



# FACT SHEET

## State Superfund Program

Receive Site Fact Sheets by *Email*. See "For More Information" to Learn How.

**Site Name:** Robert Moses Parkway - South Site  
**DEC Site #:** 932166  
**Address:** SW Corner of Intersection of John Daly Blvd;  
Niagara Falls, NY 14303  
**Website:** <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/104973.html>

Have questions?  
See  
"Who to Contact"  
Below

### Investigation to Begin at State Superfund Site

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) will soon begin a detailed environmental study at the Robert Moses Parkway-South Site ("site") located at SW Corner of Intersection of John Daly Blvd, Niagara Falls, Niagara County. Please see the map for the site location. Documents related to the cleanup of this site can be found at the location identified below under "Where to Find Information."

#### Investigation Work Plan

The investigation work plan, called a "Remedial Investigation Work Plan / Scope of Work," was submitted to DEC under New York's State Superfund Program. OPRHP (the "responsible party(ies)"), with oversight by DEC and New York State Department of Health (DOH), will perform the investigation which will assess conditions on-site (and, if appropriate, off-site).

#### Highlights of the Site Investigation

The purpose of the investigation is to define the nature and extent of contamination in soil, surface water, groundwater and any other parts of the environment that may be affected. The site investigation will fully characterize all contamination at the site.

A Remedial Investigation (RI) will be conducted to determine the nature and extent of pesticide and chlorinated organic contamination at the site. The RI will consist of:

- An electromagnetic survey to identify potentially buried drums;
- Test pits to characterize subsurface soil conditions;
- Collection of surface soil samples to characterize surface conditions;
- Collection of groundwater samples using monitoring wells;
- Collection of pore water samples from areas of 'shot rock' fill to supplement groundwater data; and
- Analytical testing of all water samples and any soils that exhibit signs of contamination.

During the RI interim remedial measures (IRMs) may be taken to remove contamination south of Robert Moses Parkway. An IRM is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before the Feasibility Study and Proposed

Remedial Action Plan. At least four IRM excavations are planned within the construction zone to address the discrete areas of contamination identified to date. All excavated material will be disposed of off-site at a properly permitted facility. Details of IRM activities will be detailed in an IRM Work Plan that is approved of by DEC.

### **Next Steps**

The information collected during the investigation will be summarized in a report. After the site investigation has begun, OPRHP, with oversight provided by DEC, will conduct a “Feasibility Study”. This study uses information developed during the site investigation to develop and evaluate potential ways to clean up contamination related to the site. The information collected during the site investigation may also support the conclusion that no action, or no further action, is needed to address site-related contamination.

DEC will then develop a draft cleanup plan, called a "Proposed Remedial Action Plan". This plan describes the remedy preferred by DEC, or, if warranted, a no action or no further action alternative. The draft cleanup plan explains the decision that led to the preferred remedy by discussing each alternative and the reasons for choosing or rejecting it. The goal of the plan will be to ensure the protection of public health and the environment. DEC will announce the draft cleanup plan in a future fact sheet, and will present it to the public for its review and comment during a 30-day comment period and at a public meeting.

### **Background**

**Location:** The site is located to the south-west of the intersection of John Daly Boulevard and Buffalo Avenue in the city of Niagara Falls at the eastern end of Niagara Falls State Park, which is operated by OPRHP. The site is bounded to the north by residential properties and a hotel, to the east by New York Power Authority property, and to the south by the Niagara River. The Niagara Falls State Park parcel continues to the west of the site towards Goat Island.

**Site Features:** The site is approximately 17 acres in size. The site is bisected by the east-west lanes of Robert Moses Parkway. The site is within the Riverway construction project that is re-routing Robert Moses Parkway and expanding access to this portion of the park. The remainder of the site is mainly open parkland used for passive recreation.

**Current Zoning and Land Use:** The site is currently part of Niagara Falls State Park operated by OPRHP.

**Past Use of the Site:** New York State has owned the property since 1885 when the Niagara Reservation was created to preserve the land surrounding Niagara Falls. The north-eastern portion of the site historically contained the Port Day Pond, which was filled in starting in the 1930s. Southern portions of the site were created by the placement of large rock and other material into the Niagara River during the construction of the Robert Moses Power Project in the 1960s. Contamination in the former pond area was initially discovered in 2013 prior to the reconfiguration the Robert Moses Parkway interchange. Additional areas of contamination were discovered in 2015 during utility installation and site grading work south of Robert Moses Parkway.

**Site Geology and Hydrogeology:** Overburden soil consists of reworked fill composed of silt,

sand, gravel and clay soils followed by silt and clay or silt and fine sand in the underlying native soils. Depth to bedrock varies slightly but is usually 8 to 12 feet below ground surface. In areas of man-made land the overburden soil typically consists of a thin layer of topsoil underlain by fill material, which is underlain by large rock fill. Depth to the rock fill layer varies, but is typically 10 to 13 feet below ground surface.

Groundwater data is limited at this time. Groundwater has been identified in the former pond area, but groundwater elevations have not been reported. Niagara River water stills flows through the rock fill base of the southern portions of the site.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC's website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/104973.html> and <http://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/derexternal/haz/details.cfm?pageid=3&progno=932166>.

**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 and require cleanup before committing State funds.

For more information about the SSF, visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Where to Find Information

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

OPRHP  
Deveaux Woods State Park  
3160 Deveaux Woods Drive  
Niagara Falls, NY 14305

### Who to Contact

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

#### Project Related Questions

Benjamin McPherson  
NYS DEC  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
270 Michigan Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
716-851-7220  
[benjamin.mcpherson@dec.ny.gov](mailto:benjamin.mcpherson@dec.ny.gov)

#### Site-Related Health Questions

Matthew Forcucci  
NYS DOH  
584 Delaware Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
716-847-4501  
[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. DEC 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.

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

