



## U.S. Army Fort George G. Meade Installation Restoration Program

### Former Pesticide Shop Proposed Plan Fact Sheet



August 2012

#### OVERVIEW

The U.S. Army at Fort George G. Meade (Army) invites the community to comment on the proposed remedy for the Former Pesticide Shop as summarized in a recently released Proposed Plan. This fact sheet summarizes the investigations performed by the Army, the alternatives considered to address the Site, and the preferred alternative. This fact sheet also provides information on how you can submit your comments.

#### LOCATION & HISTORY OF SITE

The Former Pesticide Shop, Building 6621, (Site) is located in the south central portion of Fort Meade at the northwest corner of Gordon Street and York Avenue (see figure on back). The Site occupies about half an acre and was a mess hall during World War II and a pesticide shop/maintenance facility for landscaping equipment from 1958 to 1978. The portion of Building 6621 used for pesticide shop activities was the north-central part of the building. The building was demolished, and the Site was graded in 1996. The Site is presently a fenced-in lot with no structures. The anticipated future use of the Site is soldier support, such as community services, and administrative and industrial functions. Future use will not include residential use.

#### COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED

The Army conducted a thorough remedial investigation of the Site to determine if any residual contamination was present, and if so, whether the contamination presents a risk to human health or the environment. All investigations were conducted after the building was demolished and the Site re-graded.

The investigations found elevated levels of metals (primarily arsenic) and pesticides (primarily chlordane) in the soil; these compounds and volatile organic compounds (primarily the solvent, tetrachloroethylene or TCE) were also detected in the groundwater.

A human health risk assessment found no unacceptable risks under current uses, including outdoor military maintenance workers. The Site could pose a risk to future construction workers who might construct buildings at the Site and be exposed to soil and groundwater.

#### RESPONSE ALTERNATIVES EXAMINED

To reduce or mitigate these risks, the Army conducted a detailed analysis of various response alternatives and associated costs for the Site soil and groundwater:

**Alternative 1: No Action.** The law requires the Army evaluate taking no action to establish a baseline for comparison with other alternatives. **Cost: \$0.**

**Alternative 2: Land-Use Controls with Long-Term Monitoring of Groundwater.** Land-use controls, including a requirement for excavation permits for any future intrusive work and exclusion of future residential land use, would be added. The land-use controls would be incorporated into the Master Plan and included in the Installation Geographical Information System. Annual inspections would confirm that the land-use controls are in place. Site groundwater monitoring wells would be periodically sampled for pesticides and volatile organic compounds to monitor the expected decline in concentrations. The actual frequency and number of samples would depend on how quickly concentrations decline and approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Maryland Department of the Environment. The required five-year review process would evaluate whether the remedy remains protective. **Cost: \$113,900.**

**Alternative 3: Soil Excavation with Off-Site Disposal, Land-Use Controls, and Enhanced Reductive Dechlorination with Long-Term Monitoring of Groundwater.** Soil would be excavated from the central portion of the Site where the highest concentrations of arsenic and pesticides were detected. The soil would be disposed of at a permitted off-post facility. Emulsified vegetable oil would be injected into the Site groundwater to optimize the natural degradation of the volatile organic compounds in the groundwater. The land-use controls and long-term monitoring described in Alternative 2 would also be in place. **Cost: \$303,000.**

#### ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED AGAINST CRITERIA

As required by law, the Army evaluated the above alternatives against nine criteria. The criteria are:

1. Overall protection of human health and the environment
2. Compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements
3. Long-term effectiveness and permanence
4. Reduction of toxicity, mobility, and volume
5. Short-term effectiveness
6. Implementability
7. Cost
8. State acceptance
9. Community acceptance

## PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE SELECTED

The Army's preferred alternative is Alternative 3, Soil Excavation with Off-Site Disposal, Land-Use Controls, Enhanced Reductive Dechlorination with Long-Term Monitoring of Groundwater. This alternative removes contaminated soil; therefore, there will be no unacceptable risk for industrial use. It also returns groundwater to potential beneficial use within the shortest reasonable timeframe. Alternative 3 is a cost effective solution and provides the best protection to human health and the environment.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INPUT

The Army, in consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Maryland Department of the Environment, can change the preferred alternative based on public comments. The Army encourages interested citizens to review and comment on the proposed action.

The Proposed Plan is available online at [www.ftmeade.army.mil/environment](http://www.ftmeade.army.mil/environment) (click Clean-up Program, Program Sites, and Pesticide Shop).

