



Minnesota
Pollution
Control
Agency

**A MPCA Voluntary
Investigation and
Cleanup and
Petroleum Brownfield
Program Success
Story**

**Legislative Dist. 60A
Congressional Dist. 5**

Minnesota Twins Ballpark

VP411219, PB3654, LEAK16853
Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota

Cleanup/Brownfields #2.11 • January 2011

The Minnesota Twins Ballpark project originated years ago with the desire of the Minnesota Twins and baseball fans to move the team to an updated baseball facility where the game could be played outdoors. The new baseball stadium, known as Target Field, was built on the western edge of downtown Minneapolis at One Twins Way. Faced with local Minnesota stone, the 40,000 fan ballpark is open air and provides beautiful views of the downtown Minneapolis skyway. The site is located on the edge of the warehouse district of Minneapolis and takes advantage of existing city parking facilities as well as being located at the focal point of the new transit hub that now exists in the area. Pedestrian plazas are also available to bring downtown pedestrian traffic to Target Field. The state of the art ballpark is fast becoming a focal point of the social life of the thriving warehouse district in downtown Minneapolis. In 2010, *ESPN The Magazine*, ranked Target Field as the number one sports stadium in North America, beating out 212 other franchises.

History

At the turn of the century, the eight acre site that now houses Target Field and the Minnesota Twins was a series of railroad tracks for rail freight coming into and leaving the industrial warehouse district of Minneapolis. In the past the site also included railroad buildings, warehouses and petroleum tanks. Later the property was paved and used as an outdoor parking lot. The relatively small site, with very tight urban quarters, was a big challenge for the designers and builders of the baseball stadium.



Opening day for the Minnesota Twins and their fans in Target Field – Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Environmental Issues

- Environmental investigations indicated that a number of “hot spot” areas of soil contamination existed on the site.
- The grassed area of the field exceeded the Recreational Soil guidelines for baseball use.
- The contaminants found on the site included polyaromatic hydrocarbons, metals and petroleum impacted soils.
- A total of 224,000 cubic yards of soil were excavated and disposed off-site to achieve the soil cleanup for the ballpark and to accommodate the drainage, heating and irrigation piping systems located beneath the playing field.
- Two large tanks, a hydraulic hoist and petroleum impacted soil were removed and disposed offsite.

Environmental and Economic Benefits

- Over 224,000 cubic yards of impacted soil were removed from the site to build the playing field.
- Holding tanks below the field and the Pentair water filtration system allows rainfall runoff to be recycled for field irrigation reducing urban runoff and saving an estimated 1.26 million gallons of water per year.
- Target Field was awarded LEED Silver Certification by the U.S. Green Building Council, only the second LEED-certified professional sports stadium in the United States, after Nationals Park.
- The Twins employ 125 full time staff and almost 2,000 part-time employees during home games.
- The location of Target Field has stimulated the Ballpark/Warehouse District area of Minneapolis and new entertainment and dining opportunities are emerging to take advantage of the increased traffic generated by the baseball crowds. City records show \$36 million in construction activity within five blocks of the field in fifteen months



Twins Ballpark site prior to development

Assurances Received

A No Further Action for soil is pending for the project.

Institutional Controls

Institutional controls are currently in preparation to limit future soil excavation and the use of groundwater at the site without approved environmental plans.

Project Participants

- Minnesota Twins LCC, Major League Baseball, Target Corporation, Hennepin County, City of Minneapolis, Metropolitan Council, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad, Populous Architects, Mortenson Construction, American Engineering and Testing, Peer Engineering
- Andrew Nichols, MPCA Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup (VIC) Project Manager; John Betcher, MPCA VIC Hydrogeologist; Mark Koplitz, MPCA Petroleum Brownfield (PB) Project Manager; Bassou Oulgout, MPCA PB Hydrologist

Opening Day Facts

Score: Minnesota Twins 5, Boston Red Sox 2
First Pitch: Carl Pavano (Twins)
First Hit: Marco Scutaro (Red Sox)
First Double: Dustin Pedoria (Red Sox)

First Triple: Justin Morneau (Twins)
First Run: Denard Span (Twins)
First RBI: Michael Cuddyer (Twins)
First Home Run: Jason Kubel (Twins)