

00179



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BASE TRANSITION FIELD OFFICE

NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER

WHITE OAK DETACHMENT

SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20903-5640



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

28 September 1995

Dear Neighbor:

As the Naval Surface Warfare Center, White Oak Detachment prepares for base closure and transfer of the property to new owners, we recognize the importance of community participation in our program to perform a cleanup of the base. Therefore, we are forming a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The RAB is intended to improve public participation by involving the community more closely in the restoration process.

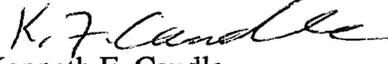
Initial RAB members will be selected from interested applicants by a panel composed of representatives from the community and environmental officials familiar with White Oak's restoration program. RAB members will help set up ground rules for all future RAB meetings, and will elect a community co-chair, who will run future meetings with the Navy co-chair. RAB members will have an opportunity to provide input to the Navy on installation restoration activities; they can expect to serve a one-year or two-year term; to attend evening RAB meetings about once a month; and to spend a total of about 50 hours per year supporting the RAB.

All RAB meetings will be open to the public.

If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the RAB for White Oak, or would like to be put on the RAB mailing list and notified of future RAB meetings or other activities, please complete the enclosed Membership Application Form and return it no later than October 19, 1995. **On October 19, 1995, we will have a RAB Information Meeting in the auditorium of the main building of NSWC White Oak, 10901 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, just north of the Hillendale Fire Department. Application forms will also be available at the meeting.**

For more information on the RAB or the upcoming RAB Information Meeting, please call Dorn Carlson of the White Oak Environmental Office at 301-394-3762, or Deanna Zook of the White Oak Public Affairs Office at 301-394-2865.

Sincerely,


Kenneth F. Caudle
Base Transition Coordinator
NSWCDD, White Oak Detachment

Enclosure: Membership Application Form



RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)

FACT SHEET

NSWC White Oak is forming a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), made up of local community members, to work together to address the restoration (cleanup) of White Oak.

Background

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division, White Oak Detachment is a research, development, test and evaluation facility located about five miles north of Washington, D.C. in Silver Spring, MD. The White Oak Detachment consists of about 700 acres of land. Since 1984, White Oak has had an "Installation Restoration" program, devoted to the environmental cleanup of old disposal sites on the base. Trash, transformer oils, research solvents and materials used in the making of explosives were disposed of at these sites many years ago. Although the sites do not pose a risk to human health or the environment now, they were selected for study and cleanup to assure that they stay safe in the future.

All along, the progress and plans of our Installation Restoration program have been reviewed by a Technical Review Committee, which included members from the local community, Montgomery and P.G. County Departments of Environment and Health, and the Maryland Department of the Environment. In addition, White Oak has held several public meetings to describe the progress of the program. At the most recent public meeting last September, White Oak's *Proposed Plan* for base restoration was discussed.

Now that White Oak Detachment is closing, the emphasis of the Installation Restoration Program will change. Instead of working only to prevent future risk to human health or the environment, the program will now also address the desire of the Navy and the local community to prepare White Oak for productive reuse as rapidly as possible. With this new emphasis, it becomes more important than ever that the cleanup be conducted in a way responsive to the concerns of the local community.

To maximize timely public participation in our program, a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is being formed, which will meet regularly to discuss the progress of the cleanup program.

What is a RAB?

The RAB is an advisory group designed to act as a focal point for the exchange of information between the White Oak Detachment and the local community regarding environmental restoration activities. The RAB is intended to bring together individuals who reflect the diverse interests within the local community, enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the affected community and the installation.

RAB members will be asked to meet regularly and review and comment on studies, reports and plans relating to the ongoing environmental restoration activities at White Oak. Members will be expected to serve as liaisons with the community, and be available to meet with community members and groups. The RAB itself will elect a community co-chair (the Navy will also select a co-chair), and decide upon membership terms and ground rules for meetings. All RAB meetings will be open to the public. Technical support staff will be available to provide informational support and explanation to RAB members.

How to Become a RAB Member

Community members interested in finding out more about the RAB are invited and encouraged to attend an information meeting at **7:00 pm Thursday, October 19, 1995, at the NSWC White Oak Auditorium in the main building, at 10901 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD (just North of the Hillandale Fire Department)**. At the meeting, you will learn about the purpose of the RAB, membership opportunities and responsibilities, and hear an update on the status of installation restoration activities and future plans. RAB membership applications will be available at the meeting.

If you have questions about the RAB or are interested in applying for RAB membership, or wish to obtain a membership application form or get on the RAB mailing list, please contact Deanna Zook of the White Oak Public Affairs Office, at 301-394-2865 or write to:

**RAB Information
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Detachment White Oak, C12
10901 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20903-5649**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM for
WHITE OAK RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Conditions for Membership:

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members are volunteering to serve a term and attend all RAB meetings, which will be held approximately once a month in the evenings or at some other convenient time. Duties and responsibilities will include reviewing and commenting on plans and activities associated with the Installation Restoration Program at White Oak. Technical assistance will be provided to the RAB. Members will be expected to be available to the community to assist in the exchange of information or concerns between the community and the RAB. Members can expect to devote several hours a month to supporting the RAB. RAB members need not have any specialized environmental training, and may represent community or other interest groups.

Members will be selected from all applicants by a community-based selection panel. Priority for RAB membership will be given to local residents that are directly affected by White Oak. If interested in becoming a RAB member, or to get on the RAB mailing list, please fill out the following form and return it to:

**RAB Information
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Detachment White Oak, C12
10901 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20903-5640**

Name: _____
Address: _____
Street: _____ Apt.# _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: () _____ () _____ () _____
 Daytime Home Fax
email: _____

CHECK ONE: I am applying for RAB membership and to be put on the RAB Mailing List
 I am not applying for RAB membership, but wish to be put on the RAB Mailing List

1. Are you affiliated with any group related to environmental protection and restoration, or base closure and reuse? If yes, list group and your position, if applicable, and whether you will be representing this group.

2. What has been your experience working as a member of a diverse group with common goals?

3. Briefly state why you would like to participate on the RAB (you may use additional paper if necessary).