



Facts About...

Byrd Park (Brownfields Site)

Site Location

Byrd Park is located along the Pocomoke River in the northwestern corner of Snow Hill, Worcester County, Maryland. The Park is 15-acres in size and lies approximately five feet above the Pocomoke River. Surface features include two playgrounds, one basketball court, a boat ramp, fishing and picnic areas, flat open grasslands, two open-air pavilions, and two small buildings for concessions and restrooms. Residential neighborhoods to the east and south, industrial properties to the west, and the Pocomoke River to the north surround Byrd Park.

Site History

Prior to the 1930s Byrd Park was part of the Pocomoke River marshland. In the 1930s, sediments derived from channel maintenance of the Pocomoke River were placed in this area as fill creating the land that became the Park.

According to representatives of the Town of Snow Hill, dumping and burning allegedly occurred within the footprint of Byrd Park from the 1920s into the 1940s. However, these representatives did not know the nature and extent of the materials that were allegedly disposed there. There is no State or regulatory file history regarding this alleged former dump.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

Based on a request from the Town of Snow Hill, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) personnel toured the Park on April 1, 2004. A Phase I Brownfields report was completed on July 11, 2004. Although evidence of the dump/burn area was not identified, MDE recommended sampling to further investigate the alleged disposal area to justify the ongoing recreational use of the property. On July 6, 2004 MDE collected soil and groundwater samples at the Park. The results were presented in the Phase II Brownfields report completed on May 17, 2005. Analytical results from the soil and groundwater samples confirmed evidence of past disposal practices at the location. The results revealed the presence of some semi-volatile organic compounds, all below Maryland State concentration standards.

Current Status

Results from the analytical assessment support the continued use of Byrd Park for recreational activities.

Planned or Potential Future Action

There are no planned future remedial actions for this site.



Facility Contacts

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