



Practicing UXO Safety at the Former Blair Rifle Range in North Vancouver, British Columbia

Training at past military sites often involved the use of ammunition that contained explosives, some of which did not function as intended. These old military munitions are called unexploded explosive ordnance (UXO). UXO may still be present at the former Blair Rifle Range and can be dangerous if disturbed.

The former Blair Rifle Range, located in the Northlands area of North Vancouver, was used by the Canadian Armed Forces for military training from the 1930s to 1960s.

As part of the Department of National Defence's (DND) regular UXO program work, a site survey and UXO clearance work were completed along trails and open areas in 2018, and UXO were removed from forested areas from winter 2023 to fall 2024 (see figure). UXO caution signs were also installed throughout the property.

UXO clearance work: 2025

To ensure continued safe community use of the site, DND will continue UXO clearance work from Feb to Nov 2025. This work will be performed between trees, with only trees that pose a hazard to workers being removed, if absolutely required. Some low-lying brush will be removed in areas with dense vegetation.

- **Work starts:** 4 February 2025
- **Work ends:** 28 November 2025
- **Locations:** See mapped areas in turquoise, pink and orange

If you see something that looks like it may be UXO, please follow these steps:

- Don't touch it.
- Turn around and leave the area the same way you came in.
- Call 911 or local police.

If you have any questions about DND's UXO activities at the former Blair Rifle Range, please contact us at UXOCanada@forces.gc.ca.

Temporary trail closures

For safety reasons, select trails will be closed intermittently while this work is underway (see figure):

- Red trails closed: 4 Feb to 16 May 2025
- Blue trails closed: 4 Feb to 16 May & 2 Sept to 28 Nov 2025
- Yellow trails closed: 15 March to 19 Sept 2025
- Purple trail closed: 2 Sept to 28 Nov 2025

Open trails will continue to be safe for the community to use for walking, jogging or biking.

As with all former military sites, the community should continue to use good judgment and caution when using the property. Stay on designated trails and refrain from digging or making campfires in the area.

To learn more about UXO safety and DND's UXO program, visit: Canada.ca/UXO-Safety.

