



## **FACTS ABOUT: ROYAL FARMS STORE NO. 72**

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### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION ROYAL FARMS STORE NO. 72 2906 CHURCHVILLE ROAD, CHURCHVILLE HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND MDE CASE NO. 1993-0197HA (OPEN)**

#### **SITE LOCATION**

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Oil Control Program, in coordination with the Harford County Health Department, is evaluating the impacts of methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) at the Royal Farms Store No. 72, located at 2906 Churchville Road, Churchville. This location has been an active gasoline retail station since the 1960s. Between 1987 and 1999, the site was independently owned and operated. During this period, the facility was branded as an Esso, Exxon, and a Citgo station. In 1993, an unregistered 550-gallon diesel underground storage tank (UST) system and two oil/water separators (550 and 1,000-gallon) were removed. Between 1983 and 1999, three gasoline USTs were in use on site. The facility was closed for business between December 1997 and mid-1999. An 8,000-gallon and two 6,000-gallon USTs were removed in 1999 and replaced with the current UST system. In 1999, Cloverland Farms Dairy (precursors to Two Farms Inc./Royal Farms) registered a new 20,000-gallon compartmentalized gasoline UST system and began operations at the site. This tank system is comprised of a composite steel and fiberglass reinforced plastic tank and double-walled flexible piping. Currently, five monitoring wells, two tank field observation pipes, and a transient non-community supply well are located on site. Depth to water is between approximately 4 and 18 feet, and the groundwater flow direction appears to vary.

#### **SITE HISTORY**

In September 1991, the MDE received notification from the Harford County Health Department that routine sampling of the on-site drinking water supply well detected benzene at levels ranging from 48 to 58 parts per billion (ppb) and 1,2-dichloroethane (1,2-DCA) ranging from 6 to 9 ppb. The station's supply well was retrofitted with a granular activated carbon filtration system in 1996. In January 1997, sampling of the supply well first detected MTBE at 3.4 ppb. The station's drinking water supply well continues to be sampled on a regularly scheduled basis.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS AND ACTIONS**

To date, several private off-site drinking water supply wells, located in close proximity to the active station, have been sampled by Royal Farms and the Harford County Health Department.



MTBE impacts have been confirmed above the State's action level of 20 ppb at one private supply well serving a commercial property. This supply well was retrofitted with a granular activated carbon filtration system and placed on a routine sampling and maintenance schedule. The other private wells and commercial businesses were non-detect for petroleum constituents or had low levels of MTBE below the State's action level. At this time, the MDE does not anticipate expanding the off-site residential sampling effort beyond sampling needed to ensure community safety.

## **CURRENT STATUS**

The MDE is working with Royal Farms to continue groundwater monitoring both on site and off site.

## **FUTURE UPDATES**

- Postings on [www.mde.maryland.gov](http://www.mde.maryland.gov)
- File available at the MDE Headquarters

## **CONTACTS**

- Maryland Department of the Environment – Oil Control Program: 410-537-3442
- Harford County Health Department: 410-877-2321 or 410-877-2322
- Royal Farms: 410-889-0200 ext. 110

## **DISCLAIMER**

The intent of this fact sheet is to provide the reader a summary of site events as they are contained within documents available to MDE. To fully understand the site and surrounding environmental conditions, MDE recommends that the reader review the case file that is available at MDE through the Public Information Act. The inclusion of a person or company's name within this fact sheet is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a conclusion by MDE on liability, involvement in a wrongful act, or contribution to environmental damage.

