

Matteo & Sons Inc.

*Thorofare, New Jersey
EPA Facility ID: NJD011770013
Basin: Lower Delaware Watershed
HUC: 02040202*

The [Matteo & Sons Inc.](#) scrap metal recycling facility, junkyard, and inactive landfill is located in a mixed residential and industrial area of Thorofare, Gloucester County, New Jersey. The Matteo & Sons facility encompasses approximately 32-ha (80 acres) of highly vegetated land within the 100-year floodplain of two tributaries of the Delaware River. The facility is bordered to the west by Woodbury Creek and to the north by Hessian Run. Emergent wetlands associated with Hessian Run are present along the northern border of the property.

Since 1961, the facility has operated as a scrap metal recycler and junkyard. A non-permitted landfill, which is currently inactive, was also operated in the north-central portion of the property. Wastes deposited in the landfill included roofing and construction materials, drums, plastic, rubber, tires, batteries, and household trash. From 1971 to 1985, a battery reclamation center was operated on the property. During the reclamation process, lead battery terminals were melted to reclaim the lead. There are reports of battery casings being incinerated at the facility and the ashes being disposed of throughout the property. Crushed battery casings were dumped directly into Hessian Run and the wetlands adjacent to Hessian Run. Copper wire was incinerated at the facility.

Numerous investigations conducted at the site have detected lead in groundwater and soil samples collected from throughout the property and in sediment and surface water samples collected from Woodbury Creek, Hessian Run, and associated wetlands. PCBs were detected in soil samples collected from throughout the property and in sediment samples collected from Woodbury Creek, Hessian Run, and associated wetlands.

There are no flood containment structures on the property. In 2005, the inactive landfill was observed to be in direct contact with the flood waters of Hessian Run and Woodbury Creek. The crushed battery casings waste pile is on the northern border of the property. The waste pile is in direct contact with Hessian Run. Crushed batteries have also been observed in the center of Hessian Run during low tide.

From the facility, Hessian Run flows to the west approximately 1.6 km (1 mi) before converging with Woodbury Creek. Woodbury Creek flows to the northwest approximately 2 km (1.3 mi) before emptying into the lower Delaware River. The Delaware River flows approximately 61 km (38 mi) before discharging

to Delaware Bay. Hessian Run and Woodbury Creek are freshwater tidal tributaries of the Delaware River. Tidal fluctuations range from approximately 1.5 to 1.8 m (5 to 6 ft) in the vicinity of the site.

The lower Delaware River provides spawning, rearing, and adult habitat for anadromous species including alewife, American shad, Atlantic sturgeon, blueback herring, gizzard shad, hickory shad, rainbow smelt, shortnose sturgeon, striped bass, white perch and the catadromous American eel. The Delaware River also provides spawning, rearing, and adult habitat for marine/estuarine fish and invertebrates tolerant of fresh water including Atlantic croaker, Atlantic menhaden, bay anchovy, hogchoker, and blue crab are also present in the tidal freshwater portions of the Delaware River (EA Engineering 1998; PFBC 2006).

This screening-level site review is based on resource and contaminant information available in the USEPA site narrative and the hazard ranking score documentation record at the time the site was proposed for placement on the USEPA National Priorities List. It does not represent a review of all the information available for the site. At this time, NOAA's Office of Response and Restoration, Assessment and Restoration Division, Northeast Branch is not actively working on this site. However, should new information become available to this office that indicates there is potential harm to NOAA Trust resources associated with this site, this office will activate its role as Trustee.

References

EA Engineering. 1998. Characterization of aquatic habitats and resources near the Philadelphia Naval Complex: Department of the Navy, Northern Division.

Pennsylvania Boat and Fish Commission (PFBC). 2006. Pennsylvania Fishes. Available at: <http://www.fish.state.pa.us/Fish/pafish/fishhtms/chapindx.htm> (accessed June 2006).

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