



# FACT SHEET

## Phoenix Military Reservation

### Baltimore County, Maryland

March 2016



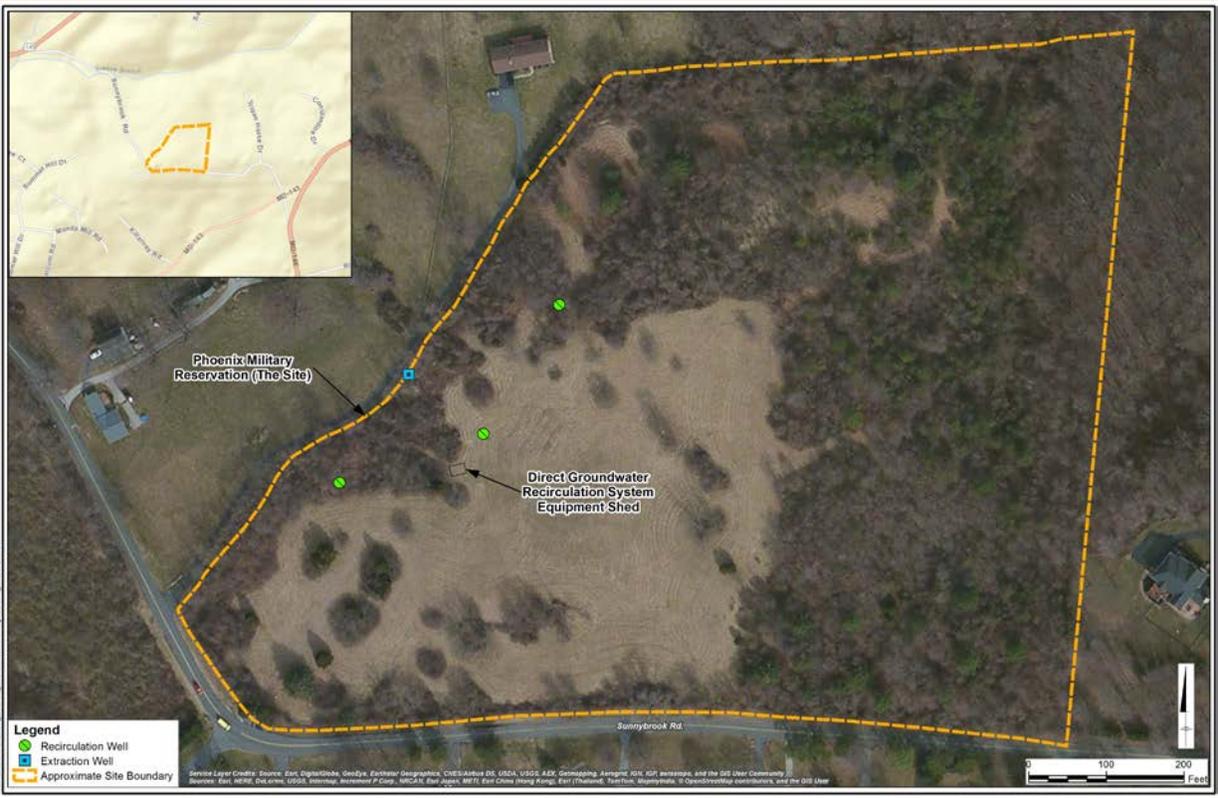
#### Overview

Since the early 1980s, the U.S. Army at Fort Meade has been conducting environmental investigations at the closed Phoenix Military Reservation, a sub-installation of Fort Meade, located approximately one-half mile west of Jacksonville, Baltimore County, Maryland. This fact sheet summarizes the site history, the environmental investigations, and the remedial actions.

#### Site History

The Phoenix Military Reservation consisted of two parcels of land: the Fire Control Area and the Launch Control Area, each occupying about 17 acres of land. The two parcels are one-half mile apart, on adjacent hilltops, separated by a valley through which the Greene Branch flows. The Launch Control Area is no longer owned by the Army and no longer part of the Phoenix Military Reservation. This fact sheet and corresponding investigation relate to only the Fire Control Area (the Site).

