

# CORNING, N.Y.

## Residential Properties Investigation & Cleanup

State Superfund Program

Study Area, Corning, NY 14830

### WHO TO CONTACT



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

#### PROJECT-RELATED QUESTIONS:

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#### SITE-RELATED HEALTH QUESTIONS:

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Empire State Plaza  
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Albany, NY 12237  
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beei@health.ny.gov

#### FOR INFORMATION ON THE STATE SUPERFUND PROGRAM, SITE NO. 851046:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/97180.html>

### NYSDEC, NYSDOH and Corning Incorporated to Hold Public Availability Session on May 9th

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and Corning Incorporated will hold a public availability session on May 9, 2019 to discuss upcoming work in the Study Area and next steps for the project. State agency staff and Corning Incorporated representatives will be available to answer questions you may have. In addition to the evening session, state agency staff and Corning Incorporated representatives will be available earlier in the afternoon for face-to-face meetings with property owners to review and discuss their soil data and the remedial and restoration activities planned or anticipated for their properties. Residents are encouraged to attend either, or both, sessions at their convenience.

#### Thursday, May 9, 2019, Radisson Hotel Corning 125 Denison Parkway East, Corning

- **Face-to-Face Meetings: 1:00 – 5:30 p.m. (no appointment is necessary)**
- **Public Availability Session: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

#### Highlights of Activities Planned for 2019

- Corning anticipates remediating approximately 40 properties in 2019, subject to property owner approvals.
- Activities will be performed by Corning Incorporated with oversight by NYSDEC and NYSDOH.
- Work and equipment operation will typically take place five days per week (Monday through Friday), generally between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Areas disturbed during cleanup work will be restored, in-kind and based on local building codes, to pre-existing conditions in consultation with each property owner.

## Pre-Design Investigation Activities

The residential portion of the Study Area includes three operable units (OU1, OU2, and OU5) as shown on the March 2019 Status Map below.



Additional characterization activities in OU1, OU2, and OU5 are ongoing pursuant to the NYSDEC-approved Pre-Design Investigation (PDI) Work Plan. The purpose of the additional characterization activities is to gather data to assist in defining the extent of soil contamination encountered in OU1, OU2, and OU5. These additional data will help to determine the limits of the property-specific remedial plans. This investigation approach may result in several rounds of samples being collected on individual properties, to clearly delineate excavation limits. In 2018, more than 2,200 samples were collected from 148 residential properties and the City of Corning rights-of-way (such as city streets, grass medians, etc.).

## Cleanup and Restoration of Properties

Based on the July 2017 Decision Document, the cleanup includes removal of soil up to 2 feet below ground surface (bgs) which exceeds residential soil cleanup objectives and/or contains a layer of ash, brick and/or glass.

Remediation of residential properties began last year with three properties. Construction Completion Reports will be submitted for these properties, with “No Further Action” letters issued following NYSDEC’s approval of the Construction Completion Reports.

Beginning in May, remediation activities will resume in areas within OU1, OU2, and OU5. As part of the remedial design process, individual property owners will be contacted and provided with approved remedial design drawings. Staff from NYSDEC, NYSDOH and Corning Incorporated will meet with residents to review these



plans prior to the remedial work. Property surveys will also be completed to document property specific inventories of trees, sheds, fencing, decking or other unique property features. Property owners are encouraged to offer input on remedial design drawings, particularly with respect to restoration of their property. Once remedial design drawings are finalized and approved by NYSDEC and the property owner, construction activities can begin. Construction is expected to continue into October 2019, weather permitting.

All soil excavated will be disposed off-site at a permitted facility. All areas that are disturbed during the removal will be restored with clean soil or features such as sod, sidewalks, driveways, trees, shrubs, garden beds, sheds, decks, and pools that will be replaced in-kind. A geo-textile fabric will be laid down to serve as a demarcation layer between any material remaining in place and clean backfill. NYSDEC will require a Site Management Plan (SMP) to ensure the integrity of the remedy over time. Generally, a SMP will require notifications to Corning Incorporated, NYSDEC or the City of Corning under applicable building codes for disturbance of soil deeper than two feet in certain areas of the property, so that appropriate measures can be taken by Corning Incorporated to address any layers of material that may require special management.

Trucks will be covered to properly secure all material during transport. Truck traffic patterns will be designed to minimize congestion on local roads and maintain safety in the community. NYSDEC and NYSDOH have approved a Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) that requires continuous air monitoring during all excavation and backfilling activities to ensure dust is not released to the environment or adjacent properties during the cleanup.

NYSDEC will continue to keep area residents informed as areas are scheduled for cleanup. NYSDEC is adaptively managing this project to ensure the remediation and restoration activities are completed as efficiently as practicable.

## Site Background

NYSDEC, in consultation with the NYSDOH, continues to oversee the investigation and cleanup of the Study Area site bounded by the Chemung River to the south, Post Creek to the east, I-86 to the north, and Pyrex Street to the west. The Study Area includes the Corning-Painted Post High School property; the Corning Christian Academy property; the City of Corning Memorial Stadium property; a residential area consisting of 326 individual properties; and flood control areas along the Chemung River and Post Creek.



The Site Characterization confirmed layers of ash, brick, and/or glass present in various portions of the Study Area requiring remediation, including on residential properties and school use areas. Soil and groundwater were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and pesticides. Based on the investigation, the primary contaminants of concern are lead, arsenic, cadmium and SVOCs. To date, sampling has been conducted at 321 properties. NYSDEC has issued “No Further Action” letters for 125 of those properties.

In 2017, Corning completed remedial activities under the approved Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan at the three public use properties comprising OU3 (Corning-Painted Post High School, Corning Christian Academy and Memorial Stadium). This work, combined with previous work at the school district, is expected to constitute the final remedy (subject to site management and institutional controls) for the public use areas.

Groundwater samples have been collected from seven groundwater monitoring wells installed on school and City property, the school’s irrigation well (used to water athletic fields as needed in dry weather), and an adjacent public water supply well. Groundwater monitoring to date has not identified levels of site-related contaminants above groundwater standards. The area is served by public water and no private water supplies (other than the school’s irrigation well) are known to serve this area.

## Next Steps

NYSDEC and NYSDOH will continue to oversee Corning Incorporated’s remedial program including completion of the PDI and Remedial Designs for residential properties within OU1, OU2 and OU5. NYSDEC will keep the public informed throughout the additional investigation and cleanup activities with newsletters such as this one during the 2019 season. Stay tuned for more details.



## WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION



Project documents are  
at these location(s):

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Southeast Steuben  
County Library  
300 Nasser Civic Center Plaza  
Suite 101 Corning, NY 14830  
(607) 936-3713

Region 8 NYSDEC  
Headquarters  
6274 East Avon Lima Road  
Avon, NY 14414  
(585) 226-5324  
(call for an appointment)

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Project documents  
are available on the  
NYSDEC website at:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/  
chemical/37556.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/37556.html)

## 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 at: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html](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 and announcements for all contaminated sites in the county(ies) you select.



