

Naval Support Facility Dahlgren

Dahlgren, Virginia
Superfund Program Site Fact Sheet

Type of Facility: Naval Federal Facility

Funding: Department of Defense
Defense State Memorandum of Agreement

Lead Agency: United States Navy (USN)

Site Description and History

The Naval Support Facility Dahlgren (NSFD) is located on the western shore of the Potomac River, King George County, Virginia, approximately 25 miles east of Fredericksburg and 40 miles south of Washington, D.C. NSFD is divided into two principle sites: the Main Site, consisting of 2,678 acres, and the Explosive Experimental Area (EEA), consisting of 1,614 acres.

In 1918, NSFD was established with the primary mission of testing all ordnance materials. Since then, the mission of NSFD has evolved from the traditional proving ground to research-and-development operations. NSFD, under the jurisdiction of Naval Sea Systems Command, hosts the Naval Space Command, the Joint Warfare Analysis Command, and the AEGIS Training Center.

The installation currently has many sites in the Installation Restoration (IR) Program. There are 60 sites that have been investigated and/or cleaned up in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and given a no further action (NFA) status. Six sites have been investigated, cleaned up and are currently in a long term monitoring (LTM) and five-year review program. Eight sites are currently undergoing investigation or are in the cleanup stage of the CERCLA process.

Wetland monitoring is being conducted at six sites and has, thus far, indicated that the restored/constructed wetlands are successful.

Current Site Status

NSFD was proposed for the National Priorities List (NPL) on February 7, 1992, and on October 14, 1992, was added to the NPL by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Currently, the Federal Facilities Agreement under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), Section 120 (September 1994), establishes the procedural framework and schedule for RI studies and developing, implementing, and monitoring appropriate response actions at NSFD. At present, Appendix A consists of the following: Eleven IR sites, eleven Priority 1 sites, six Priority 2 sites, eight Priority 3 sites, and six Priority 4 sites. At present, Appendix B consists of thirty-three sites.

Community Relations

Community relation's activities are conducted throughout the IR process. In September 1992, a Technical Review Committee was established, including two representatives from the public. This group was the predecessor to the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) which was created in October 1994. The RAB provides a forum for discussion and information exchange between community members, the Navy, EPA, and VDEQ. It gives people who might be affected by waste cleanup at NSFD an opportunity for participation. The RAB is not a decision-making body, but is intended to provide diversity of perspective by including citizen participation. RAB meetings are open to the public and are held in easily accessed public locations, in the evening, so people will find it convenient to attend. Meetings are announced in the Journal for King George County and in the Free Lance-Star, at least two weeks in advance. RAB leadership is provided jointly by a Community Co-Chair and a Navy Co-Chair. A Community Relations Plan outlining a program to provide communication and information exchange opportunities was prepared in 1992. It will be updated when RI results are approved. It will include the names and phone numbers of RAB members so the public can call to discuss issues of interest. A fact sheet describing various aspects of the IR Program has been distributed to a mailing list.

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