

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

from NAS Jacksonville

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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AND CLEAN-UP AT NAS JACKSONVILLE

NAS Jacksonville is entering the second of a three-step program to identify and, if necessary, clean up areas on the air station where in the past hazardous wastes may have been disposed. Because of these areas, NAS Jacksonville has been listed on the government's National Priorities List.

The Navy identified these disposal areas during records searches and interviews with long-term employees and others knowledgeable about past disposal operations. This investigation is part of a comprehensive government clean-up program of past hazardous waste disposal areas.

Public input and participation is a vital part of the overall program. Additional fact sheets and an information repository are available.

What is the Superfund and the National Priorities List?

The Superfund is the common name for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The law was passed in December 1980. Its purpose is to:

- Identify sites where hazardous substances may have been disposed and ensure they are cleaned up;
- Evaluate damages to natural resources and
- Provide funds for cleanup if not funded by responsible parties.

The Superfund uses a ranking system to evaluate the potential dangers of a site. Considerations for ranking include the potential impacts of a release and the number of people who may be affected. Sites which rank above 28.5 out of a possible 100 points are placed on the National Priorities List. NAS Jacksonville has a score of 32.01.

What areas at NAS Jacksonville are affected?

Forty-five areas on NAS Jacksonville have been identified as previous disposal areas. A preliminary investigation revealed that materials ranging from simple construction debris to waste oils, solvents, paints, radium PCB transformers and spilled fuels were disposed of at these areas.

How does this affect me?

The purpose of more detailed investigations of these areas is to determine if hazardous waste was disposed of at these areas, and if so, the type and extent of contamination. All areas identified for further investigation are located on NAS Jacksonville and do not extend beyond its property. There is no evidence at this time that living near the air station poses any health risk.

If you have questions or concerns, call Kevin Gartland, NAS Jacksonville Public Works Department, at 772-2717.

What do you plan to do?

The first area scheduled for further investigation is located on the southern side of the air station near the hospital. It is called the Child Street area. A work plan approved by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation involves a detailed investigation of the immediate and surrounding areas.

Technicians are performing environmental tests, including:

- an ecological inventory,
- surface water and sediment sampling,
- air sampling,
- soil gas survey,
- seismic survey,
- soil borings and sampling,
- monitoring wells installation and
- groundwater sampling.

Tests are being conducted in the immediate and surrounding areas on NAS Jacksonville. Testing should not affect residents living off the air station.

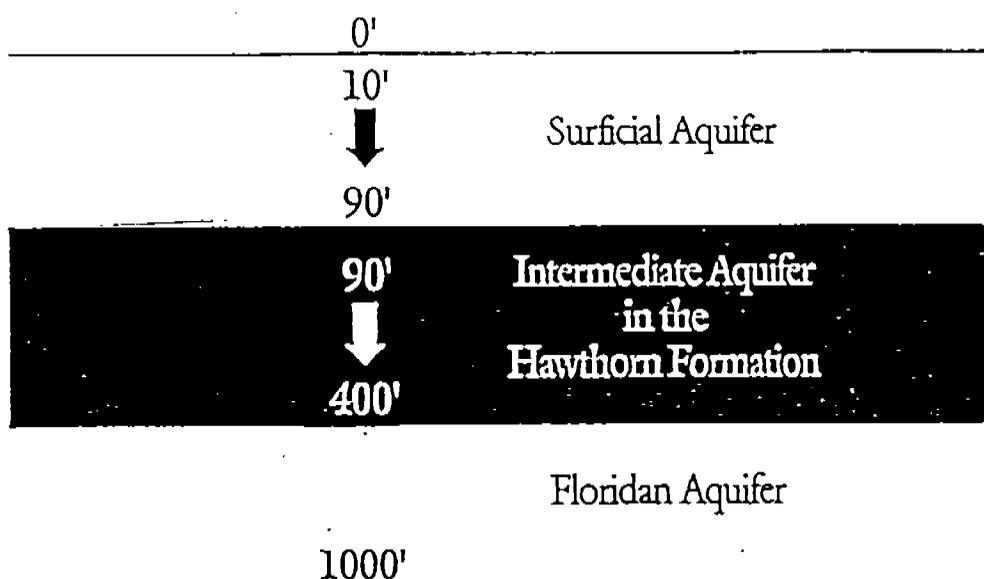
What about the drinking water on and off the station?

Continuing tests by the Navy and the city of Jacksonville verify that drinking water is safe to drink both on and off NAS Jacksonville.

The diagram below shows the water table below Jacksonville. The surficial aquifer is the one closest to the surface. The Hawthorn formation is an impenetrable clay layer with pockets of water—the intermediate aquifer. Below this area is the Floridan aquifer—400 feet beneath the surface.

Water from the air station is drawn from deep below the surface in the Floridan Aquifer. Some residents living to the south of the air station draw their water from shallow wells in the surficial aquifer. Though this is the water source most at risk from contamination, tests conducted by the city of Jacksonville show that the water is safe. Other Jacksonville residents are not affected.

Water Sources



How can I get more information?

Regular meetings and written updates will provide you with more information as testing continues.

In addition, complete and detailed documents describing all the potentially hazardous waste areas on NAS Jacksonville are located at the Webb Wesconnett Branch Library on 103rd Street. These documents are public information and are open for your examination.

In addition, Kevin Gartland, is available to explain procedures or to answer your questions. You can reach him at 772-2717.