

**MD-418  
Washington County**

In March 1917, the City of Hagerstown purchased the property.

In October 1978, West Manufacturing purchased the property from the City of Hagerstown.

In 1988, West Manufacturing ceased the use of paint that contained lead.

In February 1991, MDE's Hazardous Waste Enforcement Division personnel performed an inspection of the site.

In September 1992, Ecology and Environment, Inc. completed a PA for the EPA.

On January 23, 1996, EPA designated the site as "No Further Remedial Action Planned."

**WEST MANUFACTURING  
Hagerstown, Maryland**

***Site Location***

The West Manufacturing is located at 910 Eldridge Road in Hagerstown, Washington County, Maryland. The site is situated in a light industrial area in southeast Hagerstown. The 2.11-acre property is bordered by Antietam Creek to the north and by a self storage business directly across Eldridge Road to the south. A vacant lot borders the site to the west and a telecommunication business borders the site to the east. The property slopes gently to the north and consists of a single building and a paved parking area. Surface water runoff drains to the north and discharges directly into Antietam Creek or to the east into a large ravine that discharges into Antietam Creek.

***Site History***

The City of Hagerstown owned the property from March 1917 until it was sold to West Manufacturing in October 1978. West Manufacturing constructed an industrial and residential furniture frame manufacturing facility on-site soon after the property was purchased. Prior to the sale of the site to West Manufacturing, the lot was vacant and its use before 1978 is unknown.

West Manufacturing continues to manufacture furniture frames for industrial and residential furniture businesses. Prior to 1988, the company utilized paint that contained lead in their painting process. In 1988, the company switched to a paint that contains no lead. The company now electrostatically applies paint, which greatly reduces the amount of solvents required for the painting process and the amount of waste. Solvents used in cleaning the paint guns are reused. Paint filters that are used in the painting process are allowed to dry in the paint booth before placement in sealed 55-gallon drums for temporary storage. Filters accumulate for 90 days, and then are bagged and disposed in the Washington County Landfill.

***Environmental Investigations***

In February 1991, MDE's Hazardous Waste Enforcement Division personnel performed an inspection of the site and identified two waste streams: 20 pound paint filters and wash water from a paint preparation room. West Manufacturing was advised to cease discharge of wash waters into the floor drain. The wash water consisted of residue and chips from machined metal parts mixed with 20-25 gallons of water per week. No detergents or solvents were used in the wash water. West Manufacturing sealed the drain with concrete, and now utilizes a new method to clean and pretreat metal parts prior to painting. "Oakite 33," a non-hazardous solution, is wiped onto the parts to remove excess dirt and oils so waste water is no longer generated. The paint filters are stored in sealed 55-gallon drums until they are then bagged and disposed into the Washington County Landfill.

In September 1992, Ecology and Environment, Inc. completed an Environmental Priorities Initiative/Preliminary Assessment (PA) for the EPA. The PA confirmed that the wash room waste water drain had been sealed, and identified four other solid waste management units (SWMU). The four SWMUs were a plastic bucket to wash small parts with "Oakite 33," a wash basin for larger parts, a paint booth that now utilizes an electro-static paint process that reduces that amount of solvents used on-site, and 55-gallon drums to temporarily store paint filters. No release of hazardous wastes has been reported at the site. Conditions at the site have changed little since the last investigation in 1992.

**Current Status**

For the Cooperative Agreement with the EPA, the MDE is conducting a site survey of the West Manufacturing Company. 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 to be taken by the EPA or the State and the State designate the site as a "Formerly Investigated Site."

**Contact**

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