

Ordnance Works meeting Sept. 20

COMMENT SOUGHT:
The Army Corps of Engineers is accepting public comment on the site until Oct. 10.

By Scott Leffler
Greater Niagara Newspapers

The Army Corps of Engineers has scheduled a public meeting of the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works Site Restoration Advisory Board for 7 p.m. Sept. 20.

The meeting will take place in the board room of the Lewiston-Porter Central School primary building, 4061 Creek Road, Youngstown, according to Arleen K. Kreusch, a corps spokeswoman.

Kreusch said the meeting will involve plans by the corps to clean up chemical waste.

The LOOW site originally encompassed 7,500 acres, but Department of Defense activities occurred on 2,500 acres. The site is now divided into

four sections with different owners — the Town of Lewiston, Chemical Waste Management, Modern Disposal Services Inc. and the federal government.

The government owns the Niagara Falls Storage Site, a 191-acre tract containing radioactive waste from various sources, including the Manhattan Project and the former Simonds Saw and Steel plant in Lockport.

In the early 1940s, the federal government used what is now the CWM site to produce and store the explosive trinitrotoluene (TNT).

The corps has already started removing a TNT waste pipeline and chemical waste pipeline on the CWM, Kreusch said.

In a related move, the corps has begun a 30-day comment period for an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis Report concerning removal of other chemical waste at a drum trench and trash pit on the CWM site at 1550 Balmer Road, Lewiston.

Written comments regarding the

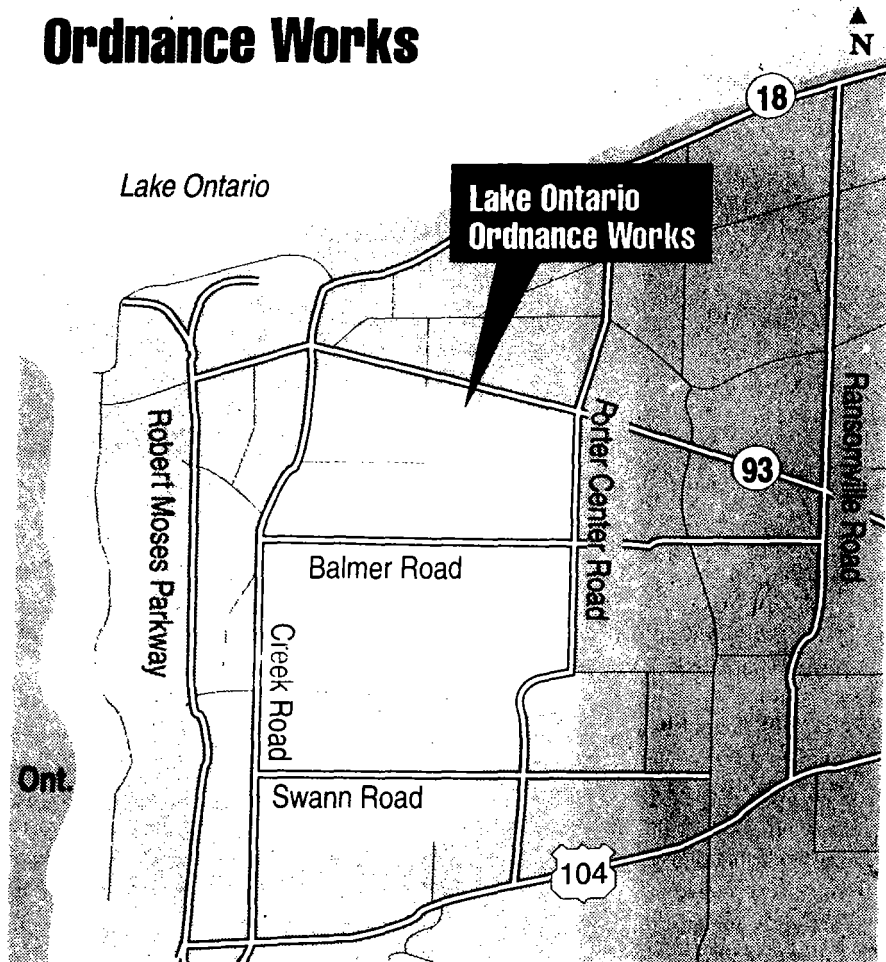
report must be postmarked by Oct. 10, and can be submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers, Public Information Center, 1776 Niagara St., Buffalo, NY 14207. Comments on the drum trench and trash pit will not be accepted at the Sept. 20 meeting.

According to the corps, copies of the Administrative Record File are at the Lewiston Public Library, 305 S. Eighth St., Lewiston; the Youngstown Free Library, 240 Lockport St., Youngstown; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Information Center, 1776 Niagara St., Buffalo.

Kreusch said that only the Niagara Falls Storage Site, which is government owned, contains radioactive residues. It was used to store radioactive residues and wastes from uranium ore processing.

The corps maintains site security, environmental surveillance, and monitoring of the Niagara Falls site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), according to Kreusch.

Ordnance Works



Niagara Gazette

The corps announced last week that it plans to add the former Simonds Saw and Steel plant in Lockport to its list of FUSRAP sites. When the site

will be added to the program has not been decided, according to Candy Walters, a public affairs specialist for the corps in Washington.