LAKE REMEDIAL DESIGN WORK GROUPS

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE
BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM**

1.0 OVERVIEW OF THE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and Honeywell are required and committed to informing and involving the public during the upcoming remedial design and construction phases of the Onondaga Lake Bottom Subsite of the Onondaga Lake Superfund Site. This Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) provides a formal, yet flexible plan for communication with the public during the remediation of the Onondaga Lake bottom.

This CPP briefly describes the site and remediation program, and identifies specific community outreach and participation activities.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

Onondaga Lake is a 4.6-square-mile (3,000-acre) lake located in Central New York State, immediately northwest of the city of Syracuse. The lake is approximately 4.5 miles long and 1 mile wide, with an average water depth of 36 feet.



The lake has two deep basins, a northern basin and a southern basin, that have maximum water depths of approximately 62 and 65 feet, respectively. The city of Syracuse is located at the southern end of the lake, and numerous towns, villages and major roadways surround the lake. The eastern shore of Onondaga Lake is urban and residential, while the northern shore is dominated by parkland, wooded acres and wetlands. The northwest upland areas in Liverpool

and Salina are mainly residential, with interspersed urban structures and several undeveloped areas.

Onondaga Lake was the center of the Haudenosaunee prior to the exploration and settlement by Europeans. Onondaga Lake is sacred to the Onondaga Nation and the Haudenosaunee because, according to the Haudenosaunee tradition, it was on the shores of the lake that the Peacemaker formed the Confederacy.

The completion of the Erie Canal in the early 1880s led to increased settlement of the area. Many early settlers were attracted to the Syracuse area because of the newly developing salt industry on the lake's shores.

As Syracuse grew in the late 19th and the early 20th centuries, the lake's western shore became increasingly industrialized. Sewage disposal and industrial discharges into the lake also increased during this period and, as a result, the quality of the water began to suffer. Eventually the increased population and industrialization resulted in degraded water quality affecting lake use and related industries.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM

There were many sources of contamination to Onondaga Lake. For years, the city of Syracuse dumped its sewage directly into the lake. This municipal wastewater released phosphorus, ammonia, nitrite, bacteria and other harmful microorganisms into the lake. The lake also began to suffer from a reduced oxygen level that seriously impacted the entire ecosystem of the lake.

In 1884, the Solvay Process Company began the production of soda ash on the western shores of Onondaga Lake. Salty wastes, a byproduct of the soda ash production, were deposited in the lake, resulting in a significant increase in chloride, sodium and calcium. It has been estimated that large quantities of these wastes were deposited each day. Besides the chemical contamination of the lake, the salinity level rose significantly. Portions of the western and southern lakeshores were used as settling basins to receive process residue generated from the historic operations.

Allied Chemical (now Honeywell) succeeded the Solvay Process Company in 1920. It produced chlorine by the electrolytic cell chloralkali process, which included the use of mercury cells. This process resulted in the release of mercury to the lake. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), it has been estimated that between 1946 and 1970, tens of thousands of pounds of mercury were deposited in the lake from this production process.

Honeywell's predecessor companies also included the following two major product lines:

- Benzene, toluene, xylene, naphthalene and tar products
- Chlorinated benzenes and hydrochloric acid (a byproduct)

Industrial activities, including those mentioned above, located on or near Onondaga Lake, contributed to a variety of industrial contaminants affecting the lake, including mercury (and other metals), chlorinated benzenes, benzene, toluene, xylene, ethylbenzene and PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls). The lake also suffers from excessive sedimentation.



Onondaga Lake was listed on the federal Superfund National Priorities List in December 1994 and is included on the State of New York Superfund list.

To date, progress has been made in remediating the lake and its subsites (areas around the lake that were contaminated by various companies over the course of the last century). Onondaga County, which owns and operates the Metropolitan Syracuse Wastewater Treatment Plant, has made substantial improvements to its wastewater treatment system, which in turn has resulted in significant reductions in ammonia, phosphorus and bacteria in the lake. In addition, Honeywell is in the process of restoring subsites around the lake.

3.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

In 1992, AlliedSignal (now known as Honeywell) entered into a Consent Decree with the State of New York to initiate a remedial investigation and feasibility study for Onondaga Lake.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM

These investigations and reports describe the nature and extent of the contamination at the site, and evaluate remedial alternatives to address this contamination.

