

CORNING, NY

Ongoing Investigations & Cleanup Activities

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the New York State Department of Health (DOH) are committed to a careful and thorough cleanup of the Study Area and other impacted properties while keeping the Corning community informed of our actions.

Study Area 2021 Cleanup and Restoration: Updates, Accomplishments, and Plans

To date, sampling was conducted at 324 properties. Based on sampling results that showed no threat to public health or the environment, the DEC issued “No Further Action” letters for 125 of those properties with an additional 3 “No Further Action” letters expected to be issued in the near future. Corning Incorporated currently anticipates completing soil excavation and restoration at approximately 60-70 properties during 2022 and the remaining Study Area properties will be completed in 2023. See the attached figure for the current status of individual properties in the Study Area. These plans are subject to oversight by DEC, DOH, and property owner approvals.

In 2021, Corning Incorporated completed the cleanup of 65 properties under DEC and DOH oversight. The remediation efforts included excavation of impacted materials from residential properties, backfill of the excavated areas, and site restoration. Air monitoring was conducted during excavation and backfilling activities. The results of that monitoring are available on the DEC Study Area website: www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/97180.html. Corning Incorporated will continue to conduct soil sampling within the Study Area that may be needed to develop property-specific excavation and restoration plans.

Corning Incorporated will continue to submit comprehensive design packages and will follow a detailed schedule throughout the 2022 construction season. Construction activities are planned to begin in April 2022 and DEC and Corning Incorporated will begin meeting with owners of properties planned for remediation in 2022 shortly.

Other accomplishments achieved in 2021 include:

- Approval of Construction Completion Report for the Corning-Painted Post School District (June 2021).
- Approval of Operable Unit 3 (OU3) Soil Cover Construction Completion Report Addendum (July 2021).

The Decision Documents and interim site management plans (ISMPs) address all soil management issues until the remedy is fully implemented and will terminate once the remediation work is complete and a Department-approved SMP is in place. The ISMP and Decision Document requirements related to Operable Unit Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 5, require that Corning Incorporated:



Example of front yard restoration in the Study Area

- ✓ maintain access control;
- ✓ track property ownership changes to allow for continued communication with owners;
- ✓ submit an annual notification to property owners of Corning Incorporated's offer to implement the remedy for property owners who chose to decline implementation of the remedy and/or sampling on their property (the same requirement applies for new owners);
- ✓ submit an annual reminder to certain property owners of Corning Incorporated's commitment to handle (excavate, manage and dispose) any remaining subject material, as necessary and in accordance with the intended use of the property;
- ✓ submit an annual reminder to the City and Town of Corning Code Enforcement Offices and Departments of Planning and Economic Development to timely inform Corning Incorporated of any building permits or other approvals they grant for properties within the area where subject material remains post remedy;
- ✓ submit annual reminders to the City of Corning, Town of Corning, and/or Steuben County to timely inform Corning Incorporated of any City or County plans to conduct intrusive maintenance work within the area addressed by current Decision Documents (e.g., soil disturbance work); and,
- ✓ conduct periodic reviews and certify the institutional and/or engineering controls.

The complete repository of site documents, including the interim site management plans (ISMPs) related to Operable Unit Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 5 are available at the following DECinfo Locator webpage: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/851046/>. This repository is subject to change as it gets periodically updated.

Study Area Sampling and Pre-Design Investigation (PDI) Activities Update

Under the Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan and its addenda, sampling was conducted on every property within the Study Area that granted access to the remedial team. Any remaining and possible additional sampling will be completed during 2022 as needed to further investigate the extent of the presence of ash, brick, and/or glass in the area and any needs for remediation.

Activities Developed Beyond the Study Area

On-going site characterization investigations include:

- Stewart Park (Site # 851060)
- McKinney Park (Site # 851056)
- William Street/Hillvue Park (Site # 851055)

Remediation activities are currently ongoing at the following site:

- 3510 West Road (Site # 851052)

Other accomplishments achieved in 2021 include:

- Corning Incorporated entered into Consent Orders with the DEC for the Guthrie Center Way (Site # 851047) and Guthrie Clinic North (Site # 851062) sites. Corning Incorporated will perform a site characterization to ensure that these sites are protective of public health and the environment.

Other investigations/activities anticipated in 2022 include:

- 343 Woodview Avenue (Site # 851065)
- Centerway Pedestrian Bridge Approach (Site # 851047)
- Denison Park (Site # 851066)
- Vine Street (Site # 851067)
- City of Corning Sewer Right of Way (Site # 851057)

- Connector Street (Site # 851064)
- Guthrie Center Way (Site # 851047)
- Guthrie Clinic North (Site # 851062)
- City of Corning Fire Department (Site # 851050)
- Corning Mini Storage (Site # 851053)
- 3148 Van Etten Road Property (Site # 851061)
- Conhocton Street (Site # 851063)
- Corning Refractories (Site # 851048)
- Steuben Glass Facility (Site # C851037B)
- Former Fulton Finishing Plant (Site # C851037)
- South Corning Spoils Area/Caton Road (Site # 851068)
- South Corning Road (Site # 851069)
- Gridley Disposal Area (Site # 851070)
- 247 Dodge Street (Site # 851071)
- 29 Townsend Street (Site # 851072)

