

FACTS ABOUT:

MANSFIELD SEPTIC

Maryland Department of the Environment

Site Location

The 209.5-acre former Mansfield Septic site is located at 9786 Klondike Road in Cordova, Talbot County and is identified on the County tax map 18 as parcel 57. The approximate coordinates for the center of the site are 38° 49.185′ north latitude and 76° 1.920′ west longitude.

Site History

This open agricultural parcel was first permitted for septage treatment and surface application in 1993 and subsequently opened in 1995 as Wastewater Recycling, Inc., owned by Mansfield and Sons, Inc. The facility accepted domestic septage from approximately 16 haulers in Talbot and Caroline Counties. Talbot County purchased the facility in August 2007 and the Sewage Utilization Permit was transferred to the County. The County operates the facility as the Talbot County Bio-Solids Utilization facility. Three large wind turbines and an approximately 29,700 square-foot solar panel array are also located on the site.

Environmental Investigations

Prior to the purchase of the sewage treatment facility by Talbot County, Rummel, Klepper, and Kahl, LLP completed a Phase II Site Assessment Report for the County. Soil samples were collected from 17 locations across the site and three groundwater samples were collected from three temporary piezometers. The results of the chemical analyses did not identify organic contamination above screening benchmarks. Arsenic was the only contaminant identified slightly above screening levels.

Since septic systems were known to have potentially used trichloroethylene (TCE) to clear or reduce sludge build up, in December 2015, MDE collected groundwater samples from the five onsite monitoring wells for volatile organic compound (VOC) analysis to confirm if TCE may have been disposed on the treatment fields. No VOC contamination from chlorinated solvents was identified in the groundwater samples.

Current Status

The facility currently operates under permit 12-DP-376 issued by MDE's Water Management Administration's Compliance Program.

