

U.S.C.G. ENVIRONMENTAL TIMES

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The "Environmental Times" (*E-Times*) is designed to help you keep up with environmental information relevant to your job. The "Environmental Times" is provided for informational purposes only and does not necessarily reflect official Coast Guard policy. We encourage you to write the editor with questions, comments, or input for this publication. Contact Meg Breton at Potomac Management Group, Inc., (703) 836-1037 or e-mail mbreton@potomacmgmt.com, or Martin Nguyen at Coast Guard headquarters, (202) 267-2342 or e-mail mnguyen@comdt.uscg.mil. Indices for *E-Times* are printed in the April/June and October/December issues.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the first Environmental Times of the new millennium. As you will see there have been some modest format changes, including several new departments. More significantly, you will note the *E-Times* is now being published quarterly.

The purpose of the *E-Times* is to help you keep up with environmental information that is useful to your job. By going to four publications per year, we hope to be able to include more contributions from the units. The editorial policy of each issue remains unchanged.



AFFECTING YOU

Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines for Recovered Materials

Final Rule: Designation of 18 New Items

On January 19, 2000 EPA amended the May 1, 1995 Comprehensive Procurement Guideline (CPG) and designated 18 new items that are or can be made with recovered materials. The CPG implements section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and section 502 of Executive Order 13101, which require EPA to designate items that are or can be made with recovered materials and to recommend practices that procuring agencies can use to procure designated items. Once EPA designates an item, any procuring agency that uses appropriated Federal funds to procure that item must purchase the item containing the highest percentage of recovered materials

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practicable. The 18 newly designated items are listed below by product category.

Construction Products
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carpet cushion – Flowable fill – Railroad grade crossing surfaces
Landscaping Products
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Food waste compost – Plastic lumber landscaping timbers and posts
Miscellaneous
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sorbents – Industrial drums – Awards and plaques – Mats – Signage, including sign supports and posts – Manual-grade strapping
Park and Recreation Products
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Park benches and picnic tables – Playground equipment
Non-Paper Office Products
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Solid plastic binders – Plastic clipboards – Plastic file folders – Plastic clip portfolios – Plastic presentation folders

Under RCRA section 6002, procuring agencies include the following:

1. any Federal agency;
2. any state or local agency using appropriated Federal funds for a procurement; or
3. any contractors of those agencies that procure those items for work they perform under the contract (see RCRA section 1004(17)).

The requirements of section 6002 apply to those procuring agencies only when the agencies procure designated items whose price exceeds \$10,000, or when the quantity of the item purchased in the previous year exceeded \$10,000.

This action relies on Government purchasing power to stimulate the use of recovered materials in the manufacture of new products, thereby fostering markets for materials recovered from solid waste. Procuring agencies are now required to take certain actions pursuant to RCRA section 6002, including rule review and implementation; estimation, certification, and verification of designated item procurement; and Federal agencies are required to take actions such as reporting and record keeping. RCRA section 6002 provides certain limited exceptions to the general requirement to buy EPA-designated items, based on competition, price, availability, and performance.

EPA anticipates that this final rule will result in increased opportunities for recycling and waste prevention. Waste prevention can reduce the nation's reliance on natural resources by reducing the amount of materials used in

making products. Using fewer raw materials results in a commensurate reduction in energy use, as well as a reduction in the generation and release of air and water pollutants associated with manufacturing.

In addition, EPA published its recommended procurement practices for entities that purchase designated items in a related recovered materials Advisory Notice (RMAN III). For several of the designated items, EPA recommends in the RMAN III that procuring agencies use two different measures for the content of recovered materials: 1) component of post consumer recovered materials and 2) a component of total recovered materials.

For more information see EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guideline web site at www.epa.gov/cpg/, or the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive web site at www.ofee.gov, or contact T.J. Granito (G-SEC-3) at Tel.: (202) 267-1941, or e-mail: tgranito@comdt.uscg.mil. This CPG rule becomes effective January 19, 2001.

