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Volume 2, Issue 7

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## RCC Project team cleans up last large liquid waste sites

The Field Remediation team has finished cleaning up the last of Hanford's major liquid waste sites along the Columbia River. In the last decade, workers have removed 5.6 million tons of contaminated material from 65 liquid waste sites in the Columbia River corridor.



*Scott Parnell, Field Remediation Project, explained to local reporters how the last two major liquid waste sites in the Columbia River corridor were cleaned up.*

“This is a significant achievement in the cleanup of the Hanford Site,” said Rick Donahoe, the Field Remediation Cleanup Project director. “It finishes an entire class of waste sites, eliminating contamination sources that ultimately threatened the groundwater and the river.”

Backfill of the 116-N-1 Crib and Trench in the 100-N Area began in mid-April, making it the last of Hanford's major liquid waste sites in the old

## Help your team “Claim the Cup!”

The Summer Safety Campaign began June 5 and runs through Sept 30. You can help your team claim the safety cup by focusing on your safety and the safety of your co-workers. Together, we can achieve our goal of zero.

The River Corridor Closure Project had only one recordable injury during the Spring Safety Campaign, which ran from February 14 through May 28. Congratulations to everyone who went the entire campaign without an injury.



## “Howler” on-line

River Corridor Closure Project employees can access current and back issues of The LSIT Howler online at <http://wch.erc.rl.gov/sh/Howler.htm>.

You can access The Howler by opening the RCC Project intranet. After clicking “I agree,” click on the “Safety Information” link on the left and then click on “The LSIT Howler Newsletter” link on the Safety Information page.

The Howler also will be distributed each month by email to RCC Project employees who have e-mail accounts.

If you have suggestions for future articles or feedback about The LSIT Howler, contact Len Morgan at 430-1405 or Dave Reeve at 529-2645.

plutonium production reactor areas to be cleaned up and backfilled.

“The amount of clean soil being moved to fill in the excavated site would cover a football field to the height of a 16-story building,” Rick said.

The team completed another even more impressive group of liquid waste sites in February. In the last three years, more than one million tons of contaminated materials were removed and disposed from five neighboring sites in K Area, including the massive 116-K-2 Mile-Long Trench, two retention basins and emergency pond and connecting pipelines.

The 645,000 cubic yards of soil used to fill those excavations is equal in volume to a 37-story skyscraper with a football field-sized footprint.

The team’s next challenge is to retrieve solid waste from burial grounds surrounding the reactors. When these two major tasks have been completed the area will be ready for re-use as envisioned in plans for the Hanford Reach National Monument.

***So far, workers have removed nearly 6.5 of the estimated 10 million tons of contaminated material from Hanford’s Columbia River corridor. The total includes material from the liquid waste sites and burial grounds, as well as debris from demolished buildings.***

## A new look for N Area

You’ll notice something different in the N Area – several new, colorful safety banners.

“We had the 10 banners installed in several different locations throughout the N Area as a way to help us maintain our safety awareness,” said Chris Watson, D4 100 Area manager. “The banners are just another way of reminding ourselves every day that safety is everyone’s job and zero is the only goal.”

The banners were hung around the N Area in April thanks to HAMTC painters Doyle Hamilton and John Higbee.



## Picnic Plans

Mark August 5 on your calendar for the 1st Annual RCC Project Employee Picnic

More information will be provided soon. If you are interested in helping, contact Lynette Bennett at 531-5974.

## First River Corridor Closure Project golf tournament set

The River Corridor Employees' Association 1st Annual Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, July 15, at Canyon Lakes Golf Course in Kennewick.

Registration is open for RCC employees. Guests are welcome, but at least two RCC employees must be included in each foursome. There are a limited number of slots available at 7:30 a.m. and plenty of slots for the 1 p.m. tee time.

Entry fee is \$65 per person and includes green fee, golf cart, range balls, steak dinner and prizes. Registration must be paid in full to secure your preferred start time.

Registration forms are available at [www.washingtonclosure.com/empassoc/](http://www.washingtonclosure.com/empassoc/). Reply by email or contact Tommy Houck at 375-4672 if you have questions.

## Is Toastmasters for you?

Whether you're speaking to the board of directors, your customers, your co-workers or your kids, Toastmasters can help you do it better.

# Employee recognition program expanded

The River Corridor Employee Recognition Program now includes two types of recognition options.

**On-the-Spot Awards** recognize individuals or team employees who demonstrate extra effort, innovative problem solving, creative leadership or effective work practices that

improve or enhance project success. Recognized employees may choose a \$50 gift card from a variety of vendors.

The new Osprey Awards recognize individuals or team members extra effort that positively impacts project schedule, cost, processes and overall effectiveness. In some cases, the influence and benefit of employee efforts may extend beyond the company to other DOE projects. Recognized employees will receive cash awards ranging from \$150-750.

Employees of Washington Closure Hanford, Eberline Services Hanford and Integrated Logistics Services are eligible for awards. Nomination forms and program details are available at <http://wch.erc.rl.gov/hr> or contact Carrie Locke at 372-9500 or Faith Powers at 375-4671.

Thanks to the Employee Recognitions Programs task team: Terri Baker, Lynette Bennett, Delia Byers, Lynn Goulet, Glen Jones, Kim Koegler, Beci Lambert, Jim Rugg, Jerry Wolski, Carrie Locke and Faith Powers.

Recognition of significant safety accomplishments are processed through the Safety Department's recognition program. For more information, contact Terri Baker 372-9103 or Ken Jenkins 392-1817.



## “Topping out” the new building



*An evergreen tree and a flag were attached to the final steel beam placed on the new Washington Closure Hanford building last week “Topping out” is a custom in the steel construction industry often considered to suggest patriotism or the American dream.*

# A glimpse at cleanup results

The River Corridor Closure Project is making a difference at Hanford.

