



Maryland Department of the  
Environment

## FACTS ABOUT: THOMS COVE COPR SITE

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### **Site Location**

The Thoms Cove Chrome Ore Processing Residue (COPR) site is located on a parcel of land off Quarantine Road, in the southeastern portion of Baltimore City, Maryland. The Thoms Cove Site consists of an 18-acre piece of land situated in an industrial setting just west of the Key Bridge crossing Baltimore Harbor. The property is located on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Curtis Bay quadrangles at approximately 39°12.8450' north latitude and 076°33.0480' west longitude. The roughly half oval shaped cove is bounded by Curtis Bay to the west, the Patapsco River to the northeast and the I-695 southern approach to the Francis Scott Key Bridge on the east. The property is currently owned by the State of Maryland, Maryland Port Administration (MPA) and is referenced on the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation as Ward 25, Section 09, Block 7005, Lot 037 in Baltimore City.

### **Site History**

The site is situated in an area that has been used for commercial/industrial purposes since the 1800s. Portions of the property were at one time the site of the Baltimore Quarantine Hospital. Between April 27, 1972 and July 1, 1978, MPA lands located in and around Baltimore Harbor and the Patapsco River were filled using COPR. Thoms Cove was part of a Baltimore Harbor project that called for certain shoreline areas to be bulk-headed and filled with dredge spoil material from maintenance of Baltimore Harbor and its approaches.

### **Environmental Investigation and Action**

MDE's Land Restoration Program performed sampling for a Pre-Remedial Site Inspection (SI) on the Thoms Cove site in August 2008. The findings of the report noted the presence of heavy metal contamination in the area of Thoms Cove. Maryland Environmental Services (MES) and MDE's Solid Waste Program monitor conditions in the area of the Thoms Cove Site as part of the oversight on the Hawkins Point hazardous waste site.

### **Current Status**

The State of Maryland currently owns the property and MES operates a hazardous waste cell on a portion of the larger site. Access to the site is controlled by MES.



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