

# ON THE PLATEAU



Volume 4, Issue 3  
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## Decommissioning and Demolition Springs Forward

The Decommissioning and Demolition (D&D) Project is heading into spring with a bang, bringing down four stacks, five baghouses, two water towers and a coal silo with explosives. The Feb. 18 and Mar. 4 events made local headlines and newscasts and were the most viewed video on the U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operation Office's YouTube site, bringing in a record-setting 1,000-plus views in just one day and over

14,000 the first week. For D&D, the safely conducted demolitions showcased "planning the work and working the plan," and the debris piles they created were physical proof of the cleanup work that lay ahead.

"We've cleared our path forward for the rest of this fiscal year," said D&D Project Vice President Kurt Kehler. "We've done the preparations and addressed the hazards. Now it's time to move

in and safely take down these old facilities."

### Central Plateau D&D

Following the detonations, crews are already at work on both 200 Area Power Houses, beginning asbestos abatement inside the 284-W Power House and old-fashioned mechanical demolition of the 284-E Power House. Simultaneously,

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Plateau Remediation Company

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teams are also readying the cavernous U Canyon for grouting, preparing the 209-E Criticality Mass Laboratory for a Hazard Category downgrade, working toward removal of the historic 200 North Area railcars (with some to be preserved at the B Reactor museum) and removing debris from the Hanford Reserve National Monument.

## 100K Area D&D

Work might be springing forward even faster at the 100K Area along

the Columbia River. New water and electrical systems are being brought online and the original systems have been disconnected, allowing for the isolation and demolition of the remaining cluster of 100K facilities. A river-protective rock berm was constructed to allow the 181-KE and -KW river-water intake structures to be demolished. Demolition is also under way on the 183-KE Chlorine Vault so that crews can move on to the centerpiece of the now-obsolete K East water treatment system: the

six-football-field-sized, 19-million-gallon-capacity Sedimentation Basins. And the basins themselves? After pumping out millions of gallons of water, crews can now see the bottoms of the basins – and a jam-packed six months of demolition work ahead.

It is a full plate of work, all funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, that will help reduce mortgage, surveillance and maintenance costs on facilities that are no longer in service and help reduce the Hanford Site cleanup footprint.

## Next generation processes enhance waste retrieval

The Waste and Fuels Management Project (W&FMP) is implementing enhanced methods and equipment for removing transuranic (TRU) waste from underground storage at the Hanford Site.

At the 12B burial ground, the Waste Retrieval Team began removing drums of waste from Trench 17, marking the completion of more than a year of preparatory work. The team used stimulus funds to implement a series of “next generation” processes and technologies that will help reduce worker handling and costs associated with retrieval of suspect TRU waste.

The W&FMP spent the last year putting the systems into place, developing the procedures, training the workforce and demonstrating readiness to begin retrieval. All was accomplished with Recovery Act funds.

The task included developing 10 new procedures and qualifying and training 23 nuclear chemical operators and 15 radiological control technicians.

The name “next generation” describes the new or enhanced processes for retrieving containers



Workers excavate drums of waste.



A drum of waste, wrapped in protective plastic, is readied for processing adjacent to the 12B burial ground.

from the trench, as well as subsequent activities that include non-destructive assay, venting and non-destructive evaluation/real-time radiography (essentially x-raying the container) to identify items prohibited for disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

In comparison to previous methods, processing of waste drums occurs closer to the trench site.

The 12B burial ground contains two trenches comprising approximately 2,900 drums and 40 small boxes. When retrieval at 12B is complete, the processes and equipment as well as lessons learned will also be used to retrieve waste from the 4B burial ground.

The work will help achieve CHPRC’s goal to remove 2,500 cubic meters of TRU waste from the Hanford Site by the end of fiscal year 2011. So far, the team has removed more than 1,000 cubic meters of waste from the trenches and shipped 846 cubic meters of that waste for treatment, storage or disposal.

### Next Generation Retrieval and Characterization System

- Conveyor system
- Gamma Assay Unit
- Neutron Assay Unit
- Drum Venting Units
- Real-Time Radiography Unit/ Drum Warming Unit
- Box Load-Out Station

## A Week to Remember CHPRC Celebrates National Engineers Week 2011

From start to finish, CHPRC observed a memorable National Engineers Week (Feb. 21 – 25) this year. On the 60th anniversary of the week-long celebration of engineers' contributions to the world, CHPRC staff members (both engineers and non-engineers) volunteered their time, donated to the future and were honored professionally for engineering leadership in the Tri-Cities.