After a period of public comment and participation, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the NYSDEC issued a Record of Decision (ROD) in July 2005 that defines the selected remedy for the lake bottom subsite.

On October 12, 2006, the NYSDEC and Honeywell entered into a Consent Decree (United States District Court, Northern District of New York, 2006) (89-CV-815) to implement the ROD. The Consent Decree was the subject of public comment and entered by the court on January 4, 2007. In addition to outlining how aspects of the cleanup plan will be implemented, the Consent Decree also requires that Honeywell assist the NYSDEC, financially and administratively, with the implementation of the CPP. As provided by the Consent Decree, all DEC activities associated with the CPP are reimbursed to the state by Honeywell.

4.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The selected remedy outlined in the Record of Decision includes the dredging and disposal of up to an estimated 2.65 million cubic yards of contaminated sediments; construction of an isolation cap over an estimated 425 acres in the shallower areas of the lake; construction of a thin-layer cap over an estimated 154 acres in the lake's deeper areas; construction and operation of a hydraulic control system along part of the shoreline; completion of a pilot study to evaluate methods to prevent formation of methyl mercury in the deeper waters of the lake; habitat restoration; monitored natural recovery of the lake sediment; construction of a Sediment Consolidation Area (SCA) for placement of dredged sediments; as well as long-term maintenance and monitoring of the effectiveness of the remedy.

In conjunction with the Consent Decree public comment period, the NYSDEC issued the results of the Onondaga Lake SCA Siting Evaluations Report (Parsons, 2006). At the conclusion of a month-long public comment period and availability session, and review of public comments, the NYSDEC determined the sediments removed from Onondaga Lake during the cleanup will be placed at a SCA to be constructed on Honeywell's Solvay Settling Basin 13. The SCA will be designed and built in accordance with state and federal requirements and guidance and will include an impermeable liner beneath the sediment, a collection and treatment process for water draining out of the sediment and a protective cover over the sediment.

In addition to the previously mentioned public comment period, the NYSDEC has held two separate public meetings in the Town of Camillus starting in late 2004 to answer questions about the then-proposed Onondaga Lake remediation and the SCA. Honeywell has also held ongoing meetings with interested stakeholders to keep them apprised of progress related to the SCA and to gather feedback.

The Remedial Design Work Plan (RDWP) (Parsons, 2009) describes in greater detail the implementation of the remedial design activities for the lake bottom subsite. A copy of the work plan is available at the locations listed in Section 7.0 Locations of Reports and Information.

According to the Statement of Work contained in the Consent Decree, Honeywell will make a good faith effort to complete the remedial design and begin dredging within five years of entry in court of the Consent Decree, January 4, 2007 (United States District Court, Northern District

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM

of New York, 2006) (89-CV-815). The Consent Decree also requires the dredging operations to be completed within four years following completion of the design. However, the number of years actually required may be modified upon agreement of Honeywell and the NYSDEC.

5.0 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES



The remediation of Onondaga Lake is one of the largest construction projects that the NYSDEC is currently managing. As described above, the design and construction activities will take several years to complete and public interest in the cleanup remains high. The NYSDEC citizen participation plans provide baseline activities that require the issuance of a fact sheet and public availability sessions on all milestone projects. These and a variety of other techniques, described below, will be used to inform and engage the public throughout the remediation of the Onondaga Lake bottom as well as related upland remediation efforts, as

appropriate.

The goals of the Onondaga Lake CPP are to provide communications and dialogue with the public that are open, transparent and proactive. In addition to providing multiple opportunities for dissemination of information to the public, the CPP outlines ways for interested stakeholders to participate in discussions and/or participation groups on the design and construction of remediation activities.

The citizen participation activities are designed to:

- Ensure open two-way communication among the public, the NYSDEC project staff and Honeywell throughout the remedial process
- Involve key stakeholder groups in critical projects
- Create opportunities for the public to contribute information, opinions, and perspectives
- Continually analyze the effectiveness of the CPP.