The Proposed Plan, as well as the full Administrative Record, also can be viewed at:

The 30-day public comment period on the proposed action extends from August 8 to September 7, 2012. Written comments, postmarked by September 7, can be mailed to the address below or sent by email:

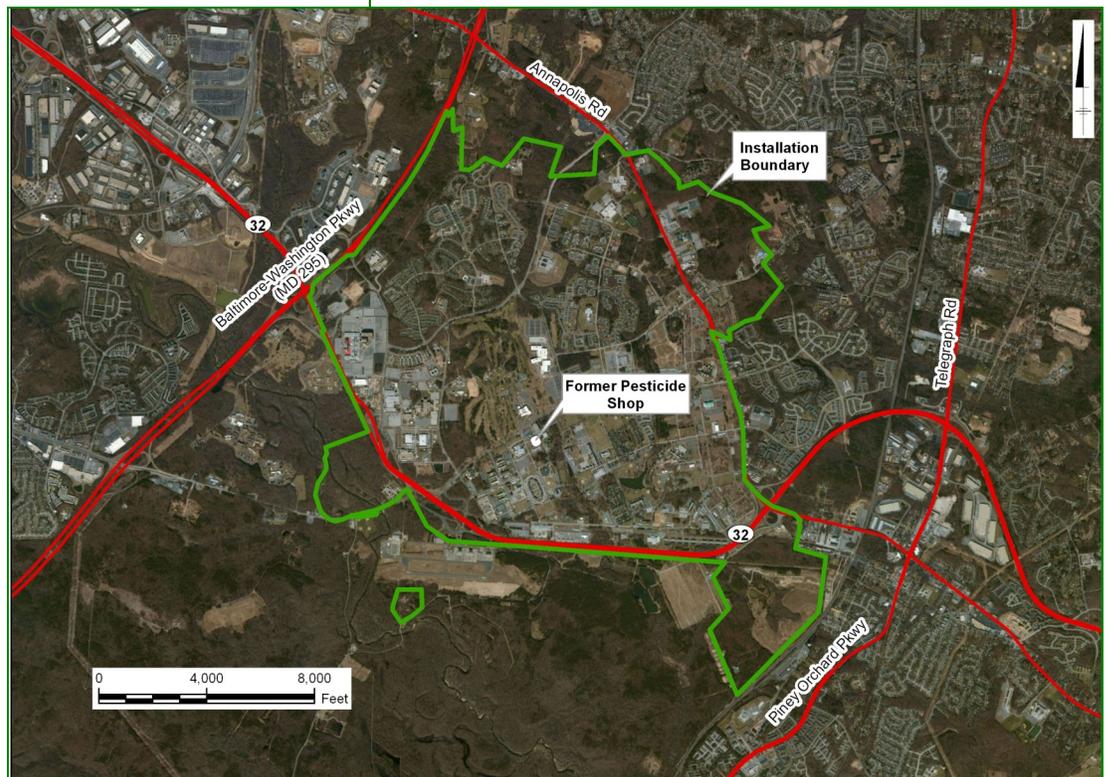
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US Army Garrison Public Affairs Office  
4409 Llewellyn Avenue  
Fort Meade, MD 20755-7058  
[mary.l.doyle.civ@mail.mil](mailto:mary.l.doyle.civ@mail.mil)

### Fort Meade Environmental Division Office

239 Chisholm Avenue  
Fort Meade, MD 20755  
(301) 677-9648  
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
(Monday—Friday)  
(photo I.D. required to gain  
access onto Fort Meade)

### Anne Arundel County Library West County Area Branch

1325 Annapolis Road  
Odenton, MD 21113  
(410) 222-6277  
Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
(Monday-Thursday)  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
(Friday and Saturday)  
1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Sunday)





## U.S. Army Fort George G. Meade Installation Restoration Program

### Former Pesticide Shop Proposed Plan Comment Form



**August 2012**

This comment form is one way you can provide your comments to the Army on its proposed action. The comment period ends on September 7, 2012, so all forms must be postmarked by that date. Check below which alternative you prefer and add any comments. After completing the form, please fold it, place a stamp on the back, and place it in the mail. Thank you for sharing your views and for your interest in our environmental program.

#### **Alternatives:**

Alternative 1: Take No Action

Alternative 2: Land-Use Controls with Long-Term Monitoring

Alternative 3: Soil Excavation with Off-Site Disposal, Land-Use Controls, Enhanced Reductive Dechlorination with Long-Term Monitoring of Groundwater

#### **Comments**

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#### **Optional**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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Stamp  
Here

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