

DoD CHESAPEAKE BAY PROGRAM JOURNAL

PROTECTING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY FOR MILITARY READINESS, FOR OUR COMMUNITY, FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The Federal Funding Inventory Data Call is in Progress!

By: Melanie Frisch, DoD Chesapeake Bay Program

Annually the REC Chesapeake Bay Program Office (CBPO) collects success stories, photos and specific program data, and submits the information collected to the US Environmental Protection Agency to demonstrate the DoD's commitment to the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay watershed and to meet the requirements of Executive Order 13508. Responses to FY-2012 Federal Funding Inventory Data Call (FFI Data Call) released on 8 November 2012 are being collected through the implementation of the newly created DoD Chesapeake Bay Program (CBP) Access Database. As this is the first year the database is being used, specific installation information is required. While the Bay Program office recognizes this requires extra work on the installation's part, we greatly appreciate their efforts to ensure adequate information is available to report on DoD's Bay efforts. The individual installation databases will be consolidated into a master DoD database, where information for the EPA's 2013 Progress Report, States and the District Columbia reporting requirements, and DoD reporting can be easily retrieved and reported. Maintaining the detailed information in the CBP Access Database will reduce the number of CBP data calls in a year.

Based on concerns raised by Service Leads and installation staff, the CBPO has examined the timing of the annual data calls. To avoid requiring responses during the winter holidays, the FY2013 FFI data call will be released in August 2013 and will be due back before Thanksgiving. Installations will receive their installation specific database for updating information previously submitted and the addition of new projects. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions on how to improve the overall DoD Bay database and how the data is collected, please submit them to Melanie Frisch at melanie.frisch@navy.mil by the close of business 28 February 2013. Thank you.

Melanie A. Frisch DoD Chesapeake Bay Program State Liaison





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Approved! 2013 Chesapeake Bay Commanders' Conference

By: Sarah Diebel, DoD Regional Environmental Coordination Office EPA Region 3

Along with April showers bringing May flowers, April is also the month for the 2013 Chesapeake Bay Commanders' Conference. The DoD Chesapeake Bay Program is excited to finally have approval to host the conference! The approval package was signed by the Department of the Navy, Office of the Administrative Assistant (DoN/AA) on 29 November 2012. With the approval, the DON/AA wants to ensure that all attendees are mindful of the need to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars while attending this event; ensure that personnel on TAD/TDY are to be reimbursed for meals and lodging at the authorized per diem rate; and attendees should maximize the use of carpooling where feasible and if not feasible, attendees must ensure rental cars are authorized.

The conference will be held on 11 April 2013 in Quantico, VA at the United States Marine Corps Base Quantico. REC Bay Staff are commencing detailed planning to execute a successful conference.

The conference will introduce Installation Commanders to the DoD Chesapeake Bay Program and their role within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Objectives of the conference are to:

- Highlight the Chesapeake Bay as a national treasure
- Discuss how the DoD Chesapeake Bay Program interfaces with the military functions, the mission and readiness
- Educate Commanders on the DoD's commitments under EO 13508
- Highlight the DoD Chesapeake Bay Program and accomplishments



For more information on the conference and to pre-register go to the following URL: https://www.bakerprojects.com/dod_cbpconf/. Save the date postcards and invitations will be sent out as the conference draws closer. If you have additional questions, please email sarah.diebel@navy.mil.

JOINT BASE MYER - HENDERSON HALL COMPOSTS

By: Wanda Gooden, Directorate of Environmental Management

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall (JBM-HH) is a small, yet high profile installation located in the Chesapeake

Bay Watershed. This installation is comprised of three military bases physically situated in both Arlington, VA and the District of Columbia. JBM-HH is home to The Old Guard, the Official Army Honor Guard which provides military funeral escorts at Arlington National Cemetery, among other duties. The Caisson Platoon of the Old Guard operates two stables on Fort Myer that houses over fifty ceremonial horses at one time.

Before the composting project, the horse and stable waste created at the stables was being placed in a dumpster and then transferred to the

local landfill. Given the location and space restraints of the installation, JBM-HH had a unique challenge in implementing the composting project. The common practice of windrow composting could not be performed, and therefore an invessel composting unit had to be utilized.

The composting technology finally chosen was a completely

enclosed unit that could process approximately one ton of material every day. This type of unit is particularly beneficial

because environmental conditions, such as temperature, moisture, and aeration are closely controlled. JBM-HH also installed a biofilter attached to the unit to filter any odors associated with composting horse manure and stable waste. Thus far, the biofilter has been effective at eliminating any potential foul smells.

