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EPA REGION 5Allen County
Fort Wayne**FORT WAYNE
REDUCTION DUMP
INDIANA**

EPA ID# IND980679542

**Site Description**

The 35-acre Fort Wayne Reduction Dump site is a former municipal landfill and waste disposal facility. Before 1967, the site was uncultivated farmland often used for dumping unknown waste. Between 1967 and 1976, the facility accepted wastes including residential garbage, sewage, industrial liquid waste, paper, and wood. Wastes were incinerated, and the residual ash was disposed of on the site. Volatile liquids were dumped from drums into a pit adjacent to the Maumee River. The site consists of two areas: the 15-acre eastern portion used as the general refuse landfill, and a 5-acre western section used for the disposal of industrial wastes, building debris, barrels of unidentified wastes, and residual ash from the incinerator. In 1970, Fort Wayne Reduction changed its name to National Recycling Corporation (NRC) and built a recycling plant for processing solid waste. The recycling stopped in 1975, and the building was torn down in 1985. NRC was acquired by Service Corporation of America (SCA) in 1973. SCA was denied a municipal refuse permit, and operations ceased in 1976. Waste Management acquired SCA in 1984. Two residential communities are located approximately 1/2 mile from the dump. The Maumee River borders the property, and the site is in the 100-year flood plain. Approximately 1,100 people use private wells as a source of drinking water. Two areas on the site are designated as wetlands.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 10/15/84

Final Date: 06/10/86

Threats and Contaminants

Groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and heavy metals. Heavy metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), phenols, and VOCs are present in the soil. People who come into direct contact with or accidentally ingest contaminated groundwater or soil may be at risk. Contaminants have migrated into the Maumee River through groundwater discharge.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Entire Site: In 1988, the EPA selected a remedy to clean up the site by: closing the eastern portion of the site to prevent erosion and eliminate potential direct contact threats; monitoring the groundwater as it flows from the site to the Maumee River; installing a system to collect groundwater between the site and the Maumee River and treating the groundwater, if necessary; excavating an estimated 4,600 drums and incinerating their contents as needed; backfilling the excavated areas; closing the western portion of the site to prevent erosion and eliminate potential direct contact threats; constructing a fence around the site; imposing deed restrictions on the use of the land; and installing erosion mats and planting vegetation to reduce erosion during Maumee River floods. Waste Management, under EPA supervision, designed the technical specifications for the cleanup. Construction of the remedy for the eastern portion was completed in the summer of 1991. The drum removal activity began in early 1993 and was completed in mid-1994. Over 27,000 drums were removed. The construction of the western portion cap began in mid-1994. The groundwater treatment facility also was brought on-line in mid-1994.

Environmental Progress



The completion of cleanup actions in the eastern portion of the site, the removal of drums, and the construction of the cap, currently have reduced threats at the Fort Wayne Reduction Dump site while final cleanup actions are underway.

Site Repository



Allen County Public Library, 900 Webster Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46801