



Air Force Real Property Agency

The Former Chanute Air Force Base

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Air Force Works With Stakeholders to Expedite Chanute Cleanup

When the former Chanute Air Force Base closed 13 years ago, much uncertainty remained regarding the future of the installation. The community was challenged with a new economic era and was also left with a 2,174 acre facility with a history of military aviation and maintenance activities. In many instances, the soil and groundwater at sites on the former air base were impacted by mission-related activities.

In the years since the base closed, the Air Force, working with the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, has dedicated considerable resources to the environmental restoration of the former Chanute AFB.

Environmental restoration began in 1983 with the establishment of the Installation Restoration Program. The

role of the IRP is to identify environmental sites impacted by past Air Force activities and clean up those sites if necessary. Since then, the Air Force identified multiple areas of concern including landfills, oil water separators, a petroleum sludge disposal pit, jet engine test cells, and petroleum and chemical storage tanks. Cleanup activities began prior to the closure of Chanute AFB and continue to this day. Air Force personnel conduct remedial investigations at numerous sites, monitor soil and groundwater, and plan and implement cleanup projects at numerous sites.

The Air Force wants to make sure all stakeholders participate in the environmental restoration of the former base. To this end, the Air Force established the Restoration Advisory Board to discuss environmental clean-

up issues at the former Chanute AFB. The RAB consists of stakeholders including local community members, representatives from the Village of Rantoul, regulatory agencies such as the USEPA and the IEPA, and the Air Force. The RAB provides a forum for community members and others to comment on the restoration activities and offer suggestions. Members of the BRAC Cleanup Team consisting of the Air Force, USEPA and IEPA participate in the RAB and consider these comments in the decision making process.

Local community members are encouraged to attend and participate in the quarterly RAB meetings. The next meeting will be held June 1, 2006 at 12:00 p.m. at the Rantoul Corporate Technology Center, 601 Century Blvd., Suite 1106, Rantoul, Ill.

Chanute Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

Join us at the next RAB meeting!

June 1, 2006 at 12:00 p.m.

Rantoul Corporate Technology Center (Former Smith Hall)

601 S. Century Blvd., Suite 1106

Rantoul, Illinois 61866-2945

Contact Information

General Questions

AFRPA/COO-Kelly
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
San Antonio, Texas 78226-1816
Toll Free (866) 725-7617

Property Transfer/Real Estate

AFRPA/COO-Chanute
9801 Reese Blvd. North, Suite 300
Lubbock, Texas 79416
(806) 885-5010

Information Repository

Rantoul Public Library
106 West Flessner Avenue
Rantoul, Illinois 61866
(217) 893-3955 ext. 22

AFRPA/COO-Kelly
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
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Contractors take water samples from Heritage Lake on the former Chanute AFB.

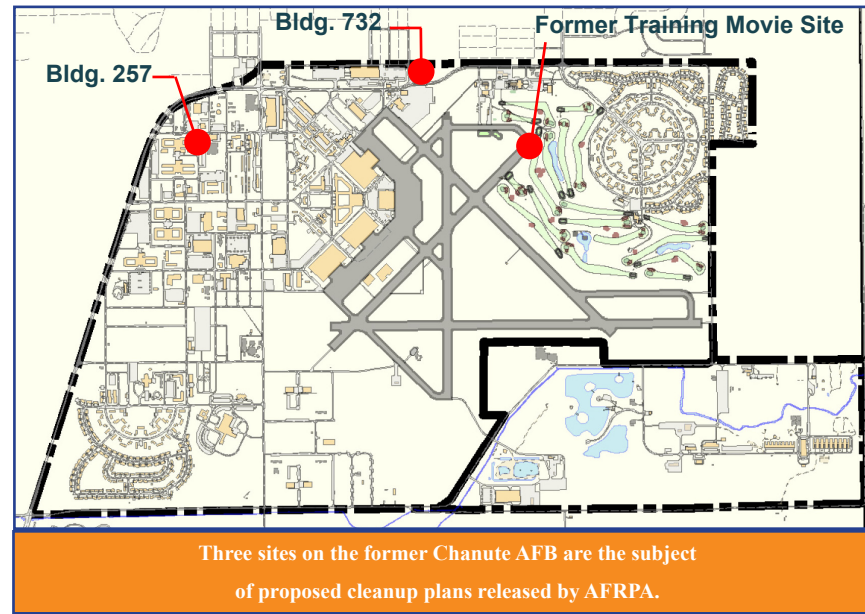
Air Force Releases Proposed Plans for Three Sites at Chanute