Citizen participation activities will align with project milestones. The first milestone is the development of the RDWP. Upon completion of the draft RDWP, the NYSDEC developed and distributed a fact sheet that describes the remedial design plan and the general schedule of major activities required to implement the plan. The fact sheet also contains a brief history of the lake, the various locations and hours of operation for the locations of reports and information, and contact information for key project staff. The NYSDEC conducted a public availability session that included information on how the RDWP will be implemented. Public comments were accepted and the plan was finalized. The CPP-RDWP Fact Sheet is included in Appendix A.

Public participation activities will be undertaken:

- During design of sediment consolidation area (SCA)
- Prior to construction of SCA and implementation of water treatment system

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM

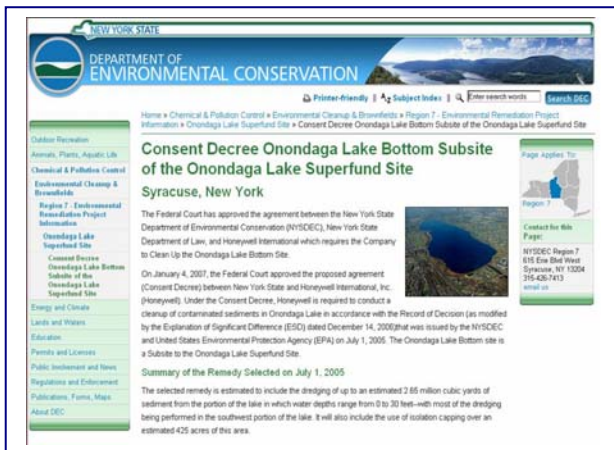
- Prior to finishing construction of SCA and implementation of water treatment system
- During design of dredging and capping operations
- Prior to beginning dredging and capping operations
- Prior to finishing dredging and capping operations
- During design of habitat restoration plan
- Prior to beginning habitat restoration activities
- Prior to finishing habitat restoration activities.

For each of these milestones, a fact sheet shall be prepared to solicit public input and feedback. Other public participation activities including, but not limited to, availability sessions and public meetings may be held. Other major events associated with this project or related upland remediation efforts may be identified by the NYSDEC in the future.

Public Information Materials

The following written materials will be used to convey project information to the public.

- **Fact Sheets** – Fact sheets will be distributed for milestones and other events to interested parties. Fact sheets will be distributed and/or posted, at a minimum, to the following:
 - Project contact list
 - Honeywell E-newsletter distribution list
 - NYSDEC and Honeywell websites
 - NYSDEC public meetings
 - Locations of reports and information (see Section 7.0).



- **Websites** – There are two websites where members of the community can find information related to the lake bottom project.

The Onondaga Lake page on the NYSDEC website (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html>) describes the lake site, its history and major cleanup milestones, and contains links to electronic copies of the Consent Decree and Record of Decision. The public can also download copies of fact sheets, maps and data tables.

Honeywell's website dedicated to the lake project (<http://www.onondaga-lake-initiatives.com>) also provides the public with information not necessarily found on the NYSDEC site. Members of the community can find a photo gallery of work being performed in and around the lake, project updates, chronologically organized press releases and E-newsletters. Citizens will also be able to submit questions to Honeywell scientists and engineers via the site and add their names to a project contact list.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM

- **Electronic Newsletter** – Honeywell will provide E-newsletters on key remediation activities (milestone events) as identified above.
- **Annual Summary of Activities** – Each year an annual summary of the progress of the Onondaga Lake remediation will be prepared for the Onondaga Lake Partnership (OLP) Annual Progress Meeting. This report will be made available on the websites, at all document repositories, mailed to the project contact list and the media, emailed to Honeywell’s E-newsletter list and be available at all public meetings. The report will include but not be limited to the following information:
 - Remediation progress on all projects over the past 12 months
 - Future remediation events and timetables
 - A summary of comments and questions from the public who visited the websites and/or attended informational meetings and availability sessions
 - Contact information.

Public Input and Outreach



The NYSDEC and Honeywell are committed to involving the community throughout all phases of the remedial design and construction process. To do so, the NYSDEC will require Honeywell to support the bulleted items listed in this section.

