

PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. ARMY INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT ON ENGINEERING EVALUATION/COST ANALYSIS FOR MANOR VIEW DUMP SITE

Public Comment Period is Nov. 1 – 30, 2011
Public Meeting Scheduled for Nov. 9, 2011

The U.S. Army at Fort George G. Meade (Fort Meade) invites the public to comment on an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) that evaluates proposed remedial action alternatives to address methane generating waste (MGW) buried at the Manor View Dump Site (Site) located near the intersection of MacArthur Road and 2nd Corps Boulevard in the northern portion of Fort Meade.

EE/CA FOR MANOR VIEW DUMP SITE

Trash was buried at the Site during the 1940s. Several years ago the Site was rediscovered, fenced, and a methane extraction system was installed to limit movement of methane in the soil. Environmental impacts at the 10 acre Site are associated with buried trash generating methane, a potentially flammable gas under certain conditions. The Army has conducted extensive environmental investigations to identify the nature and extent of buried waste. The investigations identified decomposing organic material in a one acre area in the northwestern corner of the Site to be the source of methane. The EE/CA was prepared specifically to address the methane generating waste (MGW) at the Site. The remaining portion of the Site, approximately 9 acres, is not known to generate methane and will be addressed later in a Site-wide Feasibility Study.

ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED

The EE/CA evaluates the following remedial action alternatives:

Alternative 1: No Further Action.

Alternative 2: Augmentation of Existing Methane Extraction System.

Alternative 3: Focused Removal (of MGW) Within the Western Portion of the Site and Off-Site Disposal.

PREFERRED RESPONSE ACTION

Alternative 3 was selected as the Preferred Response Action because it will most effectively eliminate, or minimize, the hazards posed by methane generated from trash buried at the Site. This Alternative consists of removing the MGW via excavation, transportation, and off-site disposal. The Preferred Response Action may be adjusted to meet any unforeseen site conditions and to address public input, as appropriate. The final Response Action will be detailed in a Non-Time Critical Removal Action Work Plan that will describe the material and methods necessary to remove MGW and to restore the Site to a beneficial use.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Starting November 1, 2011, copies of the EE/CA will be available for review at:

www.fortmeade-ems.org (click the links for Installation Restoration, Program Sites, and Manor View Dump Site)

or for a paper copy go to

Fort Meade Environmental Division Office

239 Chisholm Ave
Fort Meade, Maryland 20755
(301)-677-9854
Hours: 8am-4pm Mon-Fri
(Fort Meade residents only)

or the

West County Area Library

1325 Annapolis Road
Odenton, MD 21113
(410)-222-6277
Hours: 9am - 9pm Mon-Thurs,
9am - 5pm Fri and Sat, and
1pm - 5pm Sunday

The public may submit written comments during the 30-day comment period (November 1 to November 30, 2011). Comments must be postmarked by November 30, 2011, and sent to Mr. Paul Fluck, U.S. Army Garrison Fort George G. Meade, 2212 Chisholm Avenue, Suite 5115, Fort Meade, MD, 20755. Following the 30-day public comment period, written responses will be prepared and included within the administrative record.

PUBLIC MEETING

The U.S. Army invites the public to attend a meeting on **November 9, 2011, 6:30 p.m., at Manor View Elementary School** (2900 MacArthur Road, Fort Meade, MD, 20755) to discuss the EE/CA and the U.S. Army's plan to remediate safety hazards associated with methane at the Site. For installation access and gate information please visit www.ftmeade.army.mil.

Community members are also invited to attend the Fort Meade Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meetings held bi-monthly at the Captain John Smathers Army Reserve Center on MD HWY 175 (Annapolis Road) between 20 ½ and 21st Street. The next RAB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2011, at 7 p.m. The meeting will include a discussion on the focused removal of MGW.

For additional project information, please visit Fort Meade's Environmental Management System website at www.fortmeade-ems.org (click the links for Installation Restoration, Program Sites, and Manor View Dump Site) or contact the Fort Meade Public Affairs Office at (301)-677-1361.