The RACER Trust:
Empowering America's Auto Communities

Buena Vista Township, MI
RACER Site ID 10040

Saginaw Nodular Industrial Land
2100 Veterans Memorial Parkway
Buena Vista Township, MI

Updated August 2025

Site Description



The Saginaw Nodular Industrial Land is 226.83 acres of vacant land straddling the City of Saginaw and Buena Vista Township.

The Property was a portion of the Saginaw Casting Complex — an approximately 700-acre site that began operations in the 1920s. The Nodular Iron Plant and wastewater treatment facility were developed at the Property in the late 1970s and the plant operated until 1987. The wastewater treatment facility was operated until 2010. The plant building was decommissioned and removed in the late 1990s and the wastewater treatment building was decommissioned and demolished in late 2015 and early 2016.

Environmental remediation of the Property is being performed through the RCRA Corrective Action program under a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), effective September 29, 2011. RACER Trust is performing remediation activities with the approval and oversight of USEPA Region 5. The Settlement Agreement that established RACER Trust set aside $4.7 million for remediation work at this Property.

Environmental History

Several investigations of environmental conditions at the Property have been conducted since the late 1980s and have found the presence of metals in soils, ammonia and elevated pH in groundwater, and metals and PCBs in sediment.

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Other compounds found in limited locations of the Property at relatively low concentrations include volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) and cyanide.

In 2013, remedial contractors completed stabilizing the primary settling basins at the wastewater treatment facility in accordance with a USEPA- approved work plan. In 2014, drainage improvements were made along the railroad tracks that run southwest to northeast through the Property.

In 2019, approximately 3,000 tons of PCB-impacted sediments were removed from the western portion of the secondary ponds and disposed off-Property in accordance with a USEPA-approved work plan. This activity allowed for discharge from the secondary ponds without a permit.



In 2020, approximately 100 tons of PCB-impacted soils were removed from a small area south of the former Nodular Plant and disposed off-Property in accordance with a USEPA-approved work plan.

In 2021, an updated corrective measures proposal was submitted to USEPA. USEPA and RACER have been working together so USEPA can begin its process to select a final remedy.

In 2022, an updated mixing zone determination for ammonia and pH was submitted to USEPA and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). In accordance with recommendations from EGLE, a groundwater sampling event was conducted later in 2022, which confirmed that conditions met the requirements of the mixing zone determination.

In 2023, samples from on-Property monitoring wells were analyzed for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and 1,4-dioxane at USEPA's request. The results identified low levels of PFAS and 1,4-dioxane that did not exceed EGLE criteria with the exception of one concentration of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS).

Next Steps

Anticipated activities include groundwater monitoring and working with USEPA as it progresses through the RCRA Corrective Action final remedy selection process.

It is expected that deed restrictions will be recorded that at a minimum limit use of the Property to nonresidential, prohibit use of groundwater, require soil vapor management and require contaminated soil management. In addition, there may be area-specific restrictions, such as for residual PCBs in the western portion of the secondary ponds.

Information on the site and past environmental tests can be viewed at the RACER website at www.racertrust.org.

For More Information

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