

## North Railroad Project Underway



Work on the North Railroad Interim Corrective Measure began in early July. The project, which FMC is conducting in cooperation with the federal and state government regulatory Agencies, calls for the removal and replacement of soils from FMC's railroad property to the north of the plant site this summer. A containment cap and a system to control surface water will be constructed as

part of the project.

Before soil excavation began on July 12, the area was surveyed, vegetation cleared, access roads constructed, construction fencing installed and a temporary system to control rainwater during construction activities was put in place.

The project is currently on schedule with excavation to be completed in August and the remaining activities to be completed during September 2005. A complete information sheet with details of the project including health, safety, air monitoring and dust control activities can be found online at [www.teapothollow.com](http://www.teapothollow.com).

## FMC to Study Groundwater and Test for Soil Gas on Schoolyard as Part of Agencies' Statewide Program

FMC Corporation will expand its groundwater study and test soil gas on the Royalton-Hartland schoolyard as part of a new state environmental program to evaluate the potential for vapor intrusion at more than 400 sites across New York.

FMC will be conducting this study in accordance with a work plan approved by the government regulatory Agencies. The study

will evaluate the migration of contaminants in groundwater and determine if volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are present in soil gas between the FMC property and off-site school structures. If VOCs are determined to be present in soil gas, further evaluations will be performed to evaluate the potential for soil vapor intrusion in school structures.

*...continued on page 2*

### *Inside this issue:*

**New Statewide  
Initiative to Begin**  
page 1-2, 5

**Leadership Training and  
Apprenticeship Program**  
pages 3-4

**Explaining Groundwater  
Monitoring**  
page 5

**New Look for FMC's  
Onsite Water Treatment  
Plant**  
page 6

**Let us know what  
you think!**  
Return reply comment  
card inside.

**Community** *Connection*

*is produced to inform  
the community about  
issues related to the  
FMC Middleport plant,  
the environment and  
the local community.*

*Call us at:  
735-3761  
Ext. 289*

*with your questions,  
comments or concerns.*

## FMC to Study Groundwater and Test for Soil Gas in Schoolyard as Part of Agencies' Statewide Program

...continued from page 1

### Part of a Statewide Initiative

As part of the statewide program, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) are studying all sites with even low level soil or groundwater contamination from volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including sites that have already been remediated.

FMC Middleport's groundwater monitoring program identified low-level contamination at one monitoring well cluster near the railroad tracks which separate the FMC site from the schoolyard. Groundwater monitoring data collected from various offsite monitoring wells north of this well cluster, including those near the Royalton-Hartland school structures, do not indicate the presence of VOC contaminants.

DOH and DEC developed a vapor intrusion policy earlier this year and began identifying sites for the new statewide program. In June, the Agencies asked FMC to develop a work plan for a soil gas and groundwater study of the schoolyard.

*Groundwater monitoring data collected from various offsite monitoring wells north of this well cluster, including those near the Royalton-Hartland school structures, do not indicate the presence of VOC contaminants.*

### Comprehensive System Already In Place

FMC already has a comprehensive system of monitoring wells, extraction wells and groundwater collection trenches. Currently, FMC monitors approximately 70 wells on and off-site on a quarterly basis.

The new study is a part of the state's more proactive approach concerning potential soil vapor intrusion at sites where VOCs are present.



...continued on page 5

### Explaining Vapor Intrusion

Vapor intrusion is a process by which chemicals that can vaporize, migrate from a below-the-surface source into the indoor air of buildings. These chemicals are called VOCs. VOCs, or volatile organic compounds, readily evaporate at room temperature. (Examples of VOCs are gasoline, paint, cleaning products, magic markers, and solvents.)

Sources of vapor intrusion can come from soil or groundwater below the ground surface.

Soil vapor can enter a building similar the way radon gas enters buildings from below the ground.



Soil gas testing in the schoolyard will determine the potential for vapor intrusion at the school buildings. Soil-gas samples from approximately fifteen locations will be collected in the schoolyard south of the Royalton-Hartland school buildings and analyzed for VOCs. (see diagram on page 5)

### Three Program Components

Part of the program involves researching relevant background information about the school property.

Another part of the program consists of the collection of soil-gas samples between the school property's southern boundary and the school buildings. The soil gas samples will be analyzed to determine whether any VOC contaminants are present in the soil gas, and if so, at what levels.

The final part of the program is the installation of two new groundwater monitoring wells between the school's southern boundary and the school buildings, and collection of samples from both existing and new wells. The groundwater samples will show whether any contaminants are present in the water beneath the ground surface and if so, at what levels.

Soil gas sample collection and installation of additional wells will be done in August, with groundwater sampling taking place in October. It is anticipated that preliminary data from the soil gas sampling will be provided to the Agencies before the end of August. A preliminary report with the results of the program is scheduled to be complete in the fall of 2005 with a final report to be completed in early 2006.

A work plan for the study will be submitted to the Agencies and will be available for public review at the FMC document repository in the Middleport Free Library.

### Public Availability Sessions Begin With Presentation

FMC will make informational presentations on local groundwater and the new testing program during the first half hour at each of the two public availability sessions that will be held Tuesday, August 2 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at the Middleport Fire Hall at 28 Main Street. The first presentation will be from 1 to 1:30 and the presentation during the second session will take place from 6 to 6:30. Each presentation is followed by a general availability session.

These informal public availability sessions provide an opportunity for interested residents to come and ask questions on an individual basis of both Agency and FMC representatives.

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### Public Availability Sessions Scheduled

Tuesday, August 2  
1 to 3:30 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.  
at the Middleport Fire Hall at 28 Main Street.  
Groundwater presentations held from  
1 to 1:30 and from 6 to 6:30.

