



FACT SHEET

Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

Off-Post Groundwater Investigation In Odenton

March 2013

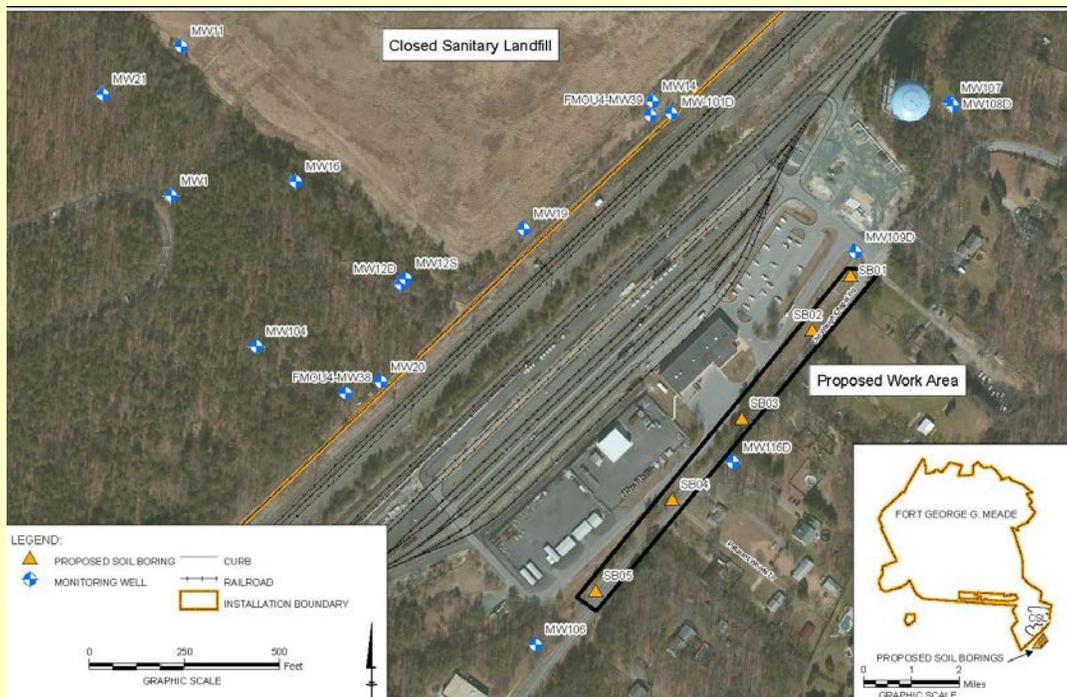


Overview

The U.S. Army at Fort George G. Meade is continuing its investigation of groundwater related to the Closed Sanitary Landfill and will be conducting five soil borings and associated groundwater sampling in Odenton, Anne Arundel County. This fact sheet provides background information on the groundwater investigation and the upcoming work, as well as the location of the borings and the estimated schedule.

Investigation Background & Immediate Actions

The Army, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and Anne Arundel County Department of Health, has been conducting an investigation of benzene and arsenic detected in shallow groundwater near the Closed Sanitary Landfill (CSL) located in the southeastern portion of Fort Meade. The CSL is a closed and capped unlined landfill which was operational from 1958 until 1996 when it was closed under the oversight of MDE and entered into an ongoing post-closure monitoring program. Groundwater investigations have been ongoing since 1994, and groundwater sampling is completed semi-annually in March and October. The October 2012 sampling identified benzene in one sample (MW19, concentration of 8.2 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$)). The October 2012 sampling also identified arsenic in two samples MW14 (29 $\mu\text{g/L}$) and MW19 (41 $\mu\text{g/L}$). These concentrations are above USEPA's maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5.0 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for benzene and 10 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for arsenic in groundwater. To characterize the extent of benzene and arsenic in the shallow groundwater, additional soil and groundwater sampling activities are scheduled to occur off-post in the shoulder of Old Waugh Chapel Road. As part of continuing investigations, the Army's contractor (ARCADIS U.S., Inc.) will be advancing five borings to collect the soil and groundwater samples. These locations are shown on the map below.



There will be some noise from drilling; however, there will be no drilling on weekends, evenings, or federal holidays. No traffic disruptions or lane closures are anticipated as the work will be located off the shoulder. The Army anticipates the drilling activities to start in March 2013; each boring will take about half a day to complete.

The Army apologizes for any inconvenience and appreciates the cooperation of Anne Arundel County and residents as it works to define the extent of benzene and arsenic in groundwater and address any associated environmental issues. The results of the work will be shared with the community through the Fort Meade web site at www.ftmeade.army.mil/environment (click on the link for Clean-Up Program) and the Restoration Advisory Board Web meetings.



The borings will be installed using a drill rig similar to the one pictured above.

Additional Information Available

Fact sheets for benzene and arsenic are available from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry at www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html. The Anne Arundel County Department of Health can also assist with health questions at 410-222-7398.

Additional project information is available on Fort Meade's web site at www.ftmeade.army.mil/environment (click on the link for Clean-Up Program). Fort Meade has established two information repositories which contain various documents available for the public's review: 1) Fort Meade's Environmental Division; please call 301-677-9648 to make arrangements to review the documents; and 2) West County Area Library, 1325 Annapolis Road Odenton, MD 21113; please call 410-222-6277 for library hours.

This project and other environmental projects are discussed at meetings of Fort Meade's Restoration Advisory Board. These meetings are held approximately every other month. Meetings are announced in local papers and on the Fort Meade web site (www.ftmeade.army.mil/environment; click the link for Clean-Up Program and then the link for RAB). Interested community members are always welcome at the meeting and to consider applying to be a Board member.

Contact Information

- **Fort Meade Public Affairs Office:** 301-677-1301
- **Fort Meade Project Hotline:** 410-441-9979
- **Fort Meade Environmental Division:** 301-677-9648
- **Anne Arundel County Department of Health:** 410-222-7398
- **US Environmental Protection Agency:** John Burchette, Project Manager, 215-814-3378
- **Maryland Department of the Environment:** Lis Green, Project Manager, 410-537-3346 or Public Affairs, 410-537-3003