



The NASSCO Tidepool

A Collection of Environmental News from the Shipyard and Our Community

2ND QUARTER, 2004

MAY 28, 2004

Environmental Engineering Mission Statement

NASSCO Environmental Engineering is dedicated to maintaining an Environmental Management System that continually strives to go beyond regulatory compliance.

NASSCO Environmental Engineering is committed to conducting all operations in a manner that safeguards the health and safety of all employees and the public, preserves natural resources, and protects the environment. This commitment to protecting the air, water, and land is carried out through energy conservation initiatives, recycling programs, and on-going process improvements.

NASSCO Joins in the Fun of the 2nd Annual Earth Day Creek to Bay Cleanup

Thirty NASSCO employees, subcontractors, family, and friends kicked off Earth Month by joining in the rewarding fun of cleaning up the Chollas Creek bed during I-Love-A-Clean-San-Diego's 2nd Annual Earth Day Creek to Bay Cleanup on Saturday, April 3, 2004.

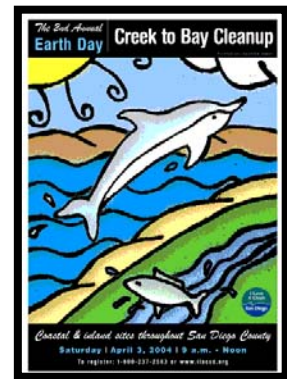
Throughout the County, I-Love-A-Clean-San-Diego (ILACSD) brought together 1,469 volunteers and removed 114,805 pounds of trash, debris, and recyclables from County's beaches, bays, creeks, rivers, lakes and lagoons.

At the NASSCO sponsored site at the mouth of Chollas Creek, we removed an astonishing 1,525 lbs of trash & debris as well as 75 lbs of recyclables. The source of this pollution is storm water run-off and illegal dumping. Some of the most unusual items discovered and removed by our cleanup team were a 140 lb. hot water heater, a Christmas tree, and two skateboards.

I'd like to thank the members of the Chollas Creek Cleanup Committee (C4) that made this event possible: Hugo Bermudez, Environmental Engineering Specialist; Melissa Bouck, Human Resources Generalist; Ericka Filbert, Logistics Services Coordinator; Chad Haza, Environmental Administrator; Martin Espinoza Jr., Production Associate; John McFadden, Production Associate; Vince Palencia, General Supervisor, On-Board; Victor Rincon, Painter; Paul Ruiz, Student Clerk, Environmental; Ronnie Truitt, Production Associate; and Ken Wright, Photographer.

A special thanks to both the NASSCO Medical Department for properly disposing of fifteen syringes and the NASSCO Reclamation Department for disposing of the trash & debris. These departments were awarded "Commitment to Our Environment Certificates" for their valuable support of this event.

(Continued on page 7)



Maren Hale wins Water Conservation Poster Contest!

By Kacey Christie, Environmental Engineering Specialist x7963



Congratulations to Maren Hale for winning first place in the Water Conservation Poster Contest for second grade out of all San Diego City Schools. There were approximately 500 entries in the second grade category.

Maren is the daughter of Bill Hale, Manager Initial Design & Hull Design and Barbara Lamb, Program Manager BP. She is seven years old and has said that she wants to be an artist when she grows up. Maren is in Mrs. Carroll's 2nd grade classroom at Silver Gate Elementary in Point Loma. Amazingly, the first, second, and third place winners for second grade all came from Mrs. Carroll's classroom! Mrs. Carroll must do an outstanding job of teaching water conservation to her second graders.

NASSCO is proud to be a sponsor of the *Water Conservation Poster Contest*, an annual event held for all students of City of San Diego schools (public, private, and home-schooled) in grades 1 through 6. Students are encouraged to create a poster that demonstrates to city residents the importance of conserving water in San Diego.

(Continued on page 6)

US EPA Barrio Logan Environmental Justice Pollution Prevention & Compliance Assistance Task Force

By Kacey Christie, Environmental Engineering Specialist x7963

In November 2000, the Barrio Logan community of San Diego was selected as one of just 15 communities in the United States for a *Federal Interagency Environmental Justice Demonstration Project*. This project brings together Federal, State, and local agencies, community members, politicians, and businesses working in partnership to address the Environmental Justice issues.



Task Force Members: Kevin Heiss, APCD; Ellen Schulte, DEH-HMD; Alicia Ortiz, SWM; James Justus, ICBA; Angela Baranco, US EPA; Kacey Christie, NASSCO

Environmental Justice (EJ) refers to low income, minority communities subjected to disproportionate environmental and public health impacts. The *Barrio Logan Environmental Justice Demonstration Project* has the following goals:

1. Reduce exposure of residents to air pollution.
2. Reduce incompatible land use and zoning in Barrio Logan and Logan Heights.
3. Improve children's health by improving the ambient environment, as well as reducing the exposure of children to health risks within the home, schools, and community.