Under the current operation, JBM-HH is composting over 22,000 pounds of horse and stable waste each month. The newly created compost is then used throughout the installation in lieu of mulch and fertilizers. JBM-HH is able to use all of the compost on the

grounds, including in flower beds and around trees.

JBM-HH's composting project reinforces the installation's commitment to sustainability. Diverting this organic waste not only reduces the amount of material in the landfill, but it also avoids the production of methane and leachate that



Joint Base Myer - Henderson Hall compositing site











would ultimately form. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas and leachate containing harmful substances that can enter the environment and ultimately impact the Chesapeake Bay.

Composting on the installation is also helping reduce one of the Chesapeake Bay's biggest threats: excess nutrients entering the waterways. These nutrients can come from a variety of sources, including runoff from suburban areas, such as lawns and gardens.

JBM-HH understands that its role within the Chesapeake Bay watershed is to be proactive in implementing longterm, sustainable projects that protect the Bay.



In vessel compositing unit with biofilter at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

Shoreline Restoration Project Completed at Naval Supply Facility

First posted in OPNAV, November 16, 2012

With a final tree-planting event conducted at the end of October, volunteers and conservation professionals completed the restoration of Potomac River shoreline at Naval Support Facility (NSF) Indian Head and the base's Stump Neck Annex. The conclusion of the week-long tree-planting project on Oct. 27 marked the successful end of the five-year, \$20 million project that protects both the environmental health of regional waters and \$54 million of Navy infrastructure on the installation.

The story began in the 1990s, when erosion collapsed a road and threatened mission-critical structures at NSF Indian Head. In 2003, the Navy proposed a plan to protect both its assets and the environmental quality of the Potomac River. The solution, a living shoreline of breakwaters, sills and native vegetation, has set the standard in the Chesapeake Bay region for environmental stewardship. While the Navy provided funding for the construction of the living shoreline, volunteers from several organizations, led by the National Aquarium Conservation Team, played a key role in planting the native vegetation that not only protects threatened land, but also provides habitat for river life. "This is the largest and longest project the team has taken on," said Charmaine Dahlenberg, project manager for the National Aquarium's Conservation Team.

Since construction began in 2007, volunteers from a diverse group of conservation-minded organizations, such as AmeriCorps and the Maryland Conservation Corps, partnered with the Navy and the National Aquarium Conservation Team to turn the vision of a living shoreline into a reality. Dahlenberg praised the efforts of her organization and the volunteers who supported her. "The Conservation Department at the Aquarium is a team of five women and we do everything when it comes to logistically planning these events," she said. "When it comes to the hard physical work, we would never get it done unless we had our volunteers... and it is extreme physical work!"



Slope and sill grading that took place in 2008.

Volunteers worked through many challenges, not least of which were planting and tending to native vegetation during the hot summer months. While the gratification is not quite instant, the project's large scale and multiyear timeline allowed the conservation professionals and volunteers to witness the fruits of their labor.

"The grasses have taken off and they look awesome," said Dahlenberg. "To see them grow so significantly in so short of time is amazing. When the tide comes in, we see the amount of wildlife, like fish swimming in the grasses. That is something that was not here before. So we built them their habitat and now they are able to survive. That's huge. Seeing the wildlife utilize [the living shoreline] reassures us that this is needed and that we're doing something really good for the environment and helping the base out as well."

Some of the volunteers who worked on the last day of planting were new to the project. For others, it was the last of several trips they made to Indian Head and Stump Neck throughout the project. Everyone that offered comment appreciated the opportunity to contribute to the region's environmental health and especially, to simply enjoy being a













part of nature. "It's really cool to come back each year to see how the grasses and trees have progressed," said Laura Cattell Noll, a conservation technician at the National Aquarium.

Cattell Noll first came to NSF Indian Head as a volunteer; later, she was hired onto the aquarium's Conservation Team. "There is a sort of succession in forest development and to see the trees growing and new species come to where we've planted is awesome."

The shoreline restoration helped Cattell Noll increase her knowledge about conservation. "It takes a lot to do a project like this and I've learned a lot from Charmaine about what's required, the planning," she said. "The fertilizer stakes, the tree tubes, ordering the trees, having them delivered to multiple access points along the water and mixing the species. Making sure [native vegetation is] spread out and not clustered … there's a lot of finesse and planning and I've learned a lot."

While Cattell Noll used the work at Indian Head and Stump Neck to turn her passion into a career, most volunteers simply wanted to serve the greater good. Fire Controlman 1st Class Justin Turner already gives back to the community through his military service, but the Sailor assigned to the Aegis Trainingand Readiness Center in Dahlgren, VA says it was his love of the outdoors that drew him to the beach for the last day of planting. "I like the environment," he said. "I like trees; I like being outside. When I was a little kid I was outside playing in the mud. This was another opportunity to be outside."

