

Nan Roberts

This site needs deep and extensive clean-up. I spent decades at that site walking my dogs and looking for fossils. I've seen all the debris that's visible and know about all the toxic materials that were dumped there throughout the history of the Ford Plant. One day I was walking on the Hidden Falls Park path closest to the dumpsite in question. There was an overwhelming smell of some type of petroleum product coming from a slope below a Ford plant truck parking spot on the west side of the river road. The odor was so strong that it caught at the back of my throat. I met a person also walking on the path who happened to be a geologist and we both talked about the odor and what to do. The geologist worked with a company that had hazardous waste protocols, so the geologist called to report it. I'm assuming it was to the MPCA office. According to protocol, the person reporting was supposed to receive a return call from the duty officer after it was reported. No return call ever came back. Did Ford have a deal with the state to cover this up? I've been very suspicious about that site, and also read a report by Kirstie Marohn from MPR a few years ago that commented on the that general area of pollution by Ford, but I don't think she got enough information about the worst part of the site, Area C. Please don't let Ford escape responsibility for this massive pollution in such a sensitive spot on the river. I'm also worried about an extensive gas pumping station being built very near the Mississippi River in Lilydale.