



Middletown Road Dump

What You Need to Know

Site Location

The 15-acre former dump site is located off Middletown Road in Annapolis, Maryland. The site is situated in a mixed residential/rural area. An unnamed tributary flows to the east and discharges into Whitehall Creek, which flows south for approximately two miles before discharging into the Chesapeake Bay.

Site History

Prior to 1981 the site was an unpermitted dump. Construction debris, rubble and some industrial and municipal wastes were accepted at the site.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

In March 1981, State of Maryland personnel conducted an inspection of the site in response to information regarding possible illegal dumping. Approximately 40 drums and four dumpsters of solvents and marine paint sludge were discovered. Samples collected revealed the waste was heavily contaminated with benzene, toluene, xylene, zinc, lead and chromium.

In October 1982, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Field Investigation Team (FIT) conducted a site inspection, and further sampling detected high levels of chromium, lead, arsenic, and cyanide in soil and surface water runoff samples. The site was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL) in December 1982.

In 1983, EPA and the State of Maryland initiated emergency removal activities. The removal operation was completed in December 1983. Approximately 350 cubic yards of soil, six overpacked 55-gallon drums of various solvents and thinners, 150 crushed 55-gallon drums, 275 five-gallon containers, and approximately one million tires were removed from the site.

In February 1985, Maryland completed a Remedial Investigation (RI) in which groundwater, surface water, soil and air samples were collected. No contamination at levels higher than the surrounding area was detected. The report recommended no need for further source control or off-site actions.

In March 1986, EPA's Record of Decision (ROD) called for no further remedial action at this site as the RI confirmed that the emergency removal action was complete and the site no longer posed a threat to human health or the environment. As a result, the site was removed from the NPL on April 18, 1988.

In 1992, MDE conducted groundwater sampling from the on-site monitoring wells in response to directives specified in the ROD. The groundwater sampling detected levels of arsenic and chromium slightly above Maximum Contaminant Levels. Subsequent groundwater sampling in 1993 and 1994 failed to detect contamination above MCLs.



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

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Current Status

A firewood business occupies a portion of the western and southwestern sections of the property.

Planned or Potential Future Action

No further activity is planned for this site.