Executive Order Requires State Input Into Regulations

A new executive order [EO 13132 FEDERALISM, Aug 5, 1999] requires Federal agencies to consult with State and local officials during the entire life cycle of new regulations that significantly affect the Federal/State/local relationship—from early planning to formal rulemaking to implementation. It also requires a minimalist approach to Federal preemption of state law. Any Coast Guard units issuing regulations should review this EO for applicability to their rulemaking. If you would like a copy of the EO, contact Mr. T.J. Granito (G-SEC-3) Tel.: (202) 267-1941, or e-mail: tgranito@comdt.uscg.mil.

Renovation Study Results Are In

The Residential Lead-Based Paint Reduction Act (Title X) of 1994 required EPA to conduct a study of lead exposure associated with renovation and remodeling activities to determine which groups of workers, if any, should be trained, certified, or otherwise educated to protect themselves or others from lead-based hazards resulting from renovation and remodeling activities. The fourth phase of the Renovation and Remodeling (R&R) study has been completed and it was concluded that a relationship does exist between R&R activities and blood-levels of those performing R&R in old housing. The study of removal/surface preparation resulted in a marginal increase in blood lead concentrations. It also indicated that carpenters, laborers, and painters performing cleanup, paint removal, surface preparation, and window and door replacements showed an increase in blood lead concentrations. Of those surveyed in this study, 67 percent of workers and 62 percent of homeowners had not received any educational materials on lead hazards. Workers were nearly 11 times more likely to have blood-lead concentrations above 25 ug/dL than the general U.S. population, and homeowners were almost 30 times more

likely to have blood-lead concentrations above 25 ug/dL than the general U.S. population.



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Center for Marine Conservation Announces New President

The Center for Marine Conservation (CMC) announced the appointment of Coast Guard Vice Admiral Roger T. Rufe, Jr., as the organization's new president, effective November 18.

"This is a great day for marine conservation," commented CMC Board Chairman Curtis Bohlen. "Roger Rufe, after all his years of maritime and conservation experience, will bring his leadership to CMC at a time when the world is coming to realize the perils facing its oceans, seas, and bays."

Admiral Rufe joins the Center after a distinguished 30-year career with the United States Coast Guard. From 1997 until his retirement in September 1999, Admiral Rufe was Commander of the Atlantic Area, Fifth Coast Guard Division and Maritime Defense Zone Atlantic, responsible for two-thirds of the agency's operations. Before assuming command of the Atlantic Area, Admiral Rufe served as Commander of the Coast Guard Pacific Area, responsible for all Coast Guard operations from the Rocky Mountains to Asia.

From 1980-1984 Admiral Rufe was Chief of the Coast Guard's Pollution Response Branch, responsible for developing and implementing national policy for prevention and response to oil and hazardous chemical spills. As Commander of the 17th Coast Guard district in Juneau, Alaska, where his primary duties were fishing vessel safety and fisheries conservation, he gained valuable insights into the complexities of maritime economies and environmental protection. And as Commander of the Atlantic Area, he headed the Coast Guard's investigation and prosecution of illegal oil discharges by Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Vice Admiral Rufe served as a U.S. representative to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and led the U.S. delegation that negotiated the Cartagena Convention, an international environmental agreement for the Wider Caribbean Region.

Roger McManus, who has led CMC for the past fifteen years, will join CMC's Board of Directors as Vice Chair

"I am ready and enthusiastic. This is a challenging and critical time for the ocean and its wildlife. CMC can and will have a strong, positive impact on the health and vitality of the marine world."

—Admiral Roger T. Rufe, Jr.

for Ocean Policy. "We are fortunate," said Bohlen, "that the man responsible for building CMC to its present leading position will continue to provide his invaluable expertise."

"I'm genuinely pleased with the accession of Roger Rufe to the presidency of CMC," said McManus. "Under his leadership, I am confident that CMC will increase its capacity for protecting the marine environment and wildlife. I'm also delighted, with my elevation to the Board, to still be involved in the Center's mission and policies. This is an exciting time for CMC."

The Center for Marine Conservation is the largest national nonprofit organization committed solely to protecting ocean environments and conserving the global abundance and diversity of marine life through science-based advocacy, research, and public education, as well as informed citizen participation. Headquartered in Washington, DC, CMC has regional offices in California, Florida, and Virginia, and field offices in Alaska, Maine, California, and the Florida Keys.

