

The Corps'pondent



A newsletter by the
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for
Spring Valley Project area residents

Where to get more information on the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site

There are many options available if you would like more information about the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site beyond the periodic Corps'pondent newsletter mailed to your home:

- Email List -

If you would like more frequent updates, including a monthly project update, you can email Rebecca Yahiel with the Community Outreach Team at rebecca.e.yahiel@usace.army.mil to be added to the email list

- Community Outreach Team -

Members of the community are always welcome to call the Spring Valley Community Outreach Team with any questions or concerns they may have toll free at 800-434-0988 (then press 3) or directly at 410-962-2210

- Restoration Advisory Board -

Every other month, the project team meets with members of the community to discuss the project and get feedback from the community. These meetings are open to the public and you can find out more about them on the back page of this newsletter.

- Project Web Site -

There is of course much more information always available on the project web site at:

www.nab.usace.army.mil/SpringValley/

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First 'Education and Awareness' mailers sent to all homes in Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site

The residents within the boundary of the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) have received their first of an annual spring 'Education and Awareness' mailing.

The mailing includes a letter and brochure, which summarizes the project history and information about the 3Rs (Recognize, Retreat and Report) of explosives safety. While the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is carrying out extensive cleanup activities, there is no way to be 100-percent certain that all buried munitions items from the WWI era are removed, so these letters and brochures serve as a way to reduce risk in the unlikely event that members of the community do encounter items in the future.

As part of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' commitment to both public safety and transparency, we are distributing the information and providing continued outreach to address any questions and concern the public may have about the project.



Examples of the brochures that accompanied the letters mailed to residents within the boundaries of the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site for education and awareness about the project and site history.

PLEASE NOTE: These letters and brochures do not indicate that any new concerns have been identified, but rather they are a part of the Army's ongoing commitment to reducing risks to the community.

Site-Wide munitions cleanup progressing

>>> Reminder: Properties where this munitions investigation is being called for have been previously contacted

Crews working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continue to make progress on several properties that are part of ongoing munitions cleanup efforts. The properties were specifically identified for further investigation to mitigate potential unacceptable explosive hazards due to munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) that may remain within the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site.

As a reminder, this effort includes 92 out of the roughly 1,600 Spring Valley properties and 13 government-owned lots.

While there are no known munitions hazards on these properties, this work is being done out of an abundance of caution and concern for the safety of residents and community members.

The work at the properties, part of what is called the Site-Wide Remedial Action, involves working closely with property owners to coordinate for crews to survey accessible portions of their lots for buried metallic anomalies.

(Site-Wide on page 2)

Partners still determining path forward for groundwater

>>> Reminder: Groundwater in Spring Valley is not used for drinking water

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is continuing efforts to finalize an approach to groundwater in the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site in coordination with regulatory Partners, including the EPA and the DC Department of Energy and Environment.

Based on groundwater monitoring throughout the FUDS, two well locations indicated levels of arsenic or perchlorate slightly above current EPA drinking water standards. The groundwater in Spring Valley is not used as a source for drinking water,

and as such the Army had proposed using land use controls with continued groundwater monitoring as a final remedy for groundwater.

Based on DOEE and the EPA policies to achieve drinking water standards in groundwater regardless of current or expected future use, DOEE and EPA believe that the final remedy for groundwater should have a goal to restore groundwater to drinking water levels, and therefore they do not concur with the Army's approach to use land use controls with continued monitoring.

The Army Corps and DOEE agreed to suspend the formal Dispute Resolution to discuss conducting additional groundwater data collection. A new round of groundwater sampling will begin this year in order to obtain more current information that will allow the Army Corps to evaluate if there are any significant changes in groundwater concentrations since the last sampling event (4 years ago).

After this sampling is completed, the Partners will meet to discuss the results and to determine the requirements for any future groundwater sampling.

For more info on groundwater: www.nab.usace.army.mil/home/SpringValley/Groundwater

(Site-Wide continued from page 1)



In January, contractors use the Manned Portable Vector to further examine buried metallic anomalies identified during geophysical surveys at one of the 33 residential properties that comprise the first wave of homes out of the 92 identified to be part of the Remedial Action. Of those 33 properties, nearly 14 have completed anomaly removal and have begun restoration. The MPV equipment is able to help determine whether buried metallic anomalies are munitions items or harmless cultural debris.

The team is already working to complete the Remedial Action with the dozens of residential properties that our teams have begun working with. Of those, 26 and counting have completed anomaly removal and have begun the restoration process.

The anomaly removal effort comes after crews complete geophysical surveys of the property to identify buried metallic anomalies that could be explosive hazards dating back to military use of the area during World War I. To date we have found multiple pieces of non-hazardous WWI munitions debris and one Civil War era cannon ball. These items were safely removed from the properties.

Geophysical surveys also continued at municipal and federally owned lots along Dalecarlia Parkway.

