

# Kansas Department of Health and Environment

## Bureau of Environmental Remediation, Remedial Section

### Brownfield Redevelopment Program



## Independence Skate Park

### Background:

The Independence Skate Park was accepted into the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Brownfields Redevelopment Program on July 14, 2003. An application for a Brownfields Targeted Assessment (BTA) was prepared by the City of Independence and submitted to KDHE on July 10, 2003. The BTA property consisted of a densely wooded vacant lot approximately 9.2 acres in size. The City wanted this property to be redeveloped as a skate park. The abandoned property was a blighted influence adjacent to the city ballpark and close to many residents with young children. The objective of this BTA was to research and compile information and data related to existing and historical land use at the BTA property and adjacent properties so the uncertainties associated with environmental impacts would be identified and/or minimized prior to redevelopment.

### Community/Financial Assistance:

The City Commission developed a task force of interested citizens to help design, locate, and implement rules and regulations for the proposed skate park. The task force consists of nine volunteers and a skate park designer. The BTA property was obtained by the City through a joint donation by several individual owners. Following the Phase I and Phase II Assessments, the Skateboard Taskforce had planned to apply for recreational grants from other agencies to help fund the construction of the skate park.



*Evidence of illegal dumping on the BTA property.*

### Phase I:

Phase I activities indicated that the BTA property was historically utilized as an asphalt and concrete paving construction company, leaving construction equipment and debris. In addition, illegal dumping had occurred on the property. Based on Phase I results, Phase II activities were initiated to evaluate soil and ground water quality.

### Phase II:

During Phase II activities (intrusive sampling) 31 soil samples and two ground water samples were collected from ten locations. The samples were analyzed for volatile organic compounds, total petroleum hydrocarbons, nitrate, pesticides and RCRA metals. Analytical results from these samples did not indicate significant environmental contamination at the property. One ground water sample indicated arsenic, chromium, and lead concentrations slightly above Kansas Tier 2 Risk-Based Levels; however, because the collected samples were not filtered for dissolved metals, the elevated metal detections were attributed to sediments in the sample. Further, one additional adjacent (side-gradient) ground water location did not indicate detectable metal concentrations.

KDHE's BTA Assessment Decision indicated no further action was necessary at the site and informed the city of the decision in November 2003. City crews and equipment were utilized for the clearing of debris and vegetation on the property. As of June 2004, the City of Independence is in the planning and design stage for the construction of the skate park. The 100'x150' concrete pad for the skate park is planned to be completed by fall 2004.