The NYSDEC has established ten Onondaga Lake Remedial Design Work Groups (RDWG) to address specific technical aspects of the lake bottom remediation process. These work groups are staffed and supported by technical and scientific experts as well as state and federal officials representing the USEPA, and the NYSDEC. (See Appendix B for a complete list of the Remedial Design Work Groups.) Due to the complexity and relatively long timeline of the project, the NYSDEC and Honeywell, through the RDWGs, will work in partnership with interested constituencies and communities surrounding the lake through effective stakeholder engagement and meaningful citizen participation.

Public input and outreach will be accomplished through the following techniques.

- **Community Participation Working Groups (CPWGs)** – The NYSDEC will establish Community Participation Working Groups (CPWGs). These groups will be open to the public and consist of public officials, community leaders, citizens, and conservation and environmental group leaders. They will be supported by technical experts from the NYSDEC and Honeywell.

The CPWGs will meet throughout the remediation efforts, providing a forum to inform, receive input, and discuss the lake bottom remediation program and related upland remediation efforts, as appropriate. They will create opportunities for the public to contribute information, opinions, perspectives, and

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM

recommendations. Feedback from the CPWGs will be provided to the technical design team for evaluation and consideration throughout the design process.

The NYSDEC will appoint members to a lead CPWG to take a broad overall look at Onondaga Lake bottom remediation issues and community outreach activities. The lead CPWG will review project progress and community outreach activities and recommend actions associated with elements of both activities. The NYSDEC and Honeywell will provide technical assistance and administrative support to the lead CPWG consistent with the Consent Decree. This lead CPWG will recommend to the NYSDEC how many and what types of additional working groups should be created to address specific issues surrounding the remediation of the lake bottom. It is expected that each CPWG created will work closely with one or more Onondaga Lake Remedial Design Work Groups (RDWG), aligning themselves based on interest and subjects addressed. For example, a Habitat CPWG might work closely with the Habitat RDWG. Working with each RDWG, the CPWGs will establish a schedule to ensure that relevant information from Honeywell/NYSDEC reaches the CPWG in a timely fashion so that members have time to provide meaningful input before decisions are made by RDWGs.

- **Stakeholder Outreach** – The NYSDEC and/or Honeywell will coordinate outreach and communication efforts with interested stakeholder groups in the community, including business, community, neighborhood, conservation, environmental, historical, cultural, and outdoor recreation groups and associations. In addition, the NYSDEC, in conjunction with USEPA, will continue to consult on a government-to-government basis with the Onondaga Nation about the remediation of Onondaga Lake.



- **Speakers** – Speakers from the NYSDEC and Honeywell will be available to provide updates and presentations on remediation activities to interested community groups. The OLP, of which the NYSDEC is a member, has an active speaker's bureau: 1-800-833-6390 or www.onlakepartners.org. Arrangements for Honeywell presentations may be arranged by calling Craig Milburn at Honeywell at 315-431-4443.
- **Roundtable Discussions** – The NYSDEC and/or Honeywell may host roundtable discussions throughout the year to keep stakeholders informed, answer questions, and seek input regarding critical projects and CPP efforts. Roundtable discussions could include but would not be limited to:
 - Dredging and sediment capping construction activities within the lake and along the adjacent shoreline
 - Construction and use of the SCA

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

- Incorporation of fisheries and other habitat and recreation goals for Onondaga Lake and the adjacent shoreline into the remedial design
- Preservation of potential cultural resources and historical artifacts within Onondaga Lake and the adjacent shoreline.
- **Availability Sessions and Public Meetings** – The availability session is an informal gathering of the NYSDEC staff, Honeywell representatives and the public. The NYSDEC will hold availability sessions on milestones and other events following distribution of fact sheets. Public notification will be distributed at least two weeks prior to the scheduled event and each session will be used to describe to the public the upcoming remedial construction activities. Sessions will provide citizens with the opportunity to interact with project experts one-on-one. Public meetings, which include formal presentations and question-and-answer sessions, may also be scheduled as needed. Both meetings and availability sessions will not only update the public on the progress of lake remediation, they will also include information on remediation and clean up of the lake’s sub-sites.
- **Coordination of Outreach** – The NYSDEC will work with the OLP to use existing outreach efforts that are already in place and have proven successful. Established opportunities for public information include the OLP’s Annual Report, Onondaga Lake Day events, Annual Progress Meeting, the outreach committee, the OLP Speaker’s Bureau and the visioning process.
- **Citizen Participation Plan Evaluation** – The remedial design and construction phases of the Onondaga Lake Bottom Subsite of the Onondaga Lake Superfund Site will be a multi-year process. Because of the length of this project, the CPP should be considered a flexible plan that can and will be reviewed and revised periodically.