The week began with CH2M HILL announcing a \$1 million donation to Washington State University Tri-Cities campus. The donation will be granted over the next five years and will be used to fund two CH2M HILL Fellow Faculty positions in the school's Science and Engineering Programs.

In Tri-Cities area elementary, middle and high schools, engineers engaged students in challenging activities meant to inspire them to lifelong engineering and science pursuits. The educational outreach portion of the week culminated at Pasco High School, with more than 250 students from seven area high schools competing in a construction competition using common household materials.

The final highlight of the week was the presentation of the 2010 Tri-Cities Engineer of the Year at the Engineers Week Banquet.

### Rick Raymond named 2010 Tri-Cities Engineer of the Year

Sometimes you can have your cake and eat it too.

On Feb. 25, the Tri-Cities Chapter of the Washington Society of Professional Engineers named CHPRC's Rick Raymond the Tri-Cities Engineer of the Year.

Raymond was nominated for the honor by three professional engineers: CHPRC Chief Engineer Charlie Kronvall, and Walla Walla University Professors Don Riley and Dr. Douglas Logan. Raymond was recognized for his technical role as Project Chief Engineer on the K Basin Sludge Treatment Project (STP), as well as for his community contributions.

As the STP Chief Engineer, Raymond manages the engineering team that completed design, testing, deployment and operation of a first and one-of-a-kind High Level Radioactive Waste (nuclear fuel sludge) sampling and characterization system. Work was completed ahead of schedule, below cost and met environmental cleanup commitments. In the community, Raymond serves as an advisor to Walla Walla University, as an advisor to Florida International University and as a mentor to Washington State University students. In addition, Raymond has leadership roles with the Blue Mountain Boy Scouts Council and the Central United Protestant Church.



Rick Raymond was recognized by the Tri-Cities Chapter of the Washington Society of Professional Engineers as Tri-Cities Engineer of the Year. Raymond is the Project Chief Engineer on the K Basin Sludge Treatment Project.

"I've always thought of Raymond as an 'engineer's engineer,' but it takes more than just being a great engineer to be Engineer of the Year," said Kronvall. "[Raymond's] reputation as a manager and his contributions to the community are what set him above his peers and earned him the title of 2010 Tri-Cities Engineer of the Year."

### A fresh face in engineering

Dean Neshem, process engineer on the Soil and Groundwater Remediation Project, was nominated for the New Faces



of Engineering program. Each year CH2M HILL nominates outstanding young professionals (under the age of 30) to the New Faces of Engineering program, a recognition program that is part of the Engineers Week (EWeek) Foundation. Neshem has helped develop several cost saving ideas including improving groundwater remediation operations that reduce chemical usage and the significant reduction in lifecycle operating costs – all within his first year of professional experience. Honorees are the "best of the best," the next generation of engineers whose innovation, leadership and commitment to excellence are helping improve our world and inspire young people to consider a career in engineering.

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A week to remember...continued from page 3

## Building Winners

The Chiawana High School #2 team earned top honors in the Tri-Cities Engineers Week construction competition at Pasco High School. CHPRC Central Engineering's Rod Munoz (center) headed up the "Friendly Competition's" team of volunteers. The 63 teams' projects were judged on criteria that included construction time, use of materials, structure characteristics and amount of weight supported.

## Pilot project in progress to treat deep vadose zone contamination

Soil and Groundwater Remediation Project scientists are receiving promising data that may give them a tool to clean up contaminants deep in the ground around the Hanford Site.

"We are excited about what we are seeing. This project was years in the making and it is very satisfying to have taken this technology from theory to the field where it is making a contribution to one of the most unique and significant challenges in Hanford cleanup," said Deep Vadose Zone Project Manager Glen Chronister.

The process is called "desiccation" and it is essentially removing moisture in the soil, which removes the force driving contamination downward toward the water table. Dry air (nitrogen gas) is injected into the subsurface through one well and humid air is extracted from the subsurface through another well.

Soil desiccation technology is being tested for its ability to treat



contamination in what is called the "deep vadose zone" located several hundred feet underground, between the surface soil and the groundwater. The deep vadose zone is a major focus for Hanford cleanup because of its proximity to the groundwater, which moves toward the Columbia River. The contamination is difficult to access and remove with conventional methods.

