



**NAVFAC HAWAII PUBLIC AFFAIRS INTERNAL NEWSGRAM
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Newsgram 7: Bioreactor Installation at Mamala Bay Golf Course Hickam-side

From June through September, a Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii contractor will install a permeable mulch bioreactor on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) at the Mamala Bay Golf Course, Hickam-side.

“The bioreactor will accelerate bioremediation efforts affecting the breakdown of the chlorinated solvents and dioxins in the soil,” said Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii Remedial Project Manager Kelly Akamine. “When completed, the underground treatment system will interact with the material to be remediated.”

This action is necessary due to what is contained in an old military landfill site located within the current Mamala Bay Golf Course between the Honolulu International Airport’s Reef Runway and Runway 26R. The landfill operated from the late 1940s to 1965 and received up to 55,000 tons of waste annually, primarily composed of building materials and municipal waste. However, some hazardous substances have been identified in the landfill such as chlorinated solvents which need special remedial treatment.

NAVFAC Hawaii has coordinated the installation of the bioreactor with golf course personnel. All clean soil excavated at the site will remain within the golf course boundaries and used as top soil covering the facility.

Precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of the golfers as well as the contractors during the installation of the system from typical construction activities as well as any stray flying golf balls.

The bioreactor will operate with clean mulch brought onsite. To avoid any infestation of the coconut rhinoceros beetle present in the area, the mulch layer shall be immediately covered by the next layer of the bioreactor system. The contractor’s vehicles traveling to and from the site will be swept to prevent any accidental movement of beetles from the golf course.

Work is estimated to occur during the week and not on weekends between the months of June and September.

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“Once the bioreactor has been installed, golfers and course visitors will only see a mound of grass with a control shed and solar panels next to it,” said Akamine. “The solar panels will provide energy for the bioreactor which is a self-sustaining system.”

It is anticipated that the bioreactor will begin operations in September 2014.

Questions on the bioreactor installation can be addressed to Kelly Akamine, 471-1171, Ext. 266 or kelly.akamine@navy.mil.

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Article by Denise Emsley, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Public Affairs Officer.

For information about NAVFAC Hawaii, visit the command’s website at www.navfac.navy.mil or call Denise Emsley, Public Affairs Officer, at 808-471-7300 (denise.emsley@navy.mil). Become a Fan at www.facebook.com/navfac and follow us at www.twitter.com/navfac, or visit our Photostream on Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/navfac>.