



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: U.S. NAVY TORPEDO TEST RANGE SITE

Site Location

The property identified as the U.S. Navy Torpedo Test Range (NTTR) is a 62-acre parcel located at 17270 Piney Point Road, southwest of the Lexington Park in Piney Point, Maryland 20690. The roughly rectangular shaped parcel of land is bounded by Saint George's Creek to the northeast and by the Potomac River on the southwest. The site is now part of the Harry Lundeberg School and the Paul Hall Center. The geographic coordinates are latitude 38.143802° north and longitude -76.505571° west. The Maryland grid coordinates are north 113,200 feet and east 942,250 feet. Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation lists the property as St. Mary's County Map 65, Grid 18, Parcels 18 and 276 and Map 65, Grid 11, Parcels 25 and 29.

Site History

The NTTR site is located on property that was a working farm from before 1872 up until the 1930s. The Navy acquired the property in 1941 and constructed the Piney Point Torpedo Test Center to test munitions being supplied by the Alexandria Torpedo Factory located in Alexandria, Virginia. The property was excecised in 1959 and transferred to Piney Point, Inc. in 1960. The property was transferred to the Harry Lundeberg School in December 1969 and remains under their ownership.

Environmental Investigation and Action

MDE conducted a Site Inspection for the NTTR property in October 2013. Samples of soil, groundwater, sediment and surface water were collected and analyzed under the Contract Laboratory Program for the presence of contaminants related to munitions and the munitions industry. Samples did not reveal the presence of contaminants at levels above EPA regional screening levels.

Current Status

The original site was split into two main divisions; the operations center and the housing annex. The Harry Lundeberg School occupies a 62-acre parcel that was the operations area of the torpedo test center. The 16-acre housing annex portion of the site was subdivided into small plots and is currently owned by various entities.

Based on the data collected in October 2013, MDE recommends that no further action be taken with regard to this site pending future findings.



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