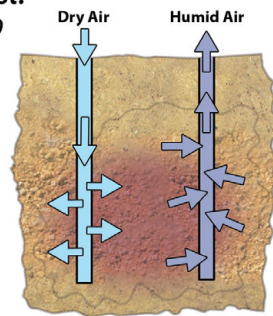
The desiccation pilot test is being conducted in the area of the BC Cribs and Trenches where contamination in the deep vadose zone is associated with waste discharged during the plutonium production days. The testing is expected to continue for approximately six months.

## Protecting the Columbia River

As part of the 2015 Vision, the U.S. Department of Energy and CHPRC as well as other site contractors are working together to develop a toolbox of technologies with the capabilities to remediate contamination in the deep vadose zone and ensure long-term protection of the groundwater and the Columbia River.

### Soil Desiccation Test: Began November 2010

The intent of this technology is to dry the vadose zone soil to remove the driving force for downward migration of contaminants. Dry air (nitrogen gas) is injected into the subsurface through one well, and humid air is extracted from the subsurface through another well.



## Removing gloveboxes in the “McCluskey Room”

In 1976, an explosion in a glovebox rendered the Plutonium Finishing Plant’s (PFP) 242-Z facility highly contaminated and injured Nuclear Operator Harold McCluskey. The room has since been known as the McCluskey Room and was sealed shortly after the incident, with much of the debris and contamination left in place. Thirty-five years later, the PFP Closure Project team has started the difficult task of entering the facility and removing some of the gloveboxes inside.

For the past year, Team 17 at PFP has been working to clean up the floor, apply fixatives, remove all combustible materials, restore ventilation and characterize the facility.

“The 242-Z team, lead by Field Work Supervisor Toby Adair, have become experts on the breathing air entry process. They have been performing breathing air entries for over a year and they make it look extremely easy. The team has made over 120 successful entries into the control room making progress toward complete decommissioning and demolition of the facility,” said Debbie Johnson, 242-Z project manager.

In January, crews installed temporary electrical power to provide lights and

energy for tools and then began removing the contents of the gloveboxes, cutting out all the piping and tanks inside. With the boxes emptied of process equipment, the team is now cutting the gloveboxes into pieces small enough to be removed from the room and disposed of as TRU waste.

There are five gloveboxes in the facility, numbered WT-1 through 5. The explosion took place in glovebox WT-2, located near the airlock door. Due to the high contamination, the crew makes their entries on supplied breathing air, wearing multiple layers of personal protective equipment and carefully limiting their time inside the facility. Each entry team consists of 3-5 people, and a crew of more than 20 assists with dress, undress, monitoring and support.

“It amazes me to see the entry team approach the undress box with contamination levels in the untold millions and exit to the radiological buffer area contamination free. Not only are they proficient at their jobs, but they are quality people with a great work ethic,” Johnson said.

The team plans to complete size reduction of gloveboxes WT-4 and WT-5 during March. Then they will move on to clean out gloveboxes WT-3 and WT-2. Glovebox WT-1 is very large and will be the last box dispositioned.

### Safety Focus: Joe Valdez

Fire is never a good thing in a nuclear facility, especially when that facility is the site’s most hazardous. That’s why CHPRC has always aimed to mitigate the possibility of a fire at the Plutonium Finishing Plant.

On Feb. 9, a PFP team assigned to remove gloveboxes was preparing to cut through a pipe filled with paper, plastic and miscellaneous step-off pad waste. The pipe had not been emptied because of the additional risk associated with cleaning it out before removal. One of the team members, Joe Valdez, questioned whether the heat generated by the saw blade during cutting could reach temperatures capable of igniting the material inside the pipe.

His concern was raised through his management team and engineering, and they decided to conduct a mock-up to duplicate the possible hazards. The mock-up proved the blade could reach high enough temperatures to ignite the materials, under the right circumstances.

Though it was unlikely that those circumstances would be met, the team revised their work package to include removal of the combustible material in the pipe before cutting. The job was executed safely, thanks to the questioning attitude of Valdez and his co-workers.



Workers prepare a glovebox inside the 242-Z facility for removal (left). Contamination inside the facility require that workers suit up in several layers of personal protective equipment (right).



