

What Residents Need to Know:

Corning Incorporated provides ongoing updates to the community through its Study Area website (www.postcreekstudyarea.com). It is the most up-to-date source for information being provided by Corning. This is the third Fact Sheet that Corning has provided to the community since the program began in July 2014.

Corning and its technical consultants, Weston Solutions Inc. (Weston), are working quickly and efficiently to complete the study. We are following recognized environmental methods and processes approved by New York State in order to provide the information necessary for the agencies to determine what, if any, remedial measures may be needed for properties within the Study Area.

Summary:

- **Residential Surface Soil Sampling:** In February 2015, Corning provided individual surface soil results to 163 property owners. The top two inches below the sod layer were evaluated initially because that is where contact with soil is most likely to occur. Ninety-two percent of the 652 total samples collected are at or below the State's residential soil cleanup objectives (SCOs). A total of 36 properties had at least one sample that exceeded the State's residential SCOs for one or more constituents.
- **Soil Boring Activities in the Residential Rights-of-Way:** In December 2014, Weston sampled 19 additional soil borings to further delineate the extent of a layer of fill material in the southeast corner and another layer of fill material in the northwest corner of the Study Area. For your understanding, soil borings are described in the Study Area Characterization Work Plan and can be installed to depths of approximately 15 feet.
- **Groundwater Monitoring:** In January 2015, Weston sampled seven groundwater monitoring wells. Arsenic, lead and cadmium were not detected in groundwater at levels above the State's groundwater standards. Additional monitoring and sampling will be conducted in the spring of 2015.
- **Southeast Corner of Corning Boulevard:** In December 2014, Weston completed additional sampling and short-term measures at five properties while Corning continues to work (pursuant to the Consent Order) with the State agencies to develop a long-term remedial approach.
- **Next Steps — Residential Area:** In the spring and summer, Weston will perform additional surface soil sampling and install borings at the 36 residential properties where at least one sample exceeded the State's SCOs for one or more constituents. In addition, at the direction of NYSDEC, soil borings will be installed at properties where ash, glass or brick, has been reported to the agencies.
- **Next Steps — Public and School Properties South of Corning Boulevard:** In the spring and summer, Weston will perform additional surface and sub-surface soil sampling (borings) to further delineate the extent of substances and the layer of fill material on the school properties and Memorial Stadium.

General Discussion of Residential Surface Soil Results

In February 2015, owners of 163 properties within the Study Area who granted access to Corning Incorporated for the surface soil sampling program conducted between September and December 2014 were provided their individual testing results.

Approximately 20 owners met with representatives of the New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health (NYSDEC and NYSDOH), and Corning Incorporated on February 25 and 26 to discuss their individual results.

Of the total number of surface soil samples taken in the residential portion of the Study Area, approximately 92 percent are at or below the State's SCOs. In general terms, SCOs are defined as concentrations in residential property soil which were established by the state based on conservative assumptions and designed to protect public health.

Thirty-six residential properties had at least one surface soil sample result that exceeded the residential SCOs for one or more constituents. Residential SCO's are used by the State (along with other information) to decide whether any other actions are warranted. As state officials discussed at the February 25 and 26 meetings, soil concentrations that are higher than SCOs are not necessarily an environmental or health concern.

In the residential surface soil sampling, arsenic was the most common detection above SCOs, followed by lead and cadmium. While arsenic, lead and cadmium can be associated with fill material, all three substances occur naturally and have many other common potential sources. Their presence alone does not mean the substance comes from fill material or that an SCO will be exceeded, nor does the presence of fill material mean that arsenic, lead or cadmium will be present above SCOs.

Report of Fall/Winter 2014 Soil Boring and Groundwater Sampling

During the October 2014 public meeting, Weston discussed installing and sampling additional soil borings in the Study Area. The purpose of this sampling was to further delineate the extent of the layer of fill material and substances observed in specific areas within the Study Area.

At the Corning Christian Academy (CCA), borings were installed at four locations based on one exceedance of the state's SCOs observed during sampling last summer. The borings identified a layer of fill material that will be delineated during further sampling this spring.

Figure 1 – Study Area Location



In the northwest corner of the Study Area, borings were installed and samples taken to further delineate the extent of layers of fill material and assess one exceedance of arsenic identified during initial sampling. Based on those results, additional borings will be installed at several properties and in the City's rights-of-way this spring and summer during the work described below.

