



Blue Grass Chemical Agent-
Destruction Pilot Plant

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
CONTACT:**

Blue Grass
Chemical Stockpile
Outreach Office
1000 Commercial
Drive, Suite 2
Richmond, KY 40475
(859) 626-8944
bgoutreach@iem.com

Blue Grass Army
Depot Public Affairs
Office
(859) 779-6941

Blue Grass Chemical
Activity Public Affairs
Office
(859) 779-6897



**A Partnership for Safe
Chemical Weapons
Destruction**



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Secondary Waste Treatment and Disposal

Secondary waste, which could be contaminated with chemical agent, is generated during the destruction of chemical weapons. The safe treatment or disposal of secondary waste produced during chemical weapons destruction operations is a key element in successfully destroying the chemical weapons stockpile stored at the Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD).

The [Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant \(BGCAPP\)](#) will produce secondary waste during plant operations and closure. These wastes include items such as personal protective equipment, cleaning materials, equipment parts, carbon filters and decontamination solutions.

Secondary Waste Management

Together with federal and state environmental regulators, the BGCAPP team has prepared procedures for characterizing and processing secondary waste in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. Lessons learned from other chemical weapons destruction facilities are also being applied.

Each waste will be characterized for potential agent contamination and other environmental contaminants. It may then be treated on-site or containerized for off-site shipment to an approved treatment, storage and disposal facility (TDSF) in accordance with state and federal regulatory guidelines. Materials that are not amenable for off-site shipment will be treated on-site at BGCAPP through the appropriate waste handling system prior to shipping off site for further treatment if necessary and ultimate disposal at a TSDF. For example, at BGCAPP, a Metal Parts Treater (MPT) will process certain permitted waste material, such as agent-contaminated miscellaneous metal parts and munition bodies. However, when safety, efficiency or cost savings are better achieved by treating the secondary waste material off site, BGCAPP may partner with permitted facilities and community stakeholders to safely treat or dispose of waste off site.

Worker safety and environmental protection will not be compromised by off-site shipment and treatment of secondary waste associated with BGCAPP operations. Off-site treatment or disposal of these types of waste has been safely accomplished by other chemical weapons destruction sites at considerable savings to the taxpayer with acceptance of both the generating and receiving communities.

TSDFs selected to receive the waste will have demonstrated excellent safety and environmental protection records, be subject to strict regulatory oversight, possess state-of-the-art equipment and processes, and will have established active public involvement programs with their surrounding communities. Transport contractors that are selected have properly licensed hazardous material carriers with top safety and performance records. As appropriate to the nature of a particular waste, coordination will be made with emergency response agencies along selected transportation routes. BGCAPP environmental and waste management personnel have visited each receiving TSDF to perform an audit that will ensure wastes are properly managed from cradle to grave.

BGCAPP coordinates all secondary waste treatment and/or disposal with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the [Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection](#).

Secondary Waste Treatment and Disposal (continued)

Proposed Secondary Waste Management Approaches at BGCAPP

Waste	Source	Management Method
Carbon	Operations and closure activities	Permitted TSDF
Concrete	Maintenance and closure activities	MPT Permitted TSDF (if agent contamination concentration is below release criteria)
Projectile munitions bodies	Projectile processing operations	MPT
Non-metallic debris (combustible solids)	Operations, maintenance and closure activities	MPT Permitted TSDF (if agent contamination concentration is below release criteria)
Metal Parts Treater residue	Operations and closure activities	Permitted TSDF (non-agent contaminated)
Rubber/rubber-coated items	Operations, maintenance and closure activities	MPT Permitted TSDF (if agent contamination concentration is below release criteria)
Spent decontamination solution	Operations, maintenance and closure activities	Permitted TSDF (if agent contamination concentration is below release criteria)
Spill residue	Spill-response activities	MPT Permitted TSDF (if agent contamination concentration is below release criteria)
Expired shelf-life chemicals	Laboratory	Permitted TSDF (non-agent contaminated)
Tank, sump and strainer sludge	Operations, maintenance and closure activities	MPT Permitted TSDF (if agent contamination concentration is below release criteria)
Used oils	Maintenance and closure activities	Recycling (if not agent contaminated)