



Facts About...

Waste Management Administration

Land Restoration Program

Maryland
Department
of the
Environment

The Land Restoration Program (LRP) is one of two hazardous waste programs within the Waste Management Administration, Maryland Department of the Environment. LRP focuses on cleaning up uncontrolled hazardous waste sites throughout Maryland. LRP staff includes engineers, geologists, toxicologists and technical support personnel who oversee and conduct investigation, assessment and cleanup of these sites. The second program, the Hazardous Waste Program, regulates active hazardous waste sites and conducts enforcement.

Generally, LRP efforts protect public health and the environment at sites historically contaminated by hazardous waste. Cleanups abate immediate uncontrolled discharges, ensure that contaminated soil does not pose a risk to public health and the environment, address groundwater contamination that may affect drinking water supplies or otherwise pose a risk to public health and the environment and address surface water discharges.

The Federal Superfund Division: The Federal Superfund Division oversees the cleanups of hazardous waste at National Priorities List (NPL) sites not owned by the federal government. At these sites, a responsible party or, if no viable responsible party is available, the EPA conducts the cleanup. If the EPA conducts the cleanup, the State is generally responsible for 10 percent of the cost of the remediation and any costs associated with long-term operation and maintenance of the remediation system. The NPL section currently works on 10 NPL sites. For example, the State has obligated 5.2 million dollars as its share of remediation costs at the Southern Maryland Wood Treating site where cleanup is being conducted by EPA. The NPL Section also can address reuse of property. At a site in Baltimore where the remedy is in place, EPA and the State recently entered into an agreement allowing for reuse of a site as a golf driving range provided there is no impact to the remedy.

Controlled Hazardous Substance (CHS) Enforcement/Fund Lead Site Assessment Division: This division of LRP oversees cleanups of historically contaminated hazardous waste at sites that are not on the NPL. This division currently oversees environmental remediation at sites throughout Maryland with primary emphasis on the state master list, a list of sites known or reported to be contaminated by hazardous waste.

This division also conducts assessments of property on brownfields and other sites. Brownfields are abandoned or under-utilized industrial or commercial properties where real or perceived environmental contamination hinders redevelopment. This Division also conducts preliminary assessments and site investigations of sites on the State Master List to determine what additional work needs to be conducted to protect public health and the environment.



Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP)/Brownfields Division: This division of LRP encourages voluntary cleanup and redevelopment of contaminated properties through a streamlined cleanup process that provides certainty regarding environmental requirements, allowing parties to more accurately predict costs and time lines associated with a cleanup.

The program also enables eligible purchasers of property to substantially limit liability for past contamination before purchasing property. The VCP works hand in hand with the Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Program administered by the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development. It provides incentives including tax credits, loans and grants for the redevelopment of eligible brownfields in participating jurisdictions.

