



## CHART A COURSE FOR SAFETY

8th Issue

## Construction Safety ~ Revisited

August 13, 2010

With all the construction and launch activity on site, now is the time to reinforce a previous discussion. We currently have major construction efforts underway on both the Main Base and on Wallops Island. On the Main Base, you will see directional boring and trenching underway that is associated with the installation of underground propane lines and crews installing sidewalks. This construction effort requires crews to work very close to active roads. While the workers are aware of the traffic hazards, they are focused on their task and not on your driving skills. Please pay close attention while driving near these construction zones. Slow down and assume they don't see you. As the highway signs remind us; Give them a Brake!



On a similar traffic control note, we have roadblocks on the island that are periodically used to control traffic for launch operations. These roadblocks are installed to protect you from hazards. While these roadblocks may be gates, saw horses, or concrete blocks, they all have signs stating the intent is to prevent unauthorized traffic. So remember, if you are not part of that operation, turn around and go the other way. Driving around a roadblock is a direct violation of a primary safety rule and cannot be tolerated.

One last area that needs to be addressed is the exit lanes for Main Base at the guard checkpoint. There is traffic congestion, a crosswalk and personnel walking off base using the roads as there is no sidewalk. The posted speed limit is 15 MPH for that section of road. Take a minute and consider the consequences of slowing from 30 MPH to 15 MPH for 300 feet. It adds about two seconds to your trip home. While this always seems like a long two seconds at the end of the day, think about how long the day would be if you happened to hit someone walking in or across the road. We will be changing the traffic flow at the gate in the next year, relieving some of the traffic congestion, and we are installing sidewalks along part of the road. Please use caution in this area, we all have an extra two seconds.



### What Have You Done for Safety Lately??

Highlights from Code 250, Medical and Environmental Management Division,  
Carolyn Turner, Wallops Lead Environmental Engineer

**“Safety is a full time job, don't make it a part time practice.”**

Safety is the number one priority for this team. For example, a documented tailgate safety meeting is held prior to any fieldwork to cover applicable safety topics and reminders.

A Job Hazard Analysis is performed prior to any new task, or if an ample amount of time has passed since the job was last performed.

The Environmental Team is proactive in obtaining the necessary Personal Protective Equipment required for the task at hand and is proficient in its use; whether it be respirators, safety glasses, hard hats, or gallons of “bug spray”.

Everyone in this group is trained in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (Hazwoper), in addition to CPR and First Aid; which they are required to keep up to date.

It is clear that this group has adopted a positive view towards safety and it is captured in a quote by Carolyn herself, “Safety is a component of everything we do”.



# Safety & Environmental Newsletter

## Calling All Turtle Sitters!

The Environmental Office is looking for volunteers to babysit our loggerhead sea turtle nests overnight on Wallops Island.



## Interested in more information?

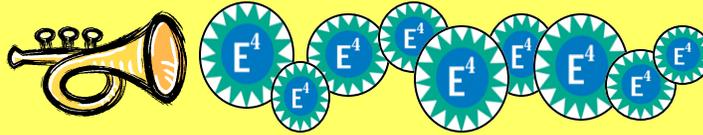
Contact Joe Mitchell, NASA Natural Resources, at 757-824-1127 or e-mail him at: [Joe.T.Mitchell@nasa.gov](mailto:Joe.T.Mitchell@nasa.gov)



Be sure to act fast! The first nest's hatch window starts this Sunday, August 15th. This is a rare and exciting opportunity!



Not to toot our own horn but...TOOT, TOOT!!!!



## Wallops Flight Facility receives VEEP4 status!!

Wallops Flight Facility has been awarded the highest environmental recognition within the Commonwealth of Virginia for protection of the area's natural resources programs. Wallops is only the second federal facility in the Commonwealth of Virginia to receive this Extraordinary Environmental Enterprise (E4) level of the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program (VEEP).

"Wallops joins an elite group which not only strives for environmental excellence within their own missions, but also reaches beyond their facility fence line in proactively working with community partners to promote environmental stewardship," said Carolyn Turner, Environmental Office Head.

The facility is currently pursuing renewable energy sources, alternative fuels, and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certifications for existing buildings. The Wallops Environmental office also specializes in pollution prevention, hazardous waste management, protecting endangered species, recycling, storage tank management and environmental planning. These programs are managed through the Wallops environmental management system (EMS), a process aimed at reducing the facility's impacts on the environment by identifying impacts, setting goals to minimize those impacts, improving procedures, and tracking progress.

## Guess who got caught doing something green??

The Wallops Environmental Office is always on the lookout for individuals who exemplify the Environmental Management System (EMS) policy. Any Wallops employee can be "Caught Doing Something Green."

During June, the Wallops Environmental Office recognized Glenn Finney and Harold Farrington, NASA Sounding Rocket Operations Contract (NSROC) employees for the installation of the Closed Loop Water Jet. Harold and Glenn met with the Environmental Office and the Facilities Management Branch prior to equipment selection and ultimately chose an option which has saved over 41,000 gallons of water and reduced off-site disposal by 45 percent!



During the same month, the Wallops Environmental Office recognized Karen Thornes, Jackie Duncan, Elaine Fleming, Midge Dickerson, Valestine Northam, Terry Marshall, Angelina Barfield, Linda Layton, Gordon Marsh, and Terri Taylor, Wallops Employee Morale Association (WEMA) employees for their greening of the Wallops cafeteria.

Cafeteria employees have recently implemented numerous green practices including: replacing styrofoam take-out containers with biodegradable bio-based products; reducing hazardous waste through utilization of a less hazardous grill cleaner; installing a grease trap; implementing positive Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) practices; saving empty 5-gallon food containers for reuse in other buildings; and fitting a new secondary containment around their new grease tank!