

CWM Removal Project Update

The Memphis Depot will continue to conduct weekly chemical warfare materiel (CWM) briefings for the community every Wednesday throughout the summer. However, because of the summer heat, the meetings will now be held in the Community Outreach Room at the Depot - 2163 Airways Blvd., Building 144 - beginning at 10 a.m. Mr. Clyde Hunt, the CWM on-site coordinator, and his assistant Ms. Elizabeth Burks, will provide up to date information on the removal project.

Removal of chemical warfare materiel (CWM) started at Dunn Field on May 4. The CWM removal project is centered on three sites at Dunn Field:

- Site 1 – suspected Chemical Agent Identification Sets (CAIS) disposal location;
- Site 24A – suspected mustard neutralization pit; and
- Site 24B – suspected 29 German bomb casings disposal location.

In April, before starting the removal project, the workers and supporting agencies took part in pre-operational exercises that included an assessment of work site safety and emergency response procedures.



Clyde Hunt and Elizabeth Burks of the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center provide information on the CWM removal project to members of the community during a weekly briefing session on Dunn Field.

These exercises are required by the Department of Army to ensure that the procedures in the Site Safety Submission as well as all other Army and Occupational Safety and Health Administration safety and health regulations are being followed. The exercises also ensure that the air monitoring and video equipment is working properly and that all personnel are prepared for any given emergency scenario.

During the month of May, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and their contractors excavated a total of 121 cubic yards of soil, and discovered no CWM. At Site 1 in May, the CWM team found 24 empty bottles and stoppers packed in a box. By the end of May, the excavated area was approximately 30' x 8' x 10'.

All removal activities take place inside the vapor containment structure (VCS), a 3,800 square-foot, tent-like structure designed to protect the community from any CWM that is uncovered and to filter the air during all removal activities.

For more information or to make an appointment to watch a live video of the removal activities taking place inside the VCS, call Mr. Hunt or Ms. Burks at (901) 743-7118. You can also visit the Community Information trailer on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

The CWM removal project continues to move us closer to our goal of restoration, reuse and revitalization of the Memphis Depot. □

BCT Presents Cleanup Alternatives

Now that the members of the BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT) have finalized the Main Installation Remedial Investigation Report, they have turned their attention to cleanup alternatives.

A Proposed Plan for these alternatives will be prepared by the BCT and presented to the public for comment, as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA).

The Proposed Plan summarizes the cleanup alternatives presented in a Feasibility Study and specifies the BCT's preferred alternative. The plan also presents the BCT's reasoning for selecting the preferred alternative based on specific evaluation criteria.

It is important to note that the Proposed Plan is not the final decision document. The preferred alternative can be changed or modified based on feedback from the public comment period. The BCT encourages the public to comment on all the cleanup alternatives, as well as the preferred alternative.

Each cleanup alternative is evaluated using the following criteria that are based on CERCLA requirements and guidelines established by the Environmental Protection Agency:

- Overall Protection of Human Health and the Environment
- Compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements
- Long-Term Effectiveness and Permanence
- Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, and Volume Through Treatment
- Short-Term Effectiveness
- Implementability
- Cost
- State Acceptance
- Community Acceptance

The Main Installation Remedial Investigation Report is currently available for public review in the four Information Repositories (see back page for locations and hours). The Feasibility Studies for soil and groundwater and the Main Installation Proposed Plan will be available for public review in the four Information Repositories by August 1, 2000.

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OLD PAINT SHOP AND MAINTENANCE AREA CLEANED



Soil was removed and disposed of as part of the completed cleanup project at the old paint shop and maintenance areas of the Main Installation.

During May and June, cleanup was completed on Parcels 35 and 28, also known as the old paint shop and maintenance areas of the Main Installation in the southwest corner of the Depot.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and its contractor, Sverdrup Environmental Engineers, cleaned up the structures and surrounding soil to ensure these areas were safe for current and future industrial or commercial workers. The project included cleaning the interior of six buildings, removal and disposal of approximately 1,000 cubic yards of soil from around the buildings, removal of one underground storage tank, and demolition of one building and a concrete slab.

The project also included additional soil sampling along Perry Road outside the fence to see if the soil should be removed. The results of this additional sampling showed that the soil along Perry Road was safe and, therefore, was not removed. □