

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio



**Environmental, Safety and
Occupational Health
(ESOH) Newsletter**

April 2003

In This Issue

- West Nile Virus
- Preparing for ECAMP: 28 Apr-2 May 03
- Are "Hands-Free" Cell Phones Safer?
- ESOH Training and Opportunities
- 2003 Toxicology and Risk Assessment
Conference: 28 Apr-1 May

West Nile Virus

Thanks to TSgt James Boshonek, 74 AMDS/SGPFP for the following article

WNV History

West Nile virus (WNV) is a mosquito-borne virus that can cause encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord). West Nile virus was first found in the United States in New York City in the fall of 1999. In Ohio, mosquitoes transmit four types of viruses that can cause encephalitis in people, including La Crosse, St. Louis, West Nile, and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus. Only a blood test can tell them apart.



WNV Transmission Cycle

West Nile virus is spread to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito. When a mosquito bites a bird that carries the virus, the mosquito becomes infected. It is believed that people cannot get West Nile virus directly from another person, or animal, that has the disease.

- Many types of birds can carry WNV; however, crows and blue jays are most sensitive.
- Horses can also become sick or even die from WNV.
- Only a few species of mosquitoes are known to transmit WNV.

What is Ohio Doing about WNV?



Ohio Department of Health

to protect and improve the health of all Ohioans

- Since 1999, local, state, and federal agencies participated in a Work Group to address WNV. A plan for Ohio has been prepared. It serves as a guide for all Ohioans in education, surveillance, prevention, and control of WNV.
- To see the plan, and more, go the following web site <http://www.odh.state.oh.us/>, search on "West Nile", and look under "Publications".



Exposure to WNV

Symptoms in Humans

Most people who are bitten by an infected mosquito will have no symptoms or only mild symptoms that will last a couple of days. These include a mild fever,

headache, and muscle aches. About 1 out of 150 people develop symptoms. Most people will have a mild illness, but 10 to 15 percent of them will develop a more serious illness, including high fever, severe headaches, stiff neck, confusion, or muscle weakness, which can result in hospitalization with meningitis or encephalitis. Most people with severe illness due to WNV are over 50 years old.



Symptoms in Horses

Clinical signs of West Nile virus infection in horses include: listlessness, stumbling, lack of coordination, partial paralysis, and death. Horses with West Nile virus often do not have a fever. Horses can be protected by vaccination.



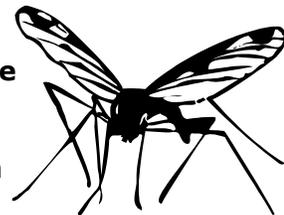
Dogs and Cats

WNV is not considered a major risk to dogs and cats. Only a few have been reported with WNV infection.

Personal Protection

You can take the following steps to protect yourself from being bitten by an infected mosquito:

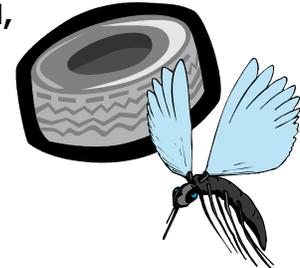
- Avoid being outdoors during peak mosquito biting periods, which are dawn and dusk.
- Wear light-colored, long sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Make sure all windows and doors have screens (16-mesh) and keep them in good repair.
- When tent-camping, be sure to zip up the screened entrance and window flaps.
- Use colognes and perfumes sparingly.
- Use mosquito repellents sparingly and follow the label directions.
- Use an insect repellent containing 10% DEET (N,N-diethyl-metoluamide) for children and no more than 30% DEET for adults. The 10% or less products are effective for about 2 hours. The 30% products are effective for about 4 hours.
- Keep DEET out of reach of children.
- Do not allow young children to apply DEET to themselves. An adult should put the repellent on his/her hands and rub it on the child's exposed skin. Do not apply DEET around the eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Avoid prolonged or excessive use of DEET and wash treated skin after returning indoors.
- Do not use DEET on infants or pregnant women.
- Mosquito repellents containing permethrin are to be used on clothing, NOT skin.



If you believe you or a child is having an adverse reaction to DEET, wash the treated area immediately and contact your health care provider or poison control center.

Mosquitoes! Not in MY back yard! Prevention Tips for Homeowners
Prevent mosquitoes from breeding on your property. Mosquitoes can develop in any standing water that lasts for a week or more.

- Remove all discarded tires. Used tires are a common mosquito-breeding site.
- Dispose of unneeded cans, plastic containers, flower pots or similar water-holding containers.
- Make sure roof gutters drain properly.
- Turn over wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use.
- Stock ornamental pools, rain barrels, and animal water troughs with mosquito fish (*Gambusia*), guppies, or goldfish.
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools, outdoor saunas and hot tubs.
- Drain water from pool covers and tarps covering cars, boats, etc.
- Fill water holding cavities and pockets in trees with sand, gravel or soil.
- Use landscaping to eliminate stagnant water that collects on your property.
- Clean out drainage ditches so water can flow.
- Change water in birdbaths once a week.



