

## Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

# W.R. Grace & Co. – Conn. (Grace Davison Curtis Bay Works)

5500 Chemical Road  
Baltimore, MD 21226  
Congressional District 2  
EPA ID #: MDD001710227  
Last Updated: 12/31/2008

## Current Progress at the Site

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In June 2002, EPA and W.R. Grace entered into a RCRA Administrative Order on Consent (AOC). The AOC requires Grace to perform the following activities at the site: (1) complete an Environmental Indicator Assessment Report/Phase I RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI); (2) complete a more comprehensive Phase II RFI; (3) complete a RCRA Corrective Measures Study; and, (4) complete Interim Measures, if necessary.



Between 2001 and 2004, Grace completed several field investigations to determine ground water flow beneath the site and to confirm that ground water discharges to adjacent Curtis Bay and Curtis Creek. Investigations also included sampling of ground water on the site, and sampling of sediment and surface water in Curtis Bay and Curtis Creek. In September 2004, based on the results of these investigations and a review of historical information, EPA determined that Current Human Exposures are Under Control at this facility. The determination for the Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control was completed in the July 2005.

In the summer of 2006 and spring of 2007 Grace conducted further surface water, sediment, ground water, and soil investigations to further characterize the site. A comprehensive RFI Report will be submitted in 2008.

## Site Description

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The Grace Davison Curtis Bay Works facility is located in Baltimore, MD on the northwest end of a peninsula known as Marley's Neck. The site includes a 55-acre active manufacturing area and a 55-acre non-



View of Herring Pond with Grace's Curtis Bay Plant in the background.

manufacturing area used primarily for on-site waste management. The site is bounded on the west by Curtis Creek, on the north by Curtis Bay, and on the south and east by other industrial facilities.

The Curtis Bay Works facility is the largest manufacturing site for W.R. Grace and has approximately 700 employees. Chemical operations at this site have been active since the early 1900's. Current manufacturing activities consist of 12 production facilities that manufacture four general product lines. These include fluid cracking catalyst, hydroprocessing catalyst, polyolefin catalyst, and silicas/adsorbents.

## **Site Responsibility**

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RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3 with assistance from MDE.

## **Contaminants**

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Based on Grace's groundwater and soil investigations conducted in the past several years, the detected concentrations above applicable screening levels include metals, such as arsenic, cadmium, and lead, and a limited list of organic compounds. Grace will continue their investigation to determine the extent of contamination and evaluate the potential impact to the nearby surface water bodies.

## **Community Interaction**

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Public input and comments will be solicited at all significant decision making events during the RCRA Corrective Action process. A public notice will be placed in a local newspaper to notify the local community. At that time, an Administrative Record containing any relevant information will be prepared and available for review.

## **Institutional Controls**

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No institutional controls are currently in place.

## **Government Contacts**

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For more information about EPA's corrective action program, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: [www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm](http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm)

## **Facility Contacts**

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