



Maryland Department of the  
Environment

## FACTS ABOUT: Granite Nike Control Site (MD-212)

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### **Site Location**

The Granite Nike Control Site (also referred to as the Woodstock Military Reservation) is located at 2845 Hernwood Road in Baltimore County, Maryland. The 16.53-acre facility is an inactive military facility located approximately 15 miles west-northwest of Baltimore City. The site had been improved with numerous one-story buildings, radar towers, asphalt parking areas and roads, a tennis/basketball court and several concrete wash pads; however, the buildings were removed from the property and the majority of the site is covered with grass and shrubs. Baltimore County land records show that the property is owned by the Department of Defense and leased to the Maryland National Guard. No structures are present on the site at this time and a chain-link fence is erected around the property's perimeter.

### **Site History**

Between 1955 and 1973, the facility was operated by the Army as the control portion of Nike missile battery BA-79/W-05. In addition, the facility served as Battalion Headquarters for several Nike missile batteries surrounding Baltimore. In 1973, the Army discontinued the Nike Missile Program. Between 1974 and 1992, the site was licensed to the Maryland National Guard to house the 70<sup>th</sup> General Supply Company and the 29<sup>th</sup> Support Center Rear Area Operations. Since 1992, the site has been inactive and unoccupied.

During its operational period, both underground storage tanks (USTs) and aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) were in use at the property. In 1997 and 1999, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Oil Control Program oversaw the removal of all of the USTs at the site. Leaking transformers and septic system leaching pits have allowed solvents, metals and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) to release to the environment.

### **Environmental Investigations and Actions**

Records indicate that several transformers were formerly present at the site. Three leaking transformers (PCB containing) were removed in 1984, along with impacted soil,



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and disposed off-site. In 1999, three other transformers were removed and the remaining three transformers were removed in 2001.

In July 1994, a Preliminary Assessment of the Granite Control site (Woodstock Military Reservation) was prepared for the Army. The Preliminary Assessment identified the possibility of asbestos containing materials (ACM), lead-based paint, documented release of PCBs, materials stored in the flammable storage locker, potential releases from the septic tanks and leach fields, and extensive use of USTs and ASTs.

In December 1988, 25 gallons of fuel oil spilled during refueling of a UST. Petroleum-impacted soil was removed with MDE supervision in 1989. In February 1992, a 250-gallon AST overturned and spilled fuel oil. Petroleum-impacted soil (reported as about 0.8 cubic yards) was excavated and disposed off-site.

A draft Comprehensive Site Assessment (CSA) was issued in February 1999 and finalized in 2002. The CSA investigated the presence of ACM, the septic tanks and leach fields, the USTs and ASTs and the documented PCB releases. The CSA reported the presence of ACM within structures at the site and lead in groundwater above the EPA's action limit.

Between 2001 and 2004, a total of 11 buildings were demolished and removed from the site. Records indicate that the septic system was removed and the excavation backfilled with clean soil.

In July 2007, the Current Conditions Site Assessment was prepared for the Army. This document includes samples results for soil and groundwater. Groundwater sampling revealed lead at 72 – 550 µg/l (total metals analysis) and 0 – 5.0 µg/l (dissolved metals analysis). The EPA action level for lead in drinking water is 15 µg/l. Subsurface soil samples (6 – 26 feet below surface) were detected up to 11,300 mg/kg for diesel range hydrocarbons and 920 mg/kg for gasoline range hydrocarbons. The advisory levels for these values are 230 mg/kg for residential use and 620 mg/kg for non-residential use.

## **Current Status**

The Granite Nike Control site is currently inactive and unoccupied. An asphalt parking lot, roads, concrete walkways and a tennis/basketball court remain on the property. However, these features are not maintained and are deteriorating.



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