



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: Chesapeake Publishing Company

Site Location

The 2.1-acre Chesapeake Publishing Company (CPC) site is located at 601 North Bridge Street in Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland. The site is located at 39° 36' 54" North latitude by 75° 50' 20" West longitude with Maryland grid coordinates of 651250 N by 1127500 E. The site is bordered to the east by North Bridge Street and residential property, to the west by a local Moose Clubhouse, to the north by a former industrial property, and to the south by a deli and sub shop.

Site History

Prior to 1959 the property was undeveloped. In 1976 the property was sold by The Cecil Whig Publishing Company to the Chesapeake Publishing Company. The property has been used for publishing newspapers and advertising circulars since development in 1959.

Environmental Investigations

In December 2000, Phase I and Phase II Environmental Assessments were conducted by Roy F. Weston, Inc. The Phase I report recommended that the site be surveyed to assure that CPC activities were occurring on CPC property and several housekeeping suggestions relating to the handling of oil and ink drums. The report also recommended that a Phase II be performed to determine if there were any environmental impacts from the RMR Corporation site just north to the property. In October of 2003 the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a Phase II Brownfields Assessment of the property. Results of the Assessment indicated that MDE and EPA risk levels for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) in soil and groundwater were exceeded and the levels of TCE constituted a risk from vapor intrusion to indoor air. In January of 2014 a Limited and Focused Subsurface Soil and Groundwater Investigation of the property was conducted by LCS, Inc. for M & T Bank. The results of that study found low levels of VOCs and levels of arsenic that exceeded MDE non-residential clean up standards in soils. The study also identified levels of VOCs that exceeded MDE Type I and II Aquifer Groundwater Criteria in groundwater samples.

Current Status

MDE determined that contaminant pathways were limited by the paving and buildings on the site and that groundwater was not used as a potable water supply in the area.



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