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**Buffalo District  
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# **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Cleanup Begins at Painesville FUSRAP Site**

**BUFFALO** -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District (the Corps) is pleased to announce that it is beginning environmental remediation work this week at the Painesville site in Painesville, Ohio.

The Corps is remediating the Painesville Site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). FUSRAP is a Federal program that Congress established in 1974 to identify and restore sites contaminated with radioactive materials resulting from the early years of the nation's atomic weapons program (1940s-50s).

Last year, the Corps signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Painesville Site to document the Selected Remedy for cleanup of the site; excavation and offsite disposal of radiologically contaminated soil. In accordance with this Record of Decision, the Corps will be working at the Painesville Site during the 2007 spring and summer months to excavate and remove contaminated soil from the site, and dispose of it in an appropriate permitted/licensed disposal facility outside the state of Ohio.

“We are pleased to begin this work,” explained Corps project manager Stephen Buechi. “This work will be protective for the long-term, because all the soils that are contaminated above cleanup goals for the site will be permanently removed from the site. “ Buechi also emphasized that while the work is ongoing at the site, the Corps’ number one priority is safety for the workers, and for the local community. “We will have engineering controls and environmental monitoring in place,” explained Buechi, “to protect the remediation workers, control dust emissions and to ensure our work does not impact the local community.”

The Corps will hold an Availability Session on May 24, 2007 at the VFW Post 7754, 540 New Street in Fairport Harbor, Ohio from 4 pm – 8 pm.

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### Painesville Site Cleanup 2/2/2/2

At the Availability Session, members from the Corps' team will be available to answer questions about the environmental remediation work at the Site. They will have maps, displays and informational materials available concerning FUSRAP work at the site.

The Painesville FUSRAP site is a 30-acre lot located at 720 Fairport Nursery Road in Painesville, Ohio. In the early 1940s, the Defense Plant Corporation financed construction of a magnesium production facility on property acquired by the Federal Government. The Diamond Magnesium Company operated the facility under contract to the Federal Government from 1942 to 1953. In 1952 and 1953, Diamond Magnesium received about 1,650 tons of radioactively contaminated scrap steel from the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works, which was used to control chlorine emissions during the magnesium production process. This scrap steel was the apparent source of the radiological contamination in the soils at the site.

Corps documents concerning the Corps' FUSRAP investigations of the Painesville Site can be viewed in the Administrative Record File at the Fairport Public Library in Fairport, Ohio and the Morley Public Library in Painesville, Ohio. The Corps has also established a toll-free public access number to answer any questions pertaining to this project. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call us at: 1-800-833-6390. We also maintain a public website to inform the public of recent activities. Please feel free to visit our website at: <http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap> to learn more about FUSRAP, our sites, or radiation. Electronic mail may be sent to us at: [fusrap@usace.army.mil](mailto:fusrap@usace.army.mil). You can also write to us at: U.S. Army Engineer District – Buffalo, 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207 ATTN: FUSRAP.

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