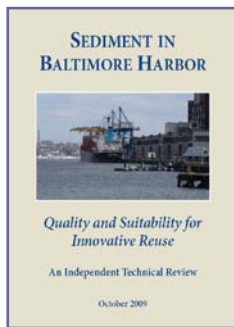




The Dredging *Link*

Harbor Sediment Quality Report Available

A report evaluating the quality of sediment in Baltimore Harbor, prepared by an independent panel of sediment experts, is now available. The report, titled "Sediment in Baltimore Harbor: Quality and Suitability for Innovative Reuse," was commissioned by the DMMP Management Committee, following the



recommendation of the Innovative Reuse Committee. The expert panel reviewed existing harbor sediment data from both within and outside the shipping channels and compared the data to criteria set by the Department of the Environment. The purpose was to assess whether harbor sediments are suitable for some or all of the innovative reuses recommended in the 2007 Innovative Reuse Committee report. Not surprisingly, the panel found sediments that are contaminated with both heavy metals and organic compounds of many different varieties. In many cases, however, the sediments meet industrial cleanup standards and would therefore be suitable for various reuse applications. A summary of the report is available in the News section of the [SafePassage](#) website. The report is available in print or on a CD. Data sets evaluated by the expert panel are available on CD only. For a copy, contact msimo@menv.com and specify whether you want the hardcopy or CD version.

MPA Debuts Revamped SafePassage Website

SafePassage has been updated to better serve MPA's DMMP partners. The revamped website now contains short summaries of all the DMMP placement sites as well as environmental initiatives, outreach and education programs. It continues to be "the place to go" for information about committee meetings, member lists, meeting summaries and reports.

SafePassage is linked to MPA's larger website, which contains information about the shipping and cruise businesses of the Port.



Visit www.mpasafepassage.org or www.marylandports.com

Hart Miller Island Closed to Placement of Dredged Material

A long-awaited date arrived on December 31, 2009 as the 25-year-old Hart Miller Island (HMI) placement site in eastern Baltimore County closed. The site was filled to capacity during the 2009 dredging season when federal stimulus money became available for “advance dredging” of some of the federal navigation channels leading to the port. Work continues at HMI as plans for vegetating the north cell are completed. Once all the work to restore island habitat is completed, in approximately 10 years, the property will be transferred to the Department of Natural Resources for long-term management.

The work of the HMI Citizens Oversight Committee was recognized in a ceremony just before Christmas, when members received certificates from Transportation Secretary Beverly K. Swaim-Staley, commemorating their years of dedication to the project.

As habitat restoration continues in the north cell, the site will be open for community and educational tours with prior arrangements. The beach and state park also remain open and operated by the Department of Natural Resources.

To schedule a visit, please call 410-385-4438 or email mpasafepassage@marylandports.com.



Showcasing the Patapsco Through Art at Masonville

The Masonville Cove Environmental Education Center is only a year old, but it's already getting a paint job. The project isn't designed to hide imperfections in the building. Instead, it celebrates the Patapsco River. Mural painter Tanja North is creating the colorful mural featured on the center's stairwell.



“It will showcase both the industry and commercial resources on the Patapsco River, as well as the natural life and other maritime activities,” North said. Since the Patapsco is the connecting link that starts in Baltimore's inner harbor and flows past the Key Bridge, the mural features points of interest such as the Constellation, the National Aquarium in Baltimore, and the cranes at the Port of Baltimore.

There is also a view of a wheel house from a tug. The wall leading to the lower level of the building shows species life under water. North began designing the mural near the end of November 2009 by making scaled drawings from photographs. The first three walls are now complete and the fourth wall should be finished this summer.

“It's designed so that students participating in the programs can use it as a scavenger hunt, and can see that everything is related,” North said.

North works for Living Classroom Foundation and is the education coordinator aboard the skipjack Sigsbee. Her mural resulted from the partnership between Living Classrooms and the Maryland Port Administration, which provides Living Classrooms with use of the building. Although North has created large-scale arts projects for the theater and with other artists, this is her first solo mural.

North is a Baltimore native and attended Marylhurst University near Portland, Oregon, where she studied fine arts and secured an environmental internship.

Harbor Development Staff Has Moved!

Harbor Development—as well as other units of MPA formerly housed on Broening Highway—recently moved to the World Trade Center in Baltimore. Our new address is 401 East Pratt Street, Suite 1900, Baltimore, MD 21202. The main office telephone number is 410-385-4419.

