

Community Feedback Form

We value your feedback regarding the Air Force's environmental cleanup at the former Kelly Air Force Base. Please take a moment to answer the questions below and return this form to the address provided on the opposite side.

During the past 12 months, have you...	Yes	No	Don't Know
Received by mail any information about the cleanup?			
Heard anything about the cleanup in the news?			
Talked to a friend or neighbor about the cleanup?			
Spoken or interacted with an Air Force representative?			

How familiar or unfamiliar are you with the environmental cleanup at Kelly?
Very Familiar <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat Familiar <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat Unfamiliar <input type="checkbox"/> Very Unfamiliar <input type="checkbox"/>

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
The Air Force is being very open in its communications.						
The Air Force is very responsive to community concerns.						
The Air Force is providing useful information to me.						
I can easily understand information from the Air Force.						
The environmental cleanup is being done safely.						
The environmental cleanup is being done as quickly as possible.						
In general, the environmental cleanup is going well.						

During the next 12 months, how likely is it that you will do the following?	Very Likely	Likely	Somewhat Likely	Not Very Likely	Not Sure
Read information about the cleanup.					
Talk to my neighbor(s) about the cleanup.					
Attend community meetings about the cleanup.					
Call the Air Force with questions about the cleanup.					
Write a letter to a news editor about the cleanup.					
Play an active role in representing my community's interests regarding the cleanup.					

AFRPA/DC-Kelly
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
San Antonio, TX 78226-1816



Air Force Real Property Agency

The Former Kelly Air Force Base

(210) 925-0956 • Toll Free 1-866-725-7617 • www.afrpa.hq.af.mil

Kelly: Then and Now

For more than 80 years, the former Kelly Air Force Base provided military aviation, training, supply and maintenance services for the Air Force. Placed on the Base Closure and Realignment list in 1995, Kelly was partially realigned to Lackland AFB and the remainder closed July 13, 2001. Since then, the Air Force Real Property Agency has been conducting the environmental restoration and property transfer programs at Kelly. AFRPA works with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to ensure contamination is cleaned up in order to transfer the property to the Greater Kelly Development Authority – the local redevelopment authority. Today Kelly operates as KellyUSA, a multi-use airport and rail-served business park.

The Environmental Program at Kelly

During Kelly's active years, the base was used primarily as a manufacturing and maintenance depot. While the Air Force employed the latest precautions to safely handle the many chemicals in use at the former base, long-term impacts were not known until after years of operating. As a result of approved waste-disposal practices during base operations, leaks and spills of jet fuel and chlorinated solvents used to degrease metal aircraft parts contaminated the soil and shallow groundwater on base and around Kelly.

In 1988, along Quintana Road, the Air Force first detected the contamination in the shallow groundwater. Since then, the Air Force has evaluated and implemented a variety of innovative cleanup techniques to remove and/or treat the contamination of the soil and shallow groundwater.

Systems designed to contain the plume were first installed to prevent additional migration of contaminants off the base. The Air Force, in order to remove contaminants, employed innovative technologies such as using micro-organisms to break down chemicals; and pumping contaminated water from the shallow zone to the groundwater treatment plant where it is centrally treated and then discharged into Leon and Six Mile creeks - the natural discharge areas for the shallow groundwater zone. The Air Force is currently installing the final groundwater remediation system, a permeable reactive barrier, near Malone Avenue. This PRB, like the six others installed throughout the Kelly area, is made of iron filings which react with the chemicals in the shallow groundwater, causing them to breakdown into less-harmful by-products.

The Air Force will continue to operate these cleanup systems until the shallow groundwater meets TCEQ's regulatory standards. TCEQ and EPA provide regulatory oversight of the Air Force



Iron filing injection method for the permeable reactive barrier on Commercial Street

throughout this process to ensure remedial actions are effective and continue until regulatory standards are met.

Drinking water for the Kelly community, as well as the city of San Antonio, comes from the Edwards Aquifer not the shallow groundwater zone. The shallow groundwater zone lies approximately 30 feet underground and the Edwards is approximately 1,500 feet below the shallow groundwater zone. The two aquifers are separated by approximately one-quarter-mile of impermeable clay, ensuring drinking water is safe from any Kelly contamination.

