

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) MEETING

Former Fort Devens Army Installation
September 12, 2024



U.S. ARMY



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New England District



U.S. ARMY

WELCOME!



2

- This call is being recorded to help develop meeting minutes.
- Unless speaking, please remain on mute to reduce background noise.
- There is time for Q&A, but you can ask a question via the chat box or utilize the raise hand button at any time during the meeting and speakers will respond as time allows.
- If you need to leave the call, click “Leave.”



**CHAT
BOX**



**RAISE
HAND**



**MUTE/
UNMUTE**





U.S. ARMY

WELCOME!



Thank you for joining us tonight.

U.S. Army and Support:

Thomas Lineer
U.S. Army HQDA/ODCS G-9
Base Realignment and Closure
(BRAC) Environmental Coordinator
(BEC)

Dan Groher, Peter Phillips, and
Whitney Sauve
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
(USACE)

Andy Vitolins, Steve Perry, Mark
Pasquarello, and Amy Henschke
SERES-Arcadis JV Team

Regulatory and Other Board Members:

Michael Daly
Shawn Lowry
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency (USEPA) Region 1

ZaNetta Purnell
USEPA Community
Involvement Coordinator

Joanne Dearden
Massachusetts Department of
Environmental Protection
(MassDEP)

Community Board Members:

Julie Corenzwit
Amy McCoy
Dave McCoy
Chris Mitchell
Laurie Nehring: Co-Chair
Alix Turner: Co-Chair



U.S. ARMY

WELCOME!



