



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Buffalo District

Tonawanda Landfill Vicinity Property Timeline

1900s - A clay borrow pit was located in the western portion of the current Town of Tonawanda Landfill.

1920s - The clay borrow pit was abandoned when significant water was encountered.

1930s - Waste disposal begins at the Town of Tonawanda Landfill.

1940s - 1980s - Incinerators located west of the mudflats area were used by the Town of Tonawanda to burn municipal solid waste and wastewater sludge generated by the town's wastewater treatment plant.

1974 - Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) was initiated to identify, investigate, and if necessary, clean up or control sites throughout the United States contaminated as a result of Manhattan Engineer District or early Atomic Energy Commission activities.

1989 - Town of Tonawanda ceases waste disposal activities in the Town of Tonawanda Landfill.

1990 - Using a mobile scanning van, the U.S. Department of Energy detected elevated radioactivity in the Town of Tonawanda Landfill while working on the Linde FUSRAP Site investigation.

1991 - A radiological survey performed by the U.S. Department of Energy detected Manhattan Engineer District-like material in the Town of Tonawanda Landfill and the mudflats area.

1992 - The U.S. Department of Energy designated portions of the Town of Tonawanda Landfill and the mudflats into FUSRAP as the Tonawanda Landfill Vicinity Property to the Linde Site.

1994 - The U.S. Department of Energy conducted additional soil sampling activities at the landfill and mudflats to determine the vertical extent of the radiological contamination at the site.

1997 - Congress transferred management and execution of FUSRAP to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

1999 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed a radiological human health assessment.

2001 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conducted remedial investigation sampling of the Tonawanda Landfill Vicinity Property.

2002 - The Town of Tonawanda demolished the incinerators on the western edge of the mudflats.

2005 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released the remedial investigation report and baseline risk assessment.

2007 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released a no-action proposed plan for the Tonawanda Landfill Vicinity Property for public comment.

2007 - New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) conducted a residential gamma survey of several properties that border the Landfill Operable Unit (OU) including the Riverview Elementary School property. The survey concluded that there was no evidence of radioactive materials from uranium ore processing in the areas surveyed.

2008 - NYSDEC sampled and analyzed sump water from basements of representative residential properties adjacent to the Landfill OU. The results of this sump sampling program indicated that contaminants from the Landfill OU are not entering the sumps of homes bordering the landfill.

2008 - No-action record of decision released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the Mudflats OU of the vicinity property.

2009 - Geographic information system-based historical photo analysis completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

2009 - 2011 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers performed additional soil, groundwater, sediment, surface water and vegetation sampling to confirm the levels and extent of uranium, radium and thorium in the Landfill OU.

2011 - Town of Tonawanda completed capping of the eastern portion of the landfill.

2012 - Phase 2 remedial investigation and updated baseline risk assessment released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

2015 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers releases the feasibility study and proposed plan for the Landfill OU.