



US Army Corps of Engineers

Norfolk District

News Release

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USACE Gears Up for Next Round of Residential Well Sampling

(Suffolk, VA) As part of a broader modeling effort at the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District will begin another round of sampling in the Respass Beach community in the next few weeks. Work is expected to start the week of April 22.

The Corps will be investigating both deep and shallow aquifers to determine if former depot related contaminants are present. This sampling effort will involve nine residential wells.

The Corps began soliciting volunteers in the Respass Beach community for this sampling effort about one year ago.

The Corps has conducted two prior sampling efforts in this community; one in November 1997 and one in February 1998. "This sampling effort will be broader in scope than the prior residential sampling events that only analyzed residential wells adjacent to the former depot. This round is part of a comprehensive groundwater monitoring/modeling effort that covers the whole of the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot site," says Ken Hafner, the Army Corps Project Manager.

“We anticipate the results of this new sampling effort will mirror the results of the previous sampling events and indicate that no former depot related contaminants have migrated into the Respass Beach community,” says Cheryl Fromme, the Army Corps Project Engineer. The residential well sampling effort will help the Corps gather more information on how the groundwater flows throughout the FNOD area.

To protect the privacy of those residents participating in the sampling, the specific results will be provided directly to the participating landowners and presented in summary only at the FNOD Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting in October.

The RAB consists of local residents, local business representatives, local and state officials, a Tidewater Community College representative, and environmental staff from the Corps, VADEQ, and EPA and was established in 1997. RAB meetings provide an excellent opportunity to learn about the progress of the restoration efforts being undertaken at the former depot. RAB meetings are open to the public. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. The RAB meetings are held on the first Thursday of even months (February, April, June, August, October, December) from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. in Tidewater Community College’s Manning Building. The next RAB meeting is June sixth.

The US Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District is continuing its environmental investigations and cleanup activities at the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot (FNOD) site in the vicinity of the TCC Portsmouth Campus as a part of the Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) program following EPA's Superfund, or Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) guidelines.

For more information about the project or the Restoration Advisory Board, please visit the project Web site at www.nao.usace.army.mil/Projects/Nansemond/welcome.html Or, contact Ken Hafner, FUDS Project Manager, US Army Corps of Engineers, Phone: (757) 441-7507.

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