



THE EPA FINALIZES THE CLEANUP PLAN FOR A PORTION OF THE EIGHTEEN MILE CREEK SUPERFUND SITE NIAGARA COUNTY, NEW YORK



FALL 2024

The Cleanup Plan

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized its plan to address contaminated sediment and floodplain soil along a portion of the Eighteen Mile Creek Superfund site in Niagara County, New York.

The EPA plans to remove contaminated sediment from an area that begins at Harwood Street in Lockport, NY and continues downstream for approximately 5.3 miles. The EPA will remove the contaminated sediment and place clean material over the disturbed areas. The agency will dispose of the contaminated sediment off-site at a landfill.

In addition, the EPA will remove floodplain soil contaminated with lead and polychlorinated biphenyls, also known as PCBs.

Based on previous investigations, the EPA found there are no historical or active sources of volatile organic compounds. The groundwater is not expected to be a significant source of contamination to the creek, so the EPA recommended that no action be taken to address Creek Corridor groundwater.

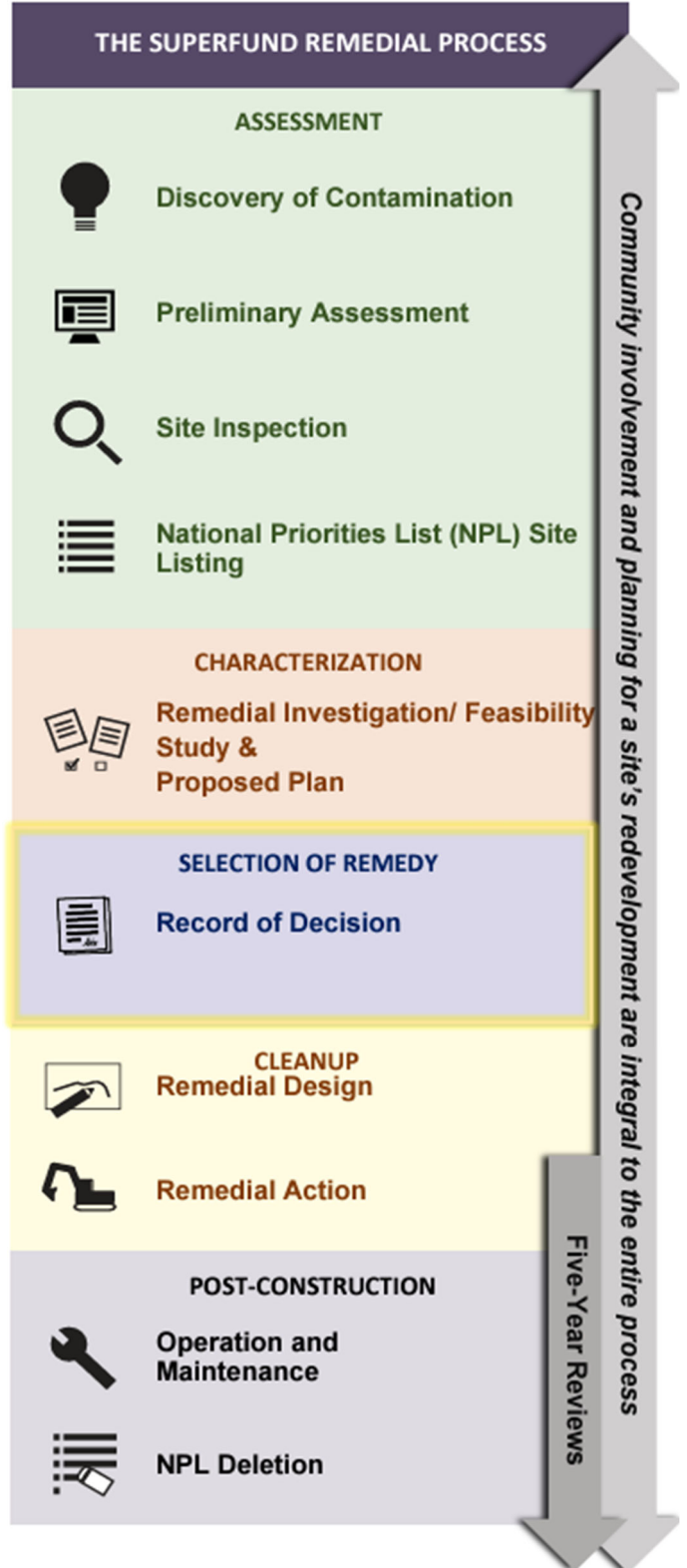
Next Steps

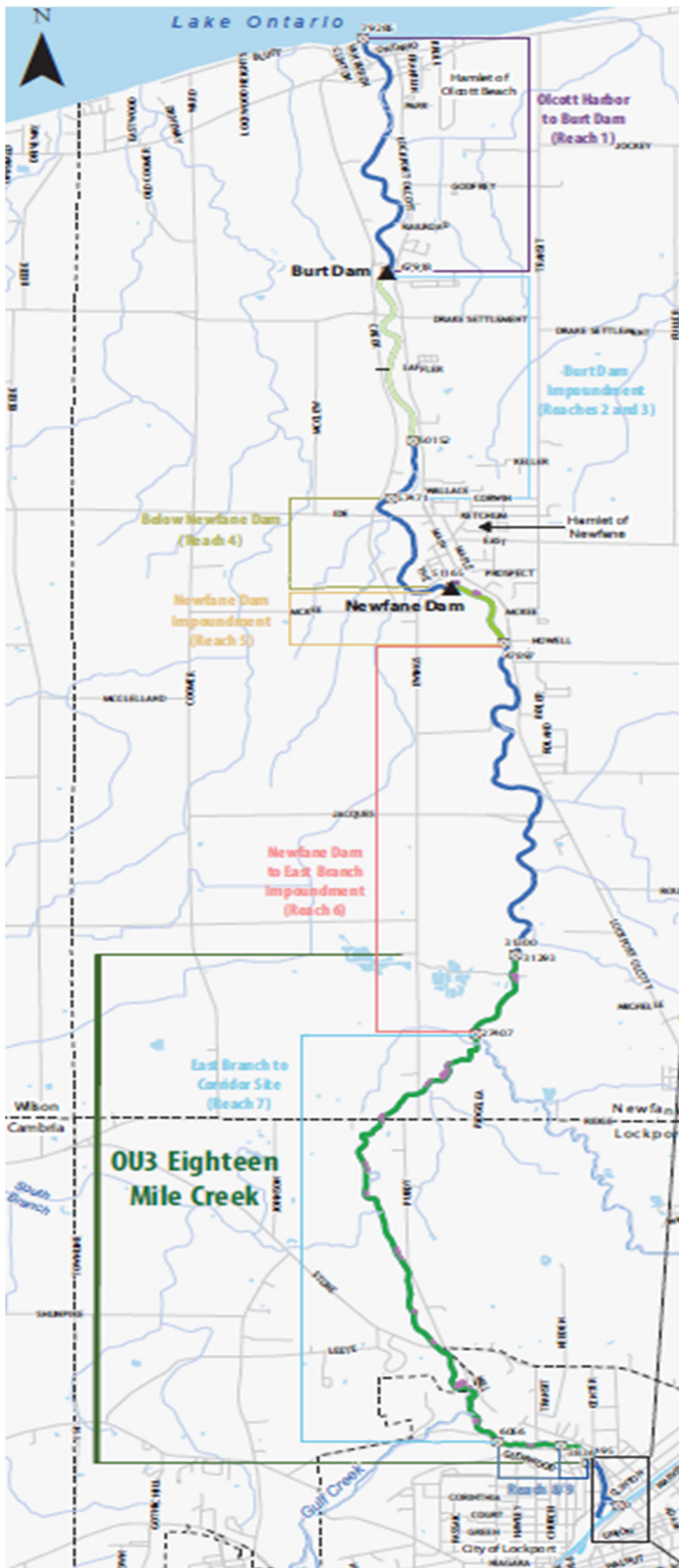
Now that the plan for this portion of the site is finalized, the EPA will develop the engineering design for this cleanup work. This will take about two years to complete.

Record of Decision

The final cleanup plan, additional background, and site documents, including the EPA's responses to public comments received, can be found online:

www.epa.gov/superfund/eighteenmile-creek





Residential properties on Water Street

The EPA has relocated residents at five properties and demolished the structures. In 2015, the EPA finished transporting and disposing of debris off-site and installed a fence around the properties. The cleanup plan for these properties is that the contaminated soil at the nine, flood-prone residential properties would be removed at the same time that the EPA addresses the contaminated sediment in the Creek Corridor.

Clean up of Creek Corridor