The Air Force encourages the public to review recently released proposed plans to take no further action at three sites on the former Chanute AFB.

The first site is located on the northeast end of the northeast-southwest runway where a fire fighting training movie was filmed in 1967. The second was the location of the former Building 257, located at the southwest corner of International Avenue and Snyder Street and demolished in 1983. This site once contained an indoor shooting range. The third site is the former location of Building 732, located near the northwest corner of Veterans Parkway and Chanute Street, which once served as a mule barn and as a post exchange garage site.

These proposed plans were based on environmental site investigations and an assessment of human health and ecological risks. The plans were proposed with the concurrence of the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

The public is encouraged to submit written comments to the proposed plans to the Air Force representative at the former Chanute AFB. Documents pertaining to the proposed plans are located at the former Chanute AFB Information Repository located at the Rantoul Public Library, 106 West Flessner Avenue,



Rantoul, Ill. Community members are also encouraged to attend the former Chanute AFB Restoration Advisory Board meeting June 1st at 12:00 p.m. at the Rantoul Corporate Technology Center, 601 Century Blvd., Suite 1106, Rantoul, Ill. Representatives from the Air Force, USEPA and IEPA will be present to answer questions regarding the proposed plans.

Meet Chris Hill, Chanute Restoration Advisory Board Member



Environmental restoration of the former Chanute AFB is dependent on the input of community members residing on and near the former base and on the cooperation between federal and state regulatory agencies.

Chris Hill is the IEPA project manager for the former Chanute AFB. His responsibilities include reviewing project plans and reports submitted by the Air Force Real Property Agency as well as coordinating reviews within IEPA. His responsibility as a representative from IEPA is to ensure the Air Force complies with state regulations. The former Chanute AFB is just one of many former military installations in Illinois Hill oversees.

Hill assumed this role in October 2000 when he replaced Mr. Ron Steward, the IEPA's previous Chanute RAB representative. During his tenure, Hill has overseen numerous projects at the former Chanute AFB including the capping of three on-base landfills and remediation projects at sites once containing underground storage tanks. Additionally, he has overseen work completed as part of the remedial investigation of the base.

"Data collected from these investigations will be used in the development of remedial decisions, a critical step leading to the cleanup of many sites," Hill said.

Hill enjoys working with representatives from the US Environmental Protection Agency, the Air Force and its contractors as it gives him the opportunity to work

with people from diverse backgrounds and experiences. Hill also enjoys working with the community members who participate on the RAB. He realizes the community was impacted by the closure of the former Chanute AFB and understands the importance of their concerns on the cleanup effort.

Hill will continue to work with the Air Force, USEPA and community stakeholders to ensure the former Chanute AFB gets cleaned up.

"The implementation of these remedial actions is important not only because they will reduce long-term risks to human health and the environment, but also lead to

the transfer of the property to the local redevelopment authority," Hill said.

Chris Hill, an environmental protection engineer with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, represents the state's involvement with the cleanup at the former base.

Feedback, Comments, and More Information

- I would like more information about the environmental cleanup of the former Chanute Air Force Base.
- I would like more information about the Restoration Advisory Board for the former Chanute Air Force Base.
- I would like more information about how to join the Chanute Restoration Advisory Board.

Please let us know how we are doing. Your comments and opinions are welcome and assist the Air Force in providing the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding the cleanup of the former Chanute Air Force Base. Fill out this form and send it to the address listed below.

