



2014 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Sustainability, Industrial Installation Award Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, CA

Each year since 1962, the Department of Defense has honored individuals, teams, and installations for their outstanding achievements and innovative environmental practices and partnerships that promote the quality of life and increase efficiencies without compromising mission success. A panel of judges with relevant expertise, education, or experience from Federal and state agencies, academia, and the public evaluated each of the nominees to select winners of the nine categories that cover six subject areas: natural resources conservation; environmental quality; sustainability; environmental restoration; cultural resources management; and environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition. As structured since Fiscal Year 2009, some of the awards within these categories are on a two-year cycle with large/small and non-industrial/industrial installations competing in alternate years.

About the Sustainability Category

In 2014, the Sustainability category covered industrial installations with a primary mission of manufacturing, maintaining, or rehabilitating military equipment. This award recognizes efforts to prevent or eliminate pollution at the source, including practices that increase efficiency and sustainability in the use of raw materials, energy, water, or other resources. The 2014 winner of the Sustainability, Industrial Installation award is *Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach*.

About Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California

Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach is a key munitions supply point for the Pacific Fleet ships homeported in San Diego. Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach's population is around 750, and its land area measures 5,000 acres. The base is host to Navy Munitions Command Continental US Center at Naval Surface Warfare Center in Corona, as well as several other Navy and U.S. Marine Corps commands. The base is also home to the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge. Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach continues to make exceptional progress to achieve presidential and command sustainability goals having exceeded Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 targets for energy reduction, water conservation, recycling, elimination of hazardous waste, and implementation of Low Impact Development. These accomplishments are part of the command's Environmental Management System (EMS), which provides a framework to engage the entire organization in the pursuit of pollution prevention and improved environmental quality. Central to the program's success are the Goal Owners, the Environmental Team, leadership support, and engagement of operators through the SMART Shop Process, which provides supervisors with SMART Binders, a simple guide to effectively using EMS to support achievement of sustainability goals.



Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC), Corona Division Commanding Officer Captain Eric Ver Hage (center of photo), presents "SMART Shop" Environmental certificate to Navy Gage and Standards Laboratory personnel, signifying that NSWC Corona's Measurement Science and Technology Laboratory has met Detachment Norco Environmental Management System requirements.

Some of Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach's accomplishments include:

- Reduced the annual utility-provided energy intensity by 3% leading to 30% by FY 2015 compared to a FY 2003 baseline.
- Reduced natural gas utility cost from \$35,000 to \$10,000; the total energy consumption base wide was reduced by 58%.
- Increased renewable energy use to 7.5% of total energy base wide.
- Reduced water intensity by 2% per year as part of the 26% reduction goal by 2020 from a 2007 baseline; reduced potable water usage by 22.5 million gallons per year (19% water usage reduction) and saved \$62,600.
- Increased solid waste diversion rate by 6% annually over FY 2008 baseline to a 50% diversion rate by 2015.
- Reduced hazardous waste generation by 10% below FY 2012 values. The construction and demolition program diverted 4,491 tons in FY 2013, with an economic benefit of saving almost \$290,000. This resulted in a total program diversion rate of 97%.
- Designed and installed Low Impact Development projects wherever feasible to minimize storm water runoff. These implemented Low Impact Development measures included grade to permeable surfaces, bioretention, filter/buffer strips, swales, infiltration trenches, and native plant landscaping.



Naval Weapons Station and Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge hosted an event during which volunteers from public and community groups removed invasive plants, prepared the land for restoration, and planted the highest number of native plants since the first of these annual events nine years ago.

Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach's commendable achievements in exceeding goals in energy reduction, water conservation, recycling, eliminating hazardous waste, and implementing Low Impact Development projects demonstrated innovative approaches to sustainability in the face of economic challenges.

**Past Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards
Sustainability Category Winners**

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| 2013 - 673d Air Base Wing, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska | 2004 - Robins Air Force Base, Georgia |
| 2013 - Dorenda Coleman, Arizona Army National Guard | 2003 - Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Washington |
| 2012 - Scranton Army Ammunition Plant, Pennsylvania | 2002 - Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia |
| 2011 - Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington | 2001 - U.S. Army Transportation Center and Fort Eustis, Virginia |
| 2011 - The Exchange Corporate Sustainability Program, Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Texas | 2000 - Radford Army Ammunition Plant, Virginia |
| 2010 - Fleet Readiness Center Southwest, California | 2000 - HQ III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas |
| 2009 - Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington | 1999 - Robins Air Force Base, Georgia |
| 2009 - 14th Civil Engineer Squadron Pollution Prevention Team, Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi | 1999 - Marine Corps Base Hawaii |
| 2008 - Robins Air Force Base, Georgia | 1998 - Robins Air Force Base, Georgia |
| 2007 - Marine Corps Base, Hawaii | 1998 - Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, Colorado |
| 2007 - Pollution Prevention Afloat Team Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, DC | 1997 - Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas |
| 2006 - Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma | 1997 - Fort Lewis, Washington |
| 2005 - Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia | 1996 - Robins Air Force Base, Georgia |
| | 1996 - Dyess Air Force Base, Texas |
| | 1995 - Kelly Air Force Base, Texas |
| | 1995 - Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, California |
| | 1994 - Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma |
| | 1993 - Navy Aviation Depot, Florida |