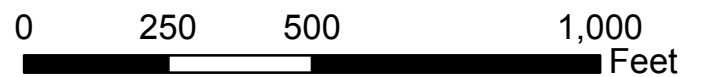






# #1. Airport Dump


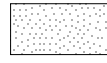



## Landfill Features

-  Estimated Landfill Boundary
-  Landfill
-  Landfill Buffer

## City of Austin Jurisdiction

-  FULL
-  LTD
-  2 MILE
-  5 MILE

-  Lot Lines
-  Roads
-  Water features



## Watershed Protection Development Review

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Date: 09.20.2006

### **3.1 #1, AIRPORT**

The City of Austin (COA) operated Robert Mueller Municipal Airport (RMMA) as a civil and military aviation facility continuously from 1929 until 1999. With the opening of the new Austin-Bergstrom International Airport in 1999, the COA terminated aviation operations at RMMA. As part of the RMMA closure process, the COA performed environmental assessment and remediation of the property under the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ's) Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). The goal of VCP is to achieve regulatory environmental closure to facilitate the redevelopment of the property for both residential and commercial use. Redevelopment of the airport property is underway and includes a multi-use neighborhood including single-family residential areas as well as commercial areas and a hospital (Meuller).

During the extensive assessment and remediation activities performed at RMMA, three waste disposal areas were identified in addition to Landfill #1 (the Airport Dump). The RMMA investigation report identified these disposal areas as; WD1 (Landfill #1) and WD4, WD5, and WD7. According to TCEQ records, three of the waste disposal areas were completely removed from the property in 2001 and 2002, and the fourth, WD7, was being investigated further as of 2004. These waste disposal areas are further described in the following paragraphs.

#### **#1a, Environmental Site WD1, Waste Disposal Area**

- Location:** WD1 is located on the southeast portion of RMMA near Manor Road and adjacent to the Long Term Parking Area. The landfill area is a mounded area located on an undulating grass-covered surface adjacent to the RMMA Perimeter Road.
- Prior Use:** WD1 was reportedly used for the disposal of general wastes and demolition debris until 1964. Historical records indicate that waste was disposed in the WD1 area without current standard landfill construction and controls. There is minimal information regarding the types and amounts of waste disposed in this area.
- Extent:** Assessment activities performed in the late 1990's by the COA indicated that buried waste materials were present between approximately 7 and 12 feet below ground surface, with approximately 4 feet of soil as a cap.

Groundwater: No contact with Groundwater. Groundwater was encountered during the installation of soil borings at depths of 16 to 26 feet below ground surface. Groundwater was not encountered in this area during response action activities.

Remediation: Waste Removed. Response actions performed by COA or its consultants at WD1 consisted primarily of the excavation and off-site disposal of soil and buried waste materials. Analysis of final remedial confirmation samples indicated no detectable concentrations of BTEX, SVOCs, TPH, and inorganic constituents (i.e. metals) were not present at concentrations greater than the cleanup levels. Groundwater was not encountered in this area during response action activities. Remedial activities were completed at WD1 in February of 2002. Risk Reduction Standard No. 1 Closure criteria met.

Current Conditions: Site does not appear to pose a material concern to human health or the environment, or represent a regulatory violation.

#### **#1b, Environmental Site WD4, COA Interdepartmental Fill Area**

Location: WD4 is located on the northeastern perimeter of RMMA near the National Guard Facility, adjacent to the intersection of Old Manor Road and 51<sup>st</sup> Street.

Prior Use: The area was, until approximately 2000, utilized by the COA's Solid Waste Services as a staging area for street sweeper waste. Reportedly, the street sweepers would unload debris at this location for eventual transfer into trucks and transport to the municipal solid waste landfill.

Extent: Buried waste materials were encountered in a circular area approximately 150 feet in diameter and extending to a depth of approximately 3 feet below the present surface. The waste materials at this location consisted of plastic, paper, and scrap metal, similar to the materials observed in the street sweeper waste piles. The shallow soils and fill materials overlie the Taylor Formation at this location.

