



News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Detonation Operations Resume Next Week on Blue Grass Army Depot

RICHMOND, Ky. — As has been its history for more than 70 years, Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD) leadership has announced that seasonal destruction of dated and/or obsolete conventional (non-chemical) munitions and energetics via detonation will begin on Monday, April 4, following the customary shut down of operations during the late Fall and Winter seasons.

Detonation of conventional munitions has been a decades-long function of the Depot, as it and other locations around the country work to demilitarize a large and growing stockpile that represent a financial burden to the Army in storage costs and hinders the receipt, storage, maintenance and renovation of current conventional munitions needed by the U.S. Joint Warfighters. Also, the safe and efficient destruction of munitions is a key Depot mission that produces revenue necessary to support and maintain jobs on the installation. The detonation process includes burying explosive material in deep pits covered by top soil and then ignited.

In addition to being closely monitored by the Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (KDEP), BGAD strictly adheres to multiple federal, Army, state and local regulations established to minimize impacts to local residents living in close proximity to the installation. These regulations limit the amount of explosive material detonated at any one time, as well as ensures no detonations take place in adverse weather conditions that could result in greater impacts to the community.

While fully cognizant of the occasional impacts on residents with regards to noise and vibrations, BGAD leadership also realizes the importance of the work on a national scale and BGAD's key role in that effort. As such, the Depot is committed to being available and responsive to its neighbors and to maintaining its commitment as stewards of the environment. Citizens impacted by what they believe to be excessive noise or vibration and wish to register a complaint — or submit a claim for damages — may call 859-779-6941 to register their concerns and receive filing instructions.

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