

December 2003

FMC Corporation is providing this update to keep you informed about the soil removal and restoration activities on 14 residential properties west of the Middleport plant site . As the project progresses, we will keep you informed on a regular basis. FMC is conducting this soil removal project in a defined area west of the FMC plant site and along a former water drainage pipe under the oversight of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the New York State Department of Health (DOH).

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Project Completed

Area A

Two east Main St. and two west Vernon St. residences along former water drainage pipe

- ◆ Excavation complete
- ◆ Backfilling complete
- ◆ Restoration complete



Area B

Five Vernon St. residences north of Niagara St.

- ◆ Excavation complete
- ◆ Backfilling complete
- ◆ Restoration complete



Area C

Second five Vernon St. residences north of Niagara St.

- ◆ Excavation complete
- ◆ Backfilling complete
- ◆ Restoration complete



FMC is committed to properly addressing environmental issues related to our plant. We will continue to work with the community, local officials and the agencies. If you have questions or want to learn more about FMC call 735-3761.

Patt Fagan - Ext. 289
Brian Vain - Ext. 364
Bob Wojcik - Ext. 202

To view documents related to environmental activities pertaining to the plant, visit the repository at: Middleport Free Library
9 South Vernon Street
Middleport, NY 14105
(716) 735-3281



Agricultural Products Group
 100 Niagara Street
 Middleport, New York 14105

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735-3761, Ext. 289

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Frequently Asked Project Questions

Were the Vernon Street trees that were cut down and taken away contaminated?

No. The trees themselves were not contaminated. The soil around and under the roots had elevated levels of arsenic and that is why the Agencies determined they had to be removed.

Why did you have to cut down nearly all the trees?

The root systems of a tree are typically 4 - 6 inches from the surface. Digging deeper than this depth kills the roots and thus, the tree. The trees that were removed were taken down in order to access the soil underneath their root systems. There were two locations where excavation was only to six inches in depth and four trees were able to be saved there.

Where was the soil from the Vernon Street homes taken?

Over 99% of the soil was taken onto FMC property and placed in the Eastern Surface Impoundment area. This soil was classified as non-hazardous waste. A small amount of soil from one location (approximately 5 truck loads) was taken to an approved secure landfill site because of its relatively high total arsenic concentration. While this soil was taken off-site, it did not exhibit the toxicity hazardous waste characteristics for arsenic.

Why didn't the workers wear personal protective suits, gloves, etc.?

The basic gear required in all work site areas was hard hat, safety glasses and safety boots or shoes. The work on Vernon St. that might involve potential exposure to contaminants were monitored continuously. Air monitors measured dust levels and arsenic and lead levels both on the site and on individual workers to determine the need for any additional protective equipment. At no time did the levels for dust or contaminants exceed the allowable levels. Therefore, no other personal protective equipment was required.



THIS PROGRESS REPORT
 is prepared by the FMC Corporation in Middleport. It is sent to all Middleport residents to inform them of FMC's West Properties ICM and Sewer Removal project. If you have questions about the project please call
735-3761 EXT. 289