Turner hoped to return to Stump Neck in the coming months to check up on his handiwork. "The trees I planted, I put some big rocks beside them so I can come back later and see how they're doing," he said.

John Sweet, a Department of Defense employee and Sierra Club volunteer, volunteered alongside his wife Meredith. As planting concluded, the Sweets enjoyed a picnic lunch on a scenic bluff overlooking the river. "I love what they're doing here," he said. "I'd love it if we could get more programs like this and include farmers. One of the Bay's biggest problems today is storm water runoff."

Of all the volunteers who gave so many hours protecting Navy property and the environment, Mary Sidlowski may have contributed the most. Respected by the conservation professionals and volunteers alike, she volunteered for the duration of the shoreline restoration. Sidlowski's perspective reflected sense of the satisfaction volunteers enjoyed while restoring the Indian Head and Stump Neck shoreline. "It's an absolutely wonderful feeling," she said. "You can give money, but you never really see where it goes." Sidlowski also summarized the can-do attitude of the volunteers who contributed so much. "Wherever the next project is, I'll go."



Second Season Planting, Pickerel Weed in foreground. NSF Indian Head MD, 13 August 2010.

Pennsylvania Environmental Partnership Meeting

By: Sarah Diebel, DoD Regional Environmental Coordination Office EPA Region 3

REC Staff facilitated the routine meeting of the PA Partnership on 6 December 2012 in Harrisburg, PA. Service leads and installations participated in person and via conference call. PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) provided updates on policy and legislative/regulatory actions including evaluating and streamlining their permit application process. Installations also received information on PA's 2012 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report. PA indicated the report is currently in draft form and their department is working through comments received. The report will be finalized early next year. EPA provided installations with routine findings from their multi-media inspections and enforcement actions. EPA also indicated their FY13 multi-media inspections will include

six DoD installations in Region 3 for 2013; no multi-media inspections in PA; and installations should be prepared for single media inspections. PADEP and REC staff also presented a joint presentation on coordinating Phase II WIP data collection. Additional internal DoD discussions will be conducted in order to determine the appropriate path forward. Installations provided updates on their compliance programs and Tobyhanna will be presenting next meeting in July. The group requested the next meeting focus on air compliance. If you would like to be added to the partnership's distribution list send an email to sarah.diebel@navy.mil.













Center for Watershed Protection Conference

By: Kelly Duckworth, Michael Baker Jr., Inc.

In honor of celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Center for Watershed Protection (Center), the Association of Watershed and Stormwater Professionals (AWSPs) planned a three-day conference on 8 October 2012 to provide a forum of networking and discussion between practitioners, regulators, scientists, and other stormwater advocates. Of the approximate 350 attendees, eight program tracks were offered which included: Watershed Stewardship, Integrated Water Resources Planning, Stormwater Management, Best Management Practice Maintenance, Erosion and Sediment Control, Stream Restoration, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, and Financing. A copy of all the presentations can be viewed at http://www.cwp2012event.awsps.org/program-information.

Many topics were discussed such as retrofitting, green infrastructure, illicit discharges and financing program and presented through many ongoing case studies in Chesapeake Bay Watershed counties. Though the conference was based primarily on case studies, one presentation in particular that stood out was titled Redevelopment in Urban Watersheds. Combining Low-Impact Development and Green Infrastructure practices is becoming more of a trend. In fact, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds partnered to develop a handbook on green infrastructure and low impact development best management practices incorporating successful case study programs. One of the case studies was presented at the CWP conference. The design challenge was to redevelop a 12-acre site next to a major river which included many problematic aspects such as: reducing a phosphorus TMDL by 50%; managing the 80% impervious area; treating the land as a brownfield site and an historic resource; capturing and treating the first inch of impervious areas; and finally, meeting state stormwater and groundwater recharge criteria.

In order to reduce and treat the impervious areas, grass filter strips and infiltration trenches replaced pavement around the building perimeters to infiltrate roof runoff. Additionally, grass filter strips were placed into deep infiltration trenches in areas were soils were uncontaminated. Courtyard gardens were installed to add a landscape feature, but to also serve as a pollutant removal function. Finally, stormwater overflow for large events were directed to a closed pipe system. Project highlights included improved water quality benefits, partnership through the city and developer, increased public access to the river and an economic revitalization with new businesses opening on the site. Under Executive Order (EO) 13508, primarily this project would meet the Restore Clean Water goal and secondarily meet the Conserve Land and Increase Public Access goal.