The Creek Corridor is the furthest upstream portion of the creek and contains the highest levels of PCB contamination, which is why EPA is beginning the cleanup of the creek with this portion first. The agency’s cleanup plan includes removing sediment in the Creek Corridor from bank-to-bank.

In September 2024, the EPA began clearing trees in Upson Park and installed fencing to secure the area before significant construction activities begin. As part of the initial construction phase, the agency will need to move utility poles and install a bypass pipe to divert water from the creek so contaminated sediment and soil are dry and can be removed.

The plan for cleaning up the Creek Corridor also includes removing contaminated soil at the United Paperboard Company, and White Transportation properties, as well as removing contaminated soil from the former Flintkote plant before placing a cap.

Residential Properties near the Flintkote plant

In September 2024, the EPA started the cleanup of at least 33 residential properties near the Flintkote plant. The EPA’s plan to clean up these residential properties is to remove and dispose of the contaminated soil off-site. The agency is continuing to study additional properties that may need to be addressed.

Figure 1 – Eighteen Mile Creek Site 2024 Cleanup Plan Location Map



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Site Background

The Eighteen Mile Creek Superfund site is located in Niagara County, New York. The main channel of the creek originates just south of the canal and flows north for approximately 15 miles until discharging into Lake Ontario in Olcott, New York. The Eighteen Mile Creek watershed includes the two main tributaries: East Branch of Eighteen Mile Creek and Gulf Creek.

Information Repositories

EPA Superfund Records Center
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007
(212) 637-4345

Lockport Public Library
23 East Avenue
Lockport, NY 14094
(716) 433-5935

Newfane Public Library
2761 Maple Avenue
Newfane, NY 14108
(716) 778-9344

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