Addressing Health Concerns

Despite numerous studies unable to link past or present Kelly activities to the health concerns of the community, the Air Force entered into a cooperative agreement with the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District in 2002. The agreement provides \$5,000,000 in funding over a ten year period. Funding provided allows the Public Center for Environmental Health to develop and conduct health-related research studies.



The flag is lowered and folded for the last time at Kelly Air Force Base on July 13, 2001

To date, PCEH has conducted several studies to monitor air for possible contamination during environmental cleanup activities. PCEH also responded to community requests for a study to test homegrown produce for contaminants. Kelly area fruits and nuts were determined safe to eat. PCEH also conducted air monitoring and found no contamination during Air Force construction and installation of four PRBs within the community that work to clean the shallow groundwater.

Additionally, the Air Force and SAMHD identified and decommissioned private shallow groundwater wells in the Kelly area. Although most residents used these private wells for agricultural purposes, 75 wells were plugged in order to ensure protection of human health and the environment throughout the community. The Air Force and SAMHD worked extensively to ensure community members



Community members tour the Groundwater Treatment Facility

understand the drinking water provided by the San Antonio Water System comes from the Edwards Aquifer.

The Environmental Health and Wellness Center, with funding provided by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, provides free health exams and information to community members. To date, nearly 2,000 free health screenings have been provided.

Reaching out to the Community

To ensure community members receive the most complete and timely information regarding the environmental and property transfer programs, the Air Force employs a number of outreach initiatives at the former Kelly AFB. Central to these is the Kelly Restoration Advisory Board. Created in 1994 to seek and promote community

involvement in the Kelly cleanup program, the RAB meets quarterly to discuss progress, provide input, review plans and suggest projects. RAB advice is factored into the environmental cleanup program. The Air Force also provides an annual informational mailing to the surrounding community, partners with various community groups, gives tours and attends neighborhood association meetings.

Working Today for a Better Tomorrow

A key part of San Antonio's future, KellyUSA generates \$2.5 billion annually through a combined workforce of 12,000 jobs. With a total of 1,887 acres of former Kelly AFB land in reuse at KellyUSA and 96 percent of available industrial space currently under management of the Greater Kelly Development Authority, the development of KellyUSA is allowing new growth in southwest San Antonio.

Through open and ongoing involvement with the community and federal and state regulators, the implementation of innovative environmental cleanup technologies, property transfer and redevelopment and an unwavering commitment to protecting human health and the environment, the closure and redevelopment of the former Kelly AFB is a success story.



A scientist examines homegrown tomatoes in the community during the Fruit and Nut Study

Join the Kelly Restoration Advisory Board!

Formed in 1994 the Kelly RAB facilitates public participation in the former Kelly AFB environmental cleanup program. The Kelly RAB consists of one representative from the Air Force, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Greater Kelly Development Authority and the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, as well as 16 community members. Generally, each year 8 community member terms expire, allowing opportunity for members to seek reelection or new members to join the board.

Kelly RAB community members are elected to serve two-year terms,

beginning in January and ending December of the following year. RAB community members serve voluntarily without compensation and are expected to review documents, make constructive comments and attend meetings.

Kelly RAB members have contributed to the Air Force's environmental cleanup program since 1994 by:

- Increasing community understanding
- Reviewing plans and documents
- Providing advice



Restoration Advisory Board members discuss topics prior to a meeting

- Acting as a resource for the community
- Community members interested in joining the Kelly RAB should contact the Air Force Real Property Agency to obtain more information and a member application.

Place Postage Here

AFRPA/DC-Kelly
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
San Antonio, TX 78226-1816

(Fold on dotted line)

Please complete the survey on back and return to the address provided.

Kelly Restoration Advisory Board Meetings

Join us the second Tuesday of January, April, July and October at 6:30p.m.!

Kennedy High School
1922 South General McMullen
San Antonio, TX 78226

Contact Information

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Information Repository

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