

# Community Connection

Spring/Summer  
2022

Your resource for news related to FMC Middleport Plant and the community.

## FMC Middleport Celebrates 75 Years

New York State Sen. Robert G. Ortz toured FMC Corporation's Agricultural Sciences plant in Middleport last fall and presented workers with a proclamation celebrating 75 years since FMC assumed full operations of the plant.

In issuing the proclamation, Sen. Ortz noted FMC's planned future investment in the plant, the plant's economic benefit to the community, new hiring efforts, FMC corporate environmental goals and workplace safety records.

"The company is an important contributor to the Middleport and eastern Niagara County economies; that economic contribution is set to grow as FMC makes major investments in new employee hiring, product offerings and capital improvements at the Middleport Plant," the proclamation stated.

"FMC Middleport plays a key role in FMC's global leadership position in agricultural sciences," Sen. Ortz's proclamation further stated.



## KATIE RUSSELL NAMED FMC PLANT MANAGER

Katie Russell has been named manager of FMC's Agricultural Sciences Plant in Middleport.

Russell joined FMC in 2017 as part of its Technical Center, which supports FMC's global network of manufacturing sites on improvement projects, introducing new products, and driving process safety.

"I am excited to be joining the FMC Middleport team as the plant manager and to engage with our local community as we continue to grow our operation," she said.

A native of Doylestown, Pa., Russell has a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering from Villanova University. She began her career working in a series of process engineering roles in industries ranging from nuclear power to metallurgical coke manufacturing.

She also worked in project engineering roles, during which she worked on developing small capital projects overseeing a \$30 million equipment repair program and establish procedures for the project development process.

At FMC, she implemented a 50% capacity improvement project at the Middleport site and developed the global structure for the organization that supports FMC formulation and packaging sites similar to the Middleport plant. Prior to coming to Middleport, Russell was the production manager for one of the operating units at an FMC manufacturing site in Mobile, AL.

"My finance, Jack, and I are looking forward to exploring Western New York and adapting to winter weather through many snowy outdoor adventures with our puppy, Keith," she said.



**FMC has operated a Community Office in the Village of Middleport for 15 years to provide residents with easy and convenient access to information about the company and the environmental remediation program. The current office is located at 8 S. Vernon Street.**

# MINI-GRANT PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The FMC Agricultural Sciences Plant in Middleport is accepting applications from organizations, groups, and projects in the towns of Royalton and Hartland for financial support offered through FMC's Community Mini-Grants program.

Entitled "FMC & You: Community Mini Grants," the program awards individuals grants of up to \$250 per request that support one or more of FMC's four primary philanthropic areas of Health and Human Service, Education and Science, Environment and Conservation, and Arts and Culture.

"When community groups may be challenged by limited resources, FMC is proud to support the efforts of many valuable organizations to make our communities better places to live," said Katie Russell, FMC Plant Manager.

Grant applications are available at [www.FMC-Middleport.com](http://www.FMC-Middleport.com) or by mailing, emailing or calling Jessica Heideman at the FMC Community Office at 8 S. Vernon St., Middleport, [jessica.heideman@fmc.com](mailto:jessica.heideman@fmc.com) and 716-735-9769. Deadline for submissions is the last day of the month.

Among the recipients of an FMC Community Mini-Grant have been the student Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter in the Royalton-Hartland School District, the All-S.T.A.R. Program of the Niagara County Sheriff's Office, and the Middleport Village Historian.



## NYSDEC RELEASES FINAL OU3 STATEMENT OF BASIS

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) released its Final Statement of Basis early last year addressing conditions in Suspected Air Deposition Study Area 2 (Air Deposition Area 2), also known as Operable Unit 3 (OU3) in the Middleport Environmental Remediation Program.

Air Deposition Area 2 consists of portions of six properties located north of Erie Canal and east of the Niagara/Orleans County line, beyond Air Deposition Area 1 (OU2). The properties include agricultural fields, wooded land, portions of the NYS Erie Canal embankments, portions of active railroad property and powerline corridor.

All work in OU3 is subject to a 2019 Order on Consent entered into with the NYSDEC, which guides the completion of the continued study, evaluation, and remediation, as needed, for all remaining on-site and off-site study areas.

In the Final Statement of Basis, NYSDEC has proposed a remediation alternative that meets the site-specific cleanup goal of 20 parts-per-million (ppm), with flexibility, for arsenic in soil. The alternative as includes a provision allowing, on a case-by-case basis, to supplement or replace excavation with in-place soil tilling/blending for residential and non-residential properties greater than 5 acres.

In late 2021, the NYSDEC and New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) approved the FMC-submitted Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan for the required remediation work.

FMC continues to work cooperatively with NYSDEC in complying with the requirements of the Order on Consent.

Residents can view the Final Statement of Basis and the corresponding NYSDEC Fact Sheet at the FMC Community Office in Middleport, the Royalton-Hartland Community Library and [www.FMC-Middleport.com](http://www.FMC-Middleport.com). Also available for viewing are FMC's RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) Report Volume X for OU3 submitted in 2012 and the draft Corrective Measures Study (CMS) report for OU3 dated September 2015.

