



# CORPS NEWS

US Army Corps  
of Engineers

from the **FORMER SCHENECTADY ARMY  
DEPOT - VOORHEESVILLE**

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE FORMER SCHENECTADY ARMY DEPOT – VOORHEESVILLE AREA

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is holding a public meeting regarding the former Schenectady Army Depot – Voorheesville Area on Thursday, November 19, 1998 at the Guilderland Public Library.

The Corps invites anyone with an interest in the site or the project to attend this meeting and learn more about the site's history, present conditions, and proposed actions.

**Date:** Thursday, November 19, 1998

**Time:** 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**Place:** Guilderland Public Library, 2228 Western Avenue, Guilderland

**Contact:** David Brouwer, Corps of Engineers, at (732) 435-0079

## Public Meeting Scheduled

A public meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on November 19, 1998, at the Guilderland Public Library. The meeting will be an opportunity for residents to receive information from the Corps about its work at the former Schenectady Army Depot - Voorheesville, including site history, proposed site investigations, and a timeline for project completion. Residents may voice their concerns and discuss issues associated with the site. Representatives of the Corps will be present to answer questions and provide information about the former Depot. In addition, the Defense Logistics Agency will be present to answer questions and provide information about its operations within the boundaries of the former Depot.

The public is both welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting. For more information, contact David Brouwer at (732) 435-0079.

## History of the Former Schenectady Army Depot - Voorheesville

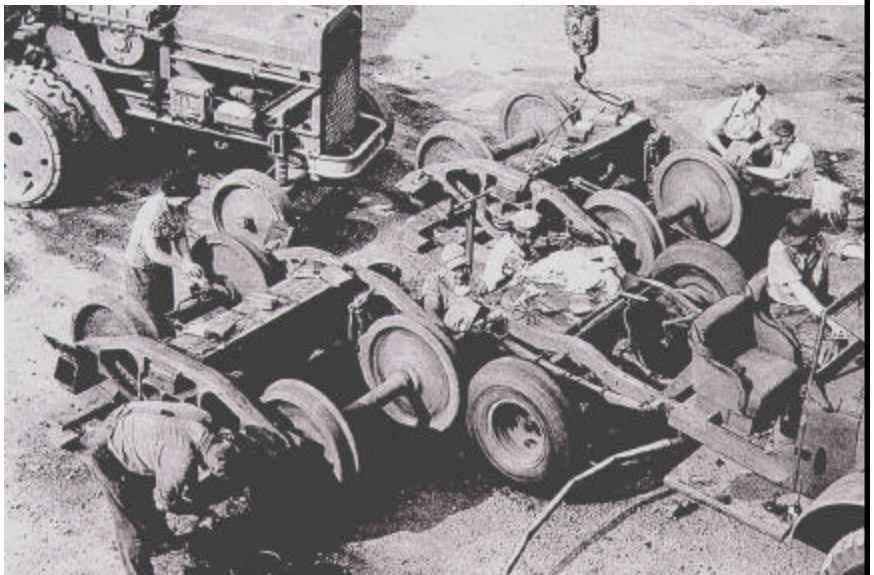
The Depot was established in 1941-1942 as a storage depot for the military during World War II. It consisted of 650.63 acres, acquired

through condemnation of what was primarily farmland. The site originally included approximately 24 warehouse and storage buildings, barracks, garage and maintenance facilities, a firehouse, and water supply and sewer facilities. Access to the site consisted of several railroad spurs from the Conrail main line that parallels the depot on the east side.

