

## Site Redevelopment Profile

# Fort Detrick Area B Ground Water Superfund Site

810 Schreider Street,  
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702

### Property Overview

#### Size

399 acres

#### Current Site Uses

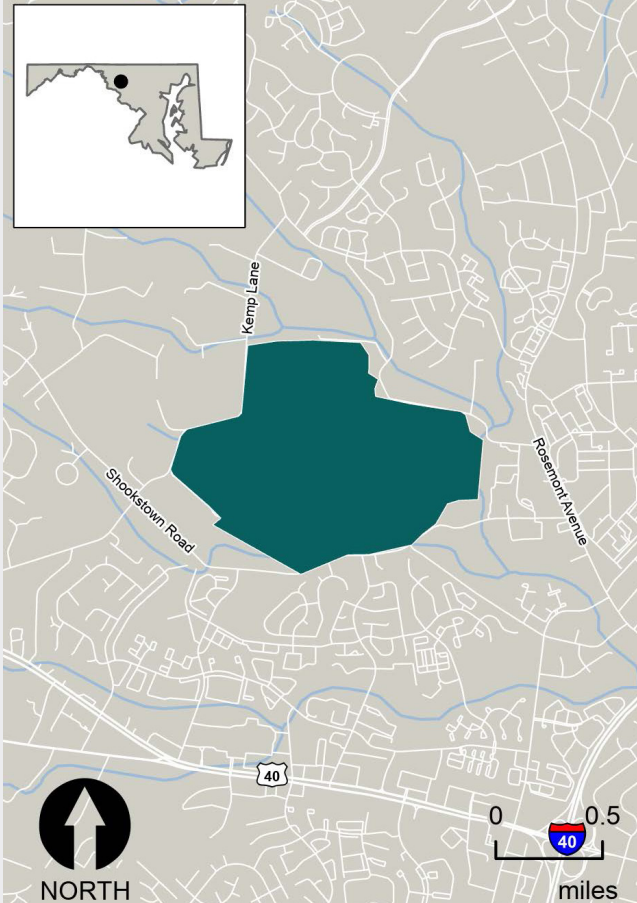
- A solar array is located on site.
- Other site uses include a municipal landfill and an animal farm.

#### Surrounding Population

**11,956**  
1 MILE

**70,574**  
3 MILES

**112,355**  
5 MILES



A map of the site in Maryland.



Side view of the solar array at the site. (Source: U.S. Department of Defense – DOD)

### Site History and Redevelopment Timeline

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>1931</b><br/>The U.S. government begins various military operations at Detrick Field.</p> <p><b>2001</b><br/>Site cleanup begins.</p> <p><b>2006</b><br/>The Army finds that contaminated groundwater is migrating from Area B and provides bottled water to nearby residents.</p> | <p><b>2009</b><br/>EPA places the site on the National Priorities List.</p> <p><b>2011</b><br/>The Army selects Fort Detrick as a pilot site for renewable energy use.</p> | <p><b>2016</b><br/>The Army extends a public water line to nearby residences.</p> <p>Ameresco completes construction of ground-mounted solar array on site.</p> |
|--|--|---|

## History and Cleanup

This active military base is now also home to a solar array, a municipal landfill and an animal farm. The site's cleanup and redevelopment shows how Superfund sites and federal facilities can support several reuses, addressing multiple stakeholder priorities.

The 399-acre site includes areas formerly used for munitions testing, explosives storage, and waste management and disposal. Site activities and waste disposal practices resulted in soil and groundwater contamination.

The Army disposed of incinerated chemical and biological research materials, as well as decontaminated research building materials and discarded laboratory equipment at Area B. The Army started cleanup in 2001, removing contaminated materials buried in trenches at Area B. EPA added the site to the Superfund program's National Priorities List in 2009. When the Army discovered that contamination was migrating from Area B in 2006, they provided bottled water to residents who relied on nearby wells for drinking water supplies. The Army extended a public water line to the residences in 2016. Site cleanup is ongoing.

## Redevelopment

In 2011, the Army selected Fort Detrick as a pilot site for renewable energy use. Fort Detrick conducted an assessment to finalize the plan. After reviewing a range of renewable energy systems, the Army selected solar power. In June 2016, Ameresco, a renewable energy company, completed construction of a groundmounted solar array on site. The company owns and operates the array and supplies electricity to Fort Detrick under the terms of a 25-year power purchase agreement. The solar array meets about 12 percent of Fort Detrick's annual electric needs. This project is part of a larger Army commitment to establishing 1 gigawatt of renewable energy on its installations nationwide by 2025.

In June 2016, Katherine Hammack, the former Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment, Colonel Robert A. O'Brien IV, Commander of Fort Detrick, and Senator Ben Cardin of Maryland participated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of the solar array project. The project illustrates how the reuse of Superfund sites and federal facilities nationwide can provide opportunities to host innovative renewable energy projects.



Charlene Woods and Cindy Ralph, contract specialist and contracting officer for Defense Logistics Agency's Energy Installation unit visit the site during construction of the solar array. (Source: Charles Tremel)



Former Assistant Secretary Hammack, Col. O'Brien and Senator Cardin celebrate the solar array completion. (Source: DOD)

"The solar array is functioning well and provides about 12 percent of our power needs for the installation."

**Colonel Robert A. O'Brien IV,  
Commander of Fort Detrick**

## Contacts

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