

FACT SHEET

DEC Announces Public Meeting and Opportunity to Comment On Proposal to Clean Up Depew Village Landfill (OU2) Site

NY State Superfund Program

November 2009

Project No. 915105

Introduction

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) invites you to attend a public meeting about cleanup plans for two acres of stream bank adjacent to the Depew Village Landfill, contaminated sediments in a one mile section of Cayuga Creek, and a contaminated portion of the Zurbrick Road slope. The stream bank, sediments, and slope together make up the Depew Village Landfill Operable Unit 2 (OU2) site. Operable units are portions of a site that for technical reasons can be cleaned up or addressed separately. The landfill, designated as Operable Unit 1, is located off of Rutherford Place in the Village of Depew and is the suspected source of contamination for Operable Unit 2.



Depew Village Landfill Site Map

A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at 7 PM in the Village of Depew Municipal Building (85 Manitou Street, Depew, NY). At the meeting, representatives from the DEC will discuss a proposal to clean up the site and be available to answer questions from the public. The cleanup proposal is described in a document called the “Proposed Remedial Action Plan” (PRAP), which is available for your review at the locations listed in this fact sheet and on the DEC website. **Public comments on the PRAP will be accepted from November 2 until December 1, 2009.** You may address written comments to the DEC project manager listed on the opposite page.

Contamination at the Depew Village Landfill site is being addressed under the New York State Superfund, New York’s program for addressing suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. For more information on the Superfund Program, visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>.

What Does the Proposed Cleanup Plan Involve?

The proposed cleanup, or remedy, for the site includes:

- Excavating contaminated sediment from Cayuga Creek and properly disposing it offsite;
- Removing contaminated soil from a section of the stream bank and stabilizing it; and
- Removing the contaminated soil from a section of the Zurbrick Road slope. This will allow the Village of Depew and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to proceed with structural streambank protection under their existing Project Cooperation Agreement.

The proposed remedy represents the alternative preferred by NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). It was chosen following a detailed investigation of the site and evaluation of alternatives to address

contamination. NYSDEC and NYSDOH believe the proposed remedy best meets the criteria for protecting human health and the environment. The proposed remedy calls for the removal of metal-contaminated soils along sections of the streambank, which will eliminate human exposure potential and a source of contamination to the stream environment. Cleanup of contaminated sediments will eliminate the sediments as a source of contamination to the Cayuga Creek environment. The other remedies considered, “No Action” (required by State Law as an alternative against which other alternatives should be evaluated) and “Selected Sediment Excavation with Soil Removal,” would not provide the same level of protection of human health and the environment as the proposed remedy. The estimated cost to design and construct the proposed remedy is \$8,600,000.

What Comes Next?

A public meeting will be held on November 17, 2009 to discuss the PRAP. Comments received during the comment period will be considered as the PRAP for the Depew Village Landfill OU2 Site is finalized. The selected cleanup plan will be described in a document called the Record of Decision (ROD) that will explain why the plan was selected. NYSDEC will respond to the comments it received about the PRAP in a summary included in the ROD. Fact sheets similar to this one will be distributed periodically to keep the public informed as the cleanup continues and project documents become available.

Site Background

The site is listed as a “Class 2” site in the State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites (list of State Superfund sites). A Class 2 site represents a significant threat to public health and the environment and requires action.

The Depew Village Landfill OU2 is located in a mixed residential, commercial and industrial area. The operable unit consists of approximately 2 acres of stream bank / slope as well a 1 mile section of Cayuga Creek sediments. Both the soils and sediments have been contaminated with metals, primarily lead. The source of the metals contamination to both the soils and Cayuga Creek sediments appears to be the former Depew Village Landfill, OU1. Metal-contaminated fill materials at the former landfill are exposed along the stream shoreline and have been eroding into the stream. Some of this fill material appears to also have been used to stabilize the Zurbrick Road slope south of the former landfill.

Who Should I Call If I Have Questions About the Site?

Should you have any question about this project, please feel welcome to contact these representatives:

Environmental Questions

Randy Hough, Project Manager
NYSDEC
625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233
Phone: (518) 402-9767
rshough@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Health-Related Questions

Matt Forcucci, Project Manager
NYSDOH
584 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
Phone: (716) 847-4385
mjf13@health.state.ny.us

Locations to View Project Documents

Public interest and input in this project is valued and appreciated. To keep you informed, DEC has set up locations at which you may view project documents. These locations include:

Village of Depew Municipal Building

85 Manitou Street
Depew, NY 14043
(716) 683-1400
Contact: Elizabeth Melock

NYSDEC Region 9 Office

270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 851-7220
Contact: David Locey (*please call for appointment*)

You may also access project documents online at DEC’s Region 9 Environmental Remediation Project Information page, <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37554.html>. Look for Depew Village Landfill entry under the Erie County project listings.