



# Pioneer AOC

Former Wilkins Air Force Station

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

July 2012

## Overview

The U.S. Department of Defense is responsible for environmental restoration of properties that were formerly owned by, leased to, or otherwise possessed by the United States under jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense. Such properties are known as Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS). Under the FUDS program, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is responsible for implementing environmental restoration activities at the former Wilkins Air Force Station (AFS) in Shelby, Ohio.

The Wilkins AFS was operated as a Depot between 1943 and 1961. There are currently two active environmental projects, or Areas of Concern (AOCs) at the site—the Pioneer AOC and the Shelby Horizons AOC. The Pioneer AOC lies near the Pioneer Career and Technical Center. Studies have confirmed the presence of debris, rubbish, concrete demolition debris and medical/laboratory glassware in a small area on the westernmost portion of the Pioneer Career and Technical Center Property. Remedial Investigations have been completed at the AOCs and results indicated that there are no unacceptable risks to human health with the current land use. The Corps is currently evaluating options to ensure protection of human health and the environment in the future.



*A shot of the Pioneer AOC looking North across the Former Wilkins Air Force Station in Ohio.*

## Current Work

The Corps has awarded a contract for assessing the volume of fill material that was left in place on the westernmost portion of the Pioneer Technical School. The work entails excavating a number of test trenches around the perimeter and in the central area of the former fill area. The excavations will be backfilled once observations have been made.

The area is heavily vegetated in some areas and some clearing and tree trimming will be needed. The Corps does not propose to cut trees of any significant size. Additionally, the Corps will be conducting a survey prior to field work to minimize ecological impacts.

## Field Schedule

Our proposed field schedule is as follows:

- July 9 - July 11 Migratory Bird Survey, brush clearing, tree trimming and moving
- July 16 - July 20 Utility clearance, trenching and site restoration

The findings of our field activities will be summarized in a technical memo, which will be placed on the Wilkins AFS webpage at: <http://bit.ly/WilkinsAFS> by the end of August.

## For More Information

For more information about the current work at the Pioneer AOC on the Former Wilkins AFS, please visit: <http://bit.ly/WilkinsAFS> or contact Katelyn Newton, Louisville District Public Affairs Specialist at (502) 315-6773 or by e-mail at: [katelyn.c.newton@usace.army.mil](mailto:katelyn.c.newton@usace.army.mil).