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Nevada Site Office Environmental Management

EM NEWS FLASH

Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom Make a Splash at 5th Annual Educator Appreciation Day

The Environmental Management (EM) public involvement team recently helped Clark County teachers get ready for the coming school year by introducing them to the clever scientific duo, Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom.

On August 12, 2010, the EM team from the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office (NSO), along with other local organizations, brought free classroom curriculum and fun learning tools to the 5th Annual Educator Appreciation Day at Siegfried & Roy's Secret Garden and Dolphin Habitat at The Mirage Resort and Casino.



Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom are part of EM's *Operation Clean Desert* learning package. [Operation Clean Desert](#) is a science-based curriculum that follows the adventures of characters Dr. Proton and Adam the Atom as they visit the Nevada National Security Site, formerly known as the Nevada Test Site, to learn about historic activities and current efforts to restore the environment. In an educational, comic-book style, Dr. Proton answers Adam's questions

about the effects of radiation on soil and water at the site and describes how scientists are approaching cleanup.

Teachers circulating through the *Operation Clean Desert* booth were interested in applying the display's playful, interactive themes to the classroom. They were provided free copies of the *Operation Clean Desert* teacher packet, which includes an interactive computer game, a full-color activity book, a science-based lesson plan with worksheet and an [Aquifer in a Cup](#) activity.

“*Operation Clean Desert* is a multiuse learning program because it teaches history as well as science,” says Kelly Snyder, Public Affairs Specialist for the U.S. Department of Energy Nevada Site Office. “It also gives kids and adults the opportunity to learn about important environmental work that is going on right now in their state.”

More information on the Operation Clean Desert learning trio can be found at www.nv.energy.gov. The Operation Clean Desert exhibit is available for loan to schools, libraries, museums, and public events. For more information, contact the Office of Public Affairs: (702) 295-3521 or envmgt@nv.doe.gov.

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