## Workforce Restructuring: Transparency through communication

Kimberly Tebrugge, Director of Communications

We've all seen it coming, and yet the reality of reduced work scope and resulting job losses is still traumatic for the entire organization. CHPRC is committed to helping our employees cope with the personal and workplace aspects of change by providing reliable information and practical resources to support you during this challenging time of transition. In Communications, we're looking for every effective avenue to share accurate information as quickly and widely as possible.

CHPRC's mission requires a dedicated workforce to complete our Recovery Act work scope in 2011. Yet workforce restructuring means everyone in CHPRC will undergo change over the next year, and this could lead to distractions. So it is more important than ever for us to remain mindful about risks and performing work safely even when faced with uncertainty. We don't know yet what our final 2012 budget will be or the skill sets we'll need to accomplish a different scope of work. However, as we manage the tough job of restructuring our workforce, we will put emphasis on the following priorities:

- Communicating as much as we can, as soon as we can
- Increasing manager visibility in the workplace
- Providing opportunities to discuss concerns and upcoming changes
- Providing resources for dealing with the job hunt.

The one thing no one should feel right now is alone. As we face this uncertainty and change, we need to rally together to focus on safety, be diligent in our actions and take care of those around us.

Experts in the field of managing personal change and emotional transition recommend that effective teamwork at difficult times depends on our willingness to reach out to one another and not isolate ourselves. Uncertainty can cause tension and stress, and your work environment may become more difficult if there is added friction amongst coworkers. Recognize this for what it is, cut each other some slack and realize our best coping mechanism might be pulling together and leaning on one another.

Is all this easier said than done? Maybe, but here are some actionable suggestions:

- Choose to stay in control of yourself, your attitudes and your thoughts
- Be prepared to "let go" of how things look today and see change happen
- Reach out for emotional support from those you trust; they are probably feeling the same things you are!
- Take care of your physical health
- Make contingency plans, even if you may never need them
- Don't be afraid to laugh; we can all use a bit of light-heartedness.

CHPRC is committed to maintaining transparency and keeping employees up to date through:

- Monthly updates to the CHPRC Intranet with targeted workforce restructuring messages, schedule of events and Human Resources links
- Email. ^CHPRC-HR accepts your comments, questions and concern.
- Upcoming support meetings to discuss challenges and resources for coping with change
- Person-to-person. Don't be afraid to ask questions of your manager or Human Resources representative; even if they don't have the all answers it can lead to an open discussion about how your team is doing.

It's safe to say, most people don't like significant change. It can be unnerving. But it doesn't have to be insurmountable. There are many difficult, heartfelt conversations going on in the company about the need for open communication, fairness, objectivity and the need to help everyone—whether their jobs are impacted or not—get through this time safely.

As we get more information about the scope of work we're looking at for 2012, new funding levels or other helpful details, we'll share it as soon and as often as possible.

### Key dates to keep in mind on our 2011 calendar:

April TBD	Benefits meetings for employees considering the Self-Select Program.
May 16	Self-Select Program window opens for employees with HEWT benefits.
June 6	Self-Select Program window closes.
June 13	CHPRC announces number of reductions needed.
August 1	Worker Adjustment & Retraining Notifications (WARN) are issued.
September 19	Involuntary Reduction of Force (IROF) notifications are issued.

## Bowling to benefit Junior Achievement

This year's Junior Achievement (JA) bowling event was packed with heroes - superheroes and villains to be exact. The theme for the 15th Annual JA Bowling Classic was Heroes and Villains and participants were invited to don their best costumes to the event held Feb. 28 to March 5 at Spare Time Lanes in Kennewick.

CHPRC employees rallied into 12 teams and turned in \$10,917 as of March 15. Eva Upchurch, administrative assistant and a long-time JA fundraiser, was CHPRC's largest contributor, collecting \$3,055. Her bowling team also contributed 32 percent of CHPRC's overall contribution this year.

"The money is helping buy books, supplies, software and more to support volunteer teachers who are going into local schools to have a positive impact on students," Upchurch said.

"The fundraising we do through the bowling classic and other efforts is helping bring Junior Achievement to as many Tri-Cities students as possible."

JA is a non-profit economic education organization that reaches about 8,500 K-12 students in the greater Tri-Cities area. The program helps young people become financially literate and inspires them to stay in school and prepare for a bright future.

Upchurch as well as all the other CHPRC employees who supported JA — whether at the lanes or in donations — are this month's CHPRC Heroes for their work to support local education organizations benefiting the Tri-Cities community.

