Overview

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) organization responsible for environmental restoration of properties formerly owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense. Such properties are known as Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS).

The Former Five Points Outlying Field (OLF) Munitions Response Site-1 (MRS-1) was used during World War II for military training, including the use of practice bombs. MRS-1 includes 130 acres located near Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas. The area is now highly developed and used for single home residential properties and a city park.

History

The Former Five Points OLF was acquired through condemnation in 1940 to provide an area for Naval flight and bombing training. Three types of practice bombs were used at the Five Points OLF: 100-lb repurposed practice bombs (RPBs) (M47 chemical bombs that failed pressure tests and were not filled with chemical agents, therefore were filled with water or sand and used by the DoD as practice bombs); reusable AN-MK 23 Mod I Navy practice bombs; and M38 practice bombs. The Navy deemed the site to be in excess and the General Services Administration (GSA) conveyed the land to Gordon and Pope Supply Company on July 19, 1956; the land has since been acquired by multiple owners.
What’s the Risk?
Since the site was used for practice bombs, it is highly unlikely that unexploded ordnance will be found within MRS-1. The DoD conducted extensive investigations to identify explosive hazards present in MRS-1 after practice bombs were unearthed in 1983 during construction of the Twin Parks Estates property. The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville (USAESCH) conducted another investigation in 1998 using both visual and a magnetometer methods. Numerous subsurface anomalies were detected, primarily near the former location of the bombing range target center. Although unlikely, some hazards could remain and may pose an explosive risk since the practice bombs contained black powder spotting charges.

Remedial Action
Based on the results of investigations within MRS-1, the DoD identified Educational Materials to increase educational awareness of munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) hazards as the most appropriate remedial action for the properties in the area. This remedy focuses on minimizing or controlling potential exposures to MEC by informing users of the dangers and educating them on the procedures to follow to avoid MEC and report any potential MEC discovered.

Recognize
Recognizing when you may have encountered a munition is key to reducing the risk of injury or death. If you encounter or suspect you may have encountered a munition, consider it extremely dangerous. Remember, munitions are sometimes hard to identify.

Retreat
If you encounter or suspect you may have encountered a munition, do not approach, touch, move, or disturb it, but immediately and carefully - do not run - leave the area following the same path on which you entered. If you can, mark the general area, not the munition, in some manner (e.g., with a hat, piece of cloth, or by tying a piece of plastic to a tree branch).

Report
When you think you may have encountered a munition, notify your local law enforcement - call 911.

DON’T FORGET
Munitions are dangerous and may not be easily recognizable. Never touch, move, or disturb a munition or suspected munition.

For More Information . . .
For more information or if you have questions, visit the 3Rs Explosives Safety Education website at https://www.denix.osd.mil/uxo/home/, or contact the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, at (817) 886-1306.