W. DORSEY PROPERTY (MD-357)
Mt. Airy, Carroll County, Maryland

Site Location

The three-acre W. Dorsey Property site is located in Carroll County at 804 E. Ridgeville Boulevard in Mt. Airy, Maryland. The site currently has one house and some sheds, and has a wooden fence that separates the northern portion from the southern portion. The Dorsey house is located on the northern portion and faces Ridgeville Boulevard.

Site History

Approximately 35 drums of hazardous materials originating from two Rockville Maaco shops were transported to the site during the period from 1981 to 1983. Mr. Dorsey used some spent solvent to burn bushes on his property, which involved his sprinkling some of the solvent onto the bushes, then burning them. He also reported that he poured the total contents of all the drums onto the soil of his property in 1983. During a 1991 site visit, he pointed out the location of the dumping area, about 100 feet upgradient from a small stream running adjacent to the southern boundary of the property. The waste reported to have been in these drums consisted of ketones, aromatics, and chlorinated alkanes and alkenes.

Environmental Investigations

According to a Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) press release, the site was cleaned up under DHMH supervision. The details of this removal action are not well-documented, but Mr. Dorsey stated that the drums and contaminated soil were removed in 1983.

In 1991, a Preliminary Assessment was conducted by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). It states that the majority of residents within 2 miles of the site are served by the Mt. Airy municipal system and the remainder use private wells. The Mt. Airy system draws water from a wellfield of four wells located 1.38 miles north of the site.

No sampling is known to have been conducted to determine whether groundwater or surface water was impacted.

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 in the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS). 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.

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