To find out more about JA Tri-Cities, visit <http://tri-cities.ja.org/> where you can also view photos from this year's event.



Left to right, Eva Upchurch and her team, Dee Marmo, Pat Marmo, Scott Breslau and David Willer were heroes for this year's Junior Achievement bowling classic, bringing in \$3,550 in donations.

## Continuous Improvement: Managing Our Path Forward

Organizational learning and constant inspection are keys to success, which is why CHPRC recently completed an analysis of company performance weaknesses to identify areas of improvement. Based on the results, CHPRC is executing a company-wide Integrated Corrective Action Plan (ICAP).

The ICAP is an integrated improvement strategy developed and approved by CHPRC and DOE-Richland Operations Office leadership to address performance gaps associated with four focus areas: Corrective action management, work management, organizational performance and self-assessment and performance trending. Actions associated with the ICAP provide a framework to prioritize, analyze and efficiently resolve issues associated with the four focus areas and are consistent with CHPRC's Integrated Safety Management System performance objectives measures and commitments established to measure safety performance.

An ICAP Champions team composed of members from each CHPRC organization, and sponsored by the President's Office, oversees implementation of the ICAP and works to ensure that each action is completed on time and is documented as required. The process ensures the right individuals are included in implementing improvements across CHPRC through actions in the ICAP.

ICAP changes and improvements will be evident in procedures, training and overall safety expectation communications. If you have questions, contact your ICAP Champions representative.

## What does ICAP success look like for each of the focus areas?

### Corrective Action Management

- Issues are appropriately screened for significance
- Cause Evaluation and Corrective Action Plan show improvement
- The Executive Safety Review Board monitors significant Corrective Responses
- Project Corrective Action Review Boards are in place and functioning
- Effectiveness Reviews focus on issue resolution

### Self-Assessment and Performance Trending

- Assessment activities are improving
- Organizational behaviors are identified and corrected
- Performance trends are identified and corrected

### Work Management

- Designated Responsible Management is involved in work packages, cradle to grave
- Work planning follows the process and is understood by work teams
- Critical Step process is understood and used
- Automated Job Hazards Analyses are used and emphasize task-specific controls
- Subject Matter Expert involvement is evident as "core work"
- Lessons Learned are used to improve work documents

### Organizational Performance

- Management Oversight Program identifies and corrects organizational behaviors
- Performance Indicators identify and mitigate error precursors

For more information about the ICAP, visit <http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/ISMS-EMS-VPP/index.cfm?PageNum=60>

### ICAP Champions Team

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Company Champion – Vic Pizzuto    | • PFP - Tim Oten                   |
| • Team Lead - Gary Grant            | • Procedures - Kathy Hibbs         |
| • Communications - Dee Millikin     | • S&GW - Bob Barmettlor            |
| • D&D - Jim Meeker                  | • SHS&Q - Terry Vaughn             |
| • Env Protection - Al Cawrse        | • SHS&Q - Kelly Wooley             |
| • EPC - Dan Kimball                 | • Trng & Procedures - Red McKennon |
| • Issues Mgmt - Steve Swenning      | • Training - Jamie Morris          |
| • Mentor Program - Art Geis         | • W&FMP - Monica Kembel            |
| • Performance Oversight - Ned Krohn | • Work Control - Jim Hoffman       |



## Bioproduct of the Month

Another chance to help the environment is right beneath your feet: This month, the Green Team focus is on bio-based or recycled floor coverings. Whether you're redesigning your living room, bedroom or home office, there are a range of products available that are environmentally friendly without sacrificing style or durability. You can find floor options listed in the Green Catalogue at <http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/EMS/index.cfm?PageNum=30>.



In this column each month, we highlight and celebrate successes on the site where work was performed safely and Human Performance Improvement (HPI) principles were employed. The Conduct of Work Mentor Program supports the idea that production, quality and safety all improve when HPI becomes a natural part of the way we think and make decisions during our work.

In a recent edition of *InSite*, John Lehew laid out a framework for powerful decision making with three phrases: "Safety of the team - Control the hazards - Perform quality work." An integral part of controlling hazards in order to perform quality work — and one of the tools used by our work teams — is the Job Site Review during which team members take the time necessary to get acquainted with the immediate work area. It also boosts their questioning attitude and enhances the accuracy of their situational awareness.

