

MD-358
Prince George's County

- 1984 | William Pleasant purchased the property.
- Pleasant reported a cache of drums he discovered on the site to WMA.
- WMA inspected the site and sampled the waste in the drums. WMA directed Mr. Pleasant to have the drums removed and disposed of by a licensed hazardous waste contractor, which he did.
- 1991 | HSWMA prepared a Preliminary Assessment report, recommended No Further Remedial Action under CERCLA.

WILLIAM PLEASANT SITE
Friendly, Maryland

Site Location

The William Pleasant Site is located in a suburban residential part of southwest Prince George's County, approximately 10 miles southeast of Washington, D.C. The site address was the 10,100 block of Allentown Road, Friendly, Maryland. The geographic coordinates of the site are 38° 45' 15" North and 76° 58' 37" West. Local residents stated that the site was forested and undeveloped before it was acquired by the Pleasants.

Site History

William D. Pleasant acquired the 38-acre parcel on March 23, 1984 from Jean Iona Nydock. Mrs. Nydock acquired the property from her former husband William Frost, who released his dower interest on February 15, 1966.

Pleasant was developing the site into 37 individual, one-acre residential lots to be sold to home-builders for development. Pleasant had excavated and graded approximately 90 percent of the property when he discovered a cache of drums in a small wooded area of the property in October 1984. The area of the drums had not been disturbed. Pleasant reported the drums to the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Waste Management Administration (WMA).

Environmental Investigations

The WMA responded to the October 1984 complaint that drums had been illegally dumped on the Pleasant property by dispatching a team to inspect the site and sample the waste inside the drums. William Pleasant, who had acquired the property earlier that same year, stated that he knew nothing about the drums.

A total of 86 (55-gallon) drums and two smaller drums were dumped at the site sometime before October 1984. Fifteen of the 88 total drums contained one of two different types of waste material: a black, tar-like substance or a brown, slow-flowing, tarry substance. None of the drums was reported leaking or ruptured, although some had missing bungs. Most of the drums had the word Ziebart stenciled on the outside.

Samples of the waste were analyzed for purgeable halocarbons and purgeable aromatics at the Maryland State Lab. The two predominant pollutants were total xylenes, which ranged from 100 to 1,500 parts per million (ppm) and ethylbenzene, which ranged up to 142 ppm in the samples.

Since the wastes in the drums were tar-like solids, the WMA and Prince George's County Health Department determined that soil samples were not needed. The WMA directed Mr. Pleasant to have the drums removed and disposed of by a licensed hazardous waste contractor. Mr. Pleasant hired ECOFLO to remove and dispose of the drums. Both the County and the WMA inspected the dump site after the drums were removed, determined there was no reason to sample the soil at the site, and recommended no further action.

In April 1991, the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Administration (HSWMA) visited the William Pleasant site to prepare a *Preliminary Assessment* report (May 1991) for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). HSWMA noted the property was uninhabited and there was no evidence of workers having been there in the recent past. HSWMA also noted that the only evidence of a possible release of hazardous materials were subtle signs of distressed vegetation at the dump site. MDE recommended No Further Action be pursued under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

Current Status

This site is on the State Master List that identifies potential hazardous waste sites in Maryland. The Master List includes sites currently identified by EPA's Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System. EPA has given the site a designation of No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP). The designation of NFRAP by EPA does not mean that MDE has reached the same conclusion concerning further investigation at the site. The information contained in the fact sheet presents a summary of past investigations and site conditions currently known to MDE.

Facility Contact

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