

# FRIEDRICHSOHN COOPERAGE CLEANUP PROJECT

## THE PROJECT

A cleanup project will begin this winter at the site of the former Friedrichsohn Cooperage in Waterford, N.Y. Led by SI Group and GE, the work will build on and complete previous cleanup efforts at the site. The project will be done in accordance with a plan designed to protect public health and the environment that was approved by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH). Approximately 17,550 cubic yards of soil and sediment from a feeder canal and the former location of the cooperage adjacent to Route 32 in the village of Waterford will be removed. The canal will be temporarily dammed and pumped dry prior to soil and sediment excavation. The soil and sediment will be transported via truck to a safe facility where it will be disposed of. Contaminated soil and sediment removal is expected to start on March 15, 2021. Some of the site mobilization and preparation activities outside of the areas of contamination are currently being initiated.

## LOCATION

The site is on Route 32 (Saratoga Ave.) in Waterford, N.Y. Cleanup will occur in the canal and at the former location of the cooperage between Burton Ave. and O'Connor Drive.

## SITE BACKGROUND

In its early years, Friedrichsohn Cooperage made and refurbished wooden kegs and barrels. At the time it closed, its primary business was cleaning and refurbishing metal drums, including empty drums from SI Group and GE. Inspections of the facility after closing found the buildings in poor condition as well as abandoned drums, some of which were in poor repair. The buildings were demolished, and the site was added to the New York State Superfund program.



## QUICK FACTS

ABOUT THE SITE	COMMUNITY INFORMATION	SAFETY MEASURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Former barrel-making site</li> <li>Operated from 1817 to 1991</li> <li>Feeder canal now used by NYS canal system</li> <li>Work will not interrupt current use of the canal or disrupt the boating season</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NYSDEC will oversee work</li> <li>LAND Remediation, a Waterford company, will do the work</li> <li>Traffic plan in place—all truck traffic will be contained to Route 32 (Saratoga Avenue)</li> <li>Odor control plan to mitigate smell</li> <li>For questions and concerns, please call 518-328-4841 or email <a href="mailto:friedrichsohncooperage@gmail.com">friedrichsohncooperage@gmail.com</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full fencing around project area</li> <li>Real-time Community Air Monitoring Plan, measuring:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dust levels</li> <li>Organic vapors</li> <li>24-hour daily PCB air monitoring program during hazardous soil and sediment removal</li> </ul> </li> <li>Security guard on site when work is not being performed</li> </ul>

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## ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

- **February 15, 2021:** Site preparation, clearing trees/grubbing, fencing, utility work, nonhazardous spillway construction and area prep
- **March 11, 2021:** Virtual community meeting to discuss project details and answer community questions/concerns
- **March 15, 2021:** Intrusive site work begins
- **September 6, 2021:** Primary excavation work concludes
- **September 6, 2021 – October 15, 2021:** Site restoration activities
- **October 29, 2021:** Work is complete

## COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The remediation project will provide benefits to the community for generations to come. In addition to removing the contamination, the visual appearance of the site will be considerably improved from its current state. Cement slabs on the site will be removed and replaced with topsoil and grass cover.

## CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Local experts from LAND Remediation of Waterford, N.Y., have been selected to perform the work. The locally owned company is a full-service environmental remediation company with a proven track record of safely handling tough environmental challenges.

The work will remove approximately 17,550 cubic yards of soil and sediment from the feeder canal and former location of the cooperage adjacent to Route 32 in the village of Waterford, N.Y. The majority of these soils are nonhazardous soils with low levels of contamination. A relatively small area of higher levels of contamination is confined to the area adjacent to the former cooperage site.

To secure a safe worksite the area will be enclosed with fencing, and a security guard will be on duty whenever work is not being performed for the duration of the project. Cofferdams will be put in place, and the canal will be pumped dry. As approved by the NYSDEC, removed soil and sediment will be allowed to drain of free liquids within an on-site staging area. All collected water will be treated on-site and discharged after performance testing and following NYSDEC approval. Once drained, the remaining soil and sediment will then be trucked to a facility for disposal.

A traffic management plan will be put in place to minimize potential disruption to area residents. The plan will include signage and flagmen near the project site to minimize traffic conflicts and congestion. It is anticipated that approximately 10 trucks per day will be entering/exiting the site for hauling and disposal.

The remediation team will be following an NYSDEC-approved process detailed in the project plan and design documents to manage potential odors. Since the project will be moving muddy soil, it's likely there may be nuisance odors that are attributed to the removal of organic material decomposing within the sediment over time. To a lesser extent contaminant odors also have the potential to be present.

Air monitoring and odor control plans will be implemented. The air monitoring will be done in real time and will enable workers to immediately address any issues, should they arise. Air monitoring stations will be located between the work areas and the nearby community and residences to document there are no exposure hazards to the local community. All air monitoring data will be provided to the NYSDEC and the town on a weekly basis. The project will be completed under the supervision of the NYSDEC in consultation with the NYSDOH.

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## VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING—MARCH 11, 2021

Please join us for a virtual community meeting on Thursday, March 11th, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. Information about the project, its timeline, and background information will be provided and a public Q&A session will be held after the presentation. To register visit: [bit.ly/community-meeting-cooperage](https://bit.ly/community-meeting-cooperage)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For general questions about the project or to request information, please call 518-328-4841 or email [friedrichsohncooperage@gmail.com](mailto:friedrichsohncooperage@gmail.com).

### Project-Related Questions

Steven Scharf, P.E., Project Manager  
New York State Department of Environment  
Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7015  
518-402-9620  
[steven.scharf@dec.ny.gov](mailto:steven.scharf@dec.ny.gov)

### Technical Questions

Keith Cowan, P.G., Vice President  
Project Team Leader  
CHA  
Office: 518-453-2899  
Cell: 518-466-8157  
[kcowan@chacompanies.com](mailto:kcowan@chacompanies.com)

### Project-Related Health Questions

Sarita Wagh  
Bureau of Environmental Exposure Investigation  
New York State Department of Health  
Empire State Plaza  
Corning Tower, Room 1787  
Albany, New York, 12237  
518-402-7860  
[beei@health.ny.gov](mailto:beei@health.ny.gov)

For more information about New York's State Superfund Program, visit:  
[www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html)

## WHERE TO FIND NYSDEC INFORMATION

Access to NYSDEC project documents is through the DECinfo Locator and at these locations:

### Waterford Town Hall

65 Broad Street  
Watertown, NY 12188  
(518) 235-8282

### NYSDEC

625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233-7015  
Steven Scharf, P.E., Project Manager  
(518) 402-9620  
[steven.scharf@dec.ny.gov](mailto:steven.scharf@dec.ny.gov)

DECinfo Locator:

[www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/546045](http://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/546045)

*Note: This information is provided by SI Group and GE. NYSDEC will also be issuing periodic factsheet updates.*