

**MD-170**  
**Prince George's County**

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| 1984 | Nearly 300 30-gallon drums uncovered and removed by a developer.   |
|      | EPA approved funding to clean up the site under CERCLA.  |
| 1985 | A residential community was constructed on the site.   |
| 1987 | DHMH's WMA conducted a <i>Preliminary Assessment</i> and found no evidence of hazardous or dangerous substances. |

**EVANS TRAIL DUMP SITE**  
**Calverton, Maryland**

**Site Location**

The Evans Trail Drum Site is located on Evans Trail Road, off Powder Mill Road (State Route 212), outside of Calverton, Prince George's County, Maryland. The site was a former sand and gravel pit. Across the street is a large apartment complex, and adjacent to the site is a center for the developmentally retarded.

**Site History**

On May 25, 1984, a housing developer uncovered approximately 250 severely deteriorated 30-gallon drums during road grading operations. The drums were buried at a depth of three to eight feet. Evidence suggested that the drums were 30 to 40 years old. The drums contained a black tarry substance that was found to be leaking onto and contaminating the surrounding soil. An orange colored leachate was found to be seeping into a nearby stream. The substance once stored in the drums had the characteristic odor of oil based paint. At the request of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's (DHMH) Waste Management Administration (WMA) the developer segregated the relatively intact drums and graded the extremely deteriorated drums/contaminated soil mixture into a hazardous waste pile. Subsequently the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) shared the cost of the cleanup for the site. In 1985, a residential townhouse community with roads, parking lots and lawns was constructed on the site.

**Environmental Investigations**

Subsequent to unearthing the drums of chemical waste, a contractor retained by the developer collected 12 soil samples for chemical analysis on May 30, 1984. Laboratory results showed that the waste material inside the drums had EP Toxicity levels of lead ranging from 20 to 100 parts per million (ppm), and samples from the seep area had an EP Toxicity level of 0.75 ppm lead. Additional sampling by the EPA on June 21, 1984 showed total lead concentration up to 22,000 ppm. High levels of cyanide and chromium were also detected. A magnetometer survey showed no magnetic anomalies that could be interpreted as additional drums.

On July 11, 1984, EPA approved funding for a Planned Removal Project to clean up the site under the provision of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Staging of the drums began on July 15, 1984, and a total of 292 drums ultimately were excavated and removed from the site. The drums were crushed prior to disposal. The drums and 192 tons of soil (12 truckloads), which were considered to be hazardous, were sent to the Fondessy Enterprises Hazardous Waste Landfill in Oregon, Ohio for disposal. An additional 350 cubic yards of soil (28 truckloads) considered to be non-hazardous were excavated and disposed of at the Brown Station County Landfill, Prince George's County, Maryland. To complete the restoration, the site was regraded and hydroseeded. The cost of the project was over \$242,000. Efforts to locate a responsible party were unsuccessful.

On July 31, 1987 the WMA visited the site to conduct a *Preliminary Assessment* (PA). The former dump site had been developed into a residential community. The PA found no evidence of stressed vegetation over the site and adjacent to it. The PA also stated that the small streams that border the site had abundant vegetation and concluded there was no evidence of hazardous or dangerous substances in the area.

**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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