Residents who have any questions can also contact Jessica Heideman, FMC's Community Liaison, at 716-735-9769, or visit her at the FMC Community Office at 8 S. Vernon Street in Middleport.



L to R: Dan Dijames, Regan Ginty, Dave Greenwell, Ryan Czaja of Middleport Fire Department and Katie Russell and Archie Ames of FMC discuss plant fire safety procedures.

## Partners in Safety

FMC Middleport hosted Middleport Fire Department officials for a plant tour and an update on plant design changes, emergency response systems on site, and procedures to ensure a coordinated and timely response in the event of an emergency incident.

"It is important for the fire department to have an understand of our operations and what they can expect when they come to the plant site," stated Katie Russell, Plant Manager. "At the same time, we also find out what we can do to help department members in responding to an emergency incident."

Fire Department Chief Ryan Czaja said the tour and update provided a good opportunity for fire officials to learn about changes at the plant and safety operations, as well as getting to know new individuals who are working at the plant.

## Construction Zone Safety Reminders



### WATCH FOR FLAGGERS

- Give workers extra room.
- Slow down when approaching a flagger.
- Be prepared to stop.
- Follow all directions for safe passage.

### MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS

- Put away phones, turn down radio & proceed with caution through the work zone.
- Keep head and eyes on surroundings when walking.



### OBEY BARRIERS & SIGNS

- Never enter an orange fenced exclusion zone.
- Follow instructions on all posted signs.

### PLAN YOUR TRIP



- Give plenty of time to reach destination.
- Always anticipate delays.

### DOUBLE THE DISTANCE

- Increase following distance when in a work zone to allow for unexpected stops.



## Have a

We want to hear from you! Contact us with your questions, concerns, or thoughts. Topics may include a wide variety of issues such as:

- Environmental Projects
- Health and Safety
- The Future of FMC
- Presentation Requests
- Regulatory Agencies
- Plant Operations
- Business Outlook



716-735-9769



[www.FMC-Middleport.com](http://www.FMC-Middleport.com)



**FMC Community Office**  
8 S. Vernon Street  
Middleport, NY

# 2022 FMC OFF-SITE REMEDIAL ACTIVITIES

FMC Corporation will continue the multi-year remedial construction activities in the off-site FMC study areas adjacent to the FMC facility in accordance with the 2019 Order on Consent guiding local environmental activities.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) selected remedy includes a soil arsenic remedial objective of 20 parts per million (ppm), with flexibility. The NYSDEC remedial decision documents also allow for certain circumstances that do not require soil removal for areas that exceed this threshold.

In 2022, FMC will be continuing remedial construction activities on remaining OU2 properties

and OU5 properties north of the Erie Canal and will begin remedial activities on portion of OU3. NYSDEC and the New York State Department of Health (NYDOH) will have reviewed and approved the remedial plans prior to implementation by FMC. A NYSDEC field representative will inspect and oversee work being performed by FMC's contractors and consultants.

Remedial construction activities for this season will commence in April 2022 and continue into December 2022, weather permitting. Construction activities may include demolition of structures on certain industrial/commercial parcels, as well as soil removal, soil tilling, replacement of the

Culvert 105 storm sewer, soil sampling and analyses, and restoration activities.

FMC has been meeting with owners of affected properties, including those identified for remedial construction activities to review and discuss their data, proposed remedial plans and restoration activities, and to obtain their consent for the work to take place.

For more detailed information about the 2022 remedial work, please visit [www.FMC-Middleport.com](http://www.FMC-Middleport.com) or stop by our Community Office located at 8 S. Vernon Street in Middleport.

## SAFETY

According to a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) survey, only one of every three American households has developed and practiced a home fire escape plan. This week, sit down with your family and begin essential preparations for the safe escape of each individual from different areas of the house in the event of a fire.



## NOW HIRING! \$1,500 SIGN ON BONUS

With the good economic news of increasing business activity, FMC Corporation's Agricultural Sciences Plant in Middleport is looking for a few good men and women to fill several open positions.

FMC Corporation has announced it is offering a \$1,500 sign-on bonus as an extra incentive for individuals who are hired for employment positions currently open at its Agricultural Sciences Plant in Middleport.

In addition to the favorable salary and benefit packages offered, FMC also wanted to provide another attractive incentive for people looking for another employment opportunity and especially those who may be considering a return to the local work force.

FMC Middleport Plant recently added a new product to its production line and is seeing increased business activity. The plant formulates and packages a number of key product lines to protect over 100 crops in more than 75 countries worldwide and plays a key role in FMC's global leadership position in agricultural sciences.

Last year, FMC was recognized with the American Chemistry Council's (ACC) Responsible Care® Company of the Year Award for the second consecutive year and for the third time since 2017.

Individuals interested in seeking employment are encouraged to call 716-735-6405 or apply online at [www.fmc.com/careers](http://www.fmc.com/careers).