NASSCO was invited to join in this partnership by the lead organizations, the US EPA and the Environmental Health Coalition. Lane McVey, Vice President, Business Affairs & Law represents NASSCO on the demonstration project.

In November 2001, the *Barrio Logan Environmental Justice Pollution Prevention (P2) & Compliance Assistance Task Force* was created as a subcommittee of the partnership to focus on bringing local businesses first into compliance and then taking them beyond compliance through pollution prevention education and compliance assistance. I was selected by the partnership to be the chair of this task force. In addition to NASSCO, task force members represent the following organizations: County of San Diego, Dept. of Environmental Health, Hazardous Materials Division (DEH-HMD), San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (APCD), Inner City Business Association (ICBA), Southwest Marine Inc. (SWM), and US EPA, Region IX. The task force meets twice each month at the US EPA Border Liaison Offices.

Bi-lingual Automotive P2 & Compliance Assistance Workshops

The task force conducted an extensive review of Barrio Logan and determined that the automotive business sector (automotive repair, auto body, automotive dismantling) would benefit from assistance, in particular, those shops where English is spoken as a second language. To meet this need, the task force conducted its 1st Automotive Industry Pollution Prevention (P2) & Compliance Assistance Workshop during National Pollution Prevention Week 2002 at the Barrio Logan College Institute.

Workshop materials were provided in English & Spanish via dual Power-Point presentations projected onto side-by-side screens. Translation of workshop materials into Spanish was provided by a US EPA Region IX, Regional Administrator Discretionary Funds Grant. Cal EPA provided funding for on-site simultaneous English/Spanish translation.

This workshop was unique in that it represented the first time ever that Federal, State & local regulatory agencies, community groups and businesses conducted a multi-media P2 & compliance assistance workshop.

A second Automotive Pollution Prevention & Compliance Assistance Workshop was conducted on April 29, 2004 at Te-payac Hall at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. This workshop was well-received attracting 41 individuals representing 13 automotive businesses and students from Southwestern College's Environmental Technology program.



Continued on Page 3

Marine Coatings (APCD Rule 67.18) Workshop

Another business sector addressed was marine coating operations along the waterfront. NASSCO hosted a workshop during National Pollution Prevention in September 2003. In addition to training provided the task force, NASSCO employees also volunteered their time with the following presentations:

- Mike Ayres, Planning Supervisor, Blast, Paint, and General Services - *Plural Component Painting Technology*.
- Bart Deem, Senior Safety Representative - *Worker Safety for Paint Operations*.



A total of 41 individuals representing 26 companies participated in this workshop which included a variety of marine coating operations and commercial boat shipyards; such as Knight & Carver Yachtcenter, Driscoll Boats, Hydrodynamics, UCSD and Scripps Institute of Oceanography.



Negocio Verde Grant Proposal

Negocio Verde is a task force project utilizing a multi-faceted, multi-organization and multi-media approach, quite simply the **A, B, C's of Pollution Prevention**. The mascot for this program is the Chollas Creek Fiddler Crab, whose unique and pollution sensitive life cycle has made it an "environmental indicator species".

"A" is for Academia where students from environmental technology programs at local junior colleges, Cuyamaca and Southwestern College participate in a "Green Business" outreach to local automotive businesses.

"B" is for Businesses located in these communities and provides for pollution prevention education by promoting cost savings, economic vitality, and their environmental stewardship role in the community.

"C" is for the EJ Community; strapped with disproportionate environmental and public health impacts. This outreach will empower community members to participate in improving conditions and promoting environmental stewardship within their community.

I am pleased to announce that the task force in partnership with the Inner City Business Association, Cuyamaca College, and Southwestern College has just received a \$25,000 grant for our Negocio Verde Project Proposal from the US EPA. I am personally very excited about this project, since I co-authored the grant proposal with Ellen Schulte, Pollution Prevention Specialist, County of San Diego, Department of Environmental Health, Hazardous Materials Division.

Motto

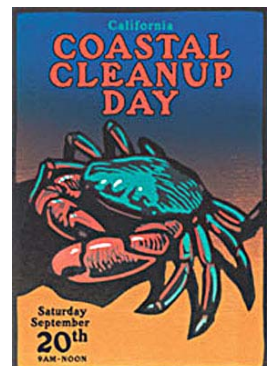
***Negocio Verde Es Negocio De Todos =
Green Business is Everyone's Business.***

Building upon our past successes, the task force continues to seek opportunities to meet the goals of the *Barrio Logan Environmental Justice Demonstration Project* as well those of other environmental justice communities in the region.





