

Thorson Residence

PUB-RR-810

January, 2009

Thorson Residence

**N2599 Barnes Creek Avenue
Merrill, WI 54452
Lincoln county**

2.62 Acres

**Location: Home in northern Wisconsin
rural community**

**Rural properties are not the typical
brownfield one might picture. However,
for this northern Wisconsin home, an oil
spill led to a brownfield cleanup and
redevelopment.**

History

In 1933, a residence built on an agriculture field in the northern Wisconsin city of Merrill had above ground storage tanks the owners used for heating oil. More than 60 years later, in 1998, the basement was remodeled and the tanks were removed.

In 2000, the company that previously delivered heating oil to the home mistakenly dispatched a delivery truck to the address and 100 gallons of oil were accidentally pumped into the basement. During the cleanup, the property was abandoned for approximately two years.

Investigation & Cleanup

After the accident, the company worked with the

DNR's Remediation and Redevelopment (RR) Program to clean up the spill, address immediate health concerns for the family and protect area residents' drinking water.

The company agreed to clean up the spill and purchased the property from the family. After an environmental site assessment and investigation were conducted, the home and garage were moved off site. Workers then demolished the foundation and disposed of any soil contaminated from the spill.

Redevelopment

A new residence was constructed after the lot, well and septic were sold. Also, thanks to the immediate cleanup actions supervised by the RR



The former Thorson residence, located in northcentral Wisconsin. (DNR photo).



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Remediation and Redevelopment Program

PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr>





The new residence after cleanup and redevelopment were completed (DNR photo). A Certificate of Completion via the DNR's Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE) process was used for this brownfield project.

Program and the company, the residential drinking water was saved from any contamination.

Financial, Liability, Technical Assistance

In addition to oversight from the RR Program, a Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE) Certificate of Completion was issued by RR staff in 2002.

Contacts

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