



OSWER PILOT SITE 3

CHEVRONTEXACO CINCINNATI FACILITY Hooven, OH

The ChevronTexaco Cincinnati facility in Hooven, OH is a former petroleum refinery that is located approximately 20 miles west of Cincinnati. The site occupies approximately 700 acres in a rural residential area with some adjacent commercial and industrial development. Of the 700 acres of closed refinery, 126 acres are now being managed as green space and wildlife habitat. The Cincinnati Facility is located in a river bottom and bluff area along the banks of the Great Miami River. Over the years, the site has been used for logging, farming, grazing, gravel mining, and industrial manufacturing. The site is undergoing soil and groundwater cleanup under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency RCRA Corrective Action Program and team members are making efforts to restore and protect the resources on the site through a multi-use site plan, which is geared towards returning commercial, recreational and environmental value to the site.

The Cincinnati facility's primary wildlife objective is to practice habitat management versus species management. This objective is accomplished by carrying out dual-purpose projects that create wildlife habitat, contribute to environmental education, and further the proposed multi-use site plan. Since 2002, team members have taken on many new habitat projects. Landfarm phytoremediation was initiated for the EPA to collect data on phytoremediation organics and to restore the nutrients in the existing soil. A team of over 30 employees and contractors has constructed a treatment wetland, which has created wetland habitat for both upland and wetland species and increased plant biodiversity. Six Cincinnati Facility employees have removed invasive plant species and recycled the plant material into wood chips for hiking and biking trails. Team members have also participated in additional projects, including planting native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses and installing and maintaining nest boxes for swallows, bluebirds, and wood ducks. These projects have created and enhanced habitat, cover, and food for local plant and animal species.

In addition to conducting habitat enhancement projects, employees at the Cincinnati facility have focused on the value of environmental education and hosted a Wetland Workshop to mark the opening of the treatment wetland. This workshop educated participants on wetlands and created an awareness of habitat needs for wetland species. The workshop promoted the involvement of community members and other stakeholders in wetland habitat protection.

Organizations such as the National Wild Turkey Federation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and The Nature Conservancy provide technical information and expertise for the wildlife program at the Cincinnati facility. Team members interact with students from various universities, including the University of Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky



University, and Clemson University, local schools, and Boy Scout Troops through environmental education efforts. In 2002, EPA recognized the Cincinnati Facility for these efforts with their RCRA Showcase Award for Community Involvement. In 2004, this site's program was nominated for WHC's Corporate Habitat of the Year award at WHC's annual symposium.

