

# CATASAUQUA IRON WORKS

## CATASAUQUA, PA.



This 13-acre waterfront brownfield property in the Borough of Catasauqua is being redeveloped into a mixed-use municipal and public complex with the assistance of Section (128a) Response Program funding services. Due to the past industrial activity on the property soils were contaminated with heavy metals and organic compounds. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provided technical assistance to facilitate the remediation of the property under the department's Act 2 program. DEP staff also assisted the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC), the Borough of Catasauqua and other municipal stakeholders and developers to transform this former iron works facility into a community asset.



The Crane Iron Co., one of many ironmaking firms established in the region during the heart of the Industrial Revolution, operated at the site from 1839 to 1921. By 1902, the four furnaces of the Crane Plant turned out 450 tons of iron daily. The property changed hands several times over the subsequent decades and was vacant since F.L. Smidth moved out in 2004. The Borough of Catasauqua purchased the property from F.L. Smidth in 2013 and rezoned it to accommodate mixed-used redevelopment.

Now known as the Catasauqua Iron Works, a new \$11.2 million 38,000-square-foot municipal building complex was completed in August of 2017 which now encompasses the borough's offices, police and fire departments. The remaining 10 acres will include retail shops, restaurants, an open-air farmers' market, and 200 residential units with cobblestone walkways to provide a community gathering place.

**For more information see  
Bureau of Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields  
Department of Environmental Protection  
[www.dep.pa.gov](http://www.dep.pa.gov) | 717.783.7502 |**