



Superfund  
Redevelopment  
Initiative

# SITE REDEVELOPMENT PROFILE

Hiteman Leather Superfund Site

West Winfield, New York



Cleanup efforts underway on site, 2008. (Source: EPA)

**Site Location:** 173 South Street, West Winfield, New York 13491

**Size:** 12 acres

**Existing Site Infrastructure:** All major utilities are available on the site.

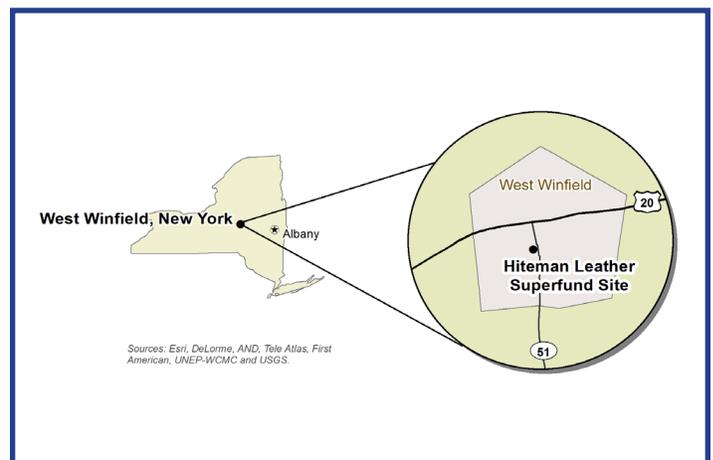
**Current Site Uses:** Recreation and public service uses. Biking and walking paths cross the site.

**Use Restrictions:** A 2010 environmental easement restricts future development and use of the site where contaminated sediments and soils were consolidated under an impermeable liner and clean soil cover, prohibits excavation below the soil cover unless the activities are in accordance with a Site Management Plan, and restricts groundwater use, residential use, and excavation in the wetlands.

**Surrounding population:** 826 people live in West Winfield, New York (2010 Census).

Working together, EPA and the community's Redevelopment Committee incorporated reuse considerations into the cleanup of the Hiteman Leather Superfund site. The site is located in the village of West Winfield (the Village) in Herkimer County, New York. Home to tannery operations for over a century, the site was abandoned in 1968; contaminated sediments and soil were left on site. Before adding the site to the National Priorities List (NPL) in 1999, EPA's initial cleanup efforts included demolishing contaminated, structurally-unsound buildings and fencing the property to restrict access.

With the expectation of one day reclaiming the property, the local government requested a pilot grant from EPA's Superfund Redevelopment Initiative. After EPA awarded the grant in 2001, the community used it to develop a Reuse Assessment Plan. The Plan incorporated extensive input from all parts of the community. Its recommendations focused on



Location of the site in West Winfield, New York.

opportunities for public, recreational and commercial uses at the site.

## SITE HISTORY AND REDEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

<b>1820 - 1968</b>	Leather tannery operated on the site property.
<b>1988 - 1996</b>	State and federal investigations of the site property found high levels of metals contamination.
<b>1999</b>	EPA listed the site on the NPL.
<b>2001</b>	EPA awarded the Village of West Winfield a Superfund Redevelopment Initiative pilot grant. The locality used the grant to develop a Reuse Assessment Plan.
<b>2006</b>	EPA selected the long-term remedy for the site.
<b>2008</b>	EPA completed cleanup activities at the site.
<b>2010</b>	Environmental easement controlling future land use put in place to protect human health and the environment. EPA issued the Site Management Plan, which provides for long-term management of remedy components.
<b>2011</b>	The site achieved EPA's Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use performance measure.
<b>2012</b>	EPA took the site off the NPL.

*"The Reuse Plan is probably what made redevelopment possible at this site; it jumpstarted the entire project...The site went from a real mess to something that, hopefully, will become an area of real value to this community."*

– Jim Murphy, Chairman, West Winfield Redevelopment Committee

Staff from EPA's removal and remedial programs worked together to expedite the site's cleanup. EPA's cleanup activities, which took place from February to September 2008, included excavating and consolidating contaminated soils and sediments on site and installing a site-wide soil cover. The Reuse Assessment Plan helped ensure that the remedy did not unnecessarily restrict anticipated future land uses. EPA took the site off the NPL in 2012. Looking forward, the community also hopes to attract commercial redevelopment.



A view of the site after cleanup. (Source: EPA)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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In May 2017, EPA established a task force to restore the Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the Agency's core mission to protect health and the environment.

[epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force](http://epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force)