In the southeast corner of the Study Area, Weston completed additional sampling to further delineate the extent of layers of fill material and substances in the soil. Additionally, short-term measures were completed at five properties. The State agencies continue to evaluate a long-term remedial approach.

Weston installed seven groundwater monitoring wells in December 2014 within the Study Area: four on the Corning-Painted Post School District property, two on the Memorial Stadium property, and one in the residential area. In January 2015, Weston sampled these seven wells. The results show that arsenic, lead, and cadmium were not detected in groundwater at levels above the State's groundwater standards. Corning will collect a second round of sampling in the spring in accordance with the Study Area Characterization Work Plan that NYSDEC approved. Drinking water in the Study Area is provided by the municipal water system and is monitored on a regular basis by the City of Corning.

Next Steps: Spring 2015 Soil Boring Plan — Residential

NYSDEC is currently reviewing a soil sampling program to (1) further delineate the extent of fill layers, (2) further characterize concentrations of arsenic, lead and cadmium at locations in the residential portion of the Study Area previously identified with SCO exceedances, and (3) obtain additional samples from areas with no detections above SCOs to ensure Study Area-wide coverage. The work plan will be implemented by Weston upon NYSDEC's approval.

As discussed above, 36 properties had at least one surface soil sample that exceeded the State's SCOs for one or more constituents. At each of these properties, Corning will request access for Weston to collect 8-12 additional surface soil samples at a depth of 0-2 inches beneath the sod, four soil borings to a depth of 4 feet, and two soil borings at a depth of approximately 15 feet. This will provide additional information for each individual property and assist the State agencies in evaluating what, if any, remedial action is necessary.

At more than 30 properties in the Study Area where the results of initial surface soil samples met the State's SCOs, the State is requesting additional investigations based on reported observations of ash, glass or brick. Based on these reports, the state has asked Corning to install at least one soil boring to a depth of approximately 15 feet at each of these properties once the owner provides permission and access. This information will be used to better understand conditions in the entire Study Area.

Next Steps: Spring 2015 Soil Boring Plan — Corning High School and Memorial Stadium

NYSDEC is reviewing and expected to approve the plan to further delineate certain areas on the high school property, CCA, and Memorial Stadium. This includes additional soil borings to a depth of approximately 15 feet to be installed on the school properties, as well as three surface soil samples at a depth of 0-2 inches beneath the sod in the courtyard.

At Memorial Stadium, additional soil borings to a depth of approximately 15 feet will be installed under the field surface before its replacement this summer, as well as one boring to provide additional information about a layer of ash observed during initial sampling.

Next Steps: Summary

Combined with previous soil boring results, the sampling programs for both the residential area, and Corning High School and Memorial Stadium are designed to assist NYSDEC to understand the conditions in the surface and sub-surface across the entire Study Area. In the second half of 2015, Corning and its consultants will provide the State agencies validated data from the Study Area which will help the State plan for any additional sampling or remedial action that may be necessary.

Where can I get more information?

We are committed to providing opportunities for citizen participation in the process, and to developing an open and ongoing dialog with the community throughout the study. We have developed a comprehensive communication and participation plan to guide the process, called the Citizen Participation Plan that is available on Corning's Study Area website listed below.

A public meeting will be held by NYSDEC and NYSDOH from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 26 at the Ramada Inn 304 South Hamilton St., Painted Post, N.Y., 14870. Corning Incorporated and Weston Solutions representatives will also be available to present information and answer questions. Prior to the public meeting, representatives of the State agencies, Corning Incorporated and Weston Solutions will also be on hand from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. for availability sessions.

We have established two document repositories for the Study Area, where the community can access technical and other documents. These repositories are located at the Southeast Steuben County Library, 300 Nasser Civic Center Plaza, Corning, N.Y.; and the NYSDEC Region 8 Office, 6274 East Avon-Lima Road, Avon, N.Y.

We have also established a dedicated website to keep you informed (www.postcreekstudyarea.com). If you have further questions about the process or the additional characterization activities, we invite you to contact our toll free telephone number or transmit a comment in writing to our email address:

**Toll free (866) 256-1902
studyarea@corning.com**

The NYSDEC and NYSDOH are also available to answer questions you may have.

Technical Information

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