The practice is simple — walk around the job site, make note of the hazards and conditions, eliminate hazards if practical and talk about the job using questions such as:

- Does the job site match the work package?
- Do I see any conditions or hazards not described in the work package?
- Did the pre-job briefing cover the conditions I find?
- Do I understand what conditions or hazards may require response actions?
- Do I know what response actions should be taken?

The simple, practical act of performing a Job Site Review is just one of several ways our workers are actively engaging in the decisions that are helping to increase safety, quality and efficiency at our job sites. A Job Site Review *Thinking Target Zero* is online at <http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/OSIH/index.cfm?PageNum=45>.

## CHPRC Walkers Needed!

The Tri-Cities March for Babies will be held on May 7, 2011 at Columbia Park in Kennewick. The March of Dimes is a non-profit organization that fights for the health of every baby in Washington, and the funds raised go to support research, community services, education and advocacy. The March for Babies is the largest fund-raising walk in the community, and CHPRC is seeking volunteers to be a part of this fun and worthwhile event.

Walkers will gather at the Lampson Pit area near the big stage on

Saturday morning. Beginning at 8:00 a.m., there will be breakfast, refreshments, photo opportunities and registration for those who didn't register in advance. The walk will begin promptly at 9 a.m. and is a little over six miles along the river. Lunch and entertainment will follow.

Even if you can't join the walk, you can pledge for someone who is walking or support local fund raising events. There are numerous



ways to help. You can also form a team in your area (i.e. K Basins, PFP, SGRP, etc.) and challenge others to do the same!

To find out more, contact Pat Davis at 373-9628 or Shannon Sauers at 373-1735, or visit the CHPRC team page and sign up at <http://www.marchforbabies.org/team/t1451862>.



## CH2M HILL makes Ethisphere's 2011 "World's Most Ethical Companies" list

CH2M HILL was named by the Ethisphere Institute as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies for 2011. Ethisphere Institute is an international think tank that recognizes companies for their best practices in business ethics, corporate social responsibility, anti-corruption and sustainability. The annual list recognizes companies for going beyond legal minimums, introducing innovative ideas to benefit the public and consistently demonstrating what it takes to be an ethical leader. To read more about the award and CH2M HILL, visit <http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/For-Third-Year-CH2M-HILL-Named-to-Ethispheres-2011-Worlds-Most-Ethical-Companies-1412594.htm>.

To view the complete list of winners, visit [www.ethisphere.com](http://www.ethisphere.com).

## Safety during Times of Stress



Krista Weeks  
HAMTC representative,  
W&FMP



Remaining safety-focused during times of stress can be difficult and let's face it, economic uncertainty can definitely be a stress. Clearly, budget restraints are affecting Hanford. Not just CHPRC, but every contractor on site will feel some impact from the downturn. The strain radiates to our co-workers, our families and our community.

Understanding co-workers may be distracted during these upcoming months should lead to a stronger effort to remind each other of safety.

Especially during times of uncertainty and worry, it is vital that we remain vigilant in our safety practices. Be patient with others. Understand that stress affects everyone differently but we all need to watch out for one another.

No matter what happens, we all need to work safely not only for the future of this project, but for our personal futures and individual success. Let's go home the same way we came — safe!

### Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council Safety Representatives

A list of HAMTC and Building and Trades safety representatives and contact information is available on the intranet at <http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/OSIH/index.cfm?PageNum=18>.

## Going green saves energy at work and home

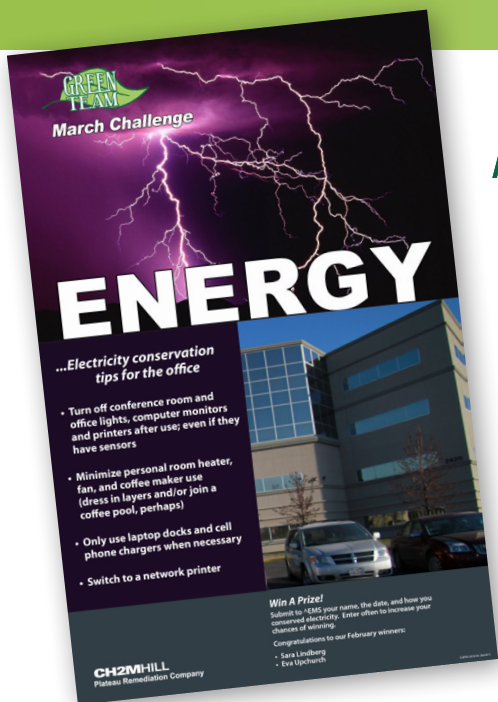
Employees who have offices in the 2420 Stevens Center are getting used to recently installed, energy-efficient, office light sensors. The Green Team is tracking energy consumption in the building to see just how much energy is saved by the sensors and other “green” practices.