Post-Remediation Observations, Questions, or Concerns

The DEC's top priority is ensuring that community members are not exposed to any site-related contamination. DEC and DOH are coordinating closely with Corning Incorporated to facilitate completing this work expeditiously to limit any disruptions. If you have any questions regarding Corning Incorporated's sampling, remediation or restoration work, please contact DEC or Corning Incorporated and an assessment will be performed. DEC and Corning Incorporated's contact information can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Corning Incorporated remains responsible for conducting periodic reviews and certifying that the institutional and/or engineering controls remain in place and continue to protect human health and the environment. For more information on what these controls entail, visit

<https://studyareacorning.com/post-restoration-property-site-management/>



Example of front yard restoration in the Study Area

If you have any questions regarding sampling or restoration activities, please feel free to contact the team (see the contact information at the end of the newsletter). Issues encountered by property owners that could be related to remedial activities include:

- *Water infiltration in basements and/or new mold blooms:* If property owners previously have not had an issue with water infiltration into their houses, but are now experiencing water infiltration that they believe is a result of remedial activities, they should contact the DEC and/or DOH or Corning Incorporated immediately. Exposure to building dampness and dampness-related agents, including mold, has been recognized nationally and at the State and local levels as a potential public health problem. Indoor mold exposure causes upper and lower respiratory health effects. Asthma and other allergic respiratory diseases can be also exacerbated by mold exposures.

- *Property water ponding:* On properties where excavation has taken place, all disturbed areas are graded to preexisting elevations. It is possible that after regrading newly placed soils can settle potentially causing ponding or redirection of runoff towards structures. If you believe the soil on your property has settled, please contact DEC and/or DOH, or Corning Incorporated.
- *Garden/yard restoration and vegetation establishment:* The remedial teams continue to work closely with property owners to discuss all details regarding the restoration of gardens, yard and other vegetation prior to the start of activities. Following backfilling and restoration activities, an inspection will be performed with the property owner, the DEC representatives, and Corning Incorporated representatives to identify any outstanding issues to be addressed prior to demobilization from the property. In the unlikely event that restoration plantings do not survive, a one-year warranty applies and they will be replaced by Corning Incorporated.

What happens if ash, brick, and/or glass are present outside of the Study Area?

DEC is also working with the DOH to determine the appropriate approach and program (or programs) to investigate and clean up other properties contaminated with fill containing glass, ash, and/or brick which are outside of the defined Study Area. DEC will keep the public informed as additional investigation and cleanups are planned, with newsletters such as this one. To ensure the protection of public health and the environment, DEC will continue to evaluate any additional locations of possible historic waste disposal as we become aware of them.



Example of front yard restoration in the Study Area

The DEC will continue to keep area residents informed as new areas are scheduled for cleanup.

Where these materials have been encountered, the remedial approach has generally consisted of:

- **Clean Cover Soil.** A clean cover consistent with the current land use has been required (one foot of cover for industrial or commercial; two foot of cover for residential). Ash/brick/glass should not be left on the ground surface.
- **A Site Management Plan (SMP).** The SMP includes details regarding the management of future excavations, including a provision to allow a residential property owner to dispose of inconsequential amounts of ash, brick, and/or glass in household garbage.
- **Reduce Soil Contact.** All soils contain naturally occurring metals and microorganisms and, therefore, it is always a good idea to minimize getting soil onto the body. People may come into incidental contact with contaminants present in soils through home maintenance and recreational activities. Maintenance of a grass or mulch cover will help prevent direct contact with the soil. Unnecessary digging in the dirt should be avoided, and children and adults should wash hands after outdoor activities. The use of doormats and periodic damp mopping of floors can help reduce exposure to outdoor soil that might be tracked indoors.

How can I easily contact the DEC and DOH teams to express concerns or provide information?

If you have information about the additional areas listed above, if you find ash/brick/glass on your property, if you have encountered issues or have concerns after remedial activities have taken place on your property, if you would like to request an in-person meeting, or if you have any other comments regarding the remedy and investigation areas, you can contact the DEC and DOH teams via either the contacts via the following means:

- Emailing us at StudyArea.Corning@Parsons.com; or
- Calling our hotline at the toll-free number 833-770-1716; or
- Filling out our online form at <https://studyareacorning.com/contact-us/>

Contact and Document Access Information

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

FOR INQUIRIES DIRECTED TO THE AGENCIES:

General Inquiries/Comments for NYSDEC Team
StudyArea.Corning@parsons.com

Samantha Salotto, P.E.
NYSDEC, Project Manager
(518) 402-9903, Samantha.Salotto@dec.ny.gov

Scott Williams
NYSDEC, Construction Inspector
(585) 773-8034, Scott.Williams@dec.ny.gov

Melissa A. Doroski, MPH
NYSDOH, Project Manager
(518) 402-7857, Melissa.Doroski@health.ny.gov

FOR INQUIRIES DIRECTED TO THE CORNING INCORPORATED TEAM:

Toll-Free Hotline: 866-256-1902;
Corning Incorporated Inquiry Email:
StudyArea@Corning.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Project documents are made available at the [Southeast Steuben County Library](#) (607-936-3713) and [Region 8 NYSDEC Headquarters](#) (585-226-5324). Some repositories may be temporarily unavailable due to COVID-19 precautions.