Commitment to



Each year, NASSCO participates in 3 major clean up events targeting Chollas Creek: Creek to
We need caring individuals like you to make each of these events a continuing success. If you would like more information

Chollas Creek



Bay Cleanup in April, Operation Clean Sweep in June, and Coastal Cleanup Day in September.
on volunteering or would like to participate on a planning committee, please contact Environmental Engineering at x8826



Maren Hale wins Water Conservation Poster Contest! *(Continued from Page 1)*

Every student that enters the contest is awarded a certificate of participation by the City of San Diego Water Department. Additionally, the winners for each grade such as Maren receive a US Savings Bond, certificate of excellence, and four tickets to the Rueben H. Fleet Science Center.

For additional information about this contest, visit the City of San Diego Water Department website at www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation.

Look for Maren's winning poster at the San Diego County Fair on display at the "Kids Best Art Exhibit". The San Diego County Fair returns to the Del Mar Fairgrounds June 11-July 4, 2004.



14th Annual Operation Clean Sweep

By Paul Ruiz, Student Clerk, Environmental Engineering, x8533

On Saturday, June 5th, NASSCO volunteers consisting of employees, customers, subcontractors, family and friends will join the other shipyards, Continental Maritime and Southwest Marine, Inc. in participating in the 14th Annual Operation Clean Sweep.

Operation Clean Sweep is an annual Bay cleanup event organized by the San Diego Port Tenants Association, U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, and the California Professional Divers Association. NASSCO is proud to again be one of the sponsors for this event.

This year, shipyard volunteers will clean a portion of the Chollas Creek bed near 32nd & Main Street in order to prevent pollution from entering San Diego Bay. There will be plenty of free parking at the Pacific Ship Repair and Fabrication facility, where the check-in for this cleanup site is located at 1625 Rigel, just off Main St. In order to take advantage of low-tide, cleanup at this site is from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. This site is only open to adult volunteers over the age of 18. Be prepared to get muddy and wear boots or other appropriate footwear. Large rain boots would be beneficial.

Shipyards volunteers and their families will also clean-up the bay shore of Cesar Chavez Park at the foot of Cesar



Chavez Parkway in Barrio Logan. This site is intended for volunteers with children. This cleanup is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

After performing this community service, all volunteers will be rewarded with the traditional "Treasure Junk Party".

This event includes a free BBQ at Port's Embarcadero Planning Center located at 585 Harbor Lane, at the patio area on the North side of Seaport Village adjacent to the Fish Market Restaurant. The U.S. Navy Band will entertain, while the kids enjoy face-painting, balloon-animals, clowns and two jumping rooms. Raffles and prizes will be awarded for the most unique "trash-treasures" found.

All cleanup volunteers will receive a free Operation Clean Sweep T-shirt which will have to worn for access

to the Treasure Junk Party.

To sign-up for this event, contact Chad Haza, Environmental Administrator at x8826. There will be a special drawing for NASSCO "Commitment to Our Environment" polo shirts for NASSCO volunteers.

At last year's Operation Clean Sweep, volunteers removed more than 100 tires and 50 shopping carts from the Chollas Creek cleanup site alone.

Congressional Update

By Congresswoman Susan Davis



The second session of the 108th Congress is in full swing. There are number of issues in and out of Washington that have been on the front burner.

San Diegans are rightfully outraged at the rise in gas prices. It's becoming an annual event almost as consistent as Old Faithful. There is some question as to whether suppliers withheld supply to be sold later when the prices increase. But there is a long-term solution to lower those prices that will also have a positive effect on the environment. We must require gas-guzzling SUVs and trucks to have the same fuel efficiency standards as passenger cars, which is their primary use. If a vehicle burns less fuel per mile, there are fewer visits to the gas station. Burning less fuel also produces less auto emissions. Bringing SUVs and trucks to the same fuel efficiency standards as passenger cars will prevent about 240 million tons of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, from entering the atmosphere each year. The issue of raising these standards has been before Congress many times, and I have consistently supported these efforts.

Speaking of transportation, the House of Representatives recently passed the Transportation Equity Act – A Legacy of Users (TEA-LU) that included \$96 million for transportation projects in San Diego. Although our region's final share must still be determined by House and Senate negotiators working to achieve a compromise

version of the final bill, this substantial federal funding will still help to expand our growing trolley system; increase the capacity and efficiency of the I-5 / I-8 corridor; and improve the coordination of San Diego's freeways, arterial streets and traffic signals, bus operations, trolleys and trains, incident and emergency response, event and parking management and public safety.

In April, the Blue Ribbon Commission on the Southern California Fires, of which I was a member, issued its final report after months of investigation into the government's response to the fires. Contrary to what was reported, it was not the intent of the Commission that the environment must take a backseat to homeowners concerns. While that was the position of some members of the Commission, it was not a position considered by the entire commission. Rather the Commission called for a balanced, good-science approach.