Materials stored and/or used at the site during the period of military ownership included chemicals, petroleum, oil, lubricants, and

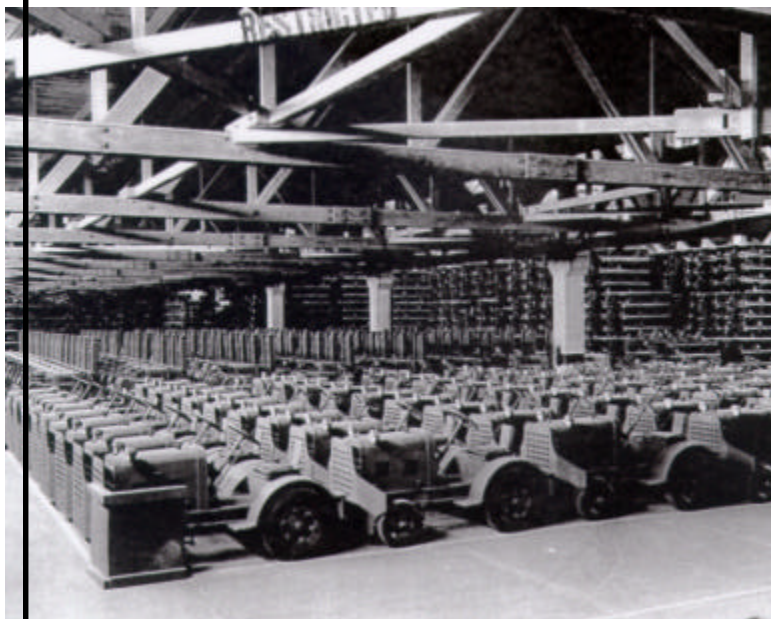
medical supplies. Activities that have occurred at the site include receipt, storage, and transmission of goods and materials for military activities. Additional uses at the site included landfills and a strategic materials storage area. Three landfills have been identified at site: U.S. Army Southern Landfill, C&D Landfill, and a small landfill located on the west side of the site.

In 1969, the site was closed and sold by the federal government to various private parties. The Galesi Group purchased 559.65 acres of the former depot for warehouse, commercial, and light industrial purposes.



The existing warehouse facilities were leased by the Galesi Group to commercial tenants. Changes have been made to the original infrastructure since the military constructed and operated the facility. Specifically, the Galesi Group constructed two refrigerated warehouses, and the Town of Guilderland demolished the original sewer facilities when it built the current waste water treatment plant.

Approximately 24.50 acres of the site remain under Department of Defense control for storage of strategic materials. The remainder of the former depot that was released was purchased by other private parties.



## **Corps Activities at the Former Voorheesville Depot**

The Corps of Engineers is investigating the former Schenectady Army Depot - Voorheesville under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program Formerly Used Defense Sites. This program was authorized by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986. The Corps is evaluating all sites in the nation like the former Depot, that were once owned by the Department of Defense, to assess whether any environmental or public health conditions exist that warrant cleanup.

Recent Corps activities at the Depot include surface water and sediment sampling of Black Creek, an historic document search, and wetlands identification/delineation. A hydrogeologic investigation of the U.S. Army Southern Landfill will be conducted in the near future. During the next phase of the Corps work the

other landfills and pits where materials were burned will be studied. Field work on these areas will include installation of monitoring wells; geophysical investigation; and sampling of soil, surface water, and groundwater. All field work should be completed by August 1999.

Community input and public involvement is an important part of the Corps' efforts. The Corps will promote and maintain a two-way dialog with community members and other interested parties. The dialogue is designed to encourage members of the public to make suggestions and recommendations about the investigation and any required remediation phases at the former Voorheesville Depot.

The Corps has created a variety of programs that will help community members learn about the project and become active participants in discussions with the Corps. The programs include:

A Restoration Advisory Board will be established if there is sufficient public interest. Restoration advisory boards serve as forums for discussing and exchanging information on matters related to the investigation and cleanup of environmental and public health hazards at Formerly Used Defense Sites like the Depot. Boards consist of representatives of state and local government, members of the local community, and the Corps. Boards review reports, make recommendations on what, if any, further action is needed, and help set restoration priorities.

This newsletter is another example of the Corps efforts to involve the public. Newsletters will be published periodically to inform the residents of Guilderland and surrounding towns and villages about activities at the NIS. The newsletter will provide up-to-date information on pending investigations, results of completed investigations, and any remediation activities.

After the public meeting on November 19th, all documents concerning the Corps work will be at the Guilderland Public Library. The library is located at 2228 Western Avenue (Route 20) in Guilderland. This repository will include technical and non-technical information related to the site. The library hours are Monday through Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.