



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Pittsburgh District

# News Release

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## **Corps to Conduct Geophysical Survey**

PITTSBURGH – The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' Pittsburgh District will conduct a geophysical survey of the Shallow Land Disposal Area site located in Parks Township. This field survey will be conducted over a period of three weeks beginning September 5.

The Corps, through a contract with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), is conducting this geophysical exploration in order to select the most effective techniques to aid in future cleanup work at the site. Two separate geophysical techniques will be used over the entire site to pinpoint the location of underground waste. These techniques were chosen based on a field trial of five techniques conducted over a small area of the site in September of 2005. The Corps is using these techniques to detect objects and differences in soil characteristics underground, without disturbing the surface soil.

The Shallow Land Disposal Area encompasses 44 acres of land and is located 23 miles northeast of Pittsburgh in Armstrong County. It is on the right bank of the Kiskiminetas River, a tributary of the Allegheny River, near the communities of Apollo, Vandergrift and Leechburg, Pennsylvania.

The Corps is conducting this work under the authority of the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). FUSRAP is a federal program that identifies and restores sites where low-level radioactive contamination may remain from former Manhattan Engineer District activities during World War II, or later peacetime activities by the Atomic Energy Commission. The Corps uses the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process, which provides the framework for a systematic investigation, remedial design and cleanup of contaminated sites, to investigate and remediate FUSRAP sites.

The Corps' team welcomes questions and comments concerning its work at the Parks Township Shall Land Disposal Area.

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