Greening the Government Guide

Greening the Government: A Guide to Implementing Executive Order 13101 will soon be available. The document covers all sections of the E.O. and presents real world examples of how Federal agencies are changing the way in which their agencies do business. Many of the White House Closing the Circle Award winners are featured as examples. The guide has numerous appendixes that contain an abundance of background documents and other information resources. An electronic copy of this publication will be on the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE) web site, www.ofee.gov. A limited number of printed books will also be available. To request a printed copy, send an e-mail request to Dorothy.Little@ofee.gov, or call the task force at Tel.: (202) 260-1297.

Demonstration of Ozone Laundry Technology for Oily Rags

The Navy generates large quantities of wastecloth wipe-rags from various cleaning and maintenance operations including spill cleanups. These rags are contaminated with greases, fuels, oils, paints and hazardous solvents. In recent years, many naval activities have contracted with commercial cleaning services to supply and clean rags. These efforts have lead to significant cost savings. Unfortunately, these services are not available to all activities for all waste streams, nor are they cost effective for all applications.

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command, through the Environmental Protection Ashore Program, funded the Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center to investigate rag disposition technologies.



ON BOARD

Who 'Ya Gonna Call?

Imagine you are a Coast Guard petty officer out in the field doing a supply locker inventory. You discover a stockpile of expired pyrotechnics that needs to be disposed. How do you go about finding the proper procedures of disposal in a timely manner? Or, you have just reported to a new unit and discovered you are responsible for remediating a leaking aboveground storage tank. Where can you turn for timely and knowledgeable assistance? Who is recognized as the resident expert for any one particular environmental issue?

Several years ago, G-SEC initiated a survey in an effort to identify and locate the in-house environmental expertise for selected environmental issues. The initial survey was limited to those personnel assigned under G-SEC and G-LEL. A follow-on survey was performed last year to verify and expand on the previous results. It is anticipated that a future survey will continue this effort to capture the in-house environmental expertise at the ISC units and MLCs (kse).

In an upcoming issue we will publish contact lists for different environmental compliance subjects.

The Wipe Rag Recycling Project consisted of three phases. In Phase I, a review of the current status of naval industrial rag cleaning and disposal operations was performed. In Phase II, possible rag disposition technologies were identified and a preliminary assessment was made to determine which technology was the most promising. Four technologies were evaluated: hot water washing, cold-water washing with ozone; liquid carbon dioxide cleaning and thermal rag destruction. Based on this evaluation process, the ozone laundry technology was selected as the most appropriate. In Phase III, a full-scale demonstration of the ozone laundry process was performed.

Phase III testing showed that the ozone process rags were significantly cleaner. The process produced 70% less water pollution and had 27% lower operating costs compared to conventional cleaning. These savings result from the elimination of the need for hot water, a reduction in water use, shorter cycle times, and the use of fewer laundry chemicals.

For more information on cost or exact demonstration details, contact Mr. Bruce Holden, Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center Tel.: (805) 982-6050 or e-mail: holdenbb@nfesc.navy.mil.

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Coast Guard Environmental Pollution Prevention Awards Nominations

The Coast Guard Pollution Prevention Awards program was established in 1996 to recognize those individuals and units that have demonstrated outstanding improvements in various areas of pollution prevention. Last year the program was revised to ensure wider participation. The three award categories include:

1. Source Reduction,
2. Recycling, and
3. Affirmative Procurement.

The deadline for submission of nominations to COMDT (G-SEC) was 28 February 2000. Announcement of the winners will coincide with Earth Day, 22 April 2000.

There are a number of excellent Coast Guard pollution prevention projects and processes that are deserving of recognition. If you would like more information or have any questions, contact Dr. Ken Malmberg (G-SEC-3), at Tel.: (202) 267-6214, Fax: (202) 267-4219, or e-mail: kmalmberg@comdt.uscg.mil.



P2 AND YOU

EPA Guide: P² Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement

by Tom McCarley, from the Jan-Feb 2000 "HTIS Bulletin"

A Guide from EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER), titled "Pollution Prevention Solutions During Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement" may be a useful addition to the libraries of DoD installation environmental managers. The guide covers pollution prevention (P2) activities from a different perspective than most P2 volumes.

