

Department of the Navy

Environmental Restoration

February 2002

Community Involvement

A Key to Cleanup and Closure





Foreword

The Department of the Navy (DON) has installations located in close proximity to residential areas in many locations in the United States. Many of these activities have operated continuously for fifty, one hundred or even two hundred years. As science progressed, the Navy and Marine Corps determined that hazardous waste management and disposal practices commonly used in our country and around the world had a severe negative impact on the environment, and were a potential threat to surrounding communities. Beginning in the 1980's, DON undertook a massive program to restore all areas damaged by our past practices and operations, and took immediate steps to eliminate all future impacts.

Since beginning this program, the DON has learned that community involvement is one key element in bringing cleanup projects to a successful conclusion. Based on that knowledge, the DON Environmental Restoration Program has crafted new opportunities for dialogue with community residents and other stakeholders. We have improved interaction with the Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs) through workshops, and created new training options and informational materials to help people better understand our cleanup program. Community members are providing valuable input that can enable us to complete site cleanups more efficiently and in a way that matches local needs. We have also made strides by developing new policies and guidance, and investing in new technologies.

This Environmental Restoration Plan for FY 2002-2006 explains our vision, highlights recent initiatives, outlines our future plans, and provides current and future funding data. Chapter 5 includes quick-reference data summaries for each installation. Additional information is available at <http://www.5yrplan.nfesc.navy.mil>

As we move toward our goal of completing all sites by 2014, the Environmental Restoration program remains committed to protecting human health and the environment, providing safe places for our military and civilian personnel to live and work, and being good neighbors to the communities in which we operate. We welcome and encourage your interest in our ongoing cleanup projects.



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Comments

The Department of the Navy recognizes that cleaning up the nation's past hazardous-waste disposal sites will impact many different segments of the Navy and Marine Corps, from the Remedial Project Managers working on installation investigations and remediations to the research laboratories developing new technologies to assist in the cleanup. We encourage all comments on the plan. Please mail your comments to the address below, submitting as many pages as necessary. Our goal is to make this plan user friendly and responsive to your needs. Your input is greatly appreciated.

Please take a moment to fill in the following comments page, attaching additional pages if necessary, and return it to:

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Go to <http://5yrplan.nfesc.navy.mil/>
for more information.

