

Environmental Insight



Secretary of the Navy Earth Day Message:

At the Department of the Navy (DON), we are guided by our enduring priorities, Strengthening Maritime Dominance, Empowering Our People, and Strengthening Our Partnerships. Everything that we do is in support of the Sailors, Marines, civilians, and their families. This Earth Day we recognize our efforts in support of the environment through the 2022 Earth Day theme, "Invest in our Planet." We focus on all that we do to be good stewards of our environment, sustainable users of resources, and mitigate against and adapt to climate change to ensure mission success. The Department commits substantial resources in our afloat and ashore environmental programs to ensure climate resiliency, comply with environmental laws and regulations, proactively manage natural and cultural resources on our installations and ranges, and protect human health and safety. Clean air, water, and land are essential to the safety and health of our military and civilian personnel, our families, and our



neighboring communities, and the ability of our installations and ranges to continue to meet mission critical functions.



The first Earth Day events took place on April 22, 1970, more than 50 years ago, drawing on emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution and their effects on the environment - a clear recognition of the impact the environment has on our lives. Spearheaded by Senator Gaylord Nelson, the creation of Earth Day elevated environmental degradation into the national agenda. It also marked a turning point for U.S. environmentalism, which captured the growing recognition of the im-

portance of environmental stewardship, and translated it into passage of a series of first-in-their-kind environmental laws by the end of the decade.

Today we are at another important turning point as we confront real-time impacts of climate change, and what it means for mission of the DON. The latest findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued earlier this month by the United Nations make clear now is the time to take action to mitigate climate change and avoid irreversible impacts to the environment. As I stated in my first message nearly nine months ago, I consider climate change to be one of the most pressing challenges



the DON and our nation faces. Climate change is leading to rising sea levels and unpredictable weather in areas where we train and operate. A melting Arctic is creating new areas of operation, causing us to revisit and renew security strategies. These changes make clear that the environment impacts our mission, and the changes in motion now will affect our future fight and our future readiness. (Continued on Page 2)

Environmental Policy and Plans as well as previous Newsletters are located at:

<https://cnrnw.cnic.navy.mil/Installations/NS-Everett/Operations-and Management/Environmental-Support-and-Compliance/>

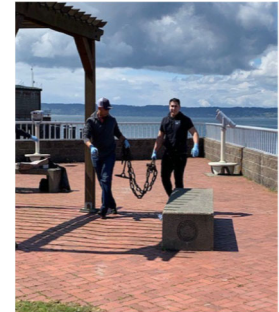
NSE Environmental Staff

Environmental Office: (425) 304-3470

Program	Phone
Spills	(425) 304-3465
Natural Resources	(425) 304-3464
Stormwater, Wastewater, & UST/AST	(425) 304-3277
Air & Drinking Water	(425) 304-3466
Recycling	(425) 304-3071
Hazardous Waste	(425) 304-5987

Earth Day 2022

(Continued from Page 1) Effectively responding to climate change is a key contributor to our ability to strengthen maritime dominance and responsible stewardship of the environment makes us better warfighters. Every investment the Department makes is in support of the warfighter and aligned with our mission priorities. Being smarter consumers of energy and resources means staying on station longer and executing missions in a smarter and more secure way. We protect the environment to demonstrate our commitment to provide safe and healthy communities, build on the responsibilities entrusted to us by the public and our regulatory partners, and ensure that through proper stewardship, we are able to conduct training and operations in a safe and supportable way. All these efforts help achieve our overarching goal of becoming a more capable, agile, and lethal fighting force.



We are a global force facing global challenges, and the importance of prioritizing the care of our environment and combatting climate change are too big for any organization to tackle alone. When we act together we build more meaningful solutions and strengthen our collective security. We are reinforcing relationships with a range of regional, state, federal, local, tribal, and international partners to advance our climate and environmental goals, in alignment with our enduring priorities. To that end I encourage and empower every Sailor, Marine, and Navy civilian to take action both on behalf of the Department and personally to invest in our planet, and develop partnerships in your communities that advance the DON's

mission and take care of our planet. I also urge you to participate in events on our ships, at our installations, or in your communities on April 22nd to commemorate Earth Day. Every action you take helps contribute to our mission and the global mission of protecting the environment and combating climate change.



100 participants collected
145 lbs. of Refuse and 255
lbs. of Recycle Materials
on April 22, 2022 at Naval
Station Everett.



Thank you to all the sailors and civilians who showed up and contributed to enhancing the beauty and water quality at NAVSTA Everett! A huge increase of support from last year!

