



# ***Facts About...***

National Institutes of Health (MD-150)  
State Master List

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## **Site Location**

The 305-acre National Institutes of Health (NIH) site is located at 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD. The site is located in a residential/commercial area in Montgomery County.

The geographic coordinates are latitude 38.99769 degrees north and longitude 77.103811 degrees west.

## **Site History**

In 1936, the Wilson family donated 45 acres of a former golf course to the government at the present site for a medical research facility. In 1954 a hospital was built on the site and the role of NIH research expanded. At this time Building 26 was designated as a chemical disposal plant. Building 21 was built in 1950 to provide a segregated working area for the use of radioisotopes. Radioactive material was disposed in this building by incineration. The facility also disposed of off-site chemical and radioactive waste from other nearby Federal facilities. By 1976 waste was no longer disposed on site and was taken off site by a hazardous waste contractor and disposed in a licensed hazardous waste facility.

## **Environmental Investigations**

A Preliminary Assessment (PA) was conducted on the site by MDE for the EPA in 1986. Groundwater, surface water and soils were sampled and analyzed for radiation, inorganic and pesticide contamination. The results of the analyses showed no hazardous levels of chemical or radiological materials. An updated PA in 1992 recommended a No Further Remedial Action Planned designation due to lack of targets.

## **Current Status**

EPA archived the site in 1992.

## **Contact**

For additional information, please contact the Land Restoration Program at 410-537-3440.

Last Updated: January 2011