Name (Mr. /Mrs./Ms./___) Phone

Organization

Street address City State Zip

Additional comments

Detach and mail this section in a stamped envelope to: AFRPA/COO-Kelly, 143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1, San Antonio TX 78226-1816.

Land Transfer Progress at the former Chanute AFB

Total Property Acreage:
2,173.76 acres

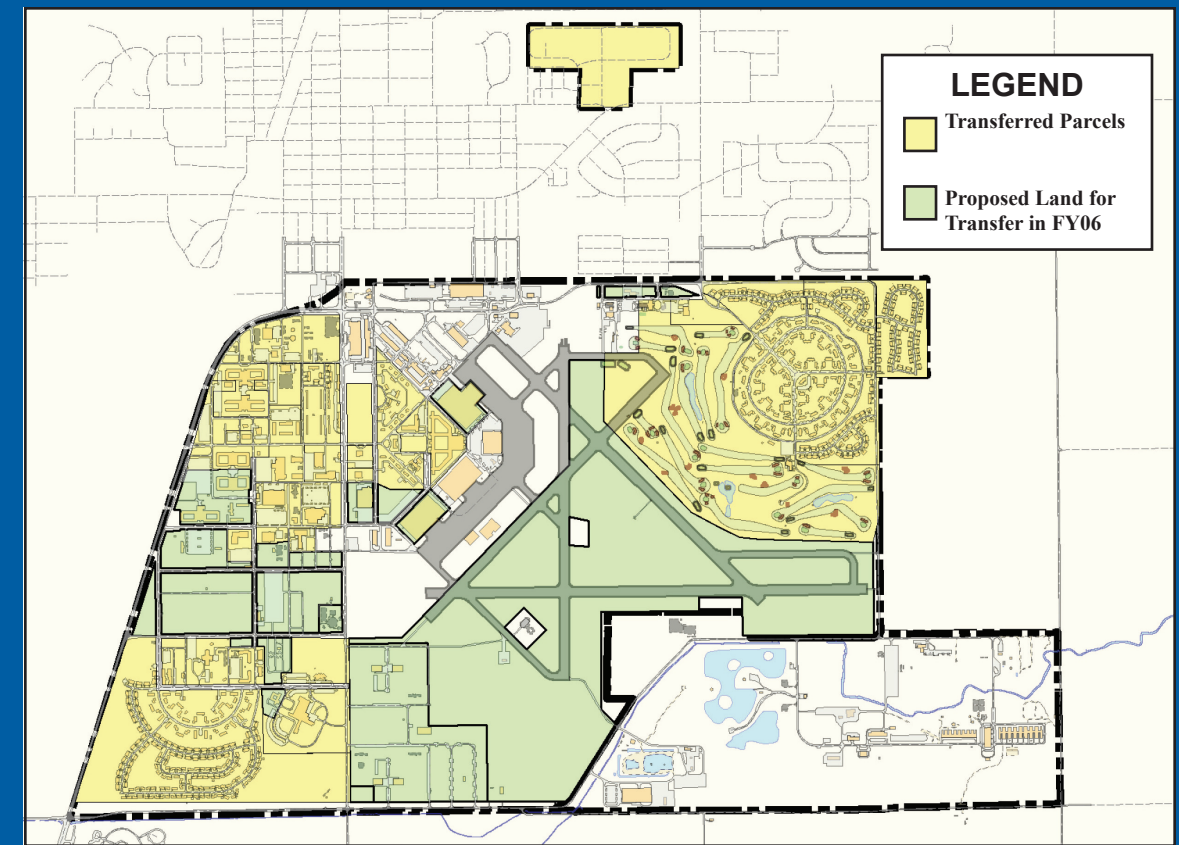
Land previously transferred:
721.59 acres

Land to be transferred in 2006:
617 acres

Redevelopment Authority:
Village of Rantoul

Former Chanute AFB land is used for:

- Manufacturing
- Education
- Recreation
- Residential



Status of land transfer at the former Chanute AFB.