



Land Revitalization Program Breathing New Life into Old Waste Sites Fall 2005

Old Landfill Gets “New Beginning” as Wildlife Area Woodlawn Landfill Site, Cecil County, MD



The Woodlawn Landfill site is now a vibrant wildlife habitat (right) with song birds, game birds, mammals, insects and 17 species of wildflowers. The Wildlife Habitat Council and Bridgestone Americas capped, graded (left) and seeded the site.

Location

The former 37-acre Woodlawn County Landfill site is located in a rural setting, north of Baltimore in Cecil County, surrounded by residential and undeveloped lands.

Current Status

The site, owned by Cecil County, is now known as New Beginnings—the Woodlawn Wildlife Area. The Wildlife Habitat Council, along with Bridgestone Americas Holding, Inc., restored the site as a wildlife habitat, where songbirds, game birds, bats, mammals and insects flourish among native grasses, trees, shrubs, and 17 species of wildflowers.

Past Use

The site's long history of industrial use began in the 1950s when the site was first used as a sand and gravel quarry. During the 1960s and 1970s, it was used as a landfill to dispose of agricultural, municipal and industrial wastes.

Contamination

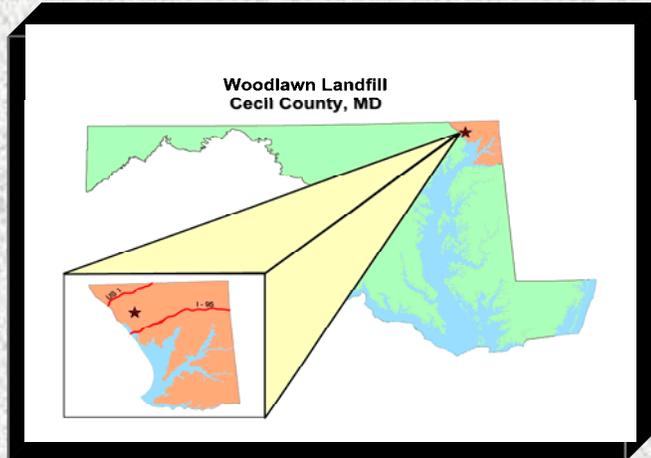
As with most landfills at the time, the ground was not lined with an impermeable barrier, causing contaminants to infiltrate the groundwater supply.

Cleanup History

The site was placed on the National Priorities List in 1987 and the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. (now Bridgestone), the major waste contributor, took responsibility for cleaning up the site. The company remediated the groundwater which was contaminated with vinyl chloride, switching the remedy to natural attenuation and a permeable soil cap in 1993. The cap allowed for wildlife habitat enhancements, including the planting of native trees, shrubs and wildflowers.

Redevelopment

Since January 2000, WHC and Bridgestone have collaborated with local groups to develop the wildlife habitat and education center. Local volunteers manage the habitat.



Contacts for More Information

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