

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

October 2007

Former Brass Facility, Now Eljer Park, Marysville, OH,

Facility Location Former Brass Facility, now Eljer Park, Marysville, OH, Marysville, OH

Status: Ohio State Order

Implementing Agency: Ohio EPA

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Short Summary

The Marysville Facility was operated as a brass foundry and manufactured plumbingware from the early 1900s to 1987. The site is located in an area of mixed commercial and residential development and comprises approximately 15.5 acres. The site was under a State Order. The site was idle after 1987. The property changed hands once and the new owner wanted to divest itself of the liability. The property was acquired in 1997 by IRCC, which signed an order with OHIO EPA. IRCC entered into a 100 year lease with the City of Marysville and recorded a deed restriction on the use of the property. By end of 1998 buildings had been demolished and RCRA units were closed. By the end of 1999, remediation was completed and park was opened. In 1999, the park was leased to the City of Marysville. The lease has a provision which gives the City ownership of the property 10 years after the Ohio EPA approved the completion of the Corrective Action. In 2012, the company plans to donate the park to the city.

Contamination

The foundry had deposited materials onsite from the early 1900s until 1987. More than 60,000 cubic yards of spent foundry sand were placed on the site. These were determined to contain lead and chromium at levels requiring the material to be managed as hazardous waste under RCRA regulations. Chlorinated solvents were detected in soil at concentrations well above state cleanup criteria in a former drum storage area. Hazardous wastes were also stored in drums in an area requiring closure pursuant to RCRA. The groundwater samples contained site-related contaminants.

Cleanup

A RCRA Part A was submitted in 1980, revised in 1986. A closure plan was approved in 1987, an amended plan was disapproved in 1989. In 1993, the state issued an order. In 1997 IRCC acquired the property, began negotiations with owner and state, and began voluntary corrective actions. IRCC developed a streamlined response program that was acceptable to the regulators. The plan for cleaning up the foundry site was designed to achieve a number of critical goals. Remedial action had to (i) address the entire site and meet Ohio EPA's closure and corrective action requirements, (ii) eliminate any potential risk to human health or the environment, (iii) be implemented quickly, economically, and in a manner that would not increase short-term health or environmental risks, and (iv)

permit IRCC to redevelop the property for industrial, commercial, or municipal purposes. IRCC met regularly with Ohio EPA to discuss innovative closure strategies for the site and obtain the agency's agreement on the conceptual plan. The agency accepted the plan because it addressed the entire property, not just a portion as proposed by previous plans, and agreed to its implementation.

Site stabilization activities, removal of the solvent-contaminated soils, closure of the RCRA facilities, and demolition of the factory were completed in January 1998. IRCC submitted a RCRA Corrective Action Plan to Ohio EPA in April 1998, quantifying the potential risks to human health and the environment and evaluating many technologies for the elimination of those risks. Implementation of the corrective measures specified in the plan began in June 1998. Remedial activities at the site were completed in January 1999, including consolidation of the foundry sands, installation of a soil cap in areas where grass recreational fields were planned, and installation of asphalt caps in areas where parking and sport courts were planned. Deep rooted plants are not permitted to be placed in the soil cap area at this site."

The site investigation was completed and the site was remediated by removing contaminated soil and installing a RCRA cap. The RCRA corrective action remedy was completed within 22 months and received regulatory approval.

The long-term effectiveness of the corrective action will be maintained through a combination of regularly scheduled site inspections, designated park maintenance activities by the city of Marysville, and contingency plans. Legal and institutional controls were implemented to ensure that the caps would not be disturbed by development of the site.

Reuse

In 1999, the site opened as a city park, complete with tennis and basketball courts, baseball, softball, and soccer fields, picnic shelters, restroom facilities, play lots, a walking trail, and an educational arboretum. Development of the site as a park ensures that public health and the environment will be protected and returns the site to productive use. The park amenities include two picnic shelters, children's play lots, exercise stations along a 1-mile walking trail, two bridges across the stream at the site, two tennis and two basketball courts, baseball, softball, and soccer fields, and restroom facilities. Several hundred trees were planted (43 different varieties) as an educational arboretum for the neighboring elementary school. Disturbed areas along the site stream were planted with a native wildflower mix to enhance eco-diversity.