



New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation
FACT SHEET

**PROPOSED PLAN FOR OPERABLE UNIT 2 OF THE
GEDDES BROOK/NINEMILE CREEK SITE
ONONDAGA LAKE SUPERFUND SITE**

Onondaga County - May 2009

Dear Interested Citizen:

This fact sheet provides a summary of the Proposed Plan for Operable Unit 2 (OU2) of the Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek site. The Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek site is part of the Onondaga Lake Superfund Site.

The Proposed Plan, as well as other relevant documents, are available at the repositories noted below.

If you have any questions or would like more information about this project, please contact:

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

625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, New York 12233-7013
(518) 402-9676

E-mail: tjl Larson@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
NYSDOH

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

E-mail: bee i@health.state.ny.us

Introduction

The Proposed Plan describes the remedial alternatives considered for OU2 of the Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek Site (see Figure 1), which has been a source of contamination to Onondaga Lake. It identifies the preferred remedy as well as the rationale for proposing this remedy. The Proposed Plan was developed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

The Proposed Plan is being provided as a supplement to the Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek Remedial Investigation (RI) report, Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment reports, Feasibility Study (FS) report, and Supplemental FS report. Its purpose is to inform the public of NYSDEC and EPA's preferred remedy and to solicit public comments pertaining to all four of the remedial alternatives (including the preferred remedy) evaluated in the Proposed Plan, as well as the RI, FS, and Supplemental FS reports.

The Proposed Plan for Operable Unit 2

NYSDEC and EPA's preferred remedy for OU2 includes the dredging/excavation and removal of an estimated 58,000 cubic yards of contaminated channel sediments and floodplain soils/sediments over approximately 15 acres. As part of the preferred remedy, clean materials would be placed throughout OU2 where removal activities occur. Depending on location, as described further in the Proposed Plan, these materials would consist of a habitat layer and, if needed, backfill.

As part of the preferred remedy, contaminated sediments and soils removed from the stream and floodplains would be disposed of at either: Honeywell's LCP Bridge Street Subsite containment system, which was designed and constructed pursuant to the requirements of a September 2000 Record of Decision (ROD), and is being monitored; or the Sediment Consolidation Area (SCA) that will be constructed at Wastebed 13 as part of the remediation of the Onondaga Lake Bottom subsite pursuant to the requirements of a July 2005 ROD.

Restoration of the stream bed and banks, wetlands, and habitats would be performed following sediment and soil removal. This would include placement of a habitat layer with appropriate substrate types and thickness as well as plantings of appropriate species of wetlands and uplands vegetation. The details of habitat restoration would be developed during remedial design.

It is estimated that the dredging/excavating, backfilling, and habitat layer placement components of the preferred remedy, along with dewatering, water treatment, and transport/disposal of sediments and soils at the LCP Bridge Street Subsite or at the SCA, would take approximately one year to implement and would cost approximately \$16.5 million.

The preferred remedy would address all of the preliminary remediation goals with a combination of removal, backfilling, and habitat layer placement technologies. The preferred remedy would be protective of human health since the completion of the remedial activities would minimize direct contact to contaminated sediment/soil. Existing fish consumption advisories for Onondaga Lake and its tributaries would remain in effect. As the remediation of Onondaga Lake and its subsites move forward, fish monitoring would continue as part of the State's ongoing evaluation of the current fish consumption advisories in place, as well as to confirm the achievement of the fish target concentrations for Onondaga Lake and its tributaries. The preferred remedy would result in a long-term reduction in the toxicity, mobility, and volume of the contaminants of concern in Ninemile Creek, including: mercury, arsenic, lead, hexachlorobenzene, phenol, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, PCBs, and polychlorinated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins/polychlorinated dibenzofurans.

Changes to the preferred remedy, or a change from the preferred remedy to another remedy, may be made if public comments or additional data indicate that such a change would result in a more appropriate remedial action, pursuant to applicable environmental laws. The final decision regarding the selected remedy will be made after consideration of all public comments. NYSDEC and EPA are soliciting public comments on the Proposed Plan and the RI, FS, and Supplemental FS reports because NYSDEC and EPA may select a remedy other than the preferred remedy contained within the Proposed Plan.

Public Comment

The Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek RI/FS reports and the Proposed Plan have been made available to the community for a public comment period which concludes on July 3, 2009. In addition to the document repositories listed below, the Proposed Plan can also be found at www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37558.html. Comments should be sent to the NYSDEC Project Manager whose address is provided above. **On June 11, 2009, NYSDEC and EPA will hold a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Martha Eddy Room in the Art and Home Center at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, New York.** The meeting will be held to present the conclusions of the RI/FS, to elaborate further on the reasons for recommending the preferred remedy, to answer questions regarding the proposed cleanup plan, and to receive public comments. Comments received at the public meeting, as well as written comments, will be documented in the "Responsiveness Summary" section of the ROD, the document which formalizes the selection of the remedy.

Document Repositories

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

NYSDEC, DER

625 Broadway, 12th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-7013
Phone: (518) 402-9676
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.

Atlantic States Legal Foundation

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



Figure 1
Geddes Brook/ Ninemile
Creek OU-2 Site Map