Stormwater & You

Stormwater is a leading cause of poor water quality.



Rainwater runs down driveways, parking lots, sidewalks, and streets carrying oil, dirt, and other pollutants into nearby waterways. Polluted runoff can degrade plants, fish, shellfish, and other wildlife and also impair the waterbody for recreational uses.

You have a role to play in reducing the amount of pollution from stormwater that runs into streams and lakes. The way you manage your property, your vehicle, your pet's waste, and your garbage will affect pollution from stormwater runoff. **So what can you do?**

- ⇒ Yard waste, such as leaves and grass clippings, should not wash into storm drains because it disrupts the natural balance of local water bodies and streams. Compost or mulch yard waste so it doesn't go into storm drains or streams. Cover piles of dirt or mulch.
- ⇒ Use commercial car washes because they treat or recycle the wash water.
- ⇒ Don't dump vehicle fluids on the street or in a storm drain.
- ⇒ Clean up after your dog. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risk because pet waste bacteria drains into nearby waterways.
- ⇒ Recycle or properly dispose of your waste carefully. Refer to your installations Integrated Solid Waste Manager or Hazardous Waste Manager for questions.

Ask your co-workers if they have thought about stormwater before, and how your team's work could affect the quality of runoff from your work into nearby water bodies.



Trash & Excess Government Property

Trash — All trash should be bagged and placed into your Command's green dumpster. Ensure that all container lids are closed. Recycling should be placed into the appropriate bins and remember to bag all shredded paper and place this in your recycle bins as well. The Integrated Solid Waste (ISW) team collects and empties all the green dumpsters you see on base. Each dumpster is weighed and these refuse weights are tracked to each building. Some of our customers directly pay for their refuse each month. Collection schedules are based on the number of people in the command who will be using the dumpsters and the estimated volume for their use.

Lately, we have seen an increase of illegal dumping. This happens when our military, civilians, contractors and authorized base users bring their personal trash from home and put it into a dumpster on base. This affects our customers when they dispose of refuse and find their container is already full. Thus, creating additional disposal costs to the government, using more labor hours to empty containers as well as alter our diversion rate metrics. Dumping household, personal refuse into installation dumpsters is not allowed.

Rope, metal and any other large or bulky items should not be placed into the dumpsters. These types of items possess a safety concern to the ISW Program team handling the materials and can damage our equipment which use a mechanically compacting function that allows for more efficient collections. Repairs costs are extremely high and lengthy for this type of equipment. Please help us keep everyone safe and our equipment operational and call the ISW/Recycle Office at 304-3071 to schedule an appointment to bring these items to building 2331.

Excess Government Property — The Integrated Solid Waste and Qualified Recycling Programs (QRP) have a list of eligible (and a list of ineligible materials) that they are allowed to handle. If your Command has excess government property or items that are ineligible for the QRP, there are certain requirements for disposal or recycling. Many items **MUST** be turned in to the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) at Fort Lewis. This requires planning in advance. Start by locating the National Stock Number (NSN) for the excess items. A Local Stock Number (LSN) may be used as a last resort, if you cannot identify a valid NSN. It is inherent that you determine the DEMIL (demilitarization) code for each item. A QRP is only allowed to accept DEMIL A items that are on the eligible list. All other DEMIL codes are required to go to DLA. Create an electronic turn-in document, DD Form 1348-1A. Once approved, you will need 4 copies. Then schedule a date/time to turn in your materials at DLA Fort Lewis. The scheduler may be a few months out. Questions regarding the turn in process, should be sent to DRMSLewisDSR@dla.mil. Please note that the ISW/QRP Program is not authorized to override any turn in requirements regarding DLA. We need everyone to do their part in order to efficiently and properly dispose of government items.

MS4 Education Materials

A large part of our MS4 Stormwater Permit is public outreach and education. As we move into nicer weather, you will notice some outdoor stormwater signage and indoor postings around the base which is meant to educate and remind base personnel of the Navy's commitment to stormwater compliance. The intent is to provide positive reinforcement as well as provide our contact information for reporting spills. Our program has both the pictured magnets available for posting on refrigerators in your command. We plan on passing them out to EWCCs, but if a command representative would like to come by and pick some up, please let us know so we can arrange a time to meet you. Please help us keep these magnets attached to refrigerators and postings posted. EWCCs are our conduit to the tenant commands on base, and your support of our environmental programs goes a long way in ensuring your command's understanding and compliance. If you need additional magnets or replacements, please let us know.

