



Masonville

D R E D G E D M A T E R I A L P L A C E M E N T S I T E

Quick Facts

- Located along the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River in Baltimore
- Working area of 110 acres, including diked open water
- Began operations in 2010
- Receives dredged material from the Baltimore Harbor
- No negative effects on water quality
- Will have capacity for a total volume of 11 million cubic yards of dredged material
- Includes approximately 52 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 one of just two sites that is available to contain dredged material from the harbor; the other is at Cox Creek.

The current diked area has an elevation of 10 feet above mean water level and is lined to prevent any impacts on groundwater or nearby open water. The final dike height will be 42 feet, with a total capacity for approximately 11 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. A new shipping pier was built 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 Department of Transportation 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 Living Classrooms Foundation and the National Aquarium. 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.

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

Masonville Cove is home to Captain Trash Wheel, commissioned by MDOT MPA to address trash in the Patapsco River's Middle Branch as part of the mitigation package for the Masonville dredged material placement site. Driven mostly by water current and solar power, the wheels trap and remove waterborne trash and debris.

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

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