



Brandywine Nike Launch and Control

What You Need to Know

Site Location

The former Brandywine Nike site is located in Prince George's County, Maryland. The site consists of a 21-acre former launch area on Candy Hill Road and a 15.16-acre former control area on Edgemeade Road, and a 5.41-acre former housing area on Molly Berry Road.

Site History

The Brandywine site was a Nike anti-aircraft missile defense battery which operated between the mid-1950s through 1962. The missile defense system was developed and improved during the cold war. The batteries were deployed around the U.S. from the 1950s through the 1970s. Each battery was comprised of a radar control site and a missile firing site, usually separated by a distance of between 0.25 – 1 mile.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

In 1987, a final Confirmation Study for the former launch area was completed. Four monitoring wells were installed and sampled and there was no evidence of contamination to the groundwater from organic compounds revealed in this investigation. Samples collected from standing water in the former missile magazines revealed petroleum hydrocarbons (45 mg/l), chromium (8 µg/l) and lead (18 to 92 µg/l).

In 1998, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) submitted a work plan to conduct additional investigation to the Federal Facilities Program. However, the USACE redirected the funding to other projects and the additional work has not been conducted.

Current Status/Planned or Potential Future Action

There are no further actions planned for this site.