



Quality Glass Site now a Quality Kayak Launch

Van Voorhis, Monongalia County, WV

Site Background

Mon River Trails Conservancy (MRTC) and the Morgantown Area Paddlers (MAP) worked extensively to revitalize the Quality Glass property into a recreational hot spot along the Mon River. The 3-acre site operated from the 1930s through the late 1980s. In addition to asbestos, building debris, and trash present at the former building locations, the site was contaminated with constituents as a result of historical glass plant operations, including benzo(a) pyrene, arsenic, and lead in surface soil. In 2010 the site was remediated by constructing a clay cap over the contaminated areas using EPA Brownfields Cleanup Grant funding.

EPA Grant Recipient: Monongalia County
Year Awarded: 2007
Grant Types: Cleanup
Former Use: Quality Glass Factory
Current Use: Recreational kayak launch



Exterior and interior of dilapidated building on the former Quality Glass property

About the Project

Located near Mile 4 of the Mon River Rail-Trail and River Mile 95.1 of the Upper Monongahela River Water Trail, the property had great potential as a valuable boat launch for the community. The site was deemed safe for recreational use after remediation was completed. Subsequently, Mon River Trails Conservancy (MRTC) began working with the Mon County Commission and the town of Star City, to develop the site as a major trailhead for the rail trail.

The trailhead now boasts a 30-car parking lot, restroom and signs. The last phase of the overall project was the river access. Morgantown Area Paddlers (MAP) involved community members, businesses, and other organizations to reach the final needed fundraising amounts for the boat launch, completing the project in 2016. The platform ramp has wheels and rail bars to allow users to easily enter and exit canoes or kayaks.

Contacts For Further Information:

Stepan Nevshahirlian, EPA Project Officer
Nevshahirlian.Stepan@epamail.epa.gov
Ella Belling, Ex. Dir. River Trails Conservancy
Ella@montrails.org



The new boat launch which features railings and wheels mounted on the platform