Groundwater: No groundwater was encountered during the installation of soil borings or during remedial activities.

Remediation: Waste removed. Risk Reduction Standard No. 1 Closure criteria met.

Current Conditions: Analysis of remedial confirmation samples indicated the presence of mercury and selenium in the excavation floor and sidewalls at concentrations slightly greater than the site-specific background concentrations. However, there are no other corresponding chemical or visual indications of environmental impact, and these exceedances were considered to be a localized variation in background levels. No organic compounds were detected in the confirmation

samples. Current conditions associated with this site do not appear to pose a material concern to human health or the environment, or represent a regulatory violation.

### **#1c, Environmental Site WD5, Former Asphalt Plant Tailings / Ash Disposal Pit**

**Location:** WD5 is located on the eastern portion of RMMA near the northwestern end of the former Remote Parking Area. WD5 is located on an undulating grass-covered surface adjacent to the RMMA Perimeter Road.

**Prior Use:** The landfill area was reportedly used for the disposal of tailings and ash generated by an on-property asphalt plant until the early 1970s. Historical records indicate that waste was disposed of in this area without current standard landfill construction and controls. Waste materials consist of wood, asphalt, vegetation, concrete rubble, rubber, and small quantities of other materials.

**Extent:** Assessment activities indicated that buried waste materials were present in a roughly circular area approximately 150 feet in diameter, and extending to a depth of approximately 10 feet.

**Groundwater:** Not present. During the assessment phase, monitoring well WD5-MW-03 was installed adjacent to WD5. Toluene was detected in a soil sample collected at a depth of 15 feet during well installation. The installed monitoring well was located in the area of a local bedrock high, and groundwater was not present. Groundwater was not encountered in this area during response action activities.

**Remediation:** Response actions by COA or its consultants consisted primarily of the excavation and disposal of soil and buried waste. Analysis of final confirmation samples indicated that constituents of concern were not present at concentrations greater than the cleanup levels. In conjunction with the WD5 response action, WD5-MW-03 was plugged and abandoned, and the soil around the well was excavated and disposed. Remedial activities were completed at WD1 in February of 2002. Risk Reduction Standard No. 1 Closure criteria met.

**Current Conditions:** Current conditions associated with this site do not appear to pose a material concern to human health or the environment, or represent a regulatory violation.

### **#1d, Environmental Site WD7, Waste Disposal Area**

**Location:** WD7 is located on the northern portion of RMMA near East 51st Street and extends below pavement and Buildings 2662, 2494, and 2498.

**Prior Use:** Based on available historical information, the former landfill consists of a gravel borrow pit excavated during airport construction in the 1940s and 1950s. The pit was apparently used for disposal of general “household” trash and construction debris starting in the 1950s, and was then covered over with fill soil in the early to mid 1960s.

**Extent:** Full aerial extent and depth of this landfill has yet to be determined. WD7 is located within the Tannehill Branch watershed. The exact dates the landfill was in use are not known.

**Groundwater:** Landfill gas (primarily methane) is present in this area, and is currently being monitored (2004). A plume of impacted groundwater is present at and immediately downgradient of the disposal area. Seven groundwater monitoring wells were installed and tested and groundwater in this area was determined to contain elevated levels of metals and organics. All groundwater constituents present at levels above background are below residential Medium-Specific Concentrations (MSCs), except arsenic, which exceeds residential and industrial MSCs.

**Remediation:** Waste still in place. Long-term engineering controls are proposed to be implemented for site WD7, following completion of a Conceptual Exposure Assessment Model and development of a Remedial Action Plan.

**Current Conditions:** Beyond those conditions already being addressed by the COA, current conditions associated with this site do not appear to pose a material concern to human health or the environment, or represent a regulatory violation.

**Reference:** Information in this fact sheet comes from the following:

1. Geomatrix Consultants. November 2004. *2004 Supplemental Assessment to Landfills in the Vicinity of Austin, TX*. Prepared for City of Austin Public Works Department.
2. Underground Resource Management, Inc. November 1984. *Landfills in the Vicinity of Austin, TX*. Prepared for the City of Austin.