

**MD-438
Caroline County**

1944-1948	Site was a small sand and gravel operation.
1948-1960	Site was used as a municipal dump.
1992	HSWMA prepared a <i>Preliminary Assessment</i> report, concluded the potential for release of hazardous waste was significant.
1994	EPA prepared a <i>Screening Site Inspection</i> Report.
1999	WMA prepared a Site Suvey, concluded MDE had further requirements for investigation of site. EPA concurred.

**OLD WEST DENTON DUMP
Denton, Maryland**

Site Location

The 10-acre Old West Denton Dump site is located in a rural area of Caroline County outside the town of Denton, on the eastern shore of Maryland. The property does not have a street address. No buildings or active operations are on site. The site is located in the Coastal Plain Physiographic Province. The site coordinates are 38° 54' 2.57" North and 75° 50' 15" West.

The area of the dump site is used for residential, recreational, commercial and agricultural purposes. The Choptank River and wetlands are to the east of the site. River Road and a wooded area are directly to the west. Residences and wetlands are to the north. Wetlands, residences, a small engine repair shop and chicken barns are immediately south and southwest of the site. Individuals may transverse the site while hunting or walking pets. In addition, children may trespass onto the site while playing.

The rectangular site is entirely overgrown with trees and thick underbrush. The terrain is flat. The only topography consists of a foot-high man-made berm along the eastern side of the property that may have been made from dumped material. Wetlands and the Choptank River are adjacent to the east. Approximately three acres of the site are classified as palustrine, forested, broad-leafed-deciduous wetlands. Residences are north and south of the site. The nearest home well is located 150 feet north of the site.

Site History

The Old West Denton Dump was originally a small sand and gravel mining operation from 1944 to 1948. Excavation within the 10-acre site was performed manually to an approximate depth of three feet or less. The site became a municipal dump circa 1948 and continued operations until 1960. The town of Denton disposed of its municipal waste at the site but the arrangements made by the town are unknown. Individuals disposed of household or business wastes such as lumber scraps and wood shavings. The disposed material was burned on site and then leveled with a bulldozer, as needed. Material was also buried. The landfill, which was not lined, had not been capped as of 1994.

No permits are known to have been held by past or present owners. Although the Maryland Board of Health has required disposal permits since 1914, no permit was issued for this site during its operation. Inspection reports from 1957 indicate that the Nuttle Lumber and Coal Company owned the site and that complaints were received from nearby residents about windblown debris.

Environmental Investigations

The Maryland Department of the Environment, Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Administration (HSWMA) prepared a *Preliminary Assessment* report of the Old West Denton Dump in July 1992. The report concluded that the potential for release of hazardous waste from the site to the environment was significant.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prepared a *Screening Site Inspection* report of the Old West Denton Dump in March 1994. For the report, on-site soil, surface water and sediment samples were collected and a home well located 250 feet north of the site was sampled. No organic or inorganic chemicals were detected in the home well samples above the detection limit, except iron. Low levels of 1,2-dichloroethene and trichloroethene were also detected. Pesticides were detected in on-site soils and off-site sediments. Low concentrations of pesticides are common in environmental samples taken from

agricultural areas. Low levels of tetrachloroethene were also detected in on-site soils. Concentrations of 4,4'-DDE, 4,4'-DDT, and methoxychlor were detected in on-site soil samples at concentrations significantly higher (e.g., three times greater) than in the off-site soil sample. Inorganic soil constituents (arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, lead, manganese, mercury and zinc) were detected in soil samples at maximum concentrations greater than those detected in the background soil sample. Iron, lead, and manganese were detected in the one surface water sample at concentrations that have a potential to adversely affect aquatic life. No organic contaminants were detected in this sample.

In 1999, MDE's Waste Management Administration prepared a *Site Survey* for the Old West Denton Dump. The report concluded, on the basis of the available information, that MDE had further requirements related to the investigation of hazardous waste at this site and recommended that the EPA consider the site for further investigation. EPA concurred with the recommendation.

Current Status

This site is on the State Master List that identified potential hazardous waste sites in Maryland. The Master List includes sites currently identified by the EPA's Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System. EPA has given the site a designation of No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP). The designation of NFRAP by EPA does not mean that MDE has reached the same conclusion concerning further investigation at the site. The information contained in the fact sheet presents a summary of past investigations and site conditions currently known to MDE.

Facility Contact

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