The following activities and items are prohibited at the Fernald Preserve:

- Alcohol and illegal drugs
- Firearms
- Removal or intentional damage of plants
- Mushroom gathering
- Soil excavation
- Removal or damage of archaeological materials
- Swimming and wading
- Camping
- Hunting, trapping, and fishing
- Dumping
- Fires, open flames, and smoking
- Tampering, manipulating, or damaging structures, fences, signs, water control devices, or any other federal property
- Unauthorized travel off public roadways and trails

Legacy Management
ensuring that site conditions remain protective of human health and the environment

HOURS
Preserve Site: Monday – Sunday, 7 a.m. – dusk.
Visitors Center: Wednesday – Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
From 1952 to 1989, the Fernald site produced high-purity uranium products for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and its predecessor agencies as the first link in America’s nuclear weapons production cycle. When production operations ceased in 1989, the site’s mission changed to environmental cleanup. DOE has cleaned up the Fernald site to standards established by site neighbors and stakeholders. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Ohio EPA have approved these standards as being protective of human health and the environment.

Following cleanup in 2006, the DOE Office of Legacy Management assumed responsibility for the Fernald Preserve. Legacy management is required at the site to ensure that the remedial actions remain effective and are protective of human health and the environment. DOE also manages the ongoing groundwater cleanup at the Fernald site.

When site cleanup does not allow for full, unrestricted use or if hazardous materials remain onsite, EPA requires the site owner to develop an Institutional Controls Plan pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. Cleanup levels at the Fernald Preserve were established for an undeveloped park, and waste is encapsulated onsite in an engineered On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF). The Fernald Preserve Comprehensive Legacy Management and Institutional Controls Plan (LMICP) documents the institutional controls that are established to ensure that site conditions remain protective of human health and the environment.

The primary institutional controls at the Fernald Preserve include continued federal ownership, restrictions on development of the site, restrictions on residential and agricultural uses, allowance for limited recreational uses, and access controls to prevent unauthorized use of the site. In addition, DOE conducts scheduled inspections, environmental monitoring and sampling to ensure that the protectiveness of the OSDF is maintained.

The LMICP provides more-detailed information and is available at the Fernald Preserve Visitors Center or online at www.lm.doe.gov/Fernald/Documents.aspx.