

Celebrating Success: Hercules 009 Landfill Brunswick, Georgia



Superfund
Redevelopment
Initiative



On-site pond with basking logs for turtles.
(Source: EPA)

“The reuse at Hercules 009 Landfill is an excellent example of turning a Superfund site into a community asset.”

*- Scott Martin, Remedial Project Manager,
EPA Region 4*



Car dealership display area on site.
(Source: EPA)

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Capped area containing contamination on site. (Source: EPA)

The Hercules 009 Landfill Superfund site (the Site), a former landfill, now provides a range of community and environmental benefits. Site reuses include a car dealership display lot and wildlife habitat.

From 1948 to 1980, Hercules, Inc. (Hercules) manufactured toxaphene, an agricultural pesticide. The company used 7 acres at the northern end of the Site to dispose of wastewater sludge from chemical manufacturing. In March 1980, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division found toxaphene in soil and water from drainage ditches around the Site. Facility operations ended in 1982, when EPA banned the use of toxaphene. EPA added the Site to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL) in September 1984.

In 1991 and 1993, EPA issued cleanup plans that included stabilizing on-site soil and sludge, and installing a cap over the landfill. Cleanup efforts also included monitoring groundwater, surface water and sediment in the on-site pond and drainage ditch next to the Site, and long-term maintenance of the landfill cap. Construction of the cap covering the landfill was finished in 1999.

Land uses around the Site are mostly commercial and residential. Today, an automobile dealership north of the Site uses part of the capped area as a parking lot to display cars. The dealership paved the area and fenced it to prepare it for use as a display space. This reuse benefits the dealership while further restricting site access and preserving the integrity of the capped landfill beneath the pavement.

For the southern part of the Site, Hercules is working with Wildlife Habitat Council on a Conservation Certification for the pond area. The company has installed basking logs and cover boards to attract insects and reptiles. So far, the cameras have recorded raccoons, foxes, squirrels and large birds at the Site. Hercules has also been working with the College of Coastal Georgia on a partnership that will bring students and faculty to the Site for plant and animal research.