

TOXIC EXPOSURE



Toxic Exposure: The Agent Orange of the Post-9/11 Veteran Generation

For thousands who served in the post-9/11 generation, exposure to environmental and chemical hazards such as burn pits, depleted uranium and toxic fragments has resulted in potential health risks. Congress must prioritize studying and addressing any harm to veterans that may have been caused by toxic exposures.

TO BETTER PROVIDE FOR VETERANS AFFECTED BY TOXIC EXPOSURE, WWP ENCOURAGES CONGRESS TO:

- Join the Congressional Burn Pit Caucus.
- Establish a study with the National Academy of Medicine.
- Provide access to care at VA related to toxic exposure illnesses.

What are burn pits?

A burn pit is a military site dedicated to the open-air combustion of trash. They were commonly used in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Who is affected?

Exposure to contaminants or other environmental hazards is emerging as a major health issue for post-9/11 veterans.

There are more than 165,000 veterans enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Burn Pit Registry – all of whom served on or after 9/11 and were deployed to a base or station where open burn pits were used.

We believe all contaminants should be recorded and each exposure must be classified by location and contaminant type.

WWP EFFORTS TO SUPPORT VETERANS AFFECTED BY TOXIC EXPOSURE

- In June of 2019, WWP led creation of the Toxic Exposures in the American Military (TEAM) coalition dedicated to tracking and advocating for legislation related to harmful environmental exposures during military service.
- WWP has partnered with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) and Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) to bring public awareness and to investigate the harmful effects of toxic exposures in the military.