Key project documents and more information are available on the following sites:

NYSDEC Study Area Site Website:

www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/97180.html

NYSDEC Public Availability Website:

www.studyareacorning.com

DECinfo Locator (Online Repository):

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/851046>

To Receive Periodic Fact Sheets by Email

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html>

STUDY AREA, 851046

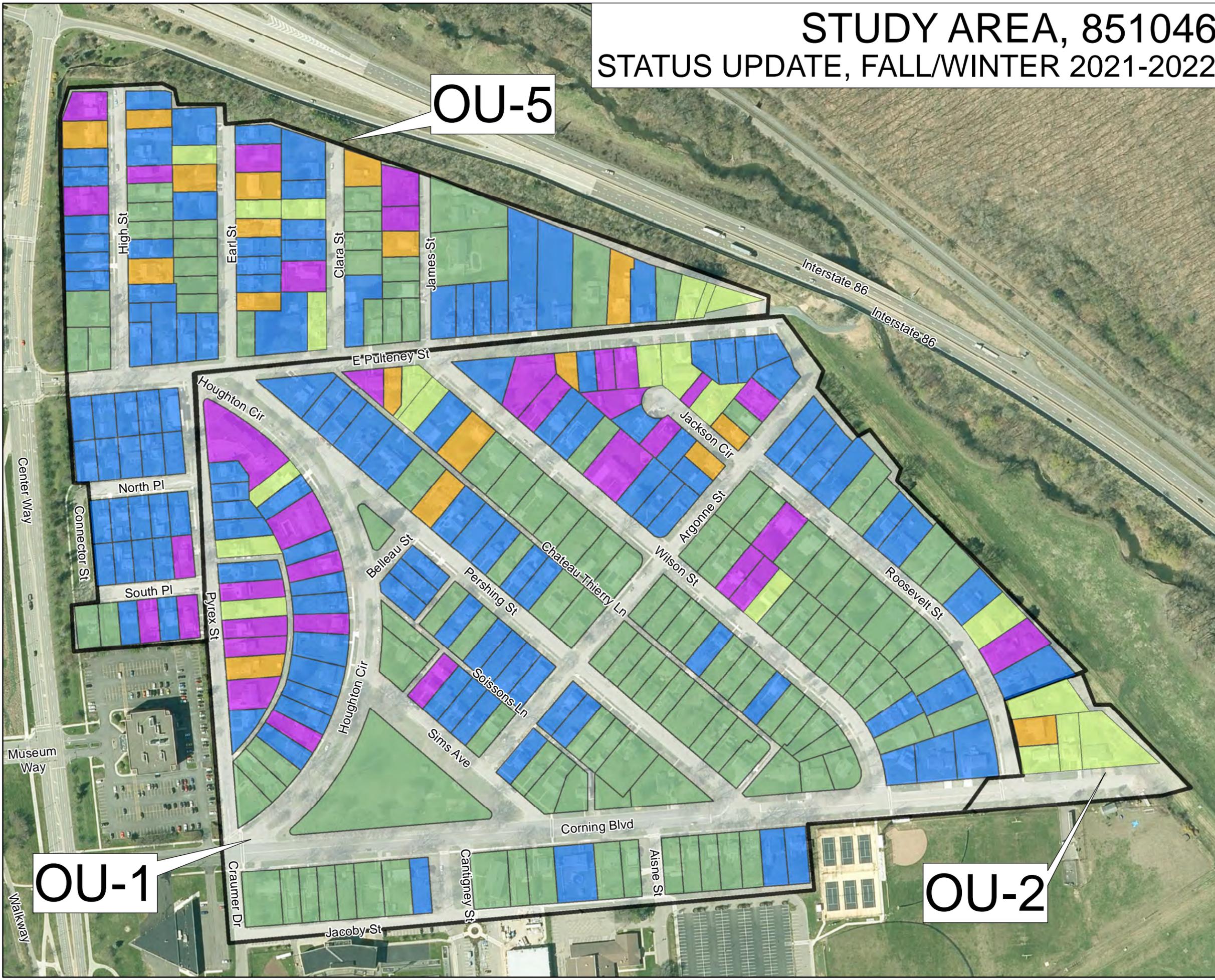
STATUS UPDATE, FALL/WINTER 2021-2022



OU-5

Property Status

- Remedial Design Being Developed
- Property Status Under Evaluation
- NFA Issued
- Remediation Complete/Ongoing
- DEC Approved Remedial Design



OU-1

OU-2