

FORMER CAMP HOWZE, "MANEUVER AREA" MUNITIONS RESPONSE SITE- 13.

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

SEPTEMBER, 2022

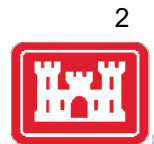


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FORMER CAMP HOWZE, "MANEUVER AREA", MRS-13

The Purpose of this Public Session



- To inform the community and first responders of the site boundaries for the former Camp Howze, Maneuver Area MRS and its military training use during World War II.
- To explain the potential risks associated with ordnance items and munitions.
- To promote the use of the '3 Rs' of ordnance: Recognize, Retreat, Report.



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AGENDA

- Background Information
 - Formerly Used Defense Site Program
 - History of the Former Camp Howze
- Current Information
 - Ordnance Safety and Awareness
- Future Information
- Questions/Comments



FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES PROGRAM



Formerly Used Defense Sites Program (FUDS)

- A FUDS is defined as a facility or site (property) that was under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense and owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States at the time of actions leading to contamination by hazardous substances.
- The FUDS program is limited to those real properties located within the 50 States, District of Columbia, Territories, Commonwealths, and possessions of the United States, and that were transferred from DoD control prior to 17 October 1986.
- Congress authorized USACE, through the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, to analyze, restore, and report on FUDS properties each year.
- Public involvement and community participation are important components of the process. USACE partners with stakeholders throughout the process, including congressional representatives, state and local governments, regulatory and environmental agencies, and affected property owners.



FORMER CAMP HOWZE, "Manuever Area", MRS 13



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- The site is comprised of 31,132 acres within the former Camp Howze, located in Cooke County, Texas outside of the City of Gainesville.
- Purchased in 1941 to conduct infantry training during World War II. The Camp was closed in 1946.
- Today, the land is mostly residential and agricultural.



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Summary of Remedial Activities

- A formal Remedial Investigation of the former Camp Howze was finalized in 2012. This included the "Maneuver Area". A small amount of munition related debris was found in the "Maneuver Area".
- Testing have shown that any chemical contaminant levels do not exceed ecological screening values. Chemical contamination is not a concern.
- There is still a potential risk of munitions and/or munition debris.
- A key to mitigating any potential residual risk is to inform stakeholders of these risks and educate them on procedures to avoid and report munitions debris, if they are discovered.
- USACE will review these actions every five years to ensure safety and public health.



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Safety – Top Priority (The 3 'R's)

- **Recognize:** If you encounter or suspect you may have encountered ammunition, 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:** Call 911





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[//www.swf.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Formerly-Used-Defense](https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environmental/Formerly-Used-Defense)

