



SPRING VALLEY MONTHLY PROJECT UPDATE FOR OCTOBER 2008

This monthly Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site project update is provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District, as part of our ongoing efforts to make information regarding the Spring Valley Partnership and 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 our 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.

Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP)

- The munitions investigation inside the **South Extension** of the Pit 3 Area was completed on October 28th following just over one week of intrusive operations. Single items and two trenches were investigated; and no American University Experiment Station-related items were recovered. Wire tree baskets, construction debris, and pieces of banding were among the items discovered during this brief investigation.
- At the end of October, yard preparations and construction of the containment structure's second East Extension began, along with the dismantling of the South Extension structure. Materials from the South Extension containment structure are being used to build the '**East Extension II**', extending the structure towards the back of the property. As we noted in last month's Project Update, our preliminary plans were to move the structure's street facing wall closer to the house; however during our safety and technical plan review process these plans needed to be changed. To ensure the safest removal of munitions and contaminated soil from the site, the front of the structure needs to remain in place and the flat area in the front yard will continue to be used. Alternative plans were considered at length, but each viable safe alternative would have extended the duration of the work at the site. USACE remains committed to completing this effort as soon and as safely as possible. The intrusive digging investigation inside the East Extension II is scheduled to begin early in January 2009. Although our 'end date' is dependent on whether additional munition related hazards continue to be recovered in January, we hope to start dismantling the large containment structure no later than March 2009. The remaining test pit investigations and other low probability work will start immediately afterward, along with the restoration of the existing hardscape and landscaping at these 2 adjoining properties.
- Since there is no risk of a chemical emergency during the construction period, the Shelter-in-Place program will only consist of the monthly siren tests on the first Wednesday of each month at 4:05 p.m. Prior to USACE starting to dig inside the containment structure in January, all those involved in the Shelter-in-Place program will be notified of the start date.
- USACE continued digging soil and carefully removing World War I debris in the area around **American University's Public Safety Building**. Completion of this project effort is still anticipated in Spring 2009.

Removal of Soil with Elevated Levels of Arsenic from Residential Properties

- In October, extensive soil removal activities were completed at a property on the 4900 block of Indian Lane. This brings the total number of completed properties to 86 since work began in the summer of 2002. Soil removal activities were initiated at a property on the 4200 block of Alton Place and will be completed in November. Site preparation activities will continue at several properties in the coming weeks; one on the 4900 block of Rodman Street, one each on the 4800 block and 4900 block of Quebec Street, and one on the 4900 block of Van Ness Street.

Upcoming Public Community Meetings

Restoration Advisory Board: *The last RAB meeting this year will occur on **Thursday, November 13th**.* RAB meetings are open to the public, start at 7 PM and are held in the basement meeting room of St. David's Episcopal Church at 5150 Macomb Street, NW. PLEASE NOTE: RAB meetings are not held in December or August.

Community Wide Project Update: You are invited to a Community Wide Project Update meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19th at Horace Mann Elementary School's Meeting Room. Call for more information.