



Rights of Entry

April 2012

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

Former Camp Ellis Military Reserve

The Former Camp Ellis Military Reserve, located in Fulton County, Ill., is part of the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) and Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP). It was used for training of engineer, medical, signal corps, and quartermaster troops during World War II.

To determine if there are any military munitions present as a result of the former training, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is seeking permission to access private properties in specific areas where munitions may be present. Permissions are obtained through a signed document known as a Right of Entry. Below, are some frequently asked questions about the Right of Entry process.



Currently, the Corps is conducting a remedial investigation at the site to characterize the nature and extent of any present munitions. Field activities are scheduled to occur in late spring/early summer 2012 and resume in the fall of 2012, right after harvest.

What is a Right of Entry?

A Right of Entry (ROE) is a legal document that gives the Corps access for a specified amount of time to conduct an investigation or work on privately-owned property. Work cannot begin until the property owner signs the ROE.

If I receive an ROE, do I have to sign it?

It is the property owner's decision as to whether or not to sign the ROE. However, if the ROE is not signed, the Corps will not be able to determine if there are any military munitions present on the property.

If potential munitions are encountered, we ask the property owner to follow the three R's of munition safety—Recognize, Retreat, Report.

What happens after I sign the ROE?

After the ROE is signed, the Corps will schedule a date and time to visit the properties.

What has prompted this sudden interest in my property?

A Remedial Investigation is the current phase of the clean-up project at Camp Ellis, which intends to characterize the nature and extent of the possible munitions on site.

What work will be done on my property?

The current investigation includes digital geophysical mapping with a hand-held metal detector, intrusive investigation of anomalies, environmental sampling, and material management. Field activities are scheduled to occur in late spring/early summer 2012, which is minimally intrusive work only. Work will resume in the fall of 2012, right after harvest.

How long will it take for work to be completed on my property?

Because of scheduling constraints and weather, the exact dates and times cannot be locked down at this time. However, property owners will be notified prior to the visit to discuss any further details.

Is my property safe?

Safety is the Corps number one priority. The Corps would like permission to access properties within the areas needing to be surveyed in order to determine if any military munitions are present.

Regardless of whether or not you sign the ROE, please keep in mind the 3 Rs of munitions, also known as unexploded ordnance (UXO), safety:



- **Recognize** – There is no way to describe UXO. UXO can come in many shapes and sizes. It can be rusty or look like new. It can be out in the open, hidden in bushes or partially buried. The important thing to remember is that if you see what you think is UXO then you should retreat from the area and report it to authorities.
- **Retreat** – Make sure to never touch UXO, as they can be extremely dangerous. If you see UXO, immediately leave the area and do not disturb the item.
- **Report** – If you come across what might be UXO, you should leave it be and report it to your local law enforcement by calling 911. They will be able to take care of the item. Do not use your cell phone near the item. Call 911 after retreating from the UXO.

If I have any additional questions, who should I contact?

For ROE-related questions, contact the Louisville District Real Estate Office at (502) 315-6976.

For all other questions and inquiries, contact the Louisville District Public Affairs Office at (502) 315-6773.