



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Buffalo District

www.lrb.usace.army.mil

For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE

Release No. 08-14

CONTACT: Bruce Sanders, Chief, Public Affairs
716.879.4410 or cell: 716.481.5439 or
Arleen K. Kreusch, Outreach Specialist
716.879.4438

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers begins Former Erie Army Depot Ordnance Removal Project

PORT CLINTON, OH (May 9, 2008) –The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began their cleanup of unexploded ordnance from the beach area near the Former Erie Army Depot this week. This surface removal action will reduce the risk to the public and the environment from unexploded ordnance washed up onto the beach from the former impact area in Lake Erie

Unexploded Ordnance experts will use hand held ordnance detection devices to search the area. Should metal be detected, the area will be excavated by hand to the extent necessary to fully identify, remove, and destroy any partially exposed munitions and explosives. Any unexploded ordnance found during this removal will be destroyed in place or in designated areas by detonation. These detonations will take place on Thursday afternoons. Yesterday 42 items of munitions and explosives of concern were detonated and/or vented.

This overall effort is being fully coordinated with officials from the Corps, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Ohio National Guard, and the affected property owners. The cleanup is being addressed under the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) initiative of the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS), to clean up properties which were owned, occupied or under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense (DoD) and transferred prior to 1986.

Residents are reminded to remember the three Rs of unexploded ordnance safety - recognize, retreat and report. In the unlikely event they recognize any type of old suspected military related metal objects, they should never touch or attempt to move the item but should note its location, safely retreat from the area and report it to local law enforcement or call 911.

More information about this clean-up project, including the schedule and project updates, may be found at www.lrb.usace.army.mil/derpfuds/ead.html or by contacting the Army Corps of Engineers at 800 833-6390.

#