



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: DANIELS QUARRY (MD-591)

Site Location

The approximately 0.1-acre Daniels Quarry Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) site is reported to have been located on the north slope of a hill about one half mile south of Daniels. Howard County, Maryland, which is within the Patapsco State Park boundary. The site is situated on the 189.3-acre parcel 202 on Howard County tax map 18.

Site History

The quarry consisted of an opening 15 feet wide by about 50 feet long extending along the face of the hill. The quarry itself does not appear on historic or recent topographic maps. The exact location is unknown and could not be determined from a windshield survey on April 10, 2009 or site reconnaissance on December 4, 2009. It is reported that low-grade asbestos was mined there from sometime before 18965 until 1906.

C.R. Daniels, Inc. had owned and operated a textile mill in Daniels, formerly known as Alberton, approximately ½-mile north of the quarry and purchased the town and the surrounding 500 acres in 1940. The tract was conveyed to the State in March 1976. After mining operations ceased at the Daniels Quarry site in 1906, the immediate area around the site has remained fallow.

Environmental Investigations

In November 2011, MDE conducted sampling for a Site Inspection (SI) in the vicinity of the former quarry to determine if NOA is present at the surface of the site and therefore a potential threat to Park visitors. Seventeen surface soil samples (including two field duplicates) were collected and analyzed for asbestos and metals using EPA approved methods. Results of the chemical analysis identified elevated levels of aluminum, arsenic, chromium (as hexavalent chromium), cobalt, copper, iron, manganese, and vanadium above EPA Risk-Based Concentrations (RBCs) and MDE Cleanup Standards for residential soil. MDE completed a Toxicological Evaluation from the data collected during the SI. The Toxicological Evaluation, utilizing a recreational use scenario, identified elevated hazard indices for the child visitor and construction worker populations from ingestion of the surface soil due to the elevated level of cobalt detected in one surface soil sample (S-7 at 230 mg/Kg). The analytical results of the soil samples for asbestos failed to identify asbestos in any of the surface soil samples collected for this SI.



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Anderson/Land Restoration Program/March/2012

Current Status

Since elevated levels of metals in the surface soil occur naturally in ultramafic rocks and no asbestos was identified in MDE's SI, MDE recommended no further investigation of naturally occurring asbestos at this site at this time.



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