

Lighthouse Point Cleanup Report by Department of Environmental Conservation

Cleanup on Lighthouse Point by Nature's Way Environmental Consulting and Contracting began in late September 2006 and after a few months' winter break resumed in May 2007. Crews worked until July 19 when they temporarily suspended cleanup for Founder's Day Weekend. During this phase, 63,465 tons of petroleum-contaminated soil were removed from the Fort La Présentation and ExxonMobil properties - the majority removed from the Fort property. All contaminated soil was trucked to two regional solid-waste landfills; the Development Authority of the North Country in Jefferson County and the Franklin County Solid Waste Authority.

The eastern-portion cleanup of the Fort property has been completed. Laboratory test of soil samples were reviewed for constituents which might warrant additional excavation. Confirmation test pits were dug at selected locations. No field indicators of petroleum contamination (odor, staining, or measurable organic vapors) were detected. Remediation was judged complete, and the site was top dressed and seeded. The amount of soil removed was 8,016 tons.

By July 19 cleanup was almost complete on western portions of the Fort property bordering the ExxonMobil property. The only known petroleum contamination remains beneath the pavement of the Albany Avenue entrance, extending eastward in a less-than-10-foot-wide strip for approximately 67 feet along the City of Ogdensburg combined sanitary/storm sewer. On the north side, the Department's contractor has excavated contaminated soil to within five feet of the sewer. Test pits on the sewer's south side revealed no petroleum contamination. Remediation of this area is on hold pending consideration of remedial options and discussions with the City regarding possible sewer replacement. In order to preserve the paved entrance for truck traffic, these areas will likely be addressed in the project's final stages.

Preliminary test results on confirmation soil samples obtained in June 2007 from the western portion of the Fort property have been received from the laboratory, and are being reviewed to determine areas warranting follow-up measures. Test pits will be dug at selected locations to spot-check lab results. The area will be restored upon confirmation that no areas warranting additional excavation remain.

The NYS Museum recently conducted an initial archaeological study on the Duffy property, the site of the 18th-century Fort La Présentation. The field study is headed by Ogdensburg-native Aaron Gore, an archaeologist at the NYS Museum. The study will identify constraints to be placed on the cleanup due to archaeologically significant features or artifacts. The initial work with ground-penetrating radar (GPR) by geologist Andrew Kozlowski of the NYS Museum helped locate the original-fort footprint. Subsurface features revealed by the GPR study will be the basis for locating trenches targeting the 18th-century-soil horizon buried beneath two to five feet of 19th- and 20th-century fill. When the NYS Museum study results are available, a cleanup plan for the Duffy property will be developed according to the constraints identified by the archaeological investigation.