



The RACER Trust: Empowering America's Auto Communities

Syracuse, NY

RACER Site ID 11100

Ley Creek Land
Factory Avenue
Salina, NY 13206

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
(NYSDEC): formerly Registry Site No. 7-34-044

Updated May 2024

Site Description

Ley Creek flows through a highly urbanized and commercial area in the Town of Salina, just north of the City of Syracuse, NY. Industrial wastes, including oils containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were discharged into Ley Creek and its branches. PCBs at the site have been attributed to historic discharges from the former GM manufacturing facility located along Factory Avenue.

A portion of the creek was dredged in the 1970s for the purposes of flood control. These dredged sediments were placed along the southern banks of the creek.



In March 2011, the RACER Trust was created to position former GM manufacturing facilities for sale. In addition to the former manufacturing facility, now referred to as the Salina Industrial PowerPark property, RACER also took ownership of the 4,300-foot-long area where PCB-contaminated dredge spoils from the creek were placed. The property is bounded by Factory Avenue on the south, Ley Creek to the north, Townline Road to the east and the Town of Salina Highway garage to the west.

RACER's studies of the area and any cleanup activities are performed with the approval and oversight of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and EPA Region 2. The Settlement Agreement that established the RACER Trust set aside \$1.9 million for cleanup work.

Continued

Environmental History

Beginning in the late 1980s and continuing for several years, General Motors performed comprehensive environmental and hydrogeologic assessments at the site. These studies delineated the specific areas on the property containing PCBs.

Based on GM's work, in 1997, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the site that called for the removal and off-site disposal of soils on the site with elevated PCB levels, and consolidation of soils with lower levels of PCBs under a vegetative cover. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concurred on the ROD in 1998, and GM performed the work, with the approval and oversight of both agencies, in 1999-2000. The agencies concluded that, as a result of the work, the potential for direct contact exposure to on-site PCBs has been eliminated and the site is no longer considered a significant threat to human health and the environment.

In 2006, EPA conducted a five-year review of the site to determine if the performed remedial activities remained protective of human health and the environment. The review determined that the remedy continued to be protective of human health and the environment and no additional cleanup work was needed. The review also recommended the implementation of a deed restriction precluding activities on the site that could potentially expose contaminated materials and to ensure that the integrity of the cover is maintained.

Next Steps

No further remedial activities are planned on the property. However, because the remedy left some PCBs in soils at the site, a long-term monitoring program is in place and performed by RACER.

In 2016 and 2017 portions of Ley Creek will be remediated in accordance with the remedy identified in the joint ROD issued by NYSDEC and USEPA on March 31, 2015.

Information on the site and past environmental tests can be viewed at the RACER website at www.racertrust.org and at EPA's website: www.onondagalake.org/Sitedescription/LeyCreekDredgeSpoils/index.htm.

*Information repositories have been established where final project-related documents are available for public review:
Atlantic States Legal Foundation Depository Library • 3658 West Onondaga Street, Syracuse, NY • 315-475-1170
Onondaga County Public Library Central Branch At The Galleries • 3447 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY • 315-435-1800*

For More Information

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