



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Legacy  
Management



Fernald  
Preserve

# Community Meeting

## April 28, 2010

8752

The Office of Legacy Management's community meeting was held on April 28, 2010, at the Fernald Preserve Visitors Center. Fourteen people attended the meeting, which provided an update on site maintenance and Visitors Center use and also included a hike on one of the trails.

# Natural Resources Trustee Activities

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- **Funds Utilization Plan finalized**
- **Settlement Funds being transferred to Ohio Natural Resources Damages Fund**
- **Ohio, on behalf of the Trustees, is contracting with Tri-Valley Conservation Trust for assistance**
- **Fernald Preserve possible enhancements**
  - **Forest improvement for salamanders**

Funds from the Ohio Natural Resources Damages Fund may be used on and around the Fernald site this fiscal year.



# Agenda

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- **Nature Nook**
- **Health and Safety**
- **Fernald updates**
- **Site operations**
- **Visitors Center**
- **Six-month look-ahead**



# Nature Nook



## Eastern Bluebird

*(Sialia sialis)*

- One of three species of bluebirds in North America
- Population declines are being reversed
- Important predator of destructive insects such as grasshoppers, caterpillars, crickets, katydids, and beetles

8752.04 4/10

The Nature Nook is a regular feature of the community meeting and highlights flora and fauna that inhabit the Fernald Preserve. Bluebirds are utilizing several nest boxes on the Fernald property.



# Fernald Preserve

## Legacy Management Mission



**Manage DOE's post-closure responsibilities and ensure the protection of human health and the environment.**

8752.05 4/10

The Office of Legacy Management's mission.



# Worker Health and Safety

## OSHA Recordables (yearly)

DOE Complex	LM	Industry
1.4	1.2	4.2

## Fernald Preserve (quarterly)

Lost time	First aid	Recordables
0	0	0

8752.06 4/10

The Fernald Preserve's safety performance, as well as Legacy Management's safety performance, continues to be better than industry standards.



# Aquifer

- **Groundwater pumping rate 2009 to date is 105 percent of design**
- **Groundwater treatment will continue as necessary to meet discharge limits**
- **Pumping will be shut down for 30 days (May–June)**
- **Pump-and-treat operations will continue as necessary to meet regulatory commitments**



8752.07 4/10

The aquifer cleanup, which involves pumping and treating water from the aquifer, is progressing as planned. Groundwater modeling projects that aquifer cleanup will be completed in 2026. To date, over 9.82 billion gallons of groundwater have been treated since 1993.



# Ecological Restoration

- **Ecological monitoring of wetlands**
- **Invasive species control**
- **Prescribed burns**



8752.08 4/10

The ecological restoration of the Fernald Preserve is ongoing. New trails have been constructed, wetland mitigation is being monitored, and invasive species are being controlled. The recently completed Hickory and Sycamore Trails were opened to the public last fall.





# Sampling

2009

- **OSDF leak detection monitoring at 42 locations**
- **Groundwater sampling at 140 locations**
- **Surface water sampling at 21 locations**
- **Treated effluent sample at one location**
- **Air particulate monitoring at six locations**
- **Direct radiation monitoring at 11 locations**
- **Sediment sampling at two locations in the Great Miami River**
- **Continuing approved semiannual, quarterly, and daily sampling**

8752.09 4/10

Routine environmental monitoring is conducted to ensure the continued effectiveness of the site's cleanup. The current monitoring program includes sampling groundwater, surface water, treated effluent, and sediment.



# Prescribed Burns



8752.10 4/10

Controlled burns are necessary for the health and growth of the prairies at the Fernald site.



# Visitors Center



8752.11 4/10

Since the Visitors Center opened, the Community Meeting Room has been used by schools, conservation organizations, hikers, and cyclists.



# Community Relations

- **Curriculum development**
- **Fernald Preserve usage**
- **Visitors Center usage**



8752.12 4/10

During the Visitors Center's 20 months of operation, a wide variety of groups—including schools, birders, Scouts, and hikers—have stopped by.



# Look-Ahead

May–October

- **Continue aquifer restoration**
- **Continue sampling**
- **Continue On-Site Disposal Facility monitoring**
- **Continue wetlands mitigation monitoring**
- **Conduct prescribed burns**
- **Survey prairie vegetation**

The 6-month look-ahead explains the work forecast through the spring and summer.



# Annual Community Meeting

**Join us:**

**October 13, 2010**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Fernald Preserve Visitors Center**



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The next meeting will be on October 13, 2010, at the Visitors Center.



# Questions?



8752.15 4/10

Questions were answered at the end of this meeting.