



Maryland Department of the  
Environment

## FACTS ABOUT: ABERDEEN CLEANERS

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### **Site Location**

The 0.16-acre Aberdeen Cleaners site is located at 19 W Bel Air Avenue in the downtown business area of Aberdeen, Harford County, Maryland. The site is identified on the Harford County tax map 205 as parcel 929 and is zoned for commercial use. The geographic coordinates of the site are 039° 30.5983' north and 076° 09.8820' west and the Maryland Grid coordinates are 1,035,800 feet east by 611,500 feet north.

### **Site History**

The property was farmland before the early 1900s. Beginning in the 1950s and up until about 1996, the site had operated as a laundry and dry cleaner. At the present time, the front facing portion of the building is being used as a tanning and nail salon while the rear of the building is currently used as an Internist's office.

### **Environmental Investigation and Action**

The Aberdeen Cleaners site was flagged as a Level I priority in the June 2008 *Maryland Dry Cleaners Initiative Report* that operated greater than 15 years in a designated wellhead protection area. As a result, in July 2009 MDE conducted a pre-CERCLIS (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act Information System) report that officially "Discovered" the site and recommended further investigation for the potential release of dry cleaning solvents.

In August 2011 MDE completed a Site Inspection (SI). Since the first water bearing zone failed to yield sampleable amounts of groundwater and no dry cleaning solvents were identified in the soil sampling, the SI recommended installation of a monitoring well to characterize the groundwater in the first water bearing zone as well as sub-slab soil gas sampling to determine if indoor air could be threatened by vapor intrusion of past chlorinated solvent release(s).

In May 2014, MDE was notified that the results of the chemical analyses of the soil samples collected in the 2011 SI came under question. Therefore, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested that MDE re-sample the site.

In January 2015, MDE collected onsite soil and groundwater samples as part of a subsequent SI as a result of the problems identified with the 2011 SI. Elevated levels of the dry cleaning solvents tetrachloroethene and trichloroethene were identified in the groundwater beneath the



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site indicating a potential release of controlled hazardous substances from former dry cleaning operations. Since the groundwater encountered at the site was 32 feet below ground surface and the toxicological evaluation did not identify a vapor intrusion risk into the indoor air, MDE recommends that the site be designated “No Further Remedial Action Planned” by EPA.

### **Current Status**

The site remains on the State’s Brownfields Master Inventory.



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