Tonight's topics

1

**Project
Updates &
Upcoming Work**

2

**Area 1 PFAS
Phase 2 RI
Fieldwork Update**

3

**Community
Involvement
& RAB Update**

4

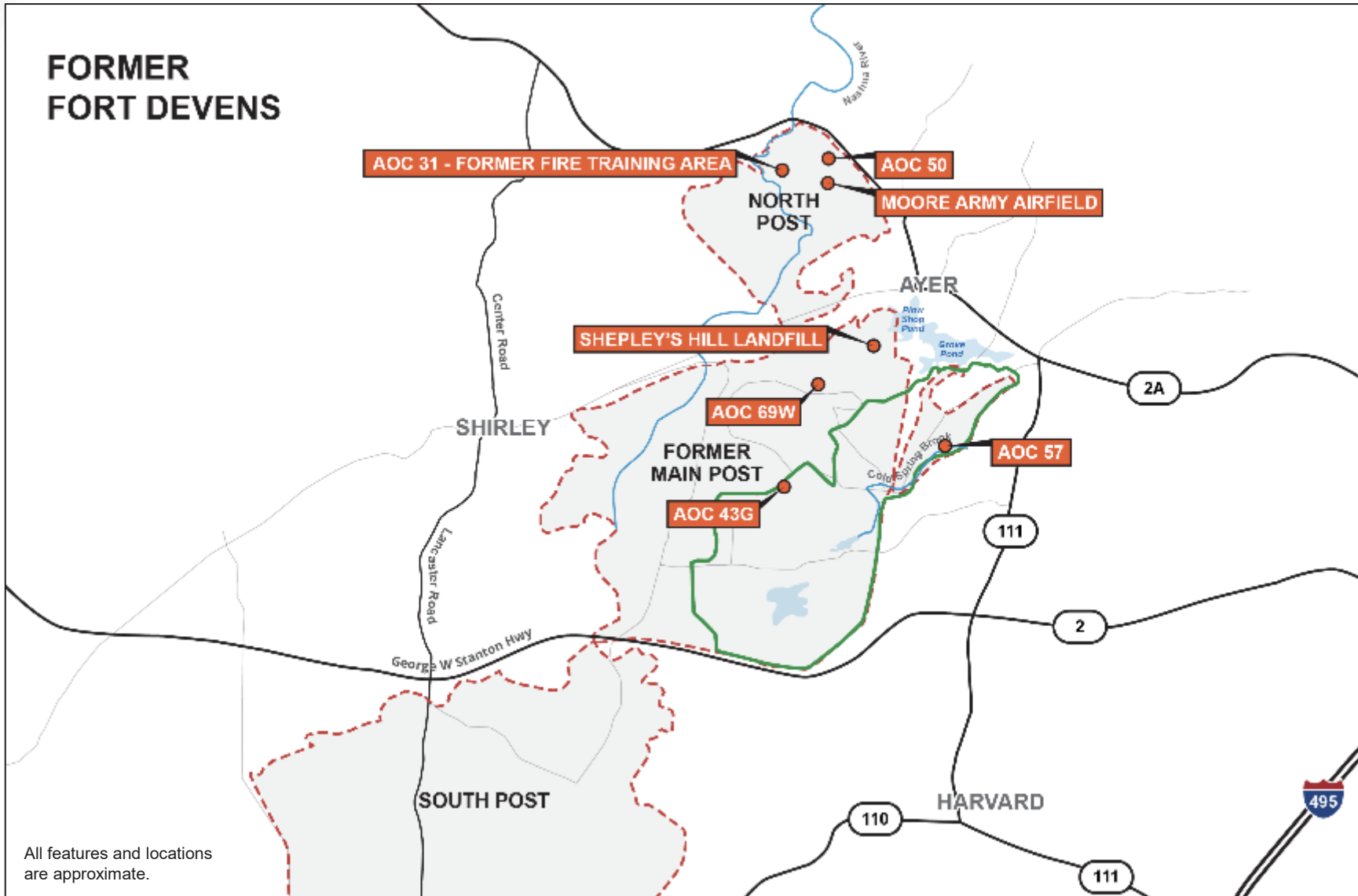
**Questions
& Answers**






U.S. ARMY

1 | PROJECT UPDATES

5



-  Discussion Areas
-  PFAS Area 1
-  Former Fort Devens Boundary



U.S. ARMY

1 | PROJECT UPDATES

6



Supplemental Post-Record of Decision (ROD) Remedial Investigations (RIs) for Areas of Contamination (AOCs) 69W, 57, and 43G

- One year of quarterly groundwater monitoring completed.
- Draft Supplemental RI Reports to be submitted to EPA and MassDEP in fall 2024

Moore Army Airfield (MAAF) Former Fire Training Area (FFTA) PFAS Pre-RI Data Collection Treatability Study

- Field data collection is complete.
- Laboratory testing complete.
- Soil treatability testing report in fall 2024.

Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL)

- Groundwater extraction system operation and maintenance:
 - Third extraction well operation and evaluation ongoing
 - Four additional monitoring wells installed in July 2024 to evaluate groundwater flow
- Barrier wall evaluation:
 - Draft report to Agencies in late fall 2024



U.S. ARMY

1 | PROJECT UPDATES

7



Nashua River Military Munitions Update

- Underwater analog dive survey was completed May 2024, in accordance with the Munitions Response-Quality Assurance Project Plan (MR-QAPP) Addendum; data validation is in progress.
- During this geophysical survey, the following munitions related items were found and turned over to the Massachusetts State Police
 - Rubber M22 training rifle (located within the Bill Ashe Trail Area of Potential Interest [AOPI])
 - Four rounds of small arms ammunition (located within State Rt. 2 AOPI)
 - Ammunition container with 178 rounds small arms ammunition (located within the Bill Ashe Trail AOPI)
- Next Steps: Intrusive Investigation of individual targets selected from the analog survey are tentatively scheduled for April 2025 (pending Agency approval of Target Dig List)
- NRWA volunteer event held on 12 July 2024 along Nashua River for water chestnut scouting/removal with support from a USACE Ordnance and Explosives Safety Specialist





U.S. ARMY

1 | PROJECT UPDATES

8



Draft Documents Submitted to USEPA and MassDEP Since Last RAB Meeting

- None

Response to Comments/Revised Documents Submitted to USEPA and MassDEP Since Last RAB Meeting

