

# ENVIRONMENTAL NOTES

FALL/WINTER 1992

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## DEAR TENANTS AND NEIGHBORS



Capt. Resavage

In our last *Environmental Notes* newsletter, we introduced you to our Installation Restoration (IR) Program—NAS Jacksonville's ongoing initiative to identify and

clean up past waste disposal sites. We described how the installation was added to the Environmental Protection Agency's National Priorities List (NPL) in 1989 and the three-phase process to be removed from the list.

In this newsletter, we will discuss some of the tests performed to determine the presence, nature and extent of contamination. And we will describe the unique partnership between the Navy, federal and state officials that

makes NAS Jacksonville's one of the most innovative cleanup programs in the Navy.

NPL sites like NAS Jacksonville face strict federal guidelines in implementing community relations plans. But it is up to each facility to determine how far to carry the program in adhering to the spirit of the law.

At our facility, our environmental goal is to be a good neighbor—to become part of the solution rather than part of the problem. That is why we mail newsletters, canvas neighborhoods notifying you of our public meetings and attend civic and community meetings to answer your questions and concerns.

Within the next few weeks, NAS Jacksonville will request your comments on several interim remedial

actions. This is a 45-day period and is the formal time when we accept public comments about proposed actions. By law, we must address all comments and concerns before a plan may proceed as proposed.

Fact sheets on each intended action will be delivered to our mailing list, and are available by request to Miriam Lareau:

While your comments are an important way for you to have input on and to the program, they are by no means the only way. We invite you to call our staff with your questions at any time. With your help, we will achieve that ultimate goal which we all desire—a cleaner, healthier environment.

Sincerely yours,  
Róy D. Resavage  
Commanding Officer  
NAS Jacksonville

## NEW SITES ADDED FOR INSPECTION AND TWO SITES EXPANDED

To aid in the investigation and cleanup of NAS Jacksonville, a list of Potential Sources of Contamination (PSCs) is developed and maintained to track investigations and cleanup. Forty-five areas had been previously identified through interviews with former and present long-term employees concerning past activities and waste disposal practices. The sites were confirmed through preliminary ground-water and soil sampling analysis.

Because this phase of the Installation Restoration Program is ongoing, four new sites have been identified and will be added to the Potential Sources of Contamination list. Two previously listed sites are being expanded.

PSC 46 is the Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) area located in the southwest corner of the station, just west of Roosevelt Highway.

DRMO stored used electrical transformer and battery cases at the site as well as various hazardous materials. No spills have been identified.

PSC 47 is the Pesticide Shop, Building 536. This site has been used for the storage of pesticides since the 1940s. Past practices included disposal of the pesticides in the surrounding soil.