Through the CPWG meetings, availability sessions, public meetings and the other activities described above, the NYSDEC and Honeywell will provide a comprehensive program for obtaining and integrating public input into the cleanup of the Onondaga Lake bottom. Individuals interested in participating should contact Stephanie Harrington or Diane Carlton at the NYSDEC Region 7 directly at 315-426-7403.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

6.0 PROJECT CONTACTS

The public is invited to contact the project staff listed below with specific questions and concerns.

<p><u>Project Related</u></p> <p>Mr. Timothy Larson, P.E. NYSDEC, Project Manager 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-7016 (518) 402-9676</p>	<p>Mr. Ken Lynch NYSDEC, Regional Director, Region 7 615 Erie Boulevard West Syracuse, NY 13204-2400 (315) 426-7403</p>
<p>Mr. Robert Nunes USEPA, Project Manager 290 Broadway New York, NY 10007-1866 (212) 637-4254</p>	<p>Ms. Stephanie Harrington/Ms. Diane Carlton NYSDEC, Citizen Participation Specialists, Region 7 615 Erie Boulevard West Syracuse, NY 13204-2400 (315) 426-7403</p>
<p>Mr. John McAuliffe Honeywell, Syracuse Program Director 5000 Brittonfield Parkway Suite 700 East Syracuse, NY 13057 (315) 431-4443</p>	<p><u>Site-Related Health Questions</u></p> <p>Mr. Mark Sergott New York State Department of Public Health Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation Public Health Specialist II 547 River Street Troy, NY 12180-2216 (518) 402-7860</p>

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

7.0 LOCATION OF REPORTS AND INFORMATION

The following locations provide the public with convenient access to important project information. Typical information housed at the locations below includes legal documents (Consent Decree, Record of Decision, etc.), work plans, reports, data gathered and developed during the remedial design process, fact sheets and public meeting announcements.

<p>NYSDEC – Region 7 615 Erie Boulevard West Syracuse, NY 13204-2400 (315) 426-7551</p> <p>Hours of Operation: M-F: 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Please call for an appointment.</p>	<p>Atlantic States Legal Foundation 658 West Onondaga Street Syracuse, NY 13204 (315) 475-1170</p> <p>Please call for an appointment.</p>
<p>NYSDEC 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233-7016 (518) 402-9676</p> <p>Hours of Operation: M-F: 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Please call for an appointment.</p>	<p>Camillus Town Hall 4600 West Genesee Street, Room 100 Syracuse, NY 13219 (315) 488-1234</p> <p>Hours of Operation: M-F: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 a.m.</p>
<p>Onondaga County Public Library Central Library The Galleries of Syracuse 447 South Salina Street Syracuse, NY 13202 (315) 435-1800</p> <p>Hours of Operation: M, Th, F and Sat: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. T and W: 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Liverpool Public Library 310 Tulip Street Liverpool, NY 13088 (315) 457-0310</p> <p>Hours of Operation: M-Th: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. F: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sun: Noon to 5 p.m.</p>
<p>Moon Library SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry 1 Forestry Drive Syracuse, NY 13210 (315) 470-6712</p> <p>Hours of Operation change often. Please call the library for specific details.</p>	

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

8.0 INTERESTED PUBLIC (CONTACT LIST)

The NYSDEC has compiled a contact list of people who have expressed an interest in Onondaga Lake and associated remediation activities. The contacts include elected officials, business organizations, media outlets, civic groups, environmental organizations and other community members who are known to have an interest in Onondaga Lake.

This list is the basis for all mailings, including but not limited to, the fact sheets, notification of public meetings and the Annual Summary of Activities. It will be updated every 18 months. Persons interested in being added to or removed from the contact list can contact Stephanie Harrington or Diane Carlton at the NYSDEC; see the phone number and address provided above.

9.0 REFERENCES

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. *Citizen Participation Guide*. Retrieved 3/20/07 from <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/der/ihws/cpguide.pdf>.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2. July 1, 2005. *Record of Decision: Onondaga Lake Bottom Subsite of the Onondaga Lake Superfund Site*.

