DREDGING OF THE GOWANUS CANAL

Brooklyn, NY

www.epa.gov

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Community Update #10 — November 2026

Starting in mid-November 2026, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will dredge portions of the Gowanus Canal between 3rd and 9th streets. Contractors will use specialized dredging equipment to remove contaminated sediment from the canal bottom. This layer of contaminated sediment at the bottom of the canal is referred to as the soft sediment layer. It is the sediment that accumulated on top of the native sediment at the original canal bottom.

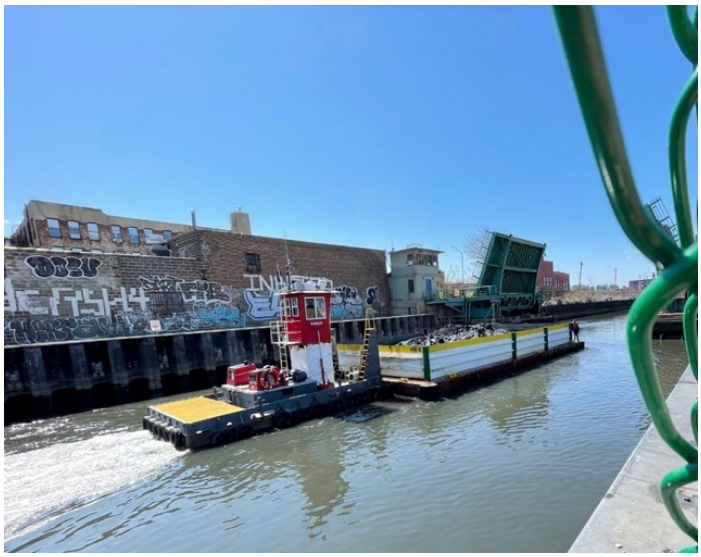


Dredging operations north of Carroll Street Bridge

Contractors will load the contaminated sediment directly onto small barges that can navigate the narrow canal down to the staging area at Smith and Bay streets. At the staging area, contractors will dewater the dredged material before loading the sediment on to larger barges to be shipped across New York Harbor to a processing facility in New Jersey. Contractors will remove approximately 40,500 cubic yards of contaminated sediment. EPA expects this dredging to last about six months.

Bulkhead Installation

Earlier this year EPA supervised the construction of a large portion of the bulkhead support systems along the canal between 3rd and 9th streets. Contractors will install the remaining bulkheads in this portion of the canal, as well as between 9th Street and Hamilton Avenue during the next phase of work. These support systems are designed to prevent the existing waterfront structures from collapsing during dredging and other cleanup activities.



Small barge transporting contaminated sediment to staging area

Bridge and Road Closures

Work in the canal requires frequent bridge closings as they open to allow work vessels to pass. For this portion of work in the canal, temporary traffic disruptions will occur regularly at Hamilton Avenue and 9th Street. Occasional closures at 3rd Street and Union Street may also occur. During periods of heavy construction activity, bridge closures may be extended. EPA is coordinating bridge and street closures with the New York City Department of Transportation. The closures will be implemented on certain weekdays, based on the need to conduct specific construction activities. For a schedule of planned bridge closures, visit: www.gowanussuperfund.com/bridge-information/

GOWANUS CANAL 3RD to 9th STREETS

Dredging of approximately 40,500 cubic yards of contaminated sediment will begin mid-November 2026



Community Hotline
When work is being conducted at the site, the public can call a 24-hour hotline to share complaints and concerns, which will be relayed to a supervisor at the site and to EPA. **The hotline number is 718-403-2451.**

For more information about the site, please contact:
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