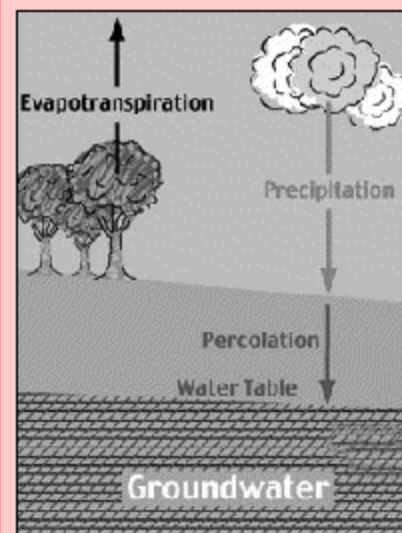
Each presentation is followed by a general public availability session.

### Explaining Groundwater Monitoring

Groundwater is water that is below the earth's surface.

Groundwater movement is based on a number of physical characteristics such as the type of soil and bedrock and the amount of fractures in the bedrock.

Groundwater contains water, naturally dissolved gases from the atmosphere and dissolved minerals and gases from the soil and rock through which it passes.



A contaminant can move with the direction of groundwater flow and decrease in concentration as it moves away from its source.

Collecting and analyzing groundwater samples in a lab is called monitoring.

## Apprenticeship Program

This spring, Harold Scribner, a certified Red Cross Instructor and member of FMC's onsite Emergency Response Team, taught CPR techniques to Gary Dahlman, who is in FMC's Mechanic Apprenticeship Program.



The program requires him to complete basic CPR training in addition to field-related coursework.

## **FMC** Community Connection

*Please take a moment to share your thoughts on the enclosed comment card.*

Each returned comment receives a personalized follow-up response.

Comments are shared with elected officials and FMC staff. Topics from comment cards have covered:

**THE ENVIRONMENT  
HEALTH AND SAFETY  
THE FUTURE OF FMC  
PLANT OPERATIONS  
PRESENTATION/TOUR REQUESTS**

**More information on  
[www.teapothollow.com](http://www.teapothollow.com)  
Middleport's Web site**

**We want to hear what you think!**  
**Please return this card to us with your thoughts.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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I would like to receive a summary of the final report from the bio-monitoring program conducted in summer 2003.

I would like to receive further information about FMC's Middleport plant.

I am interested in a tour of the FMC Middleport plant.

My specific question or comment is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in a workshop to learn about:

- RCRA Process - the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- Corrective Measures Study (CMS) process
- Risk Assessment

My topic(s) of interest are/is:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

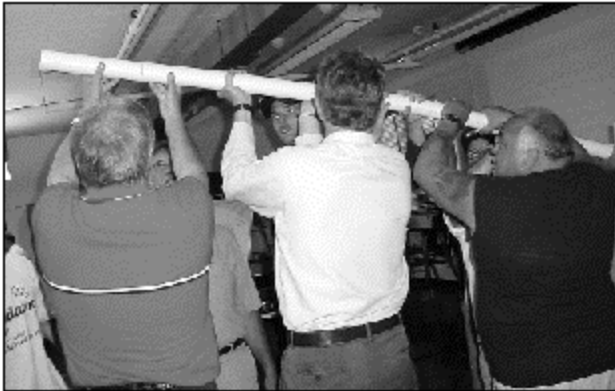
I would be interested in:

- Attending a workshop
- Receiving written materials
- I have all the information I need

It is okay for FMC to share my comments with the NYS Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

**THANK YOU!**

## Leadership Training Builds Teamwork



*Glen Wilson, Continuous Improvement Champion for APG Operations from FMC Baltimore, worked with teams from the Middleport plant to sharpen leadership skills and stress the importance of teamwork. One activity challenged teams to move a marble down a series of small pipes using their own individual strategy and creative problem solving techniques.*

## Study Results for Air Deposition Area Expected This Summer

Property owners in the area known as the air deposition study area who had soil samples taken on their properties last fall can expect their results in the mail in late July or early August. The Agencies will determine whether any additional sampling is needed. The results of this sampling program will be included in a report which will contain results from all sampling programs in Middleport including recent studies of areas along the tributary and culvert.

Once the Agencies complete a review of this report, and the public has an opportunity to comment on it, the Agencies will advise whether there are areas that should be evaluated for remediation under a Corrective Measures Study (CMS). Residents can attend the August 2 public availability sessions from 1 to 3:30 p.m. or from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Middleport Fire Hall with questions about the study.

**FMC** Community Connection

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*To review documents related to environmental activities at the plant, visit the FMC repository at the Middleport Free Library  
9 South Vernon Street  
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## Postal Customer

### Public Availability Sessions Scheduled

Tuesday, August 2  
1 to 3:30 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.  
at the Middleport Fire Hall at 28 Main Street.  
Groundwater presentations held from  
1 to 1:30 and from 6 to 6:30.

Each presentation is followed by a general public availability session.

## A new look for FMC's Onsite Water Treatment Plant

This spring, neighbors may notice a new look at FMC's onsite water treatment plant. The tank that holds groundwater that has been treated at the plant was painted last fall.

Later this year maintenance work at the water treatment plant will be performed to modernize the facility that has been treating onsite surface and groundwater since 1977.

The water treatment plant filters and removes impurities from groundwater and rainwater collected from former production areas on the plant site. This water treatment process is similar to those used in city water treatment plants.

The water that has been treated must meet strict government water quality standards before it is discharged into Jeddo Creek. Analysis is conducted on the water that is



processed daily to make certain that it meets these environmental standards. Nearly 50 million gallons of water a year are treated at FMC's water treatment plant.

A virtual tour of the process is online at [www.teapothollow.com](http://www.teapothollow.com).