Background

The Tobyhanna Artillery Range Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) is 25,000 acres and is comprised of the Tobyhanna and Gouldsboro State Parks and State Game Lands #127. Visitors need to be aware that past military use of the property and the actions they should take to remain safe if they encounter or suspect they have encountered unexploded ordnance (UXO) from that training.

The Tobyhanna Artillery Range was acquired in 1912 and between then and 1949 the U.S. Army and the Pennsylvania National Guard conducted artillery training on the property. Much of the property served as an artillery range and impact area during World War I (1914 - 1918) and again at the beginning of World War II (1937 - 1941). Training at the site included firing of 37mm, 75mm, and 155mm conventional munitions. In 1952, 1,418 acres of property became the Tobyhanna Army Depot which is not part of the Tobyhanna Artillery Range FUDS. The state parks and game lands provide numerous recreational areas where the potential to find UXO from past military activity exists.

Since the late 1990s, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection have conducted activities to locate, remove, and destroy UXO.

Munitions may be heavily corroded, whole or in parts, buried, or covered with leaves, making them difficult to recognize. Even old munitions can still kill. As such, never touch, move or disturb anything encountered that may be a munition or part of one. All munitions should be considered dangerous, regardless of how long they have been in the environment or how frequently they have been handled.

Help protect yourself, family, friends and your community by learning and following the 3Rs of Explosives Safety.

For more information on the Tobyhanna Formerly Used Defense Site please visit our website:
Or call 410-962-2809

Visit the US Army’s Explosive Safety Education website:
www.denix.osd.mil/uxo

November 2014 (14P-0423)
Recognizing when you may have encountered a munition is the most important step in reducing the risk of injury or death. Munitions may be encountered on land or in the water. They may be easy or hard to identify.

To avoid the risk of injury or death:

- Never move, touch or disturb a munition or suspect munition
- Beware that munitions do not become safer with age, in fact they may become more dangerous
- Don’t be tempted to take or keep a munition as a souvenir

Munitions come in many sizes, shapes and colors. Some may look like bullets or bombs while others look like pipes, small cans or even a car muffler. Whether whole or in parts, new or old, shiny or rusty, munitions can still explode. The easiest way to avoid injury or death is to stay out of areas marked with no entry signs and heed posted warnings.

Avoid death or injury by recognizing that you may have encountered a munition and promptly retreating from the area.

If you encounter what you believe is a munition, do not touch, move or disturb it. Instead, immediately and carefully leave the area by retracing your steps—going out of the way you entered. Once safely away from the munition, mark the path (e.g., with a piece of clothing) so response personnel can find the munition.

Protect yourself, your family, your friends and your community by immediately reporting munitions or suspected munitions to the police. Help us by providing as much information as possible about what you saw and where you saw it. This will help the police and military or civilian explosive ordnance disposal personnel find, evaluate and address the situation.

If you believe you may have encountered a munition, call the police and report:

- The area where you encountered it.
- Its general description. Remember, do not approach, touch, move or disturb it.
- When possible, provide:
  - Its estimated size
  - Its shape
  - Any visible markings, including coloring