The other three main aspects of the Site-Wide Remedial Action are:

- Long-term education and outreach (see front page)
- Contaminated soil removal from two areas identified during previous investigation (work on one property is complete and the other will begin later this year)
- Remediating potential debris underneath the foundation of American University's former Public Safety Building (see page 3)

Anyone interested in learning more about the above work or any other aspects of work going on in Spring Valley can contact the Spring Valley Community Outreach Team by calling 410-962-2210 or 800-434-0988 or can find more about all of these efforts on our project website at:

www.nab.usace.army.mil/home/SpringValley

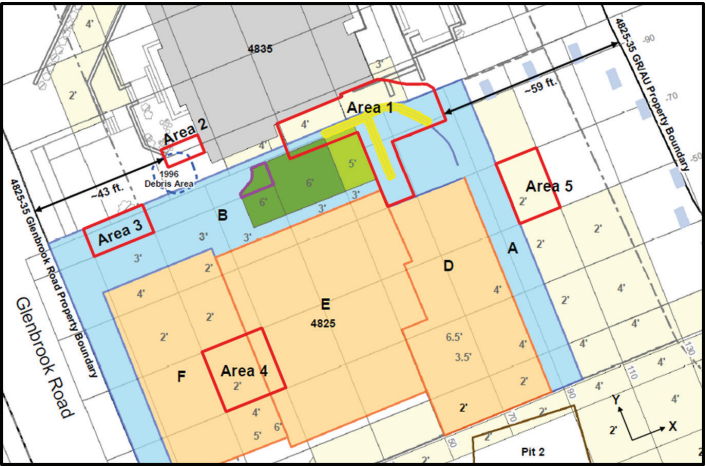
Crews make progress on excavation work at Glenbrook Road

After resuming excavation work at Glenbrook Road last fall, crews focused primarily on five remaining sections where contaminated soil still need to be removed.

The bulk of the work was in Area 1, along the shared property line between 4825 and 4835 Glenbrook Road. This was where the August 2017 incident happened when the crew on site experienced symptoms of potential exposure while working closely with the soils during hand digging excavation operations. With updated safety protocols in place, the remainder of excavation in this area was completed without incident.

Excavation in Area 5 and Area 3 were also completed without incident.

Air monitors at Area 4 had issues with false positives in the spring, so the project team worked through the issues and plans to complete work in this area using the modified safety protocols out of an abundance of caution. For clarification, Area 4 has been previously excavated to saprolite, roughly 16-20 feet below the surface. What remains is scraping the top of the saprolite to remove remaining arsenic and metals



Map of the Glenbrook Road project area showing the remaining areas of excavation when crews resumed work in fall 2018. Since then, crews have completed work in all areas except Area 2 and Area 4. Crews are expected to complete efforts in Area 2 in late summer or early fall. Area 4 has been excavated to saprolite, and crews will scrape the saprolite to remove remaining arsenic contamination.

contamination before filling the area with clean fill.

Crews are expected to complete Area 2 in late summer, now that the site is set up for the work (with air conditioning units, etc. moved out of the way).

Areas 2 and 4 are both expected to be completed this fall. That will signify the completion of excavation operations. After site breakdown, the next step would be site restoration, which is expected to start this coming winter.

Excavation starting at AU's former Public Safety Building site



Crews do work on utility lines on site to prepare for demolition of the foundation of the former Public Safety Building on American University's campus.

Pending the preparation of utilities on site, crews are expected to demolish the foundation slab of the former Public Safety Building (PSB) at American University this summer as part of one of the four main aspects of the Site-Wide Remedial Action. AU demolished the old PSB in 2017. As per the Site-Wide Decision Document, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will demolish the foundation and excavate beneath it to remove any debris that may remain from past military activity in the area. The PSB is located adjacent to what the Spring Valley project refers to as the Lot 18 disposal area. Between 2002 and 2006, Army crews excavated debris from Lot 18 around the PSB, up to the foundation. The work now will involve the removal of the foundation and the excavation of any debris that may be beneath it. Once demolition begins, the effort is expected to take about 4 months.

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* To be added to our email list please email Rebecca Yahiel with the Community Outreach Team at rebecca.e.yahiel@usace.army.mil.

Spring Valley Website: www.nab.usace.army.mil/Home/SpringValley

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Restoration Advisory Board Notes

The Spring Valley Restoration Advisory Board has two new members.

The RAB welcomed new member Marguerite Clarkson at the March meeting as the new representative for Horace Mann Elementary as an At-Large member. She replaces Alma Gates in that role, who served on the RAB for nearly a decade.

American University has named Dan Nichols to be their representative on the RAB going forward.

The RAB is comprised primarily of Spring Valley community members, but also includes officials involved in the project, and acts in an advisory capacity

to assist the government agencies engaged in the investigation and cleanup of the Spring Valley Formerly Used Defense Site. The primary purpose of the RAB is to involve the local community in the decision-making process.

Those interested can find more about the RAB, including how to contact members and learn more about participation, by visiting the RAB section of the Spring Valley website at:

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Home/Spring-Valley/Community-Participation/>

The RAB meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of every odd month at St. David's Episcopal Church, 5150 Macomb Street, NW. Meetings are open to the public.

Remaining 2019 RAB Schedule:

September 10

November 12