

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska Community Action on Toxics
Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League
California Communities Against Toxics
California Safe Schools
Camp Lejeune Community Assistance Panel
Center for Health, Environment & Justice
Center for Public Environmental Oversight
Central Trades & Labor Council of Shreveport/Vicinity, AFL-CIO
Citizen Action New Mexico
Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger
Citizens Task Force
CORALations
Crawford Stewardship Project
Defense Depot Memphis TN - Concerned Citizen Committee
Echo Valley Hope
Environmentalists Against War
Florida Veterans for Common Sense
Food and Water Watch
Fort Ord Community Advisory Group (FOCAG)
Fort Ord Environmental Justice Network
Frederick Citizens for Bio-lab Safety
Friends United for a Safe Environment (FUSE, Inc.)
GAIA (Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives)
Gasp
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
Hoosier Chapter of the Sierra Club
Kentucky Environmental Foundation
Louisiana Bucket Brigade
Louisiana Environmental Action Network
Louisiana Progress Action
Lower Mississippi Riverkeeper
Midwest Environmental Advocates
Midwest Environmental Justice Organization
Moms Clean Air Force (national)
Moms Clean Air Force Tennessee
Moms Clean Air Force Virginia
Nukewatch/The Progressive Foundation
Peaceful Skies Coalition
Philadelphia Right To Know Committee
Physicians for Social Responsibility – Wisconsin
Protect All Children's Environment
Sierra Club
Tennessee AFL-CIO Labor Council
Tennessee Clean Water Network
Tewa Women United
Texas Campaign for the Environment
Tri-Valley CARES (Communities Against a Radioactive Environment)
Tribal Environmental Watch Alliance
Veterans for Common Sense
Vidas Viequenses Valen
Virginia Chapter Sierra Club
Valley Watch
Voluntary Cleanup Advisory Board
Volunteers for Environmental Health and Justice
Watauga Group of the Tennessee Chapter Sierra Club
Waukesha County Environmental Action League
Wisconsin Environmental Health Network
Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice
World Beyond War

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The CEASE FIRE campaign seeks to protect human health and the environment by calling for the immediate implementation of safer alternatives to open air burning, detonation and non-closed loop incineration/combustion of military munitions.

These alternatives must incentivize waste prevention and recycling; prevent, to the greatest possible extent, the release of toxic emissions and pollutants; and advance the principles of environmental justice by assuring that all people enjoy the same degree of protection and access to the decision-making process.

CEASE FIRE

Campaign

CEASE FIRE Campaign

email info@cswab.org
phone 608/643-3124
web cswab.org – click CEASE FIRE
facebook facebook.com/ceasefirecampaign

a national campaign to end
open air burning, detonation
and incineration of
hazardous waste munitions

CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS STOCKPILE

The Secretary of the Army serves as the single manager for conventional ammunition and is responsible for demilitarizing the U.S. Department of Defense's conventional (non-nuclear/non-biological/non-chemical) ammunition stockpile and more than 300,000 missiles and missile components. The U.S. Army Audit Agency has reported that this stockpile had grown to more than **557,000 tons** as of March 2009 and could exceed 1.1 million tons by FY 2025 representing a \$2.8 billion demilitarization liability.

Open detonation of ammunition causes the dispersion of heavy metals (cadmium, chromium, lead, etc.), energetic compounds, perchlorate, nitrogen oxides and other munitions-related contaminants to the environment. It is typically conducted directly on the ground surface, in open pits or trenches, or via buried charges.

Open burning is still routinely used for disposal of propellants and pyrotechnics. It is conducted on the ground surface or in burn pans. Dunnage (such as wood) and supplemental fuels (such as fuel oil or kerosene) are often added to aid the burning. Like detonation, open burning produces an uncontrolled release of toxins to the air and the surrounding environment.

An incinerator (combustor) is a facility for the controlled burning of waste which can emit dioxins, PCBs, heavy metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and other contaminants. Incinerators with names like gasification, pyrolysis, plasma arc, and waste-to-energy all emit dioxins and other harmful pollutants.

However the core environmental impacts of all types of incinerators are the same.



SAFER ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

In the past 25 years, **alternatives** to the incineration of hazardous waste have emerged due to the work of communities, EPA, and the Department of Defense (DOD). These technologies are being used by the DOD to destroy energetics and chemical warfare agents and could be readily applied to conventional munitions and other types of hazardous waste. These technologies include Supercritical Water Oxidation, Detonation of Ammunition in a Vacuum-Integrated Chamber, and Detonation Chambers.

It is time to recognize that the exclusion adopted by the EPA in 1980 for the open burning and detonation of waste explosives is no longer relevant.

Want to learn more?

Visit CSWAB.org and click on CEASE FIRE

Installation/Facility (Partial list)	Permitted Annual Hazardous Waste Open Air Burning & Detonation Limit (pounds as Net Explosive Weight)
Alliant Techsystems Proving Ground, MN	400,000
Anniston Army Ammunition Plant, AL	13,227,600
Blue Grass Army Depot, KY	7,665,000
China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station, CA	5,475,000
Clean Harbors Colfax, LA	480,000
Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center, IN	109,364,800
Edwards Air Force Base, CA	150,000
Fort Polk, LA	3,200
Hawthorne Army Depot, NV	2,600,000
Holston Army Ammunition Plant, TN	1,250,000
McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, OK	9,960,000
Radford Army Ammunition Plant, VA	2,920,000
Red River Army Depot, TX	5,700,000
Redstone Arsenal (U.S. Army Garrison), AL	137,500
Tooele Army Depot, UT	1,397,400

Working Draft by CSWAB.org and the Cease Fire Campaign, 2016



In communities across America, open burning and detonation of hazardous waste explosives results in the uncontrolled release of toxic heavy metals, energetic compounds, perchlorate, nitrogen oxides, dioxins and other carcinogens to the environment, placing the health of our soldiers, workers and neighbors at risk.