



Public Interest Center | P.O. Box 1049 | Columbus, OH | 43216-1049

FOR RELEASE: May 24, 2011
MEDIA CONTACT: Erin Strouse, (614) 644-2160
CITIZEN CONTACT: Jed Thorp, (614) 644-2160

Ohio EPA to Hold Public Meeting Regarding Former Kilgore Manufacturing Site

Ohio EPA will host a public meeting regarding clean-up activities at the former Kilgore Manufacturing property, located at 600 N. Spring Road in Westerville (Delaware County). This informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 7, at 6:30 p.m., at the Westerville North High School auditorium, 950 County Line Road.

Representatives from Ohio EPA will give a brief presentation about the history of the site, discuss previous and future site investigations and explain the process for selecting a final clean-up plan for the site. An informal question and answer session will follow. Representatives from the city of Westerville, Otterbein University (which owns the property) and the university's environmental consultants also will be present.

Site Background

In 1941, in response to the needs of the Army Chemical Warfare Service for World War II, Kilgore Manufacturing purchased the approximately 110-acre former farm for conversion to a pyrotechnics and ordnance manufacturing facility. After World War II, Kilgore Manufacturing made toy cap guns and pyrotechnics for public use and illuminating flares for civilian and military use until 1961 when the facility closed. In 1962, the property was donated to Otterbein.

Otterbein has investigated the site on numerous occasions and conducted multiple rounds of surface clean-up activities. It entered Ohio EPA's [Voluntary Action Program](#) (VAP) and received a [covenant not to sue](#) in 2007 for roughly 70 acres on which the university's equine facility was built. The remaining 40 acres include areas known to be used for waste disposal by Kilgore Manufacturing. Otterbein University, the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of the U.S. Department of Defense, and the Ohio Attorney General's Office on behalf of Ohio EPA are currently negotiating a judicial consent decree which will outline responsibilities in investigating and remediating the remaining 40 acres. Eight specific areas of concern will be the focus of future site investigations and clean-up activities.

More Information

Documents related to the 40-acre site are online at www.epa.ohio.gov/pic/kilgore.aspx. More about Ohio EPA's VAP is at www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/30/vap/docs/fact1.pdf, and the covenant for the 70-acre parcel is at www.epa.ohio.gov/cdo/otterbeincollegeequine.aspx.