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## Maryland Port Administration halts dredge dumping at Hart-Miller Island

Baltimore Business Journal - by [Scott Dance](#) Staff

**The Maryland Port Administration** has ceased dumping sediment dredged from Baltimore's harbor at Hart-Miller Island.

State law required the port to stop using the island as a dredge site by the end of the year. The MPA closed the dredge site, in the Chesapeake Bay just southeast of Essex, on Dec. 22.

The closure means more dredge material will go to two other dredge sites at Cox Creek and Masonville Cove.

Hart-Miller Island had been controversial when it became a dredge site in 1984, but port officials said they were pleased with the resulting wildlife and waterfront restoration from the project. They hope to do the same at Masonville.

"This facility that has been critical to the prosperity of the Port of Baltimore is now an asset to the community," said MPA Executive Director James J. White in a statement. "Today, we look at Hart-Miller and see it as a symbol of partnership where working closely with local citizens produced a project that would benefit the environment, the port and the public.

The southern section of the island closed to dredge material in 1990 and is managed as a wildlife habitat. The northern section will be developed for the same purpose in 2010.

Hart-Miller Island is also home to a public recreational facility for boating, fishing, camping and swimming.