Regarding environmental and brush management regulatory law, the Commission specifically recommended that a Joint Legislative Committee be formed that would develop a wild land vegetation management plan for California. This would include "A scientifically credible balance of harms assessment that evaluates long term costs and risks to people, capital improvements, and natural resources, including air and water quality and listed or endangered species."

As the legislative schedule advances through 2004, I look forward to working with my colleagues, local officials, and constituents on the issues important to San Diego.

Congresswoman Susan Davis represents the 53rd Congressional District.



NASSCO Joins in the Fun of the 2nd Annual Earth Day Creek to Bay Cleanup

(Continued from Page 1)

NASSCO joined these other organizations in sponsoring the event: County Board of Supervisors, KUSI, SeaWorld, Pardee Homes, City of Chula Vista, SAIC, City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Department, Jimbo's Naturally!, City of La Mesa, Keep California Beautiful, KenCom Graphic Design and Sony.

For additional information on the Earth Day Creek to Bay Cleanup visit the I-Love-A-Clean-San-Diego website at <http://www.ilacsd.org/special/cleanup0403.html>.

NASSCO sponsors and participates in three Chollas Creek cleanup events each year. The next Chollas Creek & San Diego Bay cleanup event is Operation Clean Sweep on Saturday, June 5th. To sign-up for Operation Clean Sweep, contact Chad Haza, Environmental Administrator (619) 544-8826 or via email at chaza@nassco.com.

Saving Water Saves Energy

By Luis Generoso, Water Resources Manager, City of San Diego Water Department



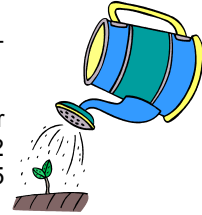
The City of San Diego Water Department, together with other local water agencies, is partnering with the Energy Commission to highlight ways San Diegans can save water while at the same time conserving energy. Water and energy have an important relationship. The California Energy Commission reports that, "**moving water around the state takes up to 40 percent of the total energy supply.**" So there are several ways in which our water-use behavior affects our household energy consumption.

According to Gary Klein of the California Energy Commission, "Water and energy are wasted while residents wait for hot water to get from the water heater to the fixtures dispersed throughout the home." He calculates that 10-20 gallons of water are wasted each day while waiting for the hot water to arrive." How can one eliminate, reduce, or effectively use the water wasted during this process?

- Maximize wasted water usage by using the cold water for something else. Capture the unused water in a bucket to water plants or rinse off vegetables.

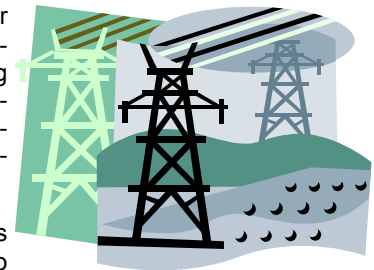


- An easy way to save water and energy is to turn off the tap. The "Flex Your Power Campaign" notes that turning off the tap while shaving can save up to 12 gallons of water, and turning off the tap while brushing your teeth can save up to 5 gallons of water.



Other ways to save water and energy is to invest or use energy-efficient household appliances, which in turn may also lower your utility bills in the long run.

- Run full loads in the dishwasher. Traditional dishwashing machines account for nearly 28 percent of all indoor water usage. Additionally, data from the California Energy Commission shows that dishwashers use 37 percent less water than washing dishes by hand. While there may be some concerns that a significant amount of energy is needed to heat the water in the dishwasher, there are new and innovative products on the market. Products with the Energy Star® sticker maximize water and energy consumption for homeowners.
- Use appliances after peak hours. *The "Flex Your Power"* Campaign suggests using large appliances like dishwashers and clothes washing machines after 7 p.m. to help save both water and energy.



Appropriate landscape design is another way to conserve energy. For instance, planting deciduous trees that shade the south side of your house will cut down on energy use by at least 10 percent. This will cool your roof during the summer months and allow you to use less air conditioning. Also, in the winter when these trees are bare, they will allow sunlight into your house warming it up and cutting down your heating costs.

It's amazing how much water and energy are inter-related," explained Chris Robbins, Supervising Management Analyst for the City of San Diego Water Department. "**In the last year, the water conserving efforts created by our programs helped to save more than 3 million kilowatt-hours of energy, and prevented the production of nearly 1,800 tons of carbon dioxide.**"

For more tips on how to save energy and water in your home, visit the "Flex Your Power" website at <http://www.flexyourpower.ca.gov/> and the City's Water Department's website at www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation.

This newsletter is generated by the NASSCO Environmental Engineering staff and is intended for the enjoyment of its readers by providing information on a variety of environmental topics. Information and/or opinions expressed herein reflect the knowledge and opinions of the author and not necessarily the entire Environmental Engineering Department, NASSCO or General Dynamics.

If you are interested in submitting an article of environmental interest, or would like us to address one of your questions/concerns, please contact us at Environmental Engineering, Mail Stop 22A.

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