The December 1998 volume is a joint production of OSWER and EPA Region IV: Air Pesticides, and Toxics Management Division. The EPA considers the volume as a field handbook that catalogs information obtained from the various States and EPA Regions on some of the more innovative P² approaches used in conjunction with permitting, inspection, and enforcement activities.

The Sections are:

- I. Pollution Prevention Basics.
- II. Pollution Prevention in the Permitting Process: Includes a list of State programs that require pollution prevention in various air, water, and waste environmental programs.
- III. Promoting Pollution Prevention through Inspection Activities: Information for inspectors and State specific information.

- IV. Incorporating Pollution Prevention into Enforcement Activities: This section contains information on projects that facilities have undertaken to provide injunctive relief in lieu of fines and penalties in enforcement cases; so-called Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs). The section contains a list of the six categories of SEPs and EPA's guidelines for SEPs.

The guide contains a summary in Executive Summary form and an extensive Appendix of Pollution Prevention web sites and other print resources.

The Guide can be obtained from EPA's Publications Center in Cincinnati via (513) 490-8190 or toll-free (800) 490-9198. Ask for Publication EPA/530-R-98-015, December 1998, "Pollution Prevention Solutions During Permitting, Inspection, and Enforcement."

EPA Provides Environmental Information to Communities Across the Nation

In 1997, the Environmental Protection Agency began a comprehensive program for measuring and reporting environmental information to communities across the country. The EMPACT Program (which stands for Environmental Monitoring for Public Access and Community Tracking) is designed to work with communities to collect, manage and present environmental information. EMPACT brings people up-to-date environmental information they can understand and use in their day-to-day decision-making about their health and the environment. It will answer questions like:

- "What is the ozone level in my city this morning?"
- "What is the water quality at my beach today?"
- "What is the level of contamination in the groundwater at hazardous waste sites in my community?"

Answers to these and dozens of other questions are important because they affect our daily lives. In the past, such environmental information was either unavailable or difficult to retrieve, and often outdated and difficult to understand when it reached the public. Accordingly, in 1996 President Clinton directed the EPA to create the EMPACT program to disseminate timely and understandable information to all Americans.

In achieving this goal, EMPACT uses several new approaches including:

- Establishing direct partnerships with states and individual communities in planning and initiating projects.
- Incorporating new and improved technologies for real-time environmental measurements of air, soil and water quality and specific contamination levels.

- Employing a comprehensive set of tools for communicating, interpreting and applying environmental data and information to daily situations.
- Developing a framework that individual communities can work within, but that will also provide the ability to aggregate information on a regional and national scale.

The EMPACT projects can focus on a specific media (air, soil and water) or be multi-media in scope. Some projects are planned and initiated by EPA with community involvement, others have been planned and implemented by the communities themselves. EPA awarded \$3.5 million for locally sponsored projects in 1998, and \$3.4 million in 1999. Follow-on funding is also being made available in 2000.

Typical EMPACT projects include:

- Developing an air-quality tracking system in Cleveland, OH
- Providing immediate water quality information at beaches in Los Angeles, CA
- Monitoring water quality using real-time sensors and telemetry in Long Island Sound
- Providing information on hazardous waste sites in Northern New Jersey
- Providing daily information on avoiding ultraviolet radiation in Phoenix, AZ

More detailed information on these and many other EMPACT projects can be obtained on the EMPACT Web site: www.epa.gov/empact.

EPCRA Manual & P2 Guide Status - P2S2 Report Replacement

The P2S2 Report, which was cancelled in FY99, will be replaced by a new P2 Annual Report (P2AR) sometime this spring or early summer. The new P2AR will be the measurement portion of a new Coast Guard P2 Guide that will incorporate many P2 initiatives and hazardous materials management programs that will help units operate more efficiently, reduce waste and management time and save the taxpayers' money at the same time. Although the P2S2 is cancelled, the annual HAZMAT inventory is still required.

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Manual (COMDTINST 16455.10) will be revised and will deal strictly with EPCRA reporting and compliance. This too should be issued in the spring/summer time frame.

If you have any questions on either of these items, contact T.J. Granito (G-SEC-3) at Tel.: (202) 267-1941 or e-mail: tgranito@comdt.uscg.mil.

