



FACT SHEET



Fort George G. Meade, Maryland Off-Post Groundwater Investigation In Odenton

February 2012

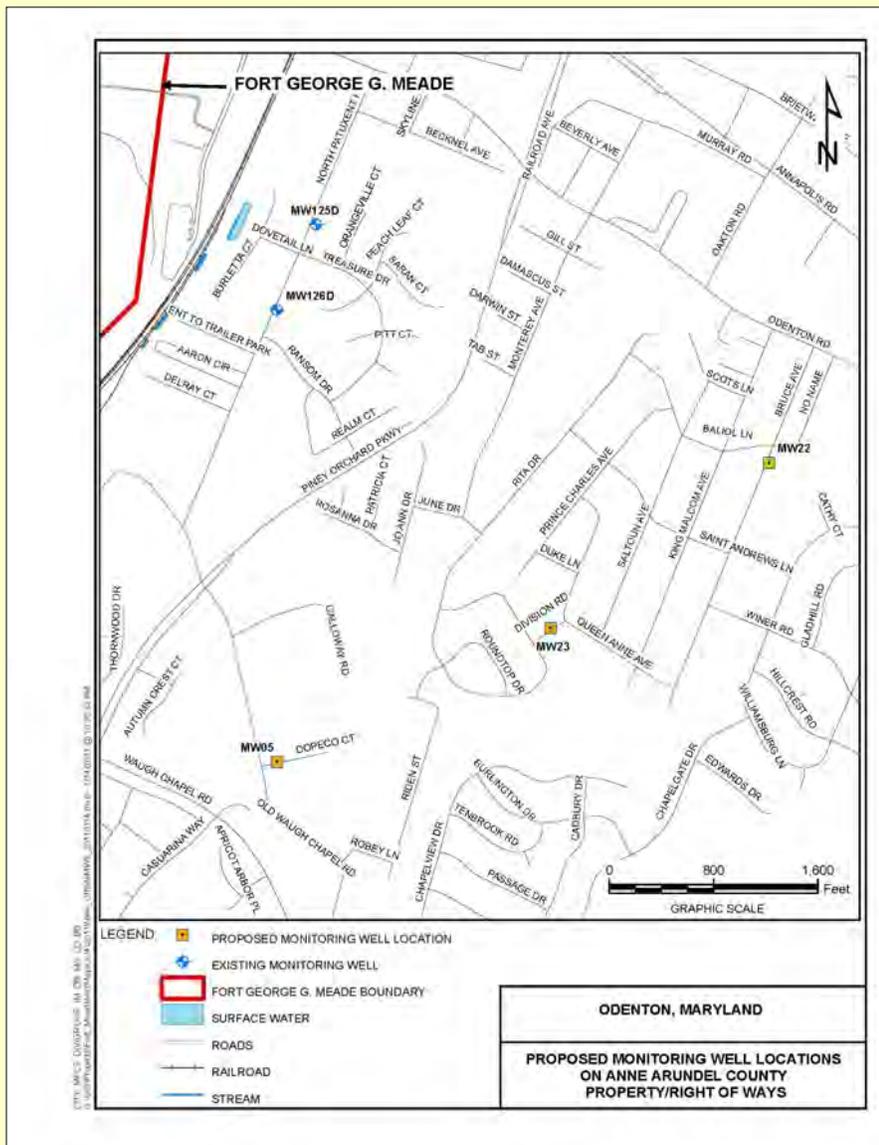
Overview

The U.S. Army at Fort George G. Meade is continuing its investigation of deep groundwater in Odenton and will be installing a number of monitoring wells in residential areas. This fact sheet provides background information on the groundwater investigation and the upcoming work, as well as the location of the monitoring wells and the estimated schedule.

Investigation Background & Immediate Actions

The Army, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Maryland Department of the Environment, and Anne Arundel County Department of Health, has been conducting an investigation of groundwater in the southeastern portion of Fort Meade (see map to the left).

In June 2009, samples of groundwater taken 200 feet below the ground surface from two Army monitoring wells (MW-125D and MW-126D) at North Patuxent Road and Dovetail Lane in Odenton showed elevated levels of trichloroethene (TCE), tetrachloroethene (PCE), and carbon tetrachloride (CCl₄). These chemicals are industrial solvents used for cleaning and degreasing metals, to dry clean fabrics, and as an ingredient in paint removers, spot removers and pesticides. The chemicals may have originated from Fort Meade.



Based on these results, the Army initiated testing of private wells in a one-mile radius around these two monitoring wells; homes along Old Dairy Farm Road were also included in the study. The Army provided bottled water to homes and businesses with private wells while the testing and analysis was underway. **Homes and businesses receiving their water from the public water supply (Anne Arundel County) are not impacted by the solvents.**

Comprehensive Investigation Continues

The research to find private wells and then to test those wells was part of the interim measures taken by the Army. At the same time, the longer and more comprehensive studies have continued to look for the sources of the solvents and to define the full nature and extent of the impact of the solvents on the groundwater.

As part of this comprehensive investigation, the Army's contractor (ARCADIS) will be installing several deep groundwater monitoring wells on Anne Arundel County property in residential areas in Odenton, just southeast of Fort Meade. The locations of these wells (MWs 05, 22 and 23) are shown on the map on the reverse side.

There will be noise from the drilling; however, there will be no drilling on weekends or evenings when more residents are likely to be at home. Some traffic disruptions and lane closures are also anticipated due to the size of the drilling equipment. The Army anticipates the drilling activities to start in late February 2012; each monitoring well will take about ten days to complete. The Army's contractor will notify nearby residents a few days in advance of when the drilling will begin. The Army apologizes for any inconvenience and appreciates the cooperation of Anne Arundel County and residents as it works to fully define and address any environmental issues. Results from the sampling of the new monitoring wells will be shared with the community through the Fort Meade Web Site at www.fortmeade-ems.org (click on link for Installation Restoration).



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



The wells being installed will be flush-mounted and will look similar to the picture above.

Additional Information Available

Fact sheets for TCE, PCE, and CCl₄ 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 Environmental Management System web site at www.fortmeade-ems.org (click on the link for Installation Restoration). Fort Meade has established an information repository which contains various documents available for the public's review at Fort Meade's Environmental Division; please call 301-677-9365 to make arrangements to review the documents.

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.fortmeade-ems.org; click on the link for Installation Restoration 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:** 301-677-9365
- **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