

# FERNALD PRESERVE

*The 1,050-acre Fernald property has now come full circle. The property's natural features have been restored, including one of the largest man-made wetlands in Ohio, large tracts of open water, upland forests, a lengthy riparian corridor, and the beginnings of tallgrass prairies.*

## HOURS

Preserve Site: Monday – Sunday, 7 a.m. – dusk.

Visitors Center: Wednesday – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.



U.S. Department of Energy

Fernald Preserve

7400 Willey Road

Hamilton, Ohio 45013

(513) 648-6000

[fernal@lm.doe.gov](mailto:fernal@lm.doe.gov)



Legacy  
Management

[www.lm.doe.gov](http://www.lm.doe.gov)

*an overview of the Fernald Preserve*

Fernald Preserve





Welcome to the Fernald Preserve. Throughout the nearly four decades of the Cold War, the Feed Materials Production Center produced high-grade uranium-metal products for the nuclear weapons complex. Production operations ceased in 1989, and the site's mission changed to environmental remediation. The \$4.4-billion cleanup was one of the largest undertaken in the nation's history.

The Fernald property was cleaned to standards established by the site's neighbors and surrounding communities. These cleanup standards were approved by both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ohio EPA as being protective of human health and the environment.

The 1,050-acre Fernald property has now come full circle. The property's natural features have been restored, including one of the largest man-made

wetlands in Ohio, large tracts of open water, upland forests, a lengthy riparian corridor, and tallgrass prairies. The successful cleanup efforts are reflected in the broad array of wildlife species that now inhabit the site. The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Legacy Management oversees the operation and maintenance of the Fernald Preserve to ensure that cleanup remedies continue to comply with regulatory requirements. So be alert—you will be sharing the site with workers who are conducting routine environmental monitoring, performing ecological assessments, and remediating the underlying aquifer. To allow the ecological restoration of the site to successfully progress, it is important that visitors obey all signs and stay on marked trails.

During your stay at the Fernald Preserve, you will want to check out the Visitors Center, where the site's varied history is depicted in a series of exhibits that tells

the story of Fernald from the time Native Americans inhabited the land, to the arrival of settlers and farmers, to the uranium-production years, to the eventual environmental cleanup and legacy management period that continues today.

Please remember that the Fernald Preserve was once a uranium-processing facility that has undergone a comprehensive environmental cleanup. During the cleanup, every effort was made to remove and dispose of all demolition debris. However, weather-related erosion and earth-moving activities occasionally reveal small pieces of debris that were not visible during the cleanup. The discovery of contaminated debris is infrequent and isolated, and the debris is in very small quantities. Be careful not to handle any debris that is discovered. Please inform any member of the Fernald Preserve staff if you find any debris, so that it can be safely removed if required.