Low Mercury Fluorescent Tubes

Facilities now have another option in the costly replacement, storage, treatment and disposal of spent fluorescent tubes. Fluorescent tubes contain mercury as an essential operating component. Traditional tubes consistently fail Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP) analysis for mercury and end up being treated as hazardous or universal waste—a costly situation for many installations. Private industry took the lead and delivered a cost-effective and more environmentally sound solution—low mercury fluorescent tubes.

Switching to low mercury fluorescent tubes is an attractive option to most installations. The three manufacturers of the new tubes, Phillips, Sylvania, and General Electric, report that the "green" tubes can be disposed of by normal trash disposal methods. It is also reported that the "green" tubes last up to 20% longer than traditional tubes while requiring less energy. The cost of the low mercury version is very close to that of traditional tubes. By using "green" fluorescent lighting, hazardous waste is minimized, energy is saved, and the life cycle cost is decreased.

A number of Coast Guard units are currently installing low mercury fluorescent tubes as part of their energy and pollution prevention/hazardous waste reduction program. As regular tubes burn out, they are properly disposed of as hazardous or universal waste and replaced with "green" fluorescent tubes. This is an efficient and effective means of implementing low mercury tubes at an installation. The Coast Guard Academy has completely converted to the "green tubes" and has shown significant return on investment in energy and hazardous waste cost avoidances.

Rules and regulations vary by state so it is important to coordinate the implementation with facility environmental personnel and local regulators. For more information, contact T.J. Granito (G-SEC-3) at Tel.: (202) 267-1941, or e-mail: tgranito@comdt.uscg.mil. To order low mercury bulbs, contact the DLA Lighting team at Tel.: 1-800-DLA-BULB, or through their Web site: www.dscpl.dla.mil/gi/general/light1.htm. You may also contact the EPA Green Lights Program at Tel.: 1888-STAR-YES.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Earth Day 2000

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22, 2000. Earth Day is an ideal opportunity to reinforce the spirit of the Commandant's Environmental Stewardship Challenge. As an owner and operator of a wide

variety of vessels, aircraft, support facilities, and other property, the Coast Guard has a special duty to ensure use of the earth's natural resources wisely, and to minimize the environmental effects of our own operations. As we conserve and preserve our own property and facilities, we also preserve the natural settings in which these facilities operate.

If possible, coordinate any activities with other DOT modes in your area, and participate in local community Earth Day celebrations. Headquarter's point of contact is Ken Malmberg at Tel.: (202) 267-6214, and e-mail: kmalmberg@comdt.uscg.mil.



PUBLICATIONS

AILA Bulletin

AILA—Magazine of the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities—is a quarterly publication put together by an international non-governmental, non-profit-making organization. Their aim is to foster the safe, economic and expeditious movement of vessels through improvement and harmonization of aids to navigation and maritime traffic management practices, or any appropriate means. In their December 1999 issue, our own Ed Wandelt (G-SEC-3), Chief, Environmental Management Division, wrote an article on the US Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Battery Recovery Program.

To receive a copy of the article, contact Ken Malmberg at Tel.: (202) 267-6214, or e-mail: kmalmberg@comdt.uscg.mil.



UNTANGLING THE WEB

Web Sites Now Available on International Environmental Standards and Cooperation

EPA Office of International Activities:

www.epa.gov/oia/

International cooperation is critical to achieving EPA's mission. Air, water, and waste pollution crossing our borders with Mexico and Canada can imperil the health, environment and well being of people in the United States. The Office of International Activities (OIA) at EPA enlists the cooperation of other nations in solving environmental problems of concern to the United States. Highlighted on this site is EPA's International Technical Cooperation Programs. The exchange of technology and expertise plays

a critical role in achieving EPA's international objectives. The Technical Information Packages (TIPs) page contains descriptions of information packages focusing on key environmental and public health issues being investigated by the EPA. The products highlighted within these packages provide a sound technical basis for decisions regarding the development of environmental policy, abatement activities, and pollution prevention. Readers can look at the full text of several of the packages, and can also order hard copies online.

