Crab Orchard Safety Fact Sheet

Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)

WARNING - Parts of the Refuge contain unexploded ordnance. See map below for location of unexploded ordnance detonation grounds and burial pits. Military munitions, mostly landmines, were detonated and the remains buried in area shown in yellow and possibly other areas of the Refuge used to manufacture these munitions.



Do not dig in the ground or pick up metal objects on the ground. Do not touch if you find an object like those items illustrated below.

Note UXO location and clearly mark the location - Retreat out of the area - Report your findings.



IF YOU DID NOT DROP IT, DO NOT PICK IT UP!



Diagram of a new 1940's M1A1 landmine.



M1A1 mine chassis found decades later on the Refuge



Diagram of a new 1940's M1A1 fuze with safety fork, firing pin, spring, primer, detonator, high explosives booster.



Fuze cases found decades later on the Refuge.



M1A1 fuze found on the Refuge. These are dangerous, because they may contain chemicals that easily explode.

UXO - Military munitions that were used but failed to function as they were are classified as unexploded ordnance or UXO for short.

Previous munitions-related activities at Crab Orchard included the manufacture of M1A1 land mines and the M48 series projectile fuzes. Operations were conducted which could cause UXO to be found outside the areas show on the above map. The public must consider any suspect metal object encountered as UXO and extremely dangerous. Many people still refer to UXO as "duds", but UXO is never safe. All UXO must be treated as live and must never be handled. If you think it's UXO, use the 3 R's!

It is important to understand how to react responsibly in the presence of UXO

- > STOP! Do **not** move closer to UXO.
- ➤ Do **not** touch, move or disturb UXO.
- > Do **not** attempt to disassemble, clean or handle UXO.
- ➤ Do **not** attempt to remove anything near UXO.
- ➤ Do **not** transmit radio frequencies near UXO (walkie-talkies, cell phones...).
- ➤ Never keep found UXO as souvenirs or "trophies."
- ➤ Note the UXO location and clearly mark the area, if possible

Immediately report suspected UXO and if possible, include the following information: ordnance appearance and estimated size, distinctive features of ordnance (shape and color), and near-by structures or landmarks.

Report UXO to Refuge personnel:

Sam Finney: 618-694-6511 (primary) or Justin Sexton 618-998-5904 (secondary) Refuge Visitor Center : 618-997-3344 (8am-4pm)

Follow the 3 R's of UXO Safety

1. Recognize

UXO can come in many shapes and sizes. It can be rusty or look like new. It can be out in the open, hidden in bushes or partially buried. The important thing to remember is that if you see what you think is UXO, then you should retreat from the area and report it to authorities.

2. Retreat

If you encounter or suspect you may have encountered a UXO, do not touch it or otherwise disturb it. Do not run — leave the area following the same path on which you entered. You can landmark the general area (NOT the munition) with a hat, piece of cloth or with a piece of plastic tied to vegetation.

3. Report

If you found something that could be UXO, report what you saw and where you saw it. Reporting it can save another person from injury or death. Report anything you think could be UXO.

There are many kinds of <u>UXO</u> that may resemble a...

- Pipe (small to large diameter or length)
- Soda can
- Ball (from golf ball to baseball size)
- Bullet-shaped object (small to large)

UXO may:

- ❖ Lie exposed on the surface, be partially buried or completely
- ❖ Be exposed after water/soil erosion, fires, or vegetation removal
- Look new or old, but is usually rusty
- Be intact or broken apart
- Be munitions components (like fuzes) that still contain sensitive explosives, propellants or pyrotechnics
- Always be considered dangerous regardless of size or apparent age
- Be found as an isolated munition or as one of many in an area
- ❖ Be found both on land and in water