

# RADIOACTIVE WASTE BURIAL SITE

## AOC-23

Joint Base Andrews

April 2022

### BACKGROUND

AOC-23 is a rough grassed area associated with the Andrews AFB, south of Base Lake North Area (BLNA) Golf Course. The site known as Area of Concern 23 (AOC) was reported to be the burial site for low-level radioactive material contained in concrete cylinders. Documentation suggested the containers encased radioactive tubes and aircraft dials consisting mostly of the naturally occurring radionuclide Radium-226. Four concrete containers were located in 1998 in the vicinity of the assumed burial site and were excavated in their containers and removed from the base to a licensed disposal facility. Radiation survey of the containers revealed no radiological contamination above background levels. The area was then backfilled with clean fill material. The containers were packaged and shipped to US Ecology Nuclear Materials Management Center in Oak Ridge, Tennessee for repackaging and appropriate disposal. The Air Force Radioisotope Committee has reviewed the remediation activities conducted at AOC-23 and released the site for unrestricted use.

The past schedule for this site was:

Remedial Investigation (RI)	7/1996 (Complete)
Feasibility Study (FS)	7/1996 (Complete)
Site Closure (SC)	5/1999 (Complete)
Remedial Design (RD)	N/A
Remedial Action Construction (RA-C)	5/2002 (Complete)
Remedy in Place (RIP)	N/A
Proposed Plan (PP)	5/2002 (Complete)
Record of Decision (ROD)	5/2002 (Complete)
Remedial Action-Operation (RA-O)	N/A
Response Complete (RC)	5/2002 (Complete)

### CHALLENGES

Releasing the land for unrestricted use required the cylinders be removed and the site restored to its previous uncontaminated condition.



Figure: AOC-23 Site Location

### PERFORMANCE BASED APPROACH

A site investigation was necessary due to the Air Force plans to redevelop AOC-23 for recreational use. In order to release the land for unrestricted use, the cylinders containing radioactive material had to be located and removed with confirmation soil sampling.

The objectives of this site investigation and cleanup have been met. Site is closed and released for unrestricted use.

### RISK DRIVERS

**Contaminants:** Radioactive Waste

**Media:** Subsurface Soil

**Exposure Pathways Completed:** Source removed

**Drainage:** Piscataway Creek

**Current Land Use/Surface Cover:** Recreational

**Reasonably Anticipated Land Use:** Recreational

**Relative Risk:** NR