- Draft DCL Contributor Sites Land Use Control Implementation Plan Sites AOC 9 40 and SA 13
- Draft 2023 Annual Monitoring Reports

Draft Final Documents Sent to RAB for Review Since Last RAB Meeting

- None

Documents Posted to Website Since Last RAB Meeting

- Final DCL Contributor Sites Land Use Control Implementation Plan Sites AOC 9 40 and SA 13
- Final 2023 Annual Report Area of Contamination 50
- Final 2023 Annual Report Main Post
- Final 2023 Annual Report Shepley's Hill Landfill



U.S. ARMY

2 | AREA 1 PFAS PHASE 2 RI FIELDWORK UPDATE

9



Phased Approach – Each step builds upon the previous step to achieve RI objectives

1. Initial Phase

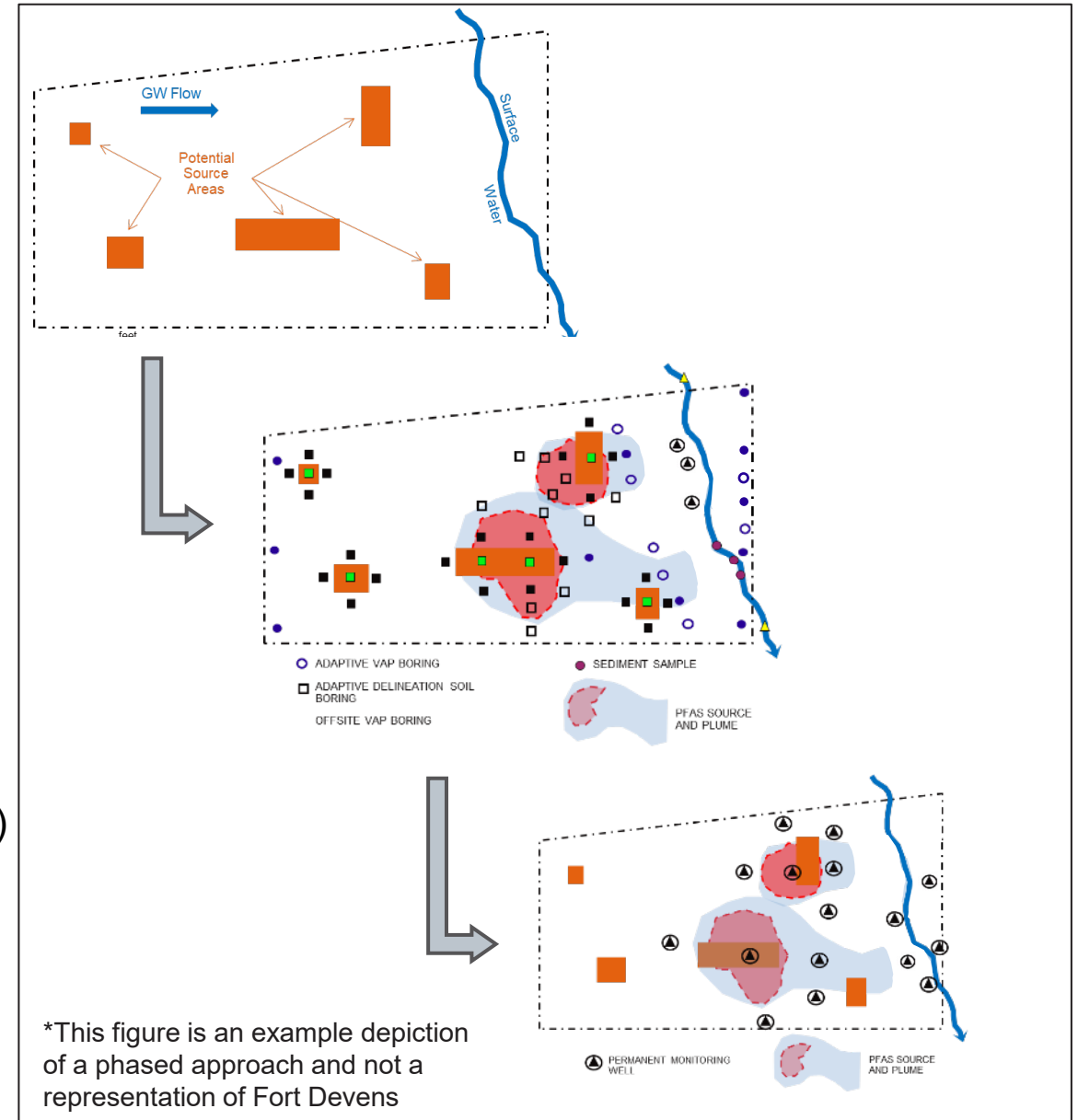
- » Initial investigation of area of impacts and sources—soil borings, vertical aquifer profile (VAP) groundwater samples, surface water sampling, and geophysical investigations

