Soldiers to Conduct Jordan Valley Cleanup Project

Soldiers with the U.S. Army, 1st Battalion, 48th Infantry Regiment stationed at Fort Leonard Wood will be in Springfield on Saturday to conduct a major trash and debris cleanup effort in the Jordan Valley West Meadows area.

The cleanup will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, April 10. The group will begin the day at the parking lot of Butler, Rosenbury & Partners at 319 N. Main Ave. The group will be briefed as they walk the property moving west to Fort Avenue, then begin cleanup as they move eastward back toward Main Avenue. The group will clear away debris such as scrap metal, tires, mattresses and more from within West Meadows, the Fort Avenue right of way, and Jordan Creek.

The West Meadows is a designated “brownfield” area, and has been the focus of ongoing cleanup efforts for several years. The City of Springfield’s Brownfields Program works to assess, clean up, and facilitate the redevelopment/reuse of potentially contaminated properties within the city. The program is coordinated through the Economic Development Office in the Department of Planning and Development and works in cooperation with Region 7 of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Natural Resources.

An EPA grant will allow for environmental cleanup in the West Meadows area beginning this summer. That work will include soil grading and temporary seeding of the site. Debris cleanup such as Saturday’s project is necessary before grading can begin this summer. The project also helps fulfill the stream cleanup goals of the City’s Adopt-A-Stream program coordinated by the Storm Water Services Division of Public Works.

For more information, contact: Carrie Lamb, Stormwater Technician, (417) 864-1996; Olivia Hough, Brownfields Coordinator, (417) 864-1092; or Lt. Jared Demello, U.S. Army, (573) 528-6829. Lt. Demello may be contacted at any time on Saturday during the cleanup.