The tables below depict the planned and actual accomplishments for the current fiscal year.

**Note:** Current "baseline" chart numbers are from the DOE-approved Integrated Baseline Plan and represent planned work.

Todd Nelson, Communications, joined the LabOratories Toastmasters club about a year ago. "Regardless of your experience, Toastmasters provides an opportunity to develop leadership skills, practice public speaking and get constructive feedback in a friendly, comfortable environment," he said. "At \$44 for six months, Toastmasters is a very effective and inexpensive professional development tool."

The LabOratories Toastmasters club meets each Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. in the Mt. Rainier Room (1B40) in 3350 George Washington Way (the old Bechtel Hanford building). Guests are welcome.

For more information, contact Todd at 372-9097. Or, visit the club's website at <http://laboratories.freetoasthost.com/>



## Did you know?

You can access the RCC Project News from the Washington Closure Hanford external website at <http://www.washingtonclosure.com>

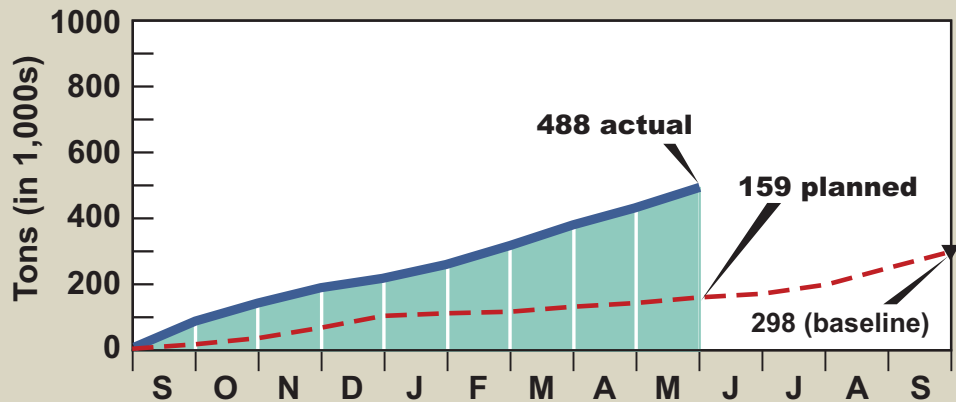
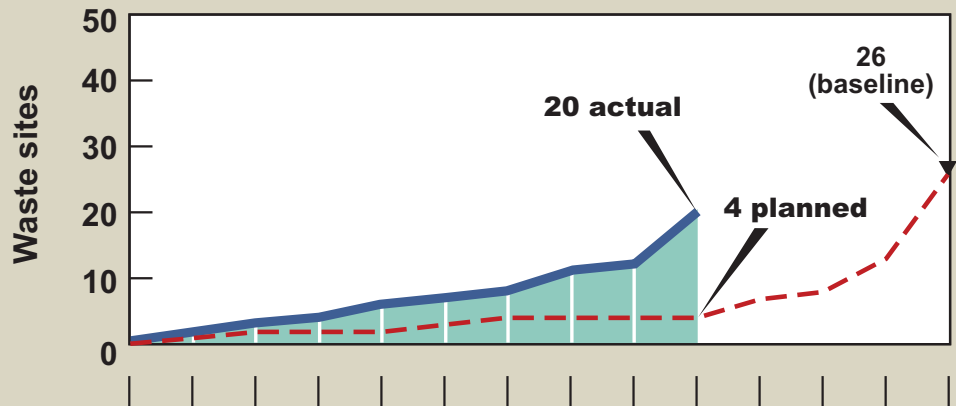
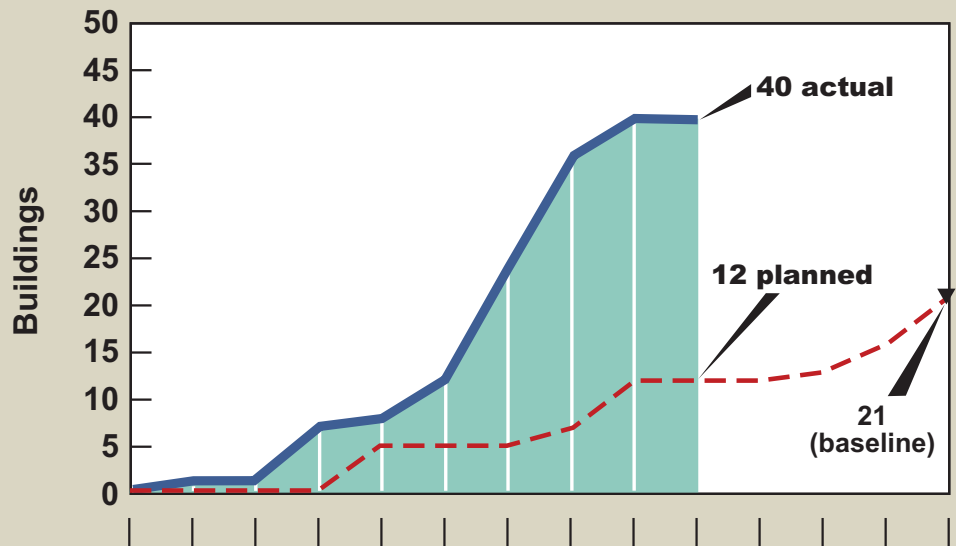
### Comments or questions?

Please call Edye Jenkins at 372-9176

Or you may Email:

[wchnews@wch-rcc.com](mailto:wchnews@wch-rcc.com)

## Cleanup results



As of May 2006