Whether you have a light sensor in your office or not, turning lights off at the end of the day will save energy. Using fluorescent light bulbs, rather than incandescent bulbs, will also help. A 15-watt fluorescent bulb produces the same amount of lights as a 60-watt incandescent bulb, making it at least four times more efficient.



**Other energy-efficient office tips include:**

- Replace your personal printer with a network printer
- Close shades on very hot or very cold days
- Minimize the use of personal office heaters, fans, coffee makers and other such devices
- Only plug in laptop docks and cell phone and other chargers when necessary
- Adjust electrical appliance settings at home:
  - Set refrigerators to 37°F and freezers to 3°F. They account for about 20 percent of household electricity use
  - Set water heaters to 120°F and insulate them to prevent heat loss
  - Use warm or cold water settings when washing clothes
- Set your heating/cooling thermostat to 68°F during the day and 55°F during the night and clean or replace filters
- Save energy in the field, too:
  - Turn vehicles off when not in use
  - Reduce propane and diesel fuel consumption
  - Rideshare
  - Drive the posted speed limit



## March EMS CHALLENGE

**Save energy at work and win a prize!**

To enter, e-mail ^EMS with your name, date and a description of how you conserved electricity. Enter often to increase your chances of winning.

Congratulations to the EMS winners for February:

- Sara Lindberg
- Eva Upchurch

## Health & Safety Expo

TRAC Center Pasco

### FREE CLASSES!

#### Personal Safety & Self Defense

This one hour seminar will be presented by a 4th degree black belt and cover the basic concepts of personal safety and self-defense; it will discuss situational awareness, threat neutralization, disengaging an attacker and surviving the encounter.

**Tuesday May 17 and  
Wednesday May 18  
Noon - 1pm**

#### Safe Driving

Presented by the Hanford Patrol and open to employees and their family members ages 15 and over. This seminar will focus on providing new and experienced drivers with information to improve their driving awareness.

**Tuesday May 17 and  
Wednesday May 18  
3pm - 5pm**

#### Limited Attendance

**Sign Up Today!**

**Contact Pam Newell @  
376-9604**

APRIL						
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#### April Events

- 13 *Mid-Columbia Leadership Development Association monthly membership meeting. Featured Speaker is Chief Ken Hohenberg of the Kennewick PD. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Richland Clarion Hotel*
- 22 *Earth Day*
- 27 *Administrative Professional Day*

#### May Events

- 17-18 *Health & Safety Expo at the TRAC Center in Pasco, 7:00 am - 7:00 pm*
- 30 *Memorial Day*

- Hanford Day Off
- Activity, event or deadline
- Holiday

### Vanpool openings

Van #239 - Pickup at Richland Y Ben Franklin Transit Park and Ride to 7-11 on Duportail and Wright, to Stevens Center out to 200 East Area.

2750 to MO-414 to B Plant to 2025E. Call or e-mail Bill Schneider 373-2992 or Tim Heidcamp 373-9191.



On the Plateau is published monthly for CHPRC employees. Submit comments and contributions to CHPRC Communications at [chprcc@rl.gov](mailto:chprcc@rl.gov). Contributions are due by the 10th calendar day of the month prior to publication.

#### Editor-in-Chief:

Maren Disney, 509.376.2285

#### Writing Staff:

Andre Armstrong,  
Jenna Coddington, Andrea McClurg,  
Dee Millikin, Karin Nickola, Frank Pellegrini,  
Tania Reyes

**Graphics:** Angela Corbett

**Employees have a duty** to report possible fraud, waste, abuse, misuse, corruption, criminal acts, or mismanagement relating to DOE programs, operations, facilities, contracts or information technology systems, and to report possible reprisals against employees who report such information. Allegations should be reported to an appropriate authority, such as the Office of Inspector General (OIG) at:

**800.541.1625 • 202.586.4073**  
(OIG Hotline numbers)

Visit [www.ig.energy.gov/hotline.htm](http://www.ig.energy.gov/hotline.htm) to learn more or call the Director of Internal Audit at 372.0779.