2. Adaptive Phase

- » Delineate sources, determine source strength, and define geometry of plume
- » Evaluate potential impacted human and ecological receptors
- » Permanent monitoring wells (overburden and bedrock)

3. Final Delineation Phase

- » Monitoring to confirm nature and extent (groundwater and surface water)





U.S. ARMY

2 | AREA 1 PFAS PHASE 2 RI FIELDWORK UPDATE

10



Completed Fieldwork

- Seismic survey (completed May 2024)
- Soil borings and vertical aquifer profiling (VAP) (completed June 2024)
- Prescriptive phase overburden monitoring well installation (completed August 2024)
- Fish tissue sampling (completed August 2024)

Current Fieldwork

- Bedrock well drilling (anticipate completion early September 2024)
- Adaptive phase monitoring well installation (anticipate completion September 2024)
- Bedrock well borehole geophysics (anticipate completion September 2024)
- Bedrock well packer testing (anticipate completion October 2024)

Upcoming Fieldwork (Fall 2024)

- Bedrock monitoring well construction
- Groundwater sampling Event 1 of 2
- Surface water and sediment sampling



U.S. ARMY

2 | AREA 1 PFAS PHASE 2 RI FIELDWORK UPDATE

11



VAP Sampling (Direct Push Drilling)



Seismic Surveying





U.S. ARMY

2 | AREA 1 PFAS PHASE 2 RI FIELDWORK UPDATE

12



Monitoring Well Installation (Sonic Drilling)



