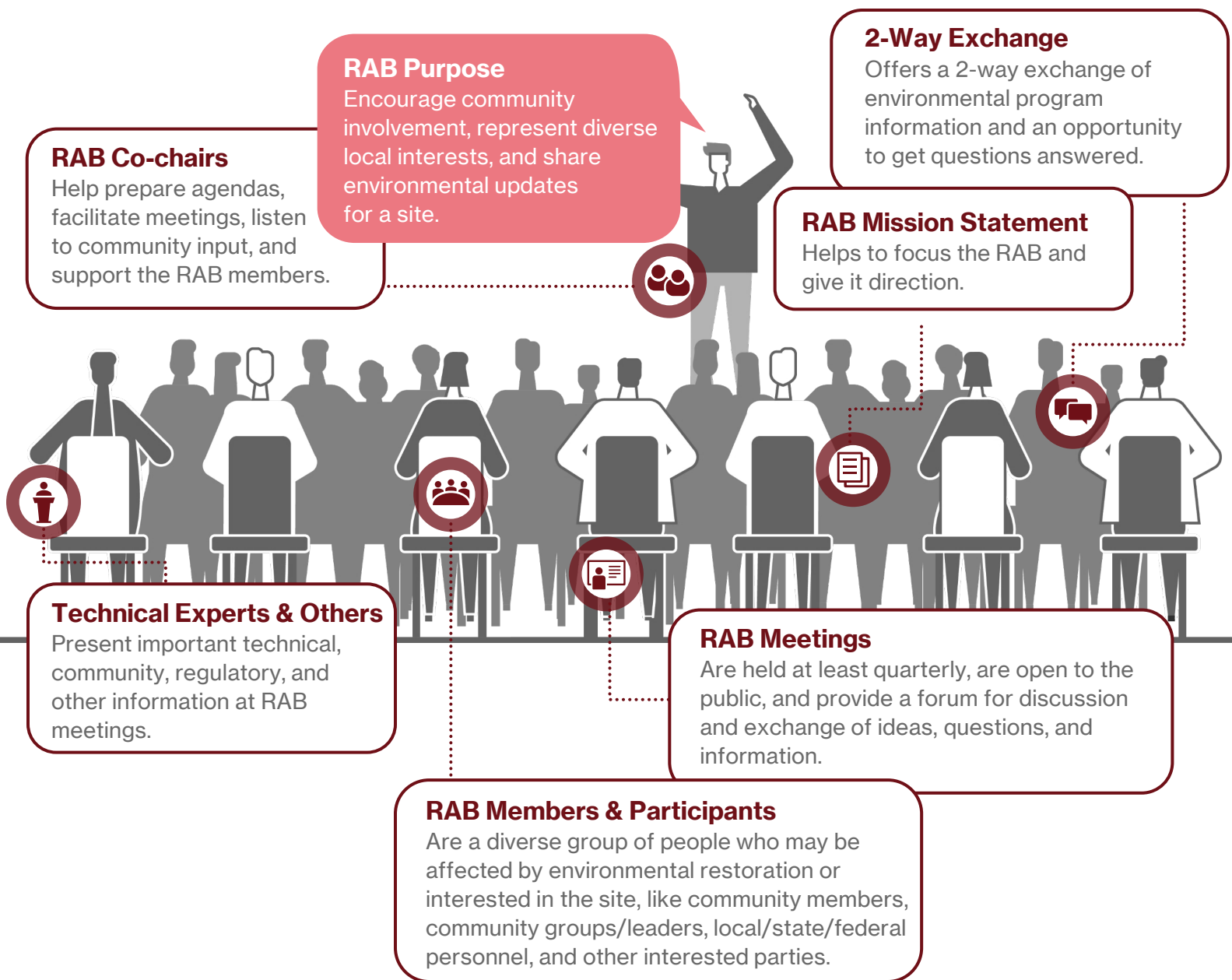




A Closer Look at Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs)

At the former Fort Devens Army Installation, community involvement in the environmental restoration process is encouraged through the RAB. As such, the former Fort Devens RAB provides a forum for the local community and stakeholders to give their input on and discuss environmental investigation and restoration activities at the former installation. Let's take a closer look at the main components of a RAB. Page 2 of this fact sheet gives you information on how you can get involved.



The Anatomy of a RAB

Frequently Asked Questions About RABs

What is the purpose of a RAB?

A RAB provides the community with the opportunity to become involved in the environmental restoration process either as a RAB member or through attendance at RAB meetings. In this way, the RAB helps to garner effective input from the community and other stakeholders on environmental program activities and increase responsiveness to the community's concerns.

What does a RAB do?

A RAB can do many things to further community involvement during the project:

- Acts as a focal point for the exchange of information between a Department of Defense facility and the local community.
- Brings environmental restoration community members with diverse interests within the local community together with agency representatives.
- Facilitates two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs.

How does this apply to the former Fort Devens RAB?

The former Fort Devens RAB is an active group, meeting to discuss important project updates, share information and concerns, and discuss community engagement. The RAB has members from the local community, local organizations, regulatory agencies, and the Army – all key resources in efforts to communicate openly about environmental activities at the former installation.

How can I get involved in the former Fort Devens RAB?

There are many ways for you to get involved:

- Attend RAB meetings, which are held at least quarterly on Thursday evenings. The next RAB meeting is Thursday, August 19 at 6:30 PM.
- Ask questions and provide input in an open and constructive manner.
- Represent and communicate community concerns to the RAB.
- Act as a conduit for the exchange of information.
- Apply to serve as a RAB board member or co-chair.
- Review, evaluate, and comment on publicly available documents and other materials related to the environmental program.
- Represent and communicate RAB issues to the community.

Who can I contact to get involved?

If you want to get involved, get on our mailing list, or have questions, email your contact information and questions to:

✉ FormerFortDevensRAB@arcadis.com

You can also email or call our Army BRAC Environmental Coordinator with questions:

Bob Simeone

✉ robert.j.simeone.civ@mail.mil

☎ (978) 615-6090

For more information

Guidance and information on RABs can be found by visiting these websites:

<https://www.epa.gov/fedfac/restoration-advisory-board-rab-implementation-guidelines>

[https://www.cannon.af.mil/Portals/85/documents/RAB%20Rule%20Handbook%20\(Mar07\).pdf](https://www.cannon.af.mil/Portals/85/documents/RAB%20Rule%20Handbook%20(Mar07).pdf)

The former Fort Devens Environmental Cleanup Project website has lots of useful information on the RAB for the former installation:

<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/missions/projects-topics/former-fort-devens-environmental-cleanup/>