



Air Force Real Property Agency

The Former Chanute Air Force Base

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Air Force achieves significant milestones at the former Chanute Air Force Base

After transferring more than 780 acres to the Village of Rantoul in August 2007, the Air Force continues making steady progress in the environmental cleanup and property transfer programs at the former Chanute AFB. To date, the Air Force has transferred more than 1,498 acres to the Village and private developers.

The Air Force works closely with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. EPA to remediate environmental contamination prior to property transfer. Since the base's closure in 1993, the Air Force Real Property Agency prepares property for transfer — identifying environmental sites, determining nature and extent of contamination, and conducting cleanup actions.

A total of 81 environmental sites have been identified at the former base. Thirty-five of these sites require cleanup to be completed over the next several years, with the remaining sites either closed or in the process of closure. No further action documents are complete for 11 of the 81 sites, with agreement between the Illinois EPA, U.S. EPA and the Air Force. Four additional NFA documents are in progress.

“Achieving a no further action status for an environmental site is a significant milestone for the Air Force and for the community because it is the final step in ensuring the property is safe and suitable for its intended reuse,” said Paul Carroll, BRAC



Chanute Octave Museum, located at the former Chanute AFB.

environmental coordinator for the former Chanute AFB.

In addition to closing sites requiring no further action, Air Force contractors have capped three base landfills, conducted a study to evaluate options to clean up shallow groundwater, and prepared two studies to evaluate options to clean contaminated soils. With concurrence from the Illinois EPA, the Air Force is also recommending no further action for Salt Fork Creek – recent data showed the creek poses no unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.

Cleanup at the sites not yet closed will be initiated and completed using a performance-based contract to achieve early, cost-effective environmental restoration.

The Air Force remains committed to keeping the community informed of environmental remediation activity at the former base. Thousands of community members are mailed a quarterly newsletter with information regarding the progress and inviting participation in the Chanute Restoration Advisory Board. During these quarterly RAB meetings, the Air Force and federal and state regulators discuss the environmental program with interested community members. All RAB meetings are open to the public and individuals interested in participating are encouraged to attend the next scheduled meeting: Thursday, Feb. 21, 2008, at noon in the Rantoul Corporate Technology Center at 601 S. Century Blvd.

Air Force Real Property Agency
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
San Antonio, TX 78226-1816

Chanute Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

Join us at the next RAB meeting!

February 21 2008 at 12:00 p.m.

Rantoul Corporate Technology Center (Former Smith Hall)

601 S. Century Blvd.

Rantoul, Illinois 61866-2945

Contact Information

General Questions

Air Force Real Property Agency
143 Billy Mitchell Blvd., Suite 1
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Information Repository

Rantoul Public Library
106 West Flessner Avenue
Rantoul, Illinois 61866
(217) 893-3955 ext. 22
<https://afrpaar.afrpa.pentagon.af.mil/ar/docsearch.aspx>

Air Force completes fieldwork activities for multiple sites

The Air Force continues to complete fieldwork activities and clean up property at the former Chanute Air Force Base.

Recently, contractors completed fieldwork associated with the corrective action plan for buildings 1, 711 and 933, including the removal of soil, a concrete pad, and oil/water separators located near the buildings. The corrective action plans are public documents listing the areas, objectives and cleanup activities to be used to remediate and prepare sites for transfer. These documents are available online at <https://afarpa.af.mil/ar/docsearch.aspx>. (Once on this site, choose "Chanute" from the list of Air Force BRAC bases on the right and search for document numbers 3248 and 3329.)

Near Building 933, currently used by the University of Illinois as a concrete and asphalt testing laboratory, contractors removed a steel oil/water separator installed in 1988. When Chanute was an active installation, the Air Force installed oil/water separators to remove oil and grease from industrial waste streams. Oil/water separators were typically installed in industrial and maintenance areas and receive oily wastewater generated during aircraft and vehicle maintenance. Air Force policy is to remove all unused/inactive tanks in support of a continuing effort to prevent future problems associated with past military activities.

Contractors also removed the oil/water separator near the former Building 711, along Veterans Parkway near the northern edge of the former base. This facility was once used in conjunction with a gas station and vehicle washing station.

Hangar 1 was formerly used for aircraft maintenance and training. At this site, contractors removed and transferred a concrete pad and soil to a landfill for disposal. Contractors removed a total of 200 cubic yards of soil and backfilled the area with clean soil and grass.

"Now that the fieldwork is done for these sites, we can more quickly transfer the property to the Village of Rantoul for redevelopment," said Paul Carroll, BRAC environmental coordinator for the former Chanute AFB.



Contractors remove soil near Building 1.



The oil/water separator removed near Building 711.



The oil/water separator removed near Building 933.

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

Air Force signs Finding of Suitability to Transfer

The Air Force achieves another significant step in the cleanup of the former Chanute Air Force Base. Dec. 26, the Air Force Real Property Agency signed a Finding of Suitability to Transfer for the third set of parcels associated with the Rantoul National Aviation Center Airport. The property contains 19 facilities and is approximately 52.55 acres. The property will be transferred to the Village of Rantoul.

The FOST is based on an extensive review of the environmental conditions of the property in consultation with federal and state environmental regulatory agencies.

The property will be transferred by deed and is located along the runways and taxiways of the airport, in addition to commercial, industrial acreage located north and south of Veterans Parkway to be used for aviation support.

Individuals interested in learning more about the FOST should contact Mr. Paul Carroll, BRAC environmental coordinator for the former Chanute AFB, at AFRPA/COO Reese, 9801 Reese Blvd., North, Suite 300, Lubbock, TX 78416; or by e-mail at paul.carroll@afarpa.pentagon.af.mil.



Facility 62, located in the northern portion of the base, is included in the property to be transferred in the FOST.