

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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Site-Wide Remedial Investigation Report Summary and Next Steps

Overview:

The Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) consists of approximately 661 acres in Northwest Washington, D.C. During the World War I-era, the site was known as the American University Experiment Station (AUES) and Camp Leach. It was used by the U.S. government for engineer troop training, research and testing of chemical agents, equipment, and munitions. Between 1993 and 2014, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers performed investigations to gather the data necessary to determine the nature and extent of known contamination, assess risk to human health and the environment, and establish criteria for possible cleanup actions associated with past Department of Defense (DoD) activities. During the investigations, the Corps of Engineers also removed munitions related items and arsenic contaminated soil.



*Munitions testing at the American University
Experiment Station*

Due to the location of the FUDS in a residential community and the nature of the early burial pit findings, the Corps of Engineers took a multi-pronged approach to investigate previously identified areas while concurrently analyzing historical records to plan investigations in additional areas.

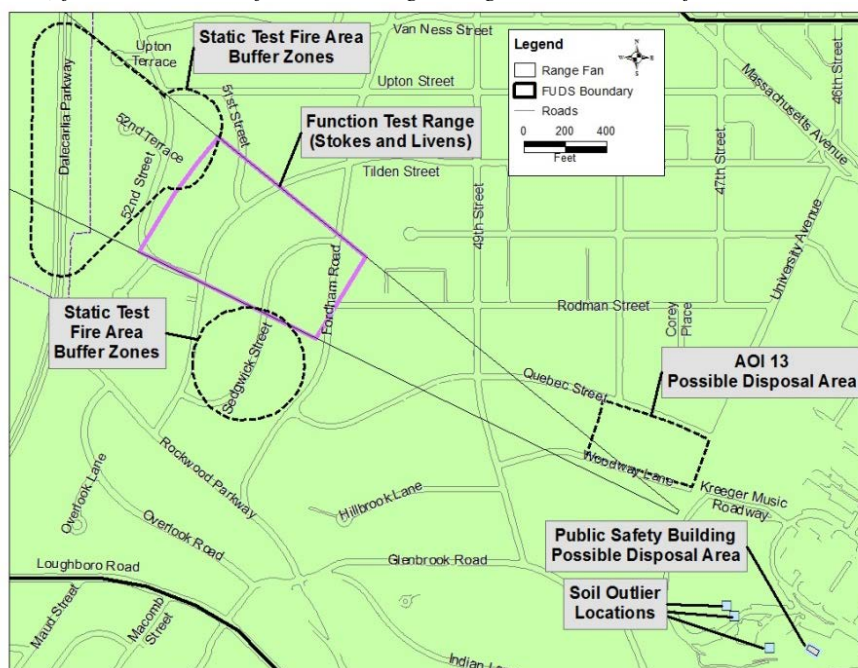
What is the Remedial Investigation (RI) Report?

The Site-Wide RI Report summarizes the results of completed field activities performed to characterize the nature and extent of any potential contamination resulting from past DoD activities in the Spring Valley FUDS. It reviews past DoD activities in the area now designated as the Spring Valley FUDS. The report describes various ways the area was defined based on historical and anecdotal information during the course of the RI to plan focused investigations. It then includes assessments based on the cumulative results of the RI field efforts to evaluate hazards posed by munitions and risks posed by chemical contaminants. Human health risk assessments, as well as an ecological risk assessment, were developed to evaluate possible chemical contaminants. Munitions hazard assessments are documented in the report to evaluate potential munitions hazards at different areas throughout the Spring Valley FUDS. Finally, the report describes areas identified through the risk and hazard assessment processes, where the Army Corps of Engineers recommends a Feasibility Study (FS) to address potential remaining concerns.

What are the RI Recommendations?

- Conduct a FS to address chemical risks in soil:
 - At a few locations on the American University campus/Spalding Captain Rankin Area.
- Conduct a FS to address potential explosive hazards associated with:
 - Munitions related items possibly remaining within the impact areas of the ballistic test ranges (*See map: Function Test Range*).
 - Munitions burial pits within the static test fire areas and their surrounding buffer zones (*See map: Static Test Fire Areas*).
 - Possible munitions disposal pits associated with the identified possible disposal areas (*See map: Possible Disposal Area*).

See map (below) for additional information regarding the areas to be further evaluated in the FS.



What's Next?

The Army Corps of Engineers will perform a FS focusing on the areas recommended for further evaluation in the Remedial Investigation Report. The FS will outline how the Corps of Engineers plans to address any potential unacceptable risks and hazards. After the FS the Corps of Engineers will prepare a Proposed Plan, which will identify a preferred clean-up action to address remaining risks and hazards. The public will be invited to review and provide comments on the Proposed Plan during a formal public comment period, which will include a public meeting.

The Corps of Engineers remains committed to implementing a measured and comprehensive path forward at the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site — the objective being a thorough and complete cleanup, with the safety of the surrounding neighborhood, university community, and site workers as the number one priority.

Where can I learn more?

The Site-Wide RI Report will be posted on USACE's Spring Valley website: <http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Home/SpringValley.aspx>. Additional fact sheets and information regarding the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process — the regulatory process followed for the Spring Valley FUDS — are also available on the website. To learn more, please call our Community Outreach Office at 410-962-2210.