



# Facts About...

## Hughesville Tire Site State Master List

---

### Site Location

The Hughesville Tire site (MD-317) is located approximately one mile north of the intersection of Route 5 and Gallant Green Road in Charles County. The 18-acre site is located on the northeast side of Mason's Crossing Road approximately 300 feet west of the intersection with Gallant Green Road.

The geographic coordinates are latitude 38.560678 degrees north and longitude 76.802044 degrees west.

### Site History

The HT site was used as a tire dump from 1978 until 1990. Prior to 1978, the site was used for a sawmill operation. In 1978, Roplex, Inc. purchased the property and began stockpiling used tires on the site. In 1981, Roplex explored the possibility of building a pyrolysis plant on the site but never went ahead with those plans. In 1983, Roplex declared bankruptcy and abandoned the property and left approximately 1.5 to 3 million tires stockpiled on the site. In 1985, the property was purchased at auction by Maryland Resource Recovery Center (MRRC) who first proposed a waste to energy plant but due to public opposition decided not to go ahead with those plans and instead proposed a tire shredding operation. The shredding proposal was rejected by the County Planning Commission in approximately 1986. The State Fire Marshall ordered the removal of 2,500 cubic feet of tires (approximately 1,600 tires) in 1987. MRRC appealed the order but it was upheld by the Fire Prevention Commission. In 1988, MRRC and the Fire Marshall's office agreed to a long term plan to remove all of the tires and to construct specific safety features at the site. In 1989, it was determined that MRRC failed to comply with the agreement and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) initiated State Superfund action. MDE assumed operations of the site and completed the construction of lighting, fences and a fire pond. An agreement was made with the Maryland Environmental Service (MES) to temporarily manage the site. In April 1989, a contract was implemented with Associated Tire for the removal of the tires. By April of 1990, approximately 590,000 tires were removed from the site. Tires were still stockpiled on the site as late as 1993 but currently all of the tires have been removed.

### Environmental Investigations

MDE conducted an inspection report on the site in February of 1989. The report documented site conditions at the time of the inspection. In July of 1989, MDE conducted a Preliminary Assessment of the site. The assessment determined that there were no hazardous wastes on the site. However, hazardous wastes could have been created if the tires on the site caught fire. Since the site was under control of the MES and the remaining tires were being removed a "No Further Remedial Action Planned" (NFRAP) was recommended.

### Current Status

The site was given NFRAP status based on the removal of the tires from the site.



## Contact

For additional information, please contact the Land Restoration Program at 410-537-3440

Last Updated: July 2011