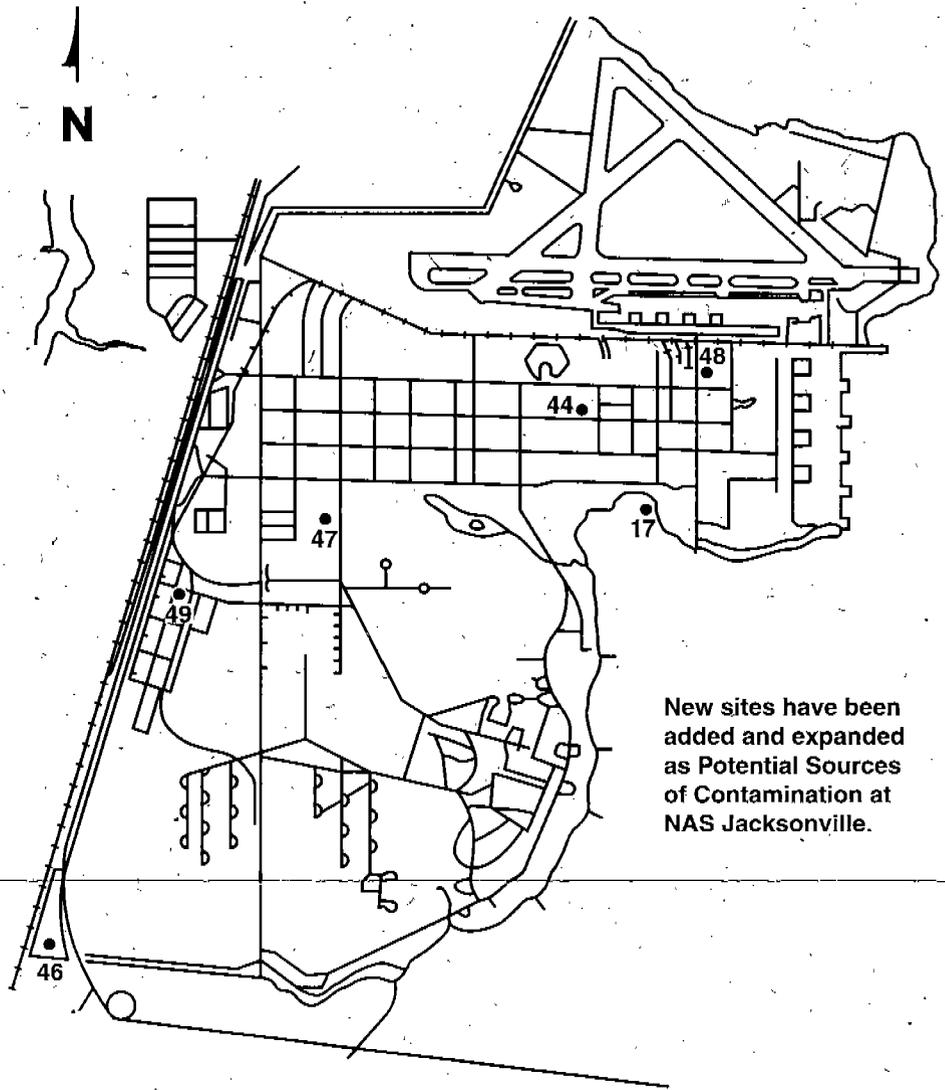
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**PSC 48** is the Laundry/Dry Cleaners, Building 106. This facility has been operating since the early 1940s. In the past, solvents used in the laundry/dry cleaning process were disposed in the surrounding soil and in building drainage lines. Solvents were recently found in the ground-water around this site.

**PSC 49** is the Commissary Warehouse Battery Shop, Building 170. This site is located in a 12 foot by 24 foot room located outside the north end of the Commissary Warehouse Building 170. Battery acid and oil spills had been steam washed to the surrounding soil since the mid 1970s. Lead was recently found in soil samples taken from the site.

The previously listed **PSC 44**, a drainage ditch west of Ajax Street, was enlarged to include the 20' storm drainage line in Hangar 1000 and the connecting stormwater ditch north of Yorktown Avenue.

**PSC 17**, a site in Manatee Cove called the Glass Bead Disposal Area, was enlarged to include all of Manatee Cove.



New sites have been added and expanded as Potential Sources of Contamination at NAS Jacksonville.

## RASPET NAMED INSTALLATION RESTORATION MANAGER

In February, Bill Raspet took over as NAS Jacksonville's Installation Restoration (IR) Manager when Kevin Gartland was promoted to the position of Environmental Director.

Bill has been in the field since 1979. Most recently he worked at NAS Cecil Field as the Hazardous Waste Manager. Prior to that, he was the environmental coordinator at the Orlando Naval Training Center. Raspet received his B.S. in geography and did graduate work at the University of Maryland.



Bill Raspet

As the IR Manager, Bill will direct the station's environmental investigation and cleanup activities of past contamination.

"I plan on keeping the same open door policy Kevin practiced as IR Manager," said Bill. "Public participation is a vital part of the IR program. In addition to the technical part of my job, I am also here as a resource for anyone with concerns or questions."

