

**MD-475
Washington County**

From June 1986 through February 1993, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Water Resources Administration issued six waterway violations to Mr. Spickler.

In January 1994, the MDE's HWED and Environmental Crimes Unit conducted an investigation in response to 14 illegally dumped drums on site.

In September 1996, MDE completed a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection that detected heavy metal, organic, polycyclic aromatic compounds, and pesticide contamination on site.

In April 1997, MDE's HWED performed a soil-gas survey and collected soil samples near two woodpiles suspected to contain hazardous waste. Results failed to detect elevated levels of contamination.

In October 1999, HWED visited the site and discovered a pile of metal parts and fragments buried beneath a mound of coal that was being removed from the site. Analytic results failed to detect contamination from hazardous waste.

**FRANKLIN SPICKLER PROPERTY
Hagerstown, Maryland**

Site Location

The 58-acre, three-parcel Franklin Spickler property is located in a rural area of Washington County approximately one-half mile south of the Maryland/Pennsylvania border. The site is situated at the northwest corner of Route 63 (Greencastle Pike) and Mount Zion Church in Maugansville, Maryland.

Site History

Ownership of the three parcels of property that comprise this site has repeatedly changed between Franklin P. Spickler and Susan K. Turner since 1985. Currently, tax records show the parcels that make up the site are now in the care of Donna Kay Maietta. Mr. Spickler died in January 1997.

The State Highway Administration excavated portions of the 58-acre site for road fill. When excavation was completed, the site was never graded nor restored to its original state. Prior to 1997, the site was used as a salvage/storage yard. Among the miscellaneous items stored on site included a large mound of sub-industrial grade coal, a spent coal kiln, dilapidated mining and construction equipment, empty storage drums, large

stockpiles of wooden blocks, concrete blocks, barriers, and pipes. A large pile of metal rivets that allegedly came from Fairchild Republic Company, discarded batteries and transformer casings and two underground storage tanks have also been observed at the site.

Conditions at the site are changing as the property owner is in the process of removing and clearing the site of the aforementioned items. There are no plans for development or other use of the property at this time.

Environmental Investigations

From June 1986 until February of 1993, the Department of Natural Resources, Water Resources Administration had numerous enforcement actions against Mr. Spickler involving waterway and pond construction violations.

In January 1994, MDE's Hazardous Waste Enforcement Division (HWED) and Environmental Crimes Unit conducted an investigation of the Spickler property in response to a report of 14 metal containers (one 30-gallon container, five 55-gallon drums and eight 5-gallon containers) illegally dumped on the site. One of the 55-gallon drums was leaking, and as a result, MDE's Emergency Response Division overpacked the drum and removed it from the site. Sampling of the containers revealed they contained acetone, methylene chloride and toluene.

In September 1996, MDE completed a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection. Levels of heavy metals slightly exceeding Risk Based Concentrations were detected in groundwater, surface water, sediment and soils samples. Organic contamination was detected in on-site soils. Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds and trace amounts of pesticides were detected in groundwater and surface water samples. In October 1996, EPA's tentative disposition qualified the site "No Further Remedial Action Planned" because there was no

threat to human health or the environment attributable to the site.

In April 1997, MDE's HWED personnel performed a soil-gas survey and collected soil samples from two on-site woodpiles suspected to contain hazardous waste. That action was in response to Mr. Spickler's failure to comply with the requirements of Complaint and Order C-O-95-018 mandating him to perform a soil-gas survey in the drum pile area, and to obtain composite samples from the woodpiles and surrounding soil for lead and cadmium analysis. The soil-gas survey failed to detect the presence of contamination, and the composite samples failed to detect lead and cadmium at elevated levels.

In October 1999, HWED personnel visited the site and observed a pile of metal fixtures, bricks and demolition fragments that were uncovered during removal of a coal mound. Analytic results of the sampled material, which appeared to be stained with chrome, failed to detect any elevated levels of hazardous waste.

Current Status

Under the MDE Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (Superfund) Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the MDE is conducting a site survey of the former Franklin Spickler property. The Site Survey Initiative was proposed to reassess the status of those sites that were previously designated No Further Remedial Action Planned by the EPA. This initiative is intended to determine if site conditions have remained stable, provide a current description of the site, and identify and address any new pathways for contamination. The initiative is also intended to determine whether the State should recommend further investigation by the EPA, oversight by the State and no further investigation by the EPA, or no further action be taken by the EPA or the State and the State designate the site as a "Formerly Investigated Site."

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