

In This Edition...

Pg. 1. Upcoming Events / SRKW

March 2025

Pg. 2. Stormwater cont'd

Volume 6, Issue 1

Quarterly

Pg. 3. Recycling / Buy Nothing

Environmental Insight



Upcoming Events!

Volunteer Events



Naval Station Everett

Tuesday, April 22, 1345-1600. Shoreline cleanup effort.

Naval Radio Station Jim Creek

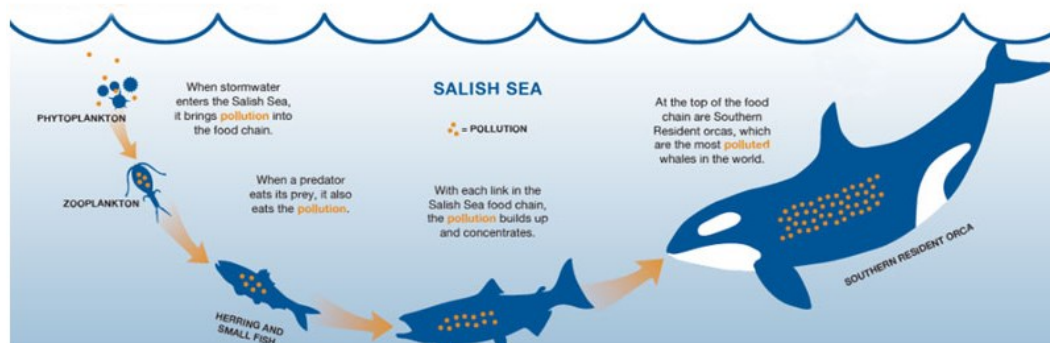
Saturday, April 26, 0800-1400. Habitat restoration projects (planting, removing invasive plants, etc).

Contact NSE's Stormwater Program Manager at (425) 304-3277 for questions or to sign up for the NSE volunteer event or Jim Creek at (425) 304-5367 for questions or to sign up for the Jim Creek volunteer event.



Impacts of Stormwater Runoff on Southern Resident Killer Whales

As of July 2024, the Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW) dropped from 75 to 73.



Contaminants enter the Salish Sea and other waterways from rainwater running off parking lots, houses, and industrial sites; from sewer and other wastewater systems; from the air; from other animals; and from direct pollution, such as oil and chemical spills. Once there, they are eaten and absorbed by the smallest of animals, which are eaten by salmon, and ultimately eaten by orcas.

Contaminants are poorly metabolized, meaning they stay active in the body longer, causing more damage over time. Contaminants can cause health problems in orcas and their food, such as altering their hormone levels, making it harder to have babies or increasing miscarriages, reducing their ability to fight diseases, damaging their neurological systems, and causing cancer.

When SRKW begin to suffer from a lack of food, their bodies use their fat to maintain their energy. The contaminants stored in their fat are then released into their bodies, potentially making them sicker. Some progress the SRKW Task Force made under one of its recommendations is reducing stormwater threats that are harmful to SRKW. Tire dust contains a chemical (6PPD-quinone) that is toxic to aquatic organisms. In August 2024, Washington Department of Ecology updated the Toxics in Aquatic Life criteria and set limits for some chemicals to protect aquatic life from both immediate effects and long-term effects. New additions to Washington's aquatic life criteria include PFOA, PFOS, and 6PPD-quinone.

By following MSGP and MS4 permit requirements and properly maintaining stormwater BMPs we can work together to help protect these beautiful whales.

References

1. Defenders of Wildlife and Washington Environmental Council.
2. Southern Resident Orca Recovery. Task Force Recommendation 31. 2025. <https://orca.wa.gov/recommendation/31/>
3. Southern Resident Orca Recovery. Task Force Recommendation 32. 2025. <https://orca.wa.gov/recommendation/32/>

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

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.

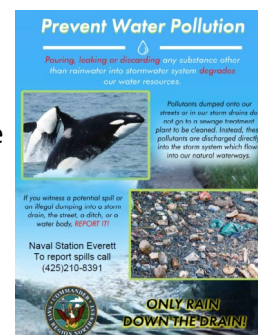
Only rain down the drain.

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.



Buy Nothing



With everyone back to work and office spaces getting cleaned and rearranged to accommodate personnel, you might find that you have items/property you no longer need. Before sending items to DLA Disposition, please post it on NAVFAC NW Buy Nothing page. The page gives an opportunity to post items, so your fellow teammates have an opportunity to snag it before it heads down the road.

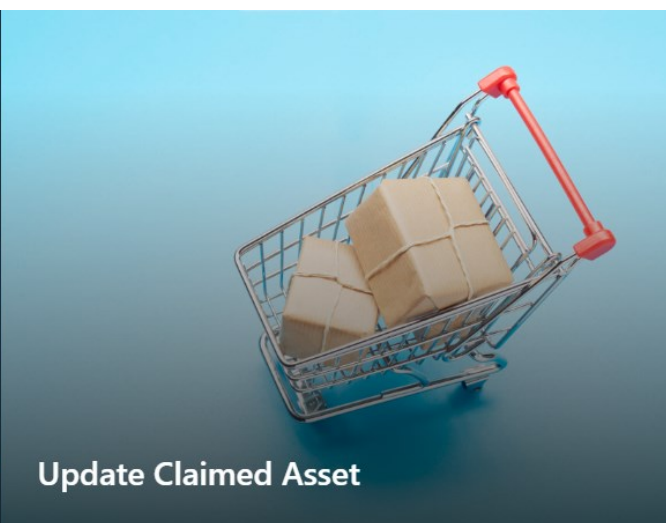
This page was created with the hopes to reutilize items that we already have around the office areas without having the cost of buying new items, and the cost of disposing the items no longer wanted/needed. Items must be DEMIL A, which is property from your office cubicle or workspace. Some examples of items that can be posted on the page are file cabinets, file holders, and an ergonomic foot rest.

If you have any questions, please submit them on the Buy Nothing page.

You can also find directions on how to turn in your property to DLA Disposition from your area.



Add New Asset



Update Claimed Asset



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.