U.S. ARMY

2 | AREA 1 PFAS PHASE 2 RI FIELDWORK UPDATE

13



Bedrock Well Drilling



U.S. ARMY

2 | AREA 1 PFAS PHASE 2 RI FIELDWORK UPDATE

14

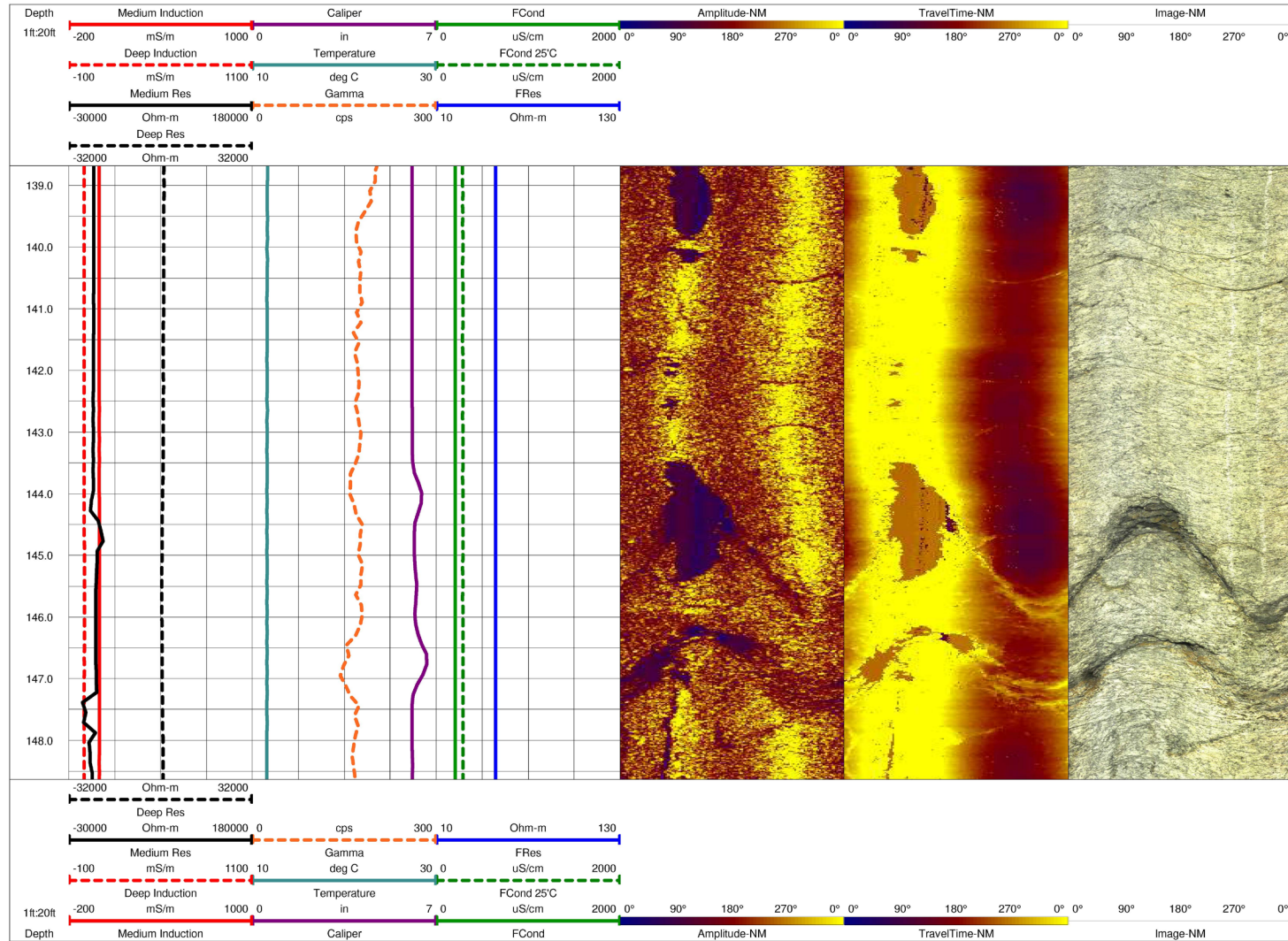


Fish Tissue Sampling



2 | AREA 1 PFAS PHASE 2 RI FIELDWORK UPDATE

15



Borehole Geophysics Log

Page 15



3 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB UPDATE

16



Increased RAB public outreach efforts to raise awareness of meetings and activities



Community update fact sheet distributed this month



Digital AR continues to be populated with project documents; website updates are in progress



The next quarterly RAB meeting will be an Open House Event November 14, 2024 **(in-person only)**

The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) and other information is available on the Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup website at:

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/former-fort-devens-environmental-cleanup/>

Digital Administrative Record (AR) link is now live, and documents are being uploaded. Initial documents are available at:

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects-Topics/Former-Fort-Devens-Environmental-Cleanup/Administrative-Record/>



U.S. ARMY

3 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB UPDATE

17



Restoration Advisory Board Recruitment – We want YOU!

