

**NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)**

\*\*\*Final Site\*\*\*

September 2006

**MATTEO & SONS, INC. | Thorofare, New Jersey**  
*Gloucester County*** Site Location:**

The Matteo & Sons, Inc. (Matteo) site is located mostly on the property of an active scrap metal recycling facility located at 1708 U.S. Highway 130 in Thorofare, Gloucester County, New Jersey. The Matteo property currently consists of a metals recycling operation, a junkyard, and an inactive landfill. The southeastern portion of the property (approximately 5 acres) is largely paved with asphalt and contains several buildings that support the scrap metal recycling business. The remainder of the property (approximately 75 acres) consists predominantly of heavily vegetated, undeveloped land that borders Woodbury Creek to the west, Hessian Run to the north, and a residential trailer park to the south. Additionally, two utility lines (Colonial Oil and Public Service Electric & Gas) are located on the northwestern portion of the property.

** Site History:**

The Matteo family acquired the property in 1947 and has operated an unregistered landfill and junkyard and a metals recycling facility at the site under various names (James Matteo & Sons, Inc.; Matteo Trucking Company; Thorofare Trucking and Trash Company; Matteo Iron and Metal) since at least 1961. In 1971, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) approved Matteo's request to operate an incinerator to burn copper wire. From 1971 until 1985, Matteo recovered lead from battery terminals using a metal separation process called sweating. In conjunction with the lead melting operation, Matteo dumped crushed battery casings in an area of wetlands adjacent to Hessian Run. There had been several reports of battery casing incineration and subsequent on-site ash disposal. Drums of unknown waste material had also been abandoned onsite. In January 1984, NJDEP issued an Administrative Consent Order to Matteo for solid waste violations and required Matteo to cease waste disposal at the site. The scrap metal recycling facility remains active.

** Site Contamination/Contaminants:**

Sources of contamination onsite include an approximately 224,000-square-foot pile of crushed battery casings, an approximately 260,000-square-foot inactive landfill in the north central portion of the site, and lead and PCB contaminated soil located throughout the property. The crushed battery casings have been deposited directly into the Hessian Run, as well as into wetlands along the Hessian Run, thereby altering the shoreline. Lead and PCBs have been found at levels significantly above New Jersey Residential Soil Cleanup Criteria in the surface soils onsite and significantly above background in sediments. Lead is also a concern in surface water and ground water at the site.

** Potential Impacts on Surrounding Community/Environment:**

Lead and PCBs are present in onsite soils and in sediment samples collected from Hessian Run and Woodbury Creek. The contaminated portion of Woodbury Creek is known to be used as a fishery. The contamination also affects approximately 0.16 mile of wetland frontage in Hessian Run and a bald eagle foraging habitat within Hessian Run and Woodbury Creek. The site is commonly trespassed and there is evidence of recreational use by the community. Lead and crushed battery casings have been detected in and adjacent to the neighboring trailer park. The site is accessible through the trailer park, and there is one residence onsite.

** Response Activities (to date):**

Matteo (under NJDEP oversight), NJDEP, and U.S. EPA all have conducted investigations at the site. NJDEP conducted Remedial Investigation (RI) field sampling at the site from September 2000 to October 2002. An Aquatic Biota Study was conducted in 2003. U.S. EPA sampling in 2005 and 2006 have revealed crushed battery casings and lead contamination adjacent to and in the trailer park. Under a May 2006 Administrative Order of Consent, Matteo constructed a high visibility fence and instituted engineering controls to prevent access to contaminated areas.

*[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]*

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html> or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.