International Organization for Standardization:

www.iso.ch/

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies from 130 countries. The mission of ISO is to promote the development of standardization and related activities in the world with a view to facilitating the international exchange of goods and services, and to developing cooperation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity. Learn more about ISO and its members, acquire contacts, read news and announcements, or access a publications catalog and products for your business. There is specific information available on ISO 9000 and ISO 14000, with a news service specifically for these standards and brochures about getting certified and the entire 14000 standard series.



LESSONS LEARNED

"Experience is a great teacher...if you survive the lessons." -- (unknown)

The following Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) was passed on from the US Air Force. If a similar condition exists at your facility, we recommend your staff take appropriate steps to prevent similar conditions.

Subject: Environmental NOTAM-Lessons Learned from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Notice of Violation (NOV)

1. EPA Region IX issued the first EPCRA NOV to an Air Force base in Feb 99. The following background is provided for your information.
2. The EPA conducted a compliance assistance visit to the base in Jul/Aug 97 and issued a report in Mar 98. The base responded in Jul 98 and received no feedback from EPA until the NOV was issued seven months later.
3. The violations were administrative in nature:
 - A. Failure to submit all Material Safety Data Sheets or a complete list of hazardous chemicals to the

State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), and local fire department.

- B. Failure to submit all hazardous chemicals above thresholds on the base Tier II report.
 - C. Failure to conduct adequate internal reviews and audits.
 - D. Failure to maintain an adequate system to ensure compliance with release reporting requirements.
4. Lessons learned:

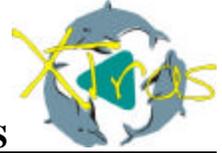
We expect other EPA Regions to follow Region IX's lead and conduct EPCRA inspections or compliance assistance visits. Bases must be very familiar with their EPCRA requirements.

Particular attention must be paid to the completeness of data submission to the SERC, LEPC, local fire department, and in their Tier II reports. Ensure spill response plans sufficiently address outside agency requirements. Ensure the base chemical tracking system (AF environmental management info system) is tracking chemicals from all sources of supply including contractors.

SUBJECT: Environmental NOTAM

- 1. The following Incident Lessons Learned is provided for your information and action as necessary.
- 2. An Air Force base received a Notice of Violation when it failed to establish, maintain and submit training documentation for personnel as required in a hazardous waste management facility closure permit and 40 CFR 265.16. Discrepancies were identified in an earlier Letter of Warning (LOW) and over 180 days lapsed since the original LOW was received. Since the base did not adequately provide training documentation in the required timeframe, their regulatory agency classified them as a "Significant Non-Complier" which mandated the base enter into a consent order. A fine of \$1000.00 and administrative fees of \$100.00 were paid. The base chain of command was not made aware of the LOW until receipt of the NOV letter.
- 3. Lessons Learned:
 - Ensure closure permit checklist includes all training and documentation requirements
 - Ensure adequate communication and coordination of environmental activities up the chain of command

- Ensure thorough understanding of environmental regulatory authority pertaining to appropriate permits
- Ensure documentation requested by enforcement actions is provided to the regulator on time



ENVIRONMENTAL EXTRAS

New G-SEC-3 Intern

Hello, gang! My name is Tracy Kuhns. I will be interning in the environmental management division office through April 27, 2000. I am a Senior Management major studying at Indiana University. I'm originally from Indiana; my hometown, Columbus, IN is only 45 minutes away from the Indiana University Bloomington campus, so as one can imagine, I'm feeling a little homesick. The last time I was in Washington, D.C. was in eighth grade for a field trip!

Although it's far from home, this internship is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that does not just "fall into anyone's lap". It is living and working in the Nation's capital. It is establishing a family with the 35 other interns I'm here with from IU. It is establishing a network of professionals whom I can learn from and depend on. It is also a bit scary at times, but I am willing to work hard at anything and learn everything I possibly can during the next three months. Thank you all for making me feel welcome and sharing stories and information about the Coast Guard! Stop in and say hello. *Semper Paratus!*



Editorial Policy: "U.S.C.G. Environmental Times" articles cover the entire range of environmental issues that may confront CG facilities, operations, project or activity planning, and policy making. The articles are intended to be brief, so they often provide a point of contact for further information. Suggestions for articles are welcome. Articles submitted may be edited for brevity.

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