



Facts About...

Pulaski Motors Site
(MD-534)

Site Location

The Pulaski Motors Site is an undefined ¼-acre marshy area behind a transmission shop located at 1001 Pulaski Highway, Joppa, Harford County, Maryland. The roughly rectangular shaped, 95.5-acre parcel of land surrounding the reported parcel is bounded to the north by Pulaski Highway, to the east by MD 152, to the west by Rayner Lane and to the south by a wooded lot. General surface features consist of a relatively flat parcel graded to provide some slope and swales to direct movement of storm waters away from the building structures and towards an unnamed tributary to Foster Branch.

The site is situated in an area that has historically been used for commercial and/or industrial purposes. The site is situated at between 125 and 145 feet above mean sea level. The geographic coordinates are latitude 039° 25' 52.6" north and longitude 076° 20' 23.5" west. The Maryland grid coordinates are 582,200 feet north and 987,000 feet east.

Site History

In the Fall of 1985, an undergraduate student at Towson University observed approximately 5 five-gallon empty containers labeled Toxaphene and approximately 10 five-gallon containers labeled Paraquat near a 1/4-acre headwater marsh in the rear of a former transmission shop (currently a used car lot) and adjacent to Day Motors at the 1000 block of Pulaski Highway in Joppa, Harford County, Maryland. The containers were empty and lying around the marsh perimeter adjacent to the transmission shop. When asked, an employee of the adjacent transmission shop stated that the material in the containers was used for "killing the mosquitoes." The observer claimed that there was "a dramatic decrease in fish and aquatic vegetation in this creek over recent years." The observer contacted the MDE 24-hour spill reporting line and reported the incident to the duty officer. The observer later noted that the area was "being bulldozed into a parking lot," and believes it is "a storage warehouse site today."

The ¼-acre site identified in the complaint is a wooded lot behind an area of commercial buildings along Route 40 near Joppa, Maryland. Structures adjacent to the site are of early to mid 20th century vintage and have little historic significance. Historical research indicates that the ¼-acre site has been undeveloped and was originally part of a farm.

Environmental Investigations

There are no records of Phase I or II environmental studies having been done for the area.

Current Status

The Pulaski Motors Site stems from an allegation that could not be confirmed by the MDE site visit. The marshy area described by the complainant remains much as it did in 1985.

Contact

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

Last Update: May 2011