The Phoenix Military Reservation was developed in 1954 as a Nike Ajax missile site. In 1958, the Site was modified to support Nike Hercules missiles. In 1966, the Nike missile program was terminated, and the Site remained relatively inactive until 1974. From 1974 to 1982, the Maryland Army National Guard was granted a lease of the property from the U.S. Army. The Guard used the facility as a year-round training ground for its military police. The Guard ceased active operations in 1982. The buildings were demolished shortly thereafter, and the Site has remained unoccupied.



## Comprehensive Environmental Investigations

Historical activities at the Fire Control Area have resulted in the compound trichloroethene (TCE) entering the groundwater. TCE is a common industrial solvent used to remove grease from metal parts. It is also an ingredient in adhesives, paint removers, typewriter correction fluids, and spot removers.

In the 1980s, a series of environmental investigations were conducted by Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability and the Army. They collected soil and groundwater samples, including some from nearby homes, to determine the nature and extent of the site-related compounds in soil and groundwater. TCE was detected in groundwater and found to be migrating off-Site; the investigations did not find



*Site Conditions as of November 2015*

contamination remaining in the soil. In 1994, the Army funded a water supply system to provide permanent and safe drinking water to the affected homes on Sunnybrook Road. This water supply, known as the Phoenix Community Supply, is not affected by the contamination.

Analytical data was collected during multiple investigations conducted on and off-Site between 2003 and 2012 to characterize environmental impacts and to evaluate potential risks to human health and the environment. The Army continues to investigate and monitor groundwater conditions at the Site.

## Remediation Status

A remedial action was deemed necessary to mitigate and eliminate exposure risks to TCE in groundwater. The Decision Document authorizing the selected remedial action was developed with input from the community, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), and Baltimore County, and finalized in October 2013. The remedial action selected for Phoenix Military Reservation includes the following:

- Directed Groundwater Recirculation (DGR) system to contain and treat TCE concentrations in groundwater,
- Routine groundwater monitoring and analysis to document the natural attenuation of TCE concentrations in groundwater, and
- Land use controls restricting groundwater use, annual site inspections, and land use control signage.

Date	Event
2003 – 2011	Completion of site investigations including Phase I, II, and III investigations, and a supplemental remedial investigation.
November 2012	Final Remedial Investigation including HHRA issued.
June 2013	Final Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) evaluating remedial alternatives issued.
August 2013	Final Proposed Plan summarizing the remedial alternatives analysis conducted in the FFS and soliciting public comment issued.
October 2013	Final Decision Document issued.
March 2014	Final Remedial Design issued.
March - June 2014	Implementation of the selected remedy.
July 2014	Startup of the DGR system.
December 2014	Final Remedial Action Completion Report issued.
Present/On Going	Routine system O&M and groundwater monitoring.

Implementation of the selected remedial action was conducted in 2014 and is documented in the Remedial Action Completion Report dated December 2014.

The DGR system has been operational since July 2014. The DGR system involves extracting groundwater, treating with activated carbon, and re-injecting treated groundwater back in to the aquifer; thus, decreasing the toxicity, mobility and volume of impacted groundwater at the Site. As of December 2015, the DRG system has treated approximately 68,500 gallons of groundwater. Continued operation of the DGR system is expected through July 2019 (approximately five years following system startup). Routine operation and maintenance of the DGR system and groundwater sampling is on-going to document and evaluate the effectiveness of the remedy. A brief chronology of Site activities is provided in the table above.

#### For More Information

More information on TCE can be obtained at: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts19.pdf>

More information on Fort Meade/Phoenix Military Reservation's Installation Restoration Program can be found at <http://www.ftmeade.army.mil/directorates/dpw/environment/phoenix/index.html>.

Fort Meade also has established an information repository for Phoenix Military Reservation at: Cockeysville Branch Library, 9833 Greenside Drive, Cockeysville, MD, 21030. The Library is open Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 9 pm; Friday and Saturday from 9 am to 5:30 pm; Sundays from 1 pm to 5 pm during October through April. Documents can be obtained from the Reference Desk.

#### Contact Information

- Fort Meade/Phoenix Military Reservation Public Affairs Office: 301-677-1361
- Maryland Department of the Environment, Federal Facilities Divisions: 410-537-3346