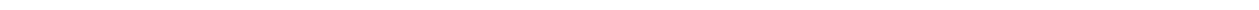
Onondaga Lake Partnership. *Onondaga Lake Area and Background*. Retrieved 1/28/08 from <http://www.onlakepartners.org>.

Parsons. *Remedial Design Work Plan for the Onondaga Lake Bottom Subsite*. March 2009.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

APPENDIX A

NYSDEC FACT SHEET



**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**



Dear Interested Citizen:

This fact sheet provides you with information on the finalized Remedial Design Work Plan and Citizen Participation Plan for the Onondaga Lake Bottom Site, a subsite of the Onondaga Lake Superfund Site. If you have any questions or would like more information about this project, please contact:

**Mr. Timothy Larson, P.E.
Project Manager**

625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, New York 12233-7016

(518) 402-9676

Email: tjlarson@gw.dec.state.ny.us

With respect to Citizen Participation inquiries, please contact:

**Ms. Diane Carlton or
Ms. Stephanie Harrington
Citizen Participation Specialists**

615 Erie Boulevard West
Syracuse, New York 13204-2400

(315) 426-7403

Email: reg7info@gw.dec.state.ny.us

For site-related health questions, contact the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) at the following:

**Mr. Mark Sergott
Project Manager**

547 River Street
Troy, New York 12180-2216
(800) 458-1158, Ext. 27860

E-mail: beei@health.state.ny.us

**New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation
FACT SHEET**

**REMEDIAL DESIGN WORK PLAN
AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN
DOCUMENTS FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE
BOTTOM SITE HAVE BEEN FINALIZED**

**Onondaga Lake Bottom Site (#7-34-030)
Onondaga County - March 2009**

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) issued the draft Remedial Design Work Plan (RDWP) and Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) documents in November 2008 and sent copies of a fact sheet describing the plans to over 1700 individuals on the Onondaga Lake project list. A 60-day public comment period began on November 1, 2008 and ran through December 31, 2008. In addition, a public meeting was held on November 20, 2008, in order to give concerned citizens an opportunity to openly discuss their comments with the DEC. The DEC received several public comments during the public comment period. Comments and concerns that were raised as well as suggestions that were offered were carefully considered. Some comments resulted in changes to the CPP document; however, the comments received did not require any changes to the RDWP. The RDWP and CPP documents have been finalized and are now available in the locations listed on page 3 and on the DEC website (www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html).

Remedial Design Work Plan (RDWP)

The final RDWP describes the process to design the remedy for the Onondaga Lake Bottom subsite. The primary objective of the RDWP is to provide the framework for implementing remedial design activities for the Lake Bottom subsite consistent with the Consent Decree.

Comments offered during the public comment period related to topics such as the development of a web-based document repository and to the potential for impacts on the surrounding community during operations of the Sediment Consolidation Area (SCA) that will be located on Wastebed 13 in the Town of Camillus. As discussed below, the DEC is following up on the request to establish a web-based document repository. The SCA remedial design, operation, and associated air monitoring, as well as all other aspects of the remediation of Onondaga Lake, will be conducted such that any potential impacts on the surrounding community will be minimized.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM

Citizen Participation Plan (CPP)

The DEC and Honeywell are required and committed to informing and involving the public throughout the remedial design and construction phases of the Onondaga Lake Bottom subsite. The final CPP provides a formal, yet flexible plan for communication with the public and identifies specific community outreach and participation activities. The goals of the CPP are to provide communications and dialogue with the public that are open, transparent and proactive; to provide multiple opportunities for dissemination of information to the public; and to outline ways for interested stakeholders to participate in discussions and/or participation groups on the design and construction of remediation activities.

Comments offered during the public comment period related to the CPP were supportive of the methods to educate and involve the public and generally emphasized the need for greater public participation throughout all phases of the project. Some comments resulted in changes to the plan text, while other comments suggested ways to implement the CPP and will be taken into account as the plan is put into action. One suggestion highlighted the desire for a web-based document repository. The DEC agrees that widespread public access to approved documents via the Internet would be beneficial and is currently working on addressing this issue.

