



# COMMUNITY RELATIONS FACT SHEET FORT MONROE RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)



## Background

The 1980 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) requires identification, investigation, and remediation (cleanup) of sites throughout the country contaminated by past waste management practices. The **Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP)** was formally established by Congress in 1986 to provide for the cleanup of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) sites under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense. The Army established two restoration programs under DERP. The first program is the **Installation Restoration Program (IRP)**, which addresses sites impacted by hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants at industrial and commercial areas, such as landfills and factories. The second program is the **Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP)**, which is designed to address non-operational range lands that are suspected or known to contain unexploded ordnance (UXO), discarded military munitions (DMM), or munitions constituents (MC). Fort Monroe will be undergoing restoration activities.

## What is a Restoration Advisory Board?

A RAB is a forum of representatives from DoD, state and local governments, tribal governments, and the affected community. It reflects the diverse makeup of the community and provides all stakeholders the opportunity to participate in the restoration process, monitor restoration progress, and provide the opportunity to make community views known to the decision-makers.

## Facts

Fort Monroe initially advertised for community volunteers in the spring of 2006. Forty-one formal applications were received. A joint Army/community panel selected 12 voting members and 2 alternates. As membership dwindled, advertisement occurred again in 2017, adding two voting members. The RAB has a Community Co-Chair selected by the RAB's voting members and an Army Co-Chair appointed by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Office.

Meetings are typically held on the first Thursday of May and November at 6:15 p.m. Meeting locations will be announced in the Daily Press and on the Fort Monroe RAB Website. **All meetings are open to the public.**

The RAB functions only in an advisory capacity and is not a decision-maker. Further, it is not involved in any way in the development of the Reuse Plan nor does it serve as a sounding board for non-restoration environmental issues or other community concerns unrelated to cleanup.

All documents relevant to RAB actions will be placed in the Special Collections Department of the Hampton Public Library, 4207 Victoria Boulevard, Hampton, Virginia. They also will be placed at the following website, size permitting: [www.fortmonroerab.org](http://www.fortmonroerab.org).

## RAB Mission Statement

The RAB's mission statement is as follows: "The Fort Monroe RAB exists to communicate with the community, ensure the concerns of the community are considered and provide recommendations on the environmental cleanup goals and activities at Fort Monroe during its transition to the future under BRAC."

## RAB Leadership

**Community Co-Chair:** Mr. Ellen Sanchez  
**Army Co-Chair:** Ms. Jennifer Guerrero

## Other Stakeholders

**Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ):** Mr. Eric Salopek, CERCLA Program  
**National Park Service (NPS):** Ms. Jaci Wells, Fort Monroe National Monument Acting Superintendent  
**Fort Monroe Authority (FMA):** Mr. John Hutcheson, Deputy Executive Director

## Contacting the RAB

If you have questions concerning the RAB and/or are interested in applying for RAB membership, an application may be obtained by contacting:

BRAC Environmental Coordinator  
57A Patch Road  
Fort Monroe, Virginia 23651  
757-848-5602

[FortMonroeEnvironmental@AjantaConsulting.com](mailto:FortMonroeEnvironmental@AjantaConsulting.com)  
Or at [www.fortmonroerab.org](http://www.fortmonroerab.org)