The conference concluded with a lesson in how investing in infrastructure changes will increase environmental, economic, and social benefits stemming from watershed protection, restoration, and enhancement of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Highlights of the Chesapeake Bay Action Team Meeting - 20 December 2012

By: Michael Baker Jr., Inc.

The DoD CBP Office Staff provided updates on the EO 13508 FY12 Action Plan and updates on State/District actions.

DoD Chesapeake Bay Program Update

The EO 13508 FY13 Action Plan was released during the week of 17 December 2012. A press conference was held on 17 December 2012 during which the lead federal agencies for each of the strategy goal areas provided planned activities for FY13. DoD planned activities for FY13 were highlighted in the Restore Clean Water and Conserve Land goals. Jim Edward presented on Restore Clean Water and presented on stormwater assessments at installations and gave kudos to DoD on the work that has already been completed. Under the Conserve Land Goal, DoD was showcased through the REPI Program. Visit http://executiveorder.chesapeakebay.net/ for more information on the press release.

The 2012 Progress Report is scheduled for release on 19 March 2013. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and Office of Management and Budget will be discussing the report format, content and schedule with the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office on 11 January 2013.

The two year milestones under the EO are currently for 2012-2013. Milestones for 2014 and 2015 will be drafted for submission to the EPA by November 2013. The DoD milestones should expand on commitments made for the 2012 and 2013 milestones and will provide new commitments for water quality. The Federal Office Directors (FOD) is reaching out to the goal implementation teams to better align the goal and outcomes of EO 13508 with the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership.

Chesapeake State Updates

<u>Maryland</u> – Currently waiting for Maryland to release their stormwater regulations as part of the Phase II MS4 revisions.

<u>D.C.</u> – Stormwater regulations are currently under review.

Pennsylvania – A Pennsylvania Environmental Partnership meeting was held on 6 Dec 2012. EPA provided installations with routine findings from their multi-media inspections and enforcement actions. EPA also indicated their FY13 multi-media inspections will include six (6) DoD installations in Region 3 for 2013; no multi-media inspections in PA; and installations should be prepared for single media inspections. PADEP and REC staff also presented a joint presentation on coordinating Phase II WIP data collection. Additional internal DoD discussions will be conducted in order to determine the appropriate path forward.

Virginia – DoD had an internal conference call on 17 December 2012 to discuss the Draft MOU. Folks at the headquarters level decided to re-draft the Virginia MOU to make it follow the DC MOU format. All the services were in agreement to make it a general "big picture policy document." A follow up call will be on 17 January 2013.

NEXT CONFERENCE CALL MEETING FOR the CBAT: March or April 2013







DOD/DON Chesapeake Bay Program Office 1510 Gilbert Street Building N-26, Room 3300 Norfolk, VA 23511

Check it Out:

Engineering Green 2013, 5 March 2013, Baltimore, MD

SiEngineering Green 2013 is an event for civil engineers, landscape architects, property owners, developers and others interested in the engineering design of a sustainable site. This one day conference will showcase projects in the commercial and government sectors in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The day will include four sessions in which presenters will give an in-depth look at project design, implementation, and lessons learned. PDH's and GBCI LEED CEU's Available.

For more information: http://usgbcmd.org/engineering-green-2013

<u>Using WinSLAMM v.10 to Meet Urban Stormwater Mgmt. Goals.</u> <u>23-24</u> April 2013, Baltimore, MD

Learn how to use the new, enhanced version of the Source Loading and Management Model (WinSLAMM) to meet TMDL, LID, and MS4 requirements, reduce pollution load and control runoff volume. For more information:

http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1101639006674-326/WinSLAMM+brochure.+pdf.pdf

Recycle your Christmas Trees at NAS Oceana

Every year NAS Oceana collects Christmas trees to stregthen and build up the sand dunes that protect the Navy Installation at Dam Neck. Each year, over 2000 trees are needed and collected from various community sources. Trees are stack up behind sand fencing and at weak spots on the beach to build up the dunes in these areas. To donate your 2012 Christmas tree to this cause, contact the Natural Resource Office at NAS Oceana.



This newsletter is produced by Michael Baker Jr., Inc., under Contract No. N62470-10-D-3000 for DoD/Navy Chesapeake Bay Program Support.

This newsletter is distributed via e-mail. Contact the DoD Chesapeake Bay Program with any questions, comments, or to be added to the email distribution list (e-mail: dodrecreq3@navy.mil or telephone: 757-341-0383).