## A WORKING PARTNERSHIP:

# TEAMWORK FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

Since 1980 the Navy has engaged in an aggressive campaign to investigate and clean up hazardous waste contamination resulting from past waste disposal practices. As part of the Department of Defense, the Navy is responsible for the investigation and cleanup of the installation; but state and federal officials also participate by reviewing plans and actions related to the project. At NAS Jacksonville, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Navy contractors have formed a unique partnership to ensure that the Navy's environmental cleanup plans are safe, effective and cost-conscious.

In the past, Navy contractors wrote reports and plans which were then reviewed by the Navy and returned with edits before being forwarded to regulators for review. Then the process started all over again. While all interested parties were included in reviews, the process frequently took months before a plan could be agreed on by all parties.

At NAS Jacksonville, a new team concept is underway and is working to save time and money.

Using open dialogue in addition to the traditional written reports and documents, Navy officials, contractors and regulators work together to achieve consensus. Plans and reports are presented at working meetings where every representative sits as an equal partner. Disagreements are discussed and the basic ground rule is that consensus must be achieved. The relationship between regulators and the Navy has been a positive working partnership to determine the best solution.

The Navy saves time and money by bringing together all the interested parties for shorter review cycles. Other Navy facilities have noted the success of this concept and are considering implementing similar programs.

## COMMUNITY Q&A

**Q:** What tests do you conduct to determine if a site is contaminated?

**A:** Numerous field tests are performed on each site to identify possible contaminants and their distribution, the nature of the geographic location, including groundwater flow, and the presence and nature of the plants and animals within an area. Tests may include:

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

Based on the results of the tests, the site is slated for additional tests to further identify the nature and extent of the contamination or will be slated for no further action.

## ENVIRONMENTAL NOTES MAILING LIST

If you did not receive this newsletter by mail and would like to be added to NAS Jacksonville's *Environmental Notes* mailing list, please return this completed information to Miriam Lareau, Deputy Public Affairs Officer, CNAAJ, P.O. Box 102, NAS Jacksonville, FL 32212-0102.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

# INTERIM REMEDIAL ACTION PLANNED AT CHILD STREET AREA

An Interim Remedial Action—a short-term cleanup implemented before the more extensive cleanup begins—is planned for Operable Unit One (OU1), the Child Street Area. Trenches and wells will be installed north and south of Child Street near the golf course and pumping will begin to remove free product—floating oil in the soil approximately 11 to 15 feet from the ground's surface.

The Child Street Area is located in the south-central portion of the Station. It includes two Potential Sources of Contamination (PSC)—26 and 27. PSC 26 was previously used as a disposal site for oil, fuel, waste oils, spent solvents, low-level radioactive paint and paint wastes containing

heavy metals. PSC 27 is a former PCB transformer storage area.

A 45-day public comment period on the interim remedial action began June 10 and ended on July 25.

Complete copies of the Interim Remedial Action Plan are available at the Charles D. Webb Wesconnett Branch of the Jacksonville Public Library, 6887 103rd Street.

Additional information may be obtained from Miriam Lareau, Deputy Public Affairs Officer, 772-4033.

## WHO TO CALL

For general questions or comments relating to NAS Jacksonville's environmental program, contact Miriam Lareau, Deputy Public Affairs Officer, NAS Jacksonville--772-4033.

For specific technical questions relating to the project and cleanup operations, contact Bill Raspet--772-2717.

For information about wells or to make a request that your drinking water well be tested, contact Grazna Powolowicz, Duval Public Health Unit, City of Jacksonville, 630-3272.

An information repository containing documents related to the Installation Restoration activities at NAS Jacksonville is available at the Webb Wesconnett Branch Library. Documents include work plans, summary of applicable laws, remedial investigation and cleanup reports and other site related documents. They are available at:

Webb Wesconnett Branch Library  
6887 103rd Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32210  
(904) 778-7305



Public Affairs Office  
P.O. Box 102  
NAS Jacksonville, FL 32212-0102

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