



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT:

Former Jameson-Harrison American
Legion and Dyson Besche Realty
Company Property
(Voluntary Cleanup Program)

Site Location

The 14,856-acre property, located at 15322 Prince Frederick Road, Hughesville, Charles County, Maryland 20637, is in a mixed commercial and residential area. It is bordered to the west by Route 5 (Leonardtown Road) and to the south by MD Route 231 (Prince Frederick Road). An unnamed stream and wetlands are located on the central portion of the property and the stream flows toward Indian Creek, located approximately 1.7 miles south-southeast of the property. Indian Creek flows into the Patuxent River. Locally, groundwater flow and site drainage are both south and southeast toward Indian Creek. The property is located in a groundwater use area with known public supply wells within a 0.5-mile radius of the site.

Site History

From 1937 through 1958, the eastern portion of the property was woodland. The Jameson-Harrison American Legion (American Legion) purchased the eastern portion in 1955 and developed the property as a recreational facility in 1958. In the early 1990s, shooting range operations commenced on the eastern portion of the property. In 1957, Dyson Besche Realty Company, Inc. purchased the western portion of the property from Dyson Besche Oil Company, Inc. The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) acquired both properties for construction of an entrance ramp across American Legion property as part of the construction of the Maryland Route 5 / 231 interchange. One-story, brick building, and two small sheds formerly located on the eastern portion of the American Legion property were demolished and the shooting range was closed. The entrance ramp was completed in 2007.

Environmental Investigations And Actions

The extent of lead contamination in soil, sediment, surface water, and groundwater, including its impact on the on-site wetlands located downgradient of the American Legion firing range was characterized during the environmental investigations conducted in January and March 2002 and April 2003.



Current Status

In March 2003, the SHA submitted a VCP application as an inculpable person. In May and June 2007, under an approved interim removal measure, 1,177 tons of soil contaminated with lead was removed from the upland area (former American Legion property) and properly disposed of off-site. The property was accepted into the VCP in September 2008 with the requirement that a response action plan (RAP) be developed to address the lead contaminated soil in the wetland area. The proposed RAP was submitted to the VCP in July 2009 and a public informational meeting was held December 8, 2009. The revised RAP was approved in June 2010 and excavation of lead contaminated soil, sediment and vegetation and reconstruction of wetland was conducted between July 2011 and April 2012. In January 2012, the VCP application was modified from future residential property use to non-residential property use that will require a zoning modification.

