



SPRING VALLEY MONTHLY PROJECT SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 2012

This monthly Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site project summary is provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District, as part of its ongoing efforts to make information regarding the neighborhood investigation more accessible to community members, elected officials, Restoration Advisory Board members, and other interested stakeholders. Specifically, the monthly update is produced to provide those who follow the project with a current snapshot of regulatory partnering, planning and field activities, and is not designed to provide historical information or an overview of the project. Those individuals interested in broader project information, or who have follow-up questions regarding this update, are invited to contact our Community Outreach Team at 410-962-0157. You may also contact our project regulatory partners, James Sweeney (DDOE) at 202-535-2289 or Steven Hirsh (US EPA) at 215-814-3352.

4825 Glenbrook Road CERCLA Process

- In January, the interagency regulatory partners, District Department of the Environment (DDOE) and Region III of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), reviewed and provided concurrence on the draft final Decision Document. The document next needs to be approved by several offices within USACE and the Department of Army and finalized upon joint signature from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health, and the Army's Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management. Finalization is anticipated in **March 2012**.
- Once the **Decision Document** is finalized we will notify all those on our emailing list, and it will be made available to the public via the Spring Valley project website and at the Spring Valley Information Repository at the Tenley-Friendship Branch Library.
- Planning is underway on the Remedial Design and Work Plan, which details how the remedial action, outlined in the Final Decision Document, will be implemented. This Work Plan will include various operation management plans like a demolition plan concerning the house, as well as worker and public protection plans which are detailed plans for assuring the safety of everyone during the cleanup process. Ongoing progress will continue to be discussed in detail at the monthly Restoration Advisory Board meetings.

Controlled Detonation Chamber

- The mobile Controlled Detonation Chamber (CDC), which was last used in January 2011 to safely destroy over 100 conventional (non-chemical) munitions recovered during Spring Valley project investigations, is being transferred from the project site to the West Coast for another operation. USACE, working with its regulatory partners at DDOE and EPA, will safely destroy the 2 conventional munition items remaining at the Spring Valley Federal Property before the CDC leaves. The 2 munition items were recovered during recently completed investigations in the Dalecarlia Woods geophysical investigation area.
- The safety and site setup plans used for the January 2011 CDC operations will also be used for the upcoming operation. These plans were previously approved by the regulatory partners, the U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety, and the Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board. The CDC operation, which will last about 2-3 hours, is planned for February 17th.
- The CDC structure is comprised of two thick steel boxes, one inside the other, separated by 28 tons of sand. The chamber has thick armor plating on the interior walls and is designed for total containment of detonations. The CDC technology has safely destroyed thousands of munitions at both military and civilian sites across the country, and has been used at the Spring Valley site two other times. In 2003, the CDC safely destroyed more than 70 conventional munitions, and in 2011, more than 100 conventional munitions were safely destroyed.

Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP)

- In January, field teams intrusively investigated 18 single-point anomalies in the American University (AU) Kreeger Hall area. No WWI-related items were recovered. All the anomalies were classified as cultural debris, such as scrap metal and construction debris.
- Trench digging within the 4 anomalous areas in the paved area near Kreeger Hall is tentatively scheduled for March 2012. Because this effort will require removal of small portions of the Kreeger Hall parking lot, the investigation is scheduled during AU's Spring break to minimize potential disruptions to campus life.

Groundwater Study

- In January, USACE and the regulatory partners finalized the design and construction of the custom-made sampling liners for the newly installed deep wells on the 4900 block of Rockwood Parkway and the 4800 block of Glenbrook Road. USACE expects to install the liners in mid-February. The last planned deep groundwater monitoring well is currently scheduled for installation near Kreeger Hall on the AU campus in March 2012, during AU's Spring break.

Restoration Advisory Board

- The next RAB meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 14, 2012 at 7 p.m.** The RAB meets on the second Tuesday of each month (with the exception of August and December) at St. David's Episcopal Church, 5150 Macomb Street, NW.

Visit the NEW project website at <http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Projects/Spring%20Valley/>