



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Fact Sheet

June 2000

Corps seeking rights-of-entry for investigations at former Shumaker Naval Ammunition Depot

Personnel from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Real Estate Office are seeking right-of-entry permits from property owners on and around the former Shumaker Naval Ammunition Depot near Camden.

The Corps needs right-of-entry permission from property owners in the area so workers from Parsons Engineering Science, Inc., of Norcross, Ga., can enter or cross private lands, store or move equipment and supplies, erect and remove temporary structures or investigate and take samples as needed for the study.

Parsons was awarded a contract in March to conduct an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis study on property that was once part of Shumaker Naval Ammunition Depot. The EE/CA will characterize the nature, location and concentration of ordnance and explosives. Information from the study will help officials identify hazards and evaluate reasonable risk management alternatives.

Corps officials expect sampling to begin in some areas in August. Geophysical investigations, along with ordnance confirmation sampling will begin in November and continue through February 2001.

The right-of-entry permit is good from the date that it is received and signed by a Corps representative until the cleanup work at the former Shumaker property is complete or until a notice of termination is filed in the local land records, whichever ever comes first. The permit will not exceed

If you have received a right-of-entry request from the Corps of Engineers and have questions, contact Little Rock District's Real Estate Division at (501) 324-5652 or 1-800-531-4270.

three years, and it is strictly voluntary.

The Corps' contractors are required to be bonded and insured. The contractor will restore the ground contour and replace any pavement or groundcover that was removed or damaged in the process of carrying out the investigation. In the unlikely event that investigations interfere with operating utility lines, every attempt will be made to repair or reconnect the lines as soon as possible.

If the contractor's work results in damage, the contractor will either repair the damage or make an appropriate settlement with the landowner. If a Corps employee causes damage to property, landowners can file a tort claim with the Corps' Little Rock District Office of Counsel. Tort claims are not dependent on project funding.

While the entire former ammunition site encompasses some 68,000 acres, the EE/CA will primarily focus on 12 sites containing about 6,000 acres that have been identified in preliminary reports as having the potential for containing old Navy ordnance.

There are no current plans for further study in the remaining 62,000 acres. However, the scope of the investigation could be expanded if historical data or if old Navy ordnance and explosives are uncovered in additional areas.

If you find old Navy ordnance or explosives, don't touch or disturb it. Note the location and contact your local sheriff to report it.

Between 1944 and 1957, the U.S. Navy operated Shumaker Naval Ammunition Depot to manufacture, test, store, distribute and destroy ammunition, bombs, explosives and rockets. The property was sold to private owners from 1959 through 1961.

The former depot is eligible for environmental investigations and cleanup assistance under the Formerly Used Defense Sites program. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the agency responsible for conducting environmental restoration work under the FUDS program.

Take precautions if you find ordnance

- Assume the ordnance is dangerous.
- Don't touch or disturb it in any way.
- Note the location and leave the area immediately.
- Contact local law enforcement (sheriff's office), and they will arrange to safely investigate and remove the ordnance.

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Have questions or concerns?

Contact a Restoration Advisory Board member

A Restoration Advisory Board, also called a RAB, gives people who live or work close to sites that are being cleaned up under the Department of Defense's environmental cleanup program an opportunity to have input into the process.

RAB members for the Shumaker Naval Ammunition Depot project include Dominic Cipriani, John Gavagnini, Robert Holyfield, Rick Mounts, Dr. Robert Nunnally, Thomas Ransom, Garry Smith, Pam Starnes and Dr. Roger Worsley.

Government agency representatives on the RAB include Bob Wilkinson, EPA Region 6; Shannon Miller, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality; and Margaret Morehead, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District.

RAB members hold regular meetings that are open to the public to discuss issues related to the Shumaker project, to review project documents and to receive training in the Formerly Used Defense Sites program and the cleanup process.

The meetings are advertised as they are scheduled in the legal notices portion of several local newspapers.

Throughout the course of the Shumaker project RAB

members will review and comment on plans and reports, discuss key issues, recommend priorities, give advice on the cleanup, act as a community spokesperson and suggest improvements.



The May and June RAB meetings were held at the Comfort Inn Conference Room at #1 Ridgecrest Drive.

Spotlight on helpful web sites

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District
<http://www.swl.usace.army.mil>

This is the homepage for the Little Rock District, the local Corps of Engineers district managing studies at the former Shumaker Naval Ammunition Depot. This site gives you a good overview of the Little Rock District.

There is a section dedicated to Formerly Used Defense Site work. From the front page, click on the

Index button, then click on the letter "S." It will drop you down to the topic listings where you can select Shumaker NAD. You also can reach it by typing in www.swl.usace.army.mil/projmgmt/fuds.html.

This site will change and expand as the project at Shumaker continues. Minutes from the RAB meeting will be posted here as well as the most up-to-date information about the project.

Questions?

Contact Project Manager Margaret Morehead at (501) 324-7134

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