



Maryland Department of the  
Environment

## FACTS ABOUT: AMERICAN CLEANERS

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### **Site Location**

The 0.067-acre American Cleaners site located at 1600 S. Light Street in southern Baltimore City and is identified on the City tax map 00239, section 11, block 1015, lot 53. The approximate coordinates for the center of the site are 39° 16.291' north latitude and 76° 36.705' west longitude.

### **Site History**

According to MDE's Air and Radiation Management Administration (ARMA) files, the facility began operations in 1953 and ceased sometime prior to July 2005. Review of Google Earth® historic aerial photos from 2004 to 2007 indicates renovations to the property from a dry cleaner facility to the six-unit apartment building in use today. The property is zoned for mixed residential/retail use.

### **Environmental Investigations**

ARMA files indicate that in December 1971, the facility applied to register a Washex petroleum dry cleaning unit (registration # 2472700539) and used approximately 1,500 gallons/year of Stoddard solvent and later increased usage in the range of 2,000 to 5,000 gallons/year. MDE's Hazardous Waste Program (HWP) files identified the site as a small quantity generator. HWP inspections noted that waste manifests indicated that the wastes were classified D001 (naphtha based solvent) with D039 class waste (tetrachloroethylene [PCE]) mixed in. No other documentation is available at this time to indicate that PCE was used on site other than for pre-spotting.

The American Cleaners dry cleaning facility was last inspected by MDE's HWP on February 22, 1991 and found to be in compliance. The facility was inspected by MDE's ARMA several times without incident or violation. The inspection on July 19, 2005 found the facility closed.

On January 22, 2014, MDE completed a pre-CERCLIS (Comprehensive Environmental Resource Compensation and Liability Information System) Screening Letter Report that recommended listing on CERCLIS for further investigation.



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In October 2015, MDE completed a Preliminary Assessment that recommended further action under CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Resource, Compensation and Liability Act).

### **Current Status**

The site now functions as a six-unit apartment building.



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Anderson/Land Restoration Program/October 2015