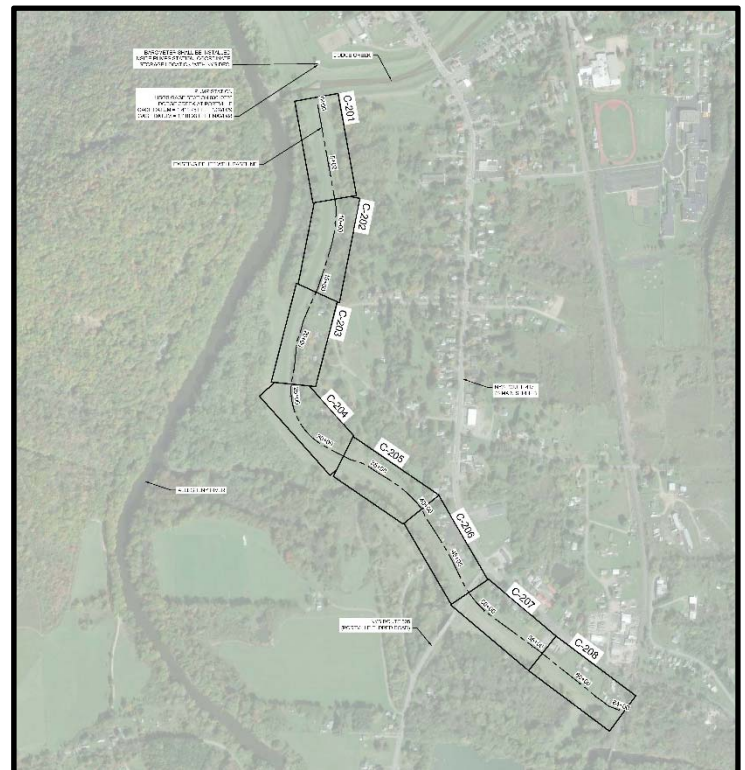


PORTVILLE FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT Well Replacement Project to Begin

Upcoming maintenance and improvement work will begin soon at the Portville Flood Protection Project in the Village of Portville, Cattaraugus County. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is undertaking a project to replace 56 seepage relief wells along the length of the project.

The wells are designed to relieve groundwater pressure and to discharge groundwater in a controlled manner during high water periods on Oswayo Creek and the Allegheny River.

The original, existing flood control wells were constructed in the early 1950s and upcoming work will enable upgrades necessary to ensure that the flood protection project meets current standards and continues to operate effectively into the future.



Aerial view of Flood Protection Project where seepage well replacement work will occur.

WHO TO CONTACT @

Should you have any project-related questions or concerns, please feel welcome to contact:

Kerrie Swartz, E.I.T., Assistant Engineer
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo NY, 14203
(716) 851-7102
Kerrie.Swartz@dec.ny.gov

OR

Theodore Myers, P.E., Regional Flood Control Engineer
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo NY, 14203
(716) 851-7088
Theodore.Myers@dec.ny.gov

Project Work will include:

- **Replacement of 56 seepage relief wells** that run along the edge of the flood project's levee between the railroad located at the south end of the project and the Dodge Creek end of the project.
- **Installation of 3 new groundwater meters** (piezometers) to measure groundwater levels at strategically identified locations along the project to ensure that relief wells installed are functioning properly.



Existing wells to be replaced are T-shaped pipes that emerge from the ground along the length of the levee.



New seepage relief wells (shown above) will have a slotted, metal well guard and a reinforced concrete pad.

- **Existing wells will be properly closed** once new wells are successfully installed. New seepage relief wells will drain to existing drainage ditches already in use for currently existing wells.

Next Steps:

Upcoming construction work will be performed by a contractor, L.C. Whitford Co., Inc. of Wellsville, New York, who will utilize DEC's existing permanent flood protection easements to access and replace seepage relief wells.

Flood protection easement boundaries are marked by either visible blue stakes or metal pins set flush with the ground; some are located on private properties. Property owners with a permanent flood protection easement located on their property are required to maintain the easement areas free of obstruction.

Encroachments which are not removed by the property owner may be removed from the permanent easement as part of the seepage relief well replacement project.

Project Background

DEC owns and maintains the Portville Flood Protection Project. The contract for upcoming well replacement work is being administered by the New York State Office of General Services (OGS) with construction oversight by OGS and the engineering firm AECOM.

The new seepage relief wells were designed by AECOM and meet current U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) design standards. Funding for this project is through the New York Works Initiative.



View of Portville Flood Control Project with wells to be replaced along the levee's edge.

WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION

Project documents are at these locations:

Town and Village of Portville, NY Website:

www.portvilleny.net

Friends of Portville Facebook page

www.facebook.com/groups/friends-of-portville-546833275515533/

Project Schedule:

Construction to replace the seepage relief wells at the Portville Flood Protection Project will begin in the early spring of 2021 (March) and is expected to be complete by fall. Prior to the start of construction, field personnel may be seen in the project area conducting preparatory work such as site surveys or inspections.

Updates on the project's construction schedule, as well as other project information will be made available on the Village's website at www.portvilleny.net and on the "Friends of Portville" Facebook page.

Any questions regarding the project are welcome – please see the "who to contact" box on the front of this page for DEC contact information.