



Facts About...

Pennington Avenue Landfill
(Voluntary Cleanup Program)

Site Location

The Pennington Avenue Landfill property ("site"), totaling approximately 64 acres, is located at 1501 Aspen Street in Baltimore City, Maryland 21226. The site is situated in a mixed industrial/commercial/residential area of Baltimore City along the Anne Arundel County line. The site is bounded to the north by a trucking facility along Benhill Avenue, Cherry Street and commercial and residential development beyond, to the east by industrial developments and Pennington Avenue beyond, to the south by vacant wooded land (former Drumco Dump site) and industrial facilities beyond, and to the west by vacant undeveloped wooded land (Parcel 247). The site elevation is near 96 feet mean sea level and is mounded in two separate areas along the majority of the property due to previous use as a municipal landfill. An elevation difference across the site of approximately 50 feet exists. Groundwater is located between 5-20 feet below ground surface. The nearest surface water body is Cabin Branch Creek located approximately 1,000 feet south of the site, which discharges into the Curtis Bay approximately 0.25-mile east. One domestic groundwater well has been identified within one-half-mile west-southwest of the site. Groundwater flow direction is assumed south-southeast toward Cabin Branch Creek.

Site History

The site has been vacant undeveloped land since at least 1907. The central portion of the site was used as a clay mine between the 1950s and 1970s and is currently a filled and capped municipal landfill. Non-permitted dumping occurred on site until the municipal landfill officially opened. City landfill operations occurred from July 9, 1976 until May 1, 1981, when the landfill closed after receiving over 2 million cubic yards of refuse. A methane gas collection system was previously operated by Baltimore City (current owner) until the 1990s when due to lack of methane gas it was shut down. One inactive 6-inch and two active 12-inch petroleum pipelines traverse the property.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

In 1997, MDE conducted a Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation at the site (Non-Master List MD-503) that identified slightly elevated levels of metals in the sediment and soil and slightly elevated levels of metals and volatile organic compounds in the groundwater beneath the site. In December 1998, after review of the investigation results, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a comfort letter/status letter of No Further Remedial Action Plan status. In September 2007, A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was conducted on the property that identified recognized environmental conditions associated with the previous use of the site as a landfill.



Current Status

On February 25, 2008, a Voluntary Cleanup Program application was submitted by Glenn Abbey V, LLC, seeking a No Further Requirements Determination as an inculpable party. Future property use was indicated as Tier 3B, restricted industrial use. On April 18, 2008, the Department submitted comments on the application package and requested that a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment be conducted. The application is currently in delayed status.

Contact

For additional information, please contact the Land Restoration Program at (410) 537-3493.

Last Update: November 2009

