

Army Corps of Engineers Project Visitor Information

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting environmental investigations and cleanup activities on the American University campus and nearby areas related to the Army's World War I era testing of munitions and chemical warfare agents in Northwest Washington. The Army is entering the final phase of their work and is excavating the area known as Glenbrook Road, which is behind the Watkins building.

In coordination with the D.C. Department of the Environment and Environmental Protection Agency, the Army is conducting a thorough search of the Glenbrook Road area to ensure that all World War I materials are found and removed from the campus.

As always, the top priority will be the health and safety of the campus community. The university has coordinated with the Army, EPA, and the D.C. Department of the Environment to ensure that appropriate safety measures and procedures are in place. Additionally, AU has retained an independent expert to review site data and make additional safety recommendations. Information sessions and shelter-in-place training have been conducted for university faculty and staff within the affected area. We are confident that the health and safety of the campus community will be protected during this activity, just as it has been when the Army worked in other nearby areas over the past several years.

The Army Corps has deployed an emergency notification system, which includes sirens, strobe lights, and an automated telephone/text/email system. The system will be tested on a monthly basis, on the first Wednesday of each month at 4:05 p.m.. If you hear the siren, do not be alarmed. If you are in an area affected by an emergency, you will be given instructions by authorities.

The university keeps the campus community informed about the Corps' on-campus activities through a series of memos and fact sheets, meetings, a website (http://www.american.edu/usace) and an information line. Please call 202-885-2020 if you have specific questions about the Corps' project at AU.