



Facts About...

Principio Road (MD-455)
State Master List

Site Location

The Principio Road Site was alleged to be an old gravel quarry pit that was used as a mixed waste landfill/dump. The pit was reported to be located off Principio Road, between Principio Road and Craigtown Road, south of Jackson Park Road, Craigtown, Cecil County, Maryland 21904.

Historic topographic maps identify a sand and gravel mine in the area of the suspected pit, but the exact location of the pit could not be verified during site reconnaissance. The approximate coordinates for the site are 39° 37.0529"N latitude and 076° 3.7257'W longitude, based on the location of the mine on historic topographical maps of the area.

Site History

The Principio Road site was listed in the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act Information System (CERCLIS) after a citizen complaint of a cancer cluster surrounding an old dump. In response to the complaint, MDE performed a Preliminary Assessment (PA). The exact location of the dump could not be established and the complainant could not offer any verifiable information on its location. Well samples in the vicinity of the dump did not identify any contaminants of concern. MDE recommended that no further action be taken at the site.

Environmental Investigations

On October 27, 1992, a citizen complained to MDE about the site. In response to the complaint, MDE conducted a site visit.

A PA was conducted by MDE in June 1994. MDE recommended further investigation of the site in the report's conclusions. MDE requested that samples be collected from several area domestic wells; these samples were collected by Cecil County Health Department but data was not available prior to the completion of the PA.

Groundwater information that was not available at the time of the PA revealed no contaminants of concern. Based on the results of the groundwater sampling, the PA was revised and the conclusions changed to no further remedial action planned.

Current Status

An active quarry located in the vicinity has expanded to cover the wooded area where the alleged dump was supposed to be located. During the years since the original complaint, no contamination issues in the neighborhood or associated with the property have come to light. MDE has placed the site on its "Formerly Investigated Sites" list.

Contact

For additional information, please contact the Land Restoration Program at (410) 537-3440.

Last Update: January 2011

