



# ***Facts About...***

Growmark FS, Inc.  
(Voluntary Cleanup Program)

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## **Site Location**

The Growmark FS, Inc. property, totaling 2.66 acres is located at 12045 Kennedyville Road, in Kent County, Maryland. The property, located in a mixed agricultural, light commercial and residential area, is bordered to the north and east by agricultural fields, to the south by Kennedyville Road (S.R. 448), and to the west by private residences. The site and vicinity utilize public water and sewer systems; however, the property is located in a groundwater use area, with two public supply wells located approximately 0.2-mile southeast of the property.

The property is improved with two structures that include a residence on the northern portion of the property, which is rented to tenants, and an agricultural chemical mixing and distribution facility currently operated by Growmark FS, Inc. occupying the center portion of the property. The facility occupies a one-story frame and block building, which contains office and warehouse space. The facility has ten aboveground storage tanks (ASTS) in a diked containment area that is divided into two portions by a concrete wall. In the one section, ASTs ranging from 12,000 to 20,000-gallon capacity are used to store mixing water and liquid nitrogen. The other portion of the containment area contains four 2,500-gallon ASTs containing pesticide and herbicide products. The loading rack for distribution of the liquid products from the site is located directly in front of the tank area. A 550-gallon AST containing diesel fuel and a 275-gallon AST containing gasoline are located on the west side of the office. A gravel area located to the west of the office/warehouse facility is used for truck and equipment parking.

The property is relatively flat and gently slopes to the east. Storm water runoff flows overland toward the drainage ditch along Kennedyville Road or toward the retention pond on the eastern portion of the property. The site is underlain by silts with varying amounts of sand and clay. Unconfined groundwater is encountered approximately 10 feet below grade. An unnamed tributary to Morgan Creek, which flows into the Chester River, is located approximately .5-mile southeast of the property.

## **Site History**

Prior to 1951, the property was utilized for residential and agricultural purposes. Beginning in the early 1950s and continuing until 1972, Valliant Fertilizer operated a fertilizer mixing business on the property. Milford Fertilizer operated at the property from 1972 to 1990. The current property owner purchased the property in 1970. Agway leased the facility from 1990 to December 2002, when the property was leased to Growmark FS, Inc., which continues to operate an agricultural supply business.

## **Environmental Investigations and Actions**

Environmental site assessments conducted in 2002, 2004 and 2005 revealed elevated levels of nitrate, ammonia and pesticides in the soil and shallow unconfined groundwater.



## **Current Status**

On August 25, 2004, a Voluntary Cleanup Program application was submitted by Growmark FS, Inc. seeking a No Further Requirements Determination (NFRD) as a responsible person. The NFRD was issued on June 14, 2006 for restricted residential, restricted commercial or restricted industrial use of the property with a prohibition on the use of groundwater beneath the property for any purpose.

## **Contact**

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

**Last update:** December 2011