

Economic Profile

BASF Corp. (Wyandotte)

Wyandotte, Michigan

CONTINUED USE



Chemical and Plastics
Manufacturing

In 1893, this facility in Wyandotte, Michigan, began manufacturing chemicals including soda ash, lye and other cleaners. The facility's long history of manufacturing, much of which was before modern environmental regulations, contaminated the air, groundwater and nearby Detroit River sediments. The facility's owner, BASF, is cleaning up the site under the RCRA Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program (formerly the RCRA Corrective Action Program), with oversight by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE).

The facility continues to operate during the cleanup, manufacturing chemicals and plastic products. The plant generates over \$1.9 billion in revenue per year and employs more than 1,200 people.

CLEANUP OVERSEEN BY

EPA and the Michigan Department of
Environment, Great Lakes and Energy



1,227

EMPLOYEES



\$1.9 billion

ANNUAL SALES



\$91 million

ANNUAL WAGES





THE FACILITY CONTINUES TO OPERATE DURING THE CLEANUP, MANUFACTURING CHEMICALS AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS. THE PLANT GENERATES NEARLY \$1.9 BILLION IN REVENUE PER YEAR AND EMPLOYS MORE THAN 1,200 PEOPLE.

The BASF North Works facility has been used for a variety of industrial operations since the late 1800s. BASF has implemented remedial actions to help address the contamination that is leaving the site via groundwater. Groundwater extraction and treatment, sewer repairs and repairs to the wall facing the Detroit River have helped to minimize contamination going into the Detroit River. BASF continues to work on remediation at the facility with EPA and EGLE oversight. In 2022, BASF submitted a design plan for a \$49 million comprehensive interim measure to eliminate the discharge of groundwater to the Detroit River through a groundwater trench collection system paired with physical barriers along the site perimeter and an above grade water treatment system.

Since 2011, BASF has voluntarily partnered with EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office to assess and clean up contaminated sediment in the Detroit River, which is a tributary to Lake Erie. The ongoing \$100 million project unites partners from both the U.S. and Canada to restore the shared Great Lakes ecosystem.

Remediation of the former production site has also made land available for public use. In 1995, the city of Wyandotte dedicated the 20-acre BASF Waterfront Park. As the largest park in Wyandotte, it is used as a wedding venue and hosts outdoor sporting events. Additionally, BASF is an active participant in the local community. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, BASF produced hand sanitizer to aid front-line workers. The Wyandotte facility donated 800 gallons of hand sanitizer to Ohio to combat the disinfectant shortage.

Today, BASF manufactures a broad range of plastics for transportation uses and chemicals for the food and pharmaceutical industries. As both an economic powerhouse and a supporter of community and environmental action, the BASF facility in Wyandotte embodies the dual potential of RCRA Hazardous Waste Cleanup Program sites.



BASF Waterfront Park features a boat launch and floating dock for easy boating access to the Detroit River.



The disinfectant produced at BASF Wyandotte helped the state of Ohio meet increased demands for sanitizing product.