

Environmental Insight



Upcoming Events!

Earth Day Volunteer Events

Naval Station Everett

Friday, April 21, 1000-1200. Shoreline and base cleanup effort.

Naval Radio Station Jim Creek

Saturday, April 22, 0900-1300 Habitat restoration projects (spreading mulch around trees we planted, removing invasive plants, etc).



Contact NSE's Stormwater Program Manager at (425) 304-3277 for questions or to sign up for the NSE volunteer event or NSE's Natural Resources Program Manager at (425) 304-3464 for questions or to sign up for the Jim Creek volunteer event

Impacts of Stormwater runoff on Southern Resident Killer Whales

The Southern Resident killer whale (SRKW) resides in the Puget Sound and is listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. These whales are also protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and have a Recovery Plan developed by the National Marine Fisheries Service.



High levels of persistent organic pollutants (e.g. PCBs and DDT) and newer pollutants, such as those found in flame retardants (PBDEs), may impact the SRKW population recovery.¹ When killer whales are food-deprived, they rely on their blubber for survival. When they're using their blubber, harmful pollutants accumulated in the blubber over time are released into the whales. These pollutants may cause reproduction issues for the whales.

By following both MSGP and MS4 permit requirements and following stormwater Best Management Practices, we can help protect these SRKWs. Read more about stormwater Best Management Practices on page 2.

References

1. United States Environmental Protection Agency. 2021. Southern Resident Killer Whales. <https://www.epa.gov/salish-sea/southern-resident-killer-whales>

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/>

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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 |

Keep it Clean



Good Housekeeping. You must keep clean all exposed areas that are potential sources of pollutants. You must perform good housekeeping measures in order to minimize pollutant discharges, including but not limited to, the following:

Sweep or vacuum at regular intervals or, alternatively, wash down the area and collect and/or treat, and properly dispose of the washdown water;

Store materials in appropriate containers;

Keep all dumpster lids closed when not in use. For dumpsters and roll off boxes that do not have lids and could leak, ensure that discharges have a control (e.g., secondary containment, treatment).

Minimize the potential for waste, garbage and floatable debris to be discharged by keeping exposed areas free of such materials, or by intercepting them before they are discharged. Also, dispose of cigarette butts in close-lidded cigarette waste containers.



Only rain down the drain.

MS4 Education Materials

A large part of our MS4 Stormwater Permit is public outreach and education. 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. 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.



Recycling



Let's Talk about Trash

Naval Station Everett's Integrate Solid Waste (ISW) Program oversees the refuse and recycling for Naval Station Everett, Smokey Point Support Complex, Radio Station Jim Creek and the Resort & Conference Center at Pacific Beach. This 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. Collections are based on the number of people in the command who will be using the dumpsters and the estimated volume for their use.

Also, batteries, fluorescent tubes, scrap metal, and cigarette butts were found in dumpster bins during a recent Tier III inspection. Batteries (except Lead-acid) and unbroken fluorescent tubes should be turned into universal waste containers. Hazardous waste should not be thrown in dumpsters and should contact the Hazardous Waste Program Manager for disposal. Metal should be disposed of in scrap metal bins, and cigarette butts should be placed in close-lidded cigarette waste containers for fire safety.



Quick Reminder: all trash should be bagged and placed into your Command's green dumpster. Ensure that all container lids are closed after disposing of trash. Rope, furniture, metal and any other large or bulky items should not be placed into the dumpster. These types of items possess a safety concern to the ISW Program team handling the materials and can damage our equipment. If large and heavy items are placed into the dumpster, this could cause damage to the truck which uses a mechanically compacted function that allows more efficient collections. Repairs costs are extremely high and lengthy for this type of truck. Please help us keep everyone safe and our equipment operational.

Contact NSE's Integrated Solid Waste Program at (425) 304-3071 with questions on refuse disposal or to schedule an extra pick up



Help keep wildlife wild and healthy. Please do NOT feed wildlife on base such as ducks, geese, gulls, raccoons, rabbits, squirrels, etc.. One way you can help reduce wildlife conflicts with people is by not feeding wildlife near human populations.