A key component of the CPP is the creation of a lead **Community Participation Working Group (CPWG)**. The CPWG is to provide for community involvement in the cleanup of Onondaga Lake throughout all phases of the multi-year remedial design and construction process so that the public is informed and has opportunities to contribute information, opinions, perspectives and recommendations about the program. The CPWG will be a volunteer group consisting of citizens, public officials, community leaders, and conservation and environmental leaders from the communities surrounding Onondaga Lake. It will take a broad overall look at Onondaga Lake remediation issues and community outreach activities and recommend opportunities for the community to contribute and receive information. It will be assisted, on an as needed basis, by technical experts from the DEC and Honeywell. Feedback from the CPWG will be received by the technical design team for the lake cleanup, which will evaluate and consider it throughout the design process.

The DEC will appoint approximately 9-11 members to a lead CPWG. Members will be selected based on individual interest, knowledge and experience regarding Onondaga Lake. Strong consideration will be given to a CPWG membership that is diversely represented geographically and with varied perspectives and backgrounds. Individuals must be committed to participating in approximately 4-6 meetings per year, though the actual meeting schedule will be determined by the CPWG membership. Member term limits and specific CPWG methods of operation will be determined autonomously by the appointed CPWG members. **Individuals interested in serving on the CPWG should submit a letter of interest detailing their background, interest, knowledge and experience regarding Onondaga Lake, either electronically to reg7info@gw.dec.state.ny.us or by mail to NYSDEC Region 7, Division of Public Affairs, 615 Erie Boulevard West, Syracuse, NY 13204-2400 by April 14, 2009.**

Project Contact List

The DEC is transitioning from the paper version of fact sheets and project-related information to an electronic version of the same material. The **Onondaga Lake News** email list has been created as a way for DEC to still communicate this important information to you, while helping reduce waste and pollution. By subscribing to Onondaga Lake News, DEC will send you occasional project information, updates and public meeting announcements concerning the remediation of the Onondaga Lake Bottom site and associated upland sites – right to your email inbox. Simply visit www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html to subscribe to Onondaga Lake News. Your email address will not be shared or traded with anyone. Thank you for your concern for the environment.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL DESIGN PROGRAM

Location of Reports and Information

The final CPP and RDWP documents are available for review at all of the locations listed below. Furthermore, the complete Administrative Record file, which contains information including the Consent Decree, Record of Decision, Statement of Work, Explanation of Significant Differences, SCA siting, Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, Human Health Risk Assessment, and the Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment, is available at the asterisked locations listed below. The other listed locations contain key documents, but do not contain the entire administrative record.

Atlantic States Legal Foundation*

658 West Onondaga Street
Syracuse, NY 13204
Phone: (315) 475-1170
Please call for hours of availability

Liverpool Public Library

310 Tulip Street
Liverpool, NY 13088
Phone: (315) 457-0310
Hours: M - Th, 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.;
Fri, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.;
Sat, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.;
Sun, 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

NYSDEC, Region 7*

615 Erie Blvd. West
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400
Phone: (315) 426-7400
Hours: M - Fri, 8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Please call for an appointment

Onondaga County Public Library

Syracuse Branch at the Galleries
447 South Salina Street
Syracuse, NY 13202
Phone: (315) 435-1800
Hours: M, Th, Fri, Sat, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.;
Tu, W, 9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Moon Library

SUNY ESF
1 Forestry Drive
Syracuse, NY 13210
Phone: (315) 470-6712
Hours: check www.esf.edu/moonlib/

Camillus Town Hall

4600 West Genesee Street, Room 100
Syracuse, NY 13219
Phone: (315) 488-1234
Hours: M-Fri, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

NYSDEC*

625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7016
Phone: (518) 402-9676
Hours: M - Fri, 8:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Please call for an appointment

The final RDWP and CPP documents and other information on the Onondaga Lake cleanup are also available online at www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html on the DEC website.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE
ONONDAGA LAKE BOTTOM SUBSITE REMEDIAL
DESIGN PROGRAM**

APPENDIX B

ONONDAGA LAKE REMEDIAL DESIGN WORK GROUPS

Baseline & Long Term Monitoring

Capping

Citizen Participation

Dredging & SCA Operations

Emissions & Odors

Groundwater

Habitat

SCA Civil & Geotechnical

SMU 8

Water Treatment
