



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Norfolk District

# Restoration Advisory Board

Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot

Fact Sheet

FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS) PROGRAM

JANUARY 2006

## FNOD Site Background

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently addressing environmental and munitions safety concerns at the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot (FNOD) under the Department of Defense's (DoD's) Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) Program. The former depot was used by the Department of Defense for munitions storage and shipment overseas during World War I and II. The 975-acre property was occupied by the federal government between 1917 and 1960. The entire parcel was transferred to the Beasley Foundation Boys Academy in July 1960.

Today, the FNOD land is principally occupied by Tidewater Community College (TCC), Ashley Capital, Bridgeway LP, and the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD). Smaller parcels of land are owned by the Virginia Department of Transportation (Interstate 664), Dominion Lands, Inc., Continental Properties, GE, Continental Bridgeway, Suffolk Towers LLC, and SYSCO Food Services.

In 1987, FNOD became a matter of public concern when a piece of TNT was found lying on the ground along the entrance road to TCC. Since that time, the Corps has been working diligently to address environmental and munitions safety concerns at the former depot. Between 1987 and 2005, the Corps removed:

- 2,584 Discarded Military Munitions (DMM) items
- 8,874 lbs (nearly 4.5 tons) of bulk explosives (TNT)
- 6,992 lbs of miscellaneous munitions, primarily small arms
- 165,687 lbs of munitions debris
- 1,366,317 lbs of non-munitions related debris
- 7,260,275 lbs of contaminated soils

FNOD was placed on EPA's National Priority List in 1999. EPA identified 6 potential contaminant "Source Areas" that required further investigation. In addition, the Corps has identified 23 other Areas of Concern to be evaluated based on historical records/aerial photos and site investigations.

Because the U.S. Army Corps recognizes the importance of stakeholder participation, the Corps established a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot project in April 1997.

## What is a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)?

The RAB is an advisory body designed to act as a focal point for the exchange of information between the Army Corps, the affected community, and the environmental regulatory agencies regarding restoration activities. The RAB is intended to bring together community members who reflect the diverse interests within the local area, enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the community and the Corps.

RAB members meet regularly to review and comment on technical documents and plans relating to the ongoing environmental studies and restoration activities at formerly used defense sites. RAB Members are expected to serve as a liaison with the community and be available

to meet with community members and groups. RAB membership terms are decided by the community members of the RAB. All RAB meetings are open to the public. The Corps makes technical support staff available to RAB members to provide informational support and explanation for work plans and studies.

DoD creates RABs to ensure that all stakeholders have a voice and can actively participate in the review of restoration plans and documents. RAB community members provide advice to the project team on restoration plans and issues. RAB meetings offer a forum for the careful consideration and discussion of diverse points of view. RAB meetings complement the Corps' other community involvement efforts.

*Continued on page 2*



An FNOD Restoration Advisory Board meeting

Restoration Advisory Boards consist of both government and community representatives. At FNOD, the government representatives include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. Community representatives usually include affected landowners, a representative from the local jurisdiction, and community members who live or work in or near the site. At FNOD, the community is represented by the City of Suffolk, current landowners, and community members who live or work in the area. Each RAB is co-chaired by a representative of the U.S. Army Corps and a representative from the community. The RAB community co-chair is elected by the community members of the RAB.

RABs should generally be no larger than 20 individuals but no smaller than is necessary to adequately reflect the diversity of community interests regarding restoration efforts.



### Example Types of RAB Representatives

- local residents/community members (including minorities and low income)
- local reuse committees
- local government officials/agencies
- business community
- school districts
- installation employees/residents
- local environmental groups/activists
- civic/public interest organizations
- religious community
- other regulatory agencies
- local homeowners organizations
- medical community
- Native American tribes

Tire removal at former Track K Dump



### Example RAB Member Functions:

- Participate in regular meetings, open to the public, at convenient times and locations
- Develop/Maintain RAB operating procedures and mission statement
- Provide advice to the Army Corps, EPA, state regulatory agency, and other government agencies on restoration activities and community involvement
- Address important issues related to restoration, such as the scope of studies, cleanup levels, waste management, and remedial action alternatives
- Review and evaluate documents associated with environmental restoration activities, such as plans and technical reports
- Recommend priorities among environmental restoration sites or projects.
- Interact with local land use planning bodies to discuss future land use issues relevant to environmental restoration decision-making
- Provide feedback to other community members on RAB activities and share community concerns and input with the project team and RAB



FNOD RAB at Nansemond River Beachfront during a site tour

Community members are expected to serve as volunteers on RABs (serving without monetary compensation for time or expenses incurred) to provide individual advice to the decision makers



Nansemond River Beachfront retaining wall

about restoration plans for FNOD. The time commitment required is 12 to 20 hours annually. Being a RAB member entails a willingness to work cooperatively with other Board members to ensure the efficient and effective use of time. Priority for RAB membership is given to affected landowners and local residents who are impacted/affected by the efforts at the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot.

## Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) Program

The Department of Defense (DOD) is responsible for cleaning up properties that were formerly owned, leased, possessed, or operated by DoD. Such properties are known as Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the executing agent that manages and executes the FUDS Program.

The goal of the FUDS program is to reduce risk to human health and the environment resulting from past DoD activities in a timely and cost-effective manner. The ability to meet this goal depends on strong communication, partnerships, and community involvement with interested parties and current landowners. Priorities for the FUDS program are based on an evaluation of risk and other factors, such as legal agreements, stakeholder concerns, and economic considerations.

The FNOD project is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District. The Corps is also working closely with EPA Region III and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality on this project.



RAB visits mechanical sifter at main burning ground during a site tour



RAB watches a demonstration of the mechanical sifter

## RAB Meeting Schedule

**Dates:** First Thursday of March, June, September & December

**Time:** 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

### Location:

Lockheed Martin Bridgeway Tech Center  
7021 Harbour View Boulevard, Suite 105  
Suffolk, VA 23435

## How to Become a RAB Member

If you have questions about the RAB or are interested in applying for RAB membership, community interest forms may be obtained by contacting:

**Ms. Adriane James**  
**FNOD RAB Government Co-Chair & FUDS Program Manager**  
**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,**  
**Norfolk District**  
**803 Front Street**  
**Norfolk, VA 23510**  
**Phone: 757-201-7701**  
**Email: [adriane.b.james@usace.army.mil](mailto:adriane.b.james@usace.army.mil)**

**Ms. Sandra Chaloux**  
**FNOD RAB Facilitator**  
**CEC, Inc.**  
**42014 Kudu Court**  
**Aldie, VA 20105**  
**Phone: 800-232-7074**  
**Email: [s.chaloux@ce-com.com](mailto:s.chaloux@ce-com.com)**

Anyone interested in becoming a RAB member is encouraged to attend a few RAB meetings prior to submitting a completed Community Interest Form to the RAB facilitator. Community interest forms are also available at FNOD RAB meetings and public meetings.

## FNOD RAB Member List

**Adriane James**  
USACE Gov't Co-Chair  
757-201-7701

**Bea Rogers**  
Community Co-Chair  
757-484-6001

**Bruce Johnson**  
Respass Beach  
757-686-9129

**Kevin Mattonen**  
Cedar Crest Hall  
757-275-1053

**Dave Saunders**  
Bennett's Creek  
757-484-4514

**Carl Serrette**  
Burbage Grant  
757-483-5236

**Rob Thomson**  
EPA  
215-814-3357

**Debbie Miller**  
VDEQ  
804-698-4206

**John Bucklin**  
Remediation Leader  
GE Transportation  
513-552-3331

**Tim Fink**  
TCC  
757-822-1177

**Mike Isper**  
VDOT  
804-786-5588

**Kemp Littlefield**  
Lockheed Martin  
757-936-9507

**Tom O'Grady**  
City of Suffolk  
757-923-3620

**Cherie Walton**  
Reactives  
Management  
757-436-1033

**Bob Williams**  
Dominion Resource  
Services, Inc.  
804-273-2994

**Kevin Hegg**  
Ashley Capital  
734-957-1000

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
FNOD Project Manager  
George Mears ME, MBA  
757-201-7181  
[george.h.mears@usace.army.mil](mailto:george.h.mears@usace.army.mil)

FNOD Project Web Site:  
<http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/projects/nansemond/welcome.html>



**It's Your Community.  
Get Involved.**



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### Contact Information

For more information about the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot project, please contact:

**Mr. George H. Mears, ME, MBA**  
Project Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District  
803 Front Street  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-1096  
757-201-7181  
george.h.mears@usace.army.mil

### Project Web Site

<http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/projects/nansemond/welcome.html>

### Information Repository

Information about the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot project is available for public review at the following locations:

**Tidewater Community College Library**  
7000 College Drive  
Portsmouth, Virginia 23703  
757-822-2124

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District**  
803 Front Street  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-1096  
757-201-7606