RAB Rule Handbook

Executive Summary

The Department of Defense (DoD) encourages community involvement in the environmental restoration process through Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs). Since 1994, RABs have been established at over 300 military installations and properties in the United States and its territories to encourage communities and installations to identify and discuss potential environmental restoration issues. By facilitating open communication and understanding, RABs serve as a forum for discussion among the parties involved in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) at affected sites and installations. **RABs provide a collaborative forum for the community, government agencies, tribes, and installation decision makers to discuss and identify the most efficient and productive means to restore the environment.**

DoD developed this handbook as an accompaniment to the RAB Rule, which was issued on May 12, 2006 (71 *Federal Register* 27610). The handbook is intended to supplement the rule. It is written to be flexible enough to guide individual RABs in addressing their own unique concerns and to offer suggestions to the communities and members involved in the RAB.

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Restoration Advisory Board Rule Handbook

RABs provide a collaborative forum for the community, government agencies, tribes, and installation decision makers to discuss and identify the most efficient and productive means to restore the environment.

Current Community Board Members

Julie Corenzwit
Amy McCoy
Dave McCoy
Chris Mitchell
Laurie Nehring*
Alix Turner*

*Co-Chairs



3 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB UPDATE



Restoration Advisory Board Typical Responsibilities

Board Members

- Attend and actively participate in RAB meetings and activities related to the environmental cleanup at Former Fort Devens
- Provide comment on restoration issues to the decision makers
- Represent and communicate interests and concerns to the RAB
- Act as a conduit and advisory body for the exchange of information between the community, DoD installation, and environmental oversight agencies regarding the installation's restoration and reuse programs

Community Co-Chairs

- Coordinate with the DoD installation co-chair, RAB Members, and the community to prepare an agenda prior to each RAB meeting
- Ensure that community members participate in an open and constructive manner
- Ensure that community issues and concerns related to restoration are raised
- Assist with the dissemination of information to the general public
- Report back to the community, as needed



U.S. ARMY

3 | COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & RAB UPDATE

19



November Open House

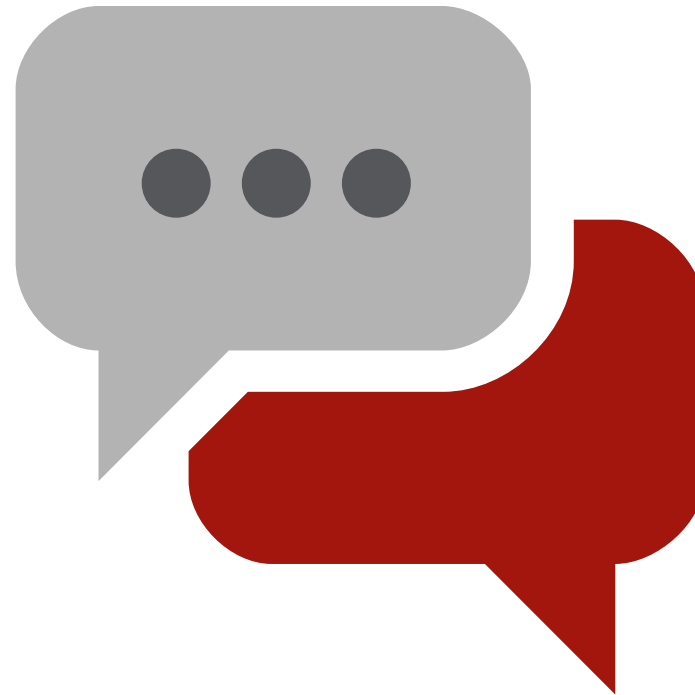
Join us for our Open House event!

- Date: November 14, 2024
- Time: 6:30 – 8:30 (tentative)
- Location: Ayer Town Hall (tentative)
- Visit information stations
- Talk to representatives from Army, MassDEP, USEPA, and more
- Learn more about becoming a RAB member!





4 | QUESTIONS & ANSWERS





U.S. ARMY



THANK YOU!
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS APPRECIATED!

NEXT RAB MEETING (OPEN HOUSE) IS:
NOVEMBER 14, 2024

(Second Thursday of the month)