

Baltimore County

1938-1980	Property used for manufacturing VHF directional equipment, radar equipment, military radio equipment, and car radios.
1980-1994/5	Property leased for retail, commercial, warehousing, and distribution purposes.
1/1999	VCP application submitted for the property.
6/1999	VCP application accepted.
7/1999	Proposed response action plan submitted for the property.
8/5/99	Public informational meeting held to discuss the proposed response action plan and solicit public comment.
1/19/00	Proposed response action plan approved by the Department.
2/25/00	First round of quarterly groundwater samples collected at the site.

ARCADE TOWSON/RADIO PARK 1220 East Joppa Road Towson, Maryland (Voluntary Cleanup Program)

Site Description

This 22.1-acre property on East Joppa Road is located in a commercial-residential section of Towson, Maryland. The property is currently undergoing extensive renovation that will significantly alter its layout. Prior to renovation, the property was comprised of a 380,000 square foot commercial building, small landscaped areas, paved parking areas and access roads, and a number of outbuildings, including a garage, an electrical substation, and a pump house. The main building was constructed in stages between 1938 and 1960. From 1938 to 1980, the building housed warehouse space, offices, and several industrial operations, including the manufacture of aircraft directional equipment, radar systems, military radio equipment, and car radios. After industrial operations ceased at the property in 1980, the building was leased for retail, commercial, and warehouse/distribution space. The building has been vacant since 1994-95. The current owner of the property is Fund IV/Radio Park, LLC.

The site and vicinity are served by municipal water and sewer systems. The nearest surface water body is Mine Bank Run, a tributary to Gunpowder Falls, located approximately 0.25-mile to the north.

Environmental Concerns

The property was used for a variety of commercial and industrial purposes between 1938 and 1994-95, some of which involved the use and storage of organic solvents, paints, oils, refrigerants, and other controlled hazardous substances.

Previous environmental investigations of the property have identified the presence of trichloroethene, tetrachloroethene, and other organic solvents in the groundwater located approximately 15 to 25 feet beneath the property. To date, the highest groundwater contamination levels (31,000 parts per billion of trichloroethene and 26,000 parts per billion of tetrachloroethene) have been identified near the southeastern corner of the building. Low part per billion levels of trichloroethene and tetrachloroethene have also been detected in an on-site, intermittent stream located downgradient of the area of identified groundwater contamination.

The source of the site's groundwater and surface water contamination is unknown. Based on the available information, it may be emanating from source areas within the building and/or from an industrial facility that adjoins the east side of the property.

Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) Status

In January 1999, a VCP application was submitted for the property. In June 1999, the Department accepted the property into the VCP, and approved the participant's status as an inculpable person. In July 1999, the participant submitted a proposed response action plan for the property. The Department approved the applicant's proposed response action plan on January 19, 2000. Redevelopment of the site is underway.

Site Contact

James W. Metz

Maryland Department of the Environment
Voluntary Cleanup/Brownfields Division

(410) 537 – 3493