



Masonville

DREDGED MATERIAL PLACEMENT SITE

Quick Facts

- Located along the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River in Baltimore
- Working area of 141 acres, including 127 acres of diked open water
- Began operations in 2010
- Receives dredged material from the Baltimore Harbor
- Has capacity for a total volume of 15 million cubic yards of dredged material
- Includes approximately 55 acres of protected land in Masonville Cove

The Masonville facility, located along the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River near the Hanover Street Bridge, is a placement site for sediment that has been cleared from shipping channels in the Baltimore Harbor.

Work began at Masonville in 2007, and the site began receiving dredged material in 2010. With the closing of the placement site at Hart-Miller Island in 2009, the capacity available at Masonville became critical for dredging operations in the harbor. Masonville is now one of just two sites that can safely contain dredged material from the harbor; the other is at Cox Creek.

Because the material placed at Masonville may hold contaminants from past industrial activity, the diked area is lined to prevent any impacts on groundwater or nearby open water. The final dike height will be 36 feet, with a total capacity for approximately 30 million cubic yards of dredged material. When the Masonville placement site is filled to capacity, the newly created land will become terminal space for cargo. An adjacent shipping pier has been refurbished to serve the needs of neighboring terminal tenants.

Masonville, named for an extinct railroad town, was once an industrial riverside area. After purchasing the site, the Maryland Port Administration removed large amounts of abandoned industrial debris and launched an extensive environmental restoration project. This includes developing the Masonville Cove Environmental Education Center, a "green" building that opened in 2009 with acres of surrounding land that encompass trails, wetlands, a pier, and a floating dock. Programming for school children is provided by the National Aquarium and Living Classrooms Foundation. Activities available to children and adults include kayaking, birdwatching, fishing and hiking. More than 2,000 students participate in Masonville programs each year, including use of laboratory space in the environmental center. Special events, such as open houses, draw regular crowds, and the center serves as a desirable meeting spot for many groups.

In 2013, the US Fish and Wildlife Service launched a new nationwide program by announcing Masonville as its first Urban Wildlife Refuge partner.

For more information, including public tours and access to the cove and environmental center, visit www.marylandports.com/greenport.



Published by the Maryland Port Administration

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