Reporting Dead Crows and Blue Jays

- Freshly dead crows and blue jays (less than 48 hours) should be collected for surveillance purposes. Decomposed or scavenged carcasses are of limited diagnostic value.
- Tissues will be collected from crows and blue jays only, particularly those reported as freshly dead (dead less than 48 hours).

NOTE: Birds that will not be tested should be buried or placed in a double plastic bag and discarded in the trash. REMEMBER TO WEAR RUBBER OR PLASTIC GLOVES WHEN HANDLING ANY DEAD ANIMAL.



Mosquito Surveillance and Trapping

The Base Public Health Office will begin surveillance in the middle of April. Trapping begins at the end of May using Ovitrap traps like the one pictured. Please do not disturb or destroy these traps if you see them hanging. If you see one that has fallen off the tree please contact Public Health (**5-2515**).

Please see the following website for more info:

<http://www.odh.state.oh.us/odhprograms/zoodis/wnv/wnvupdate.htm>

**For more information you can contact:
The Ohio Department of Health Vector-Borne Disease Program
1-866-634-2968 or the Public Health Office 5-2515**

Preparing for ECAMP

28 Apr - 2 May 03



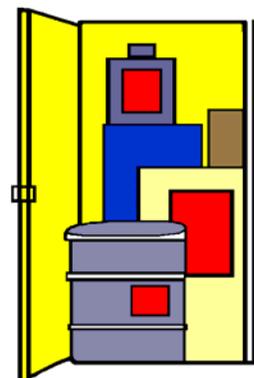
The Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program, or ECAMP is drawing near. The intent of this annual assessment is to evaluate environmental compliance in thirteen regulated areas including:

Air Emissions	Cultural Resources	Hazardous Materials	Hazardous Waste
Natural Resources	Pesticides	Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants (POL)	Solid Waste
Storage Tanks	Toxic Substances (PCBs, Lead-Based Paint, Radon, Asbestos)	Wastewater	Water Quality
Other Issues: Environmental Impact (EIAP), Noise, Installation Restoration Program (IRP), Program Management, Pollution Prevention			

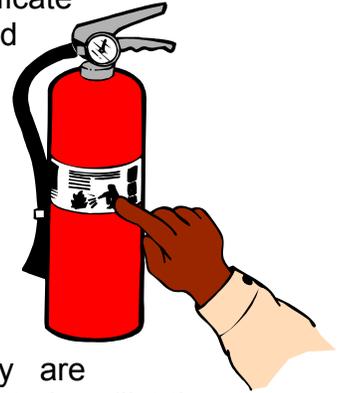
The following are guidelines for areas subject to the most findings:

Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste

- Make sure all hazardous materials are labeled, have a barcode, and are segregated by hazard class.
- Usable hazardous materials should be clearly distinguishable from hazardous wastes. If you store them together in the same cabinet, make sure the section for wastes (Initial Accumulation Point) is clearly distinguishable, labeled as such, and only hazardous wastes are stored within that designated area.
- All hazardous waste must be clearly labeled, stored in an initial accumulation point (IAP), and documented on the container-tracking log. Make sure all containers are in good condition (no leaks, dents, or illegible labels) and ensure lids are closed.

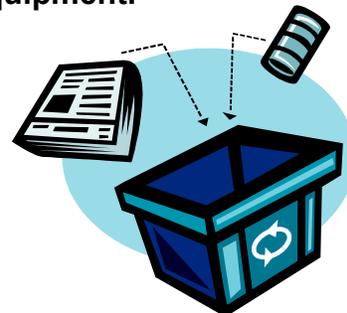


- Verify that your IAP contains less than 55-gallons (including one quart P-listed) hazardous waste. Contact your IAP manager, Unit Environmental Coordinator, or Environmental Management at x77152 for assistance with hazardous waste turn-in if necessary.
- For employees who require RCRA hazardous waste training, these certificates must be available at the IAP. The date on the certificate should reflect that initial or refresher training has been received within the last twelve months.
- Ensure that all compressed gasses are secured with a strap or chain and are properly labeled.
- Make sure fire extinguishers have been inspected and have tags available documenting inspections.
- If you are storing batteries for turn-in, make sure they are segregated by type and are labeled “Universal Waste - ___ Batteries” (list the type of battery on the label.) Battery labels can be ordered from Label Master or other vendors.
- Know the locations of your Site-Specific Spill Plan, Hazcom or Chemical Hygiene Plan, and MSDSs. If they are accessible electronically, know how to access them.
- As for spill plans, make sure they have undergone the required annual review and that this is documented. Spill plans should be signed at the appropriate levels--supervisor, UEC, EM. They should be clearly posted in the potential spill area and workers in the areas should know what to do in the event of the spill. In other words everyone should be trained on the plan.



Solid Waste

- Police your area. Clean up areas where clutter has accumulated. Recycle or dispose of paper, cardboard boxes, or other materials that have accumulated. Turn in any excess equipment. **Make sure clutter is not blocking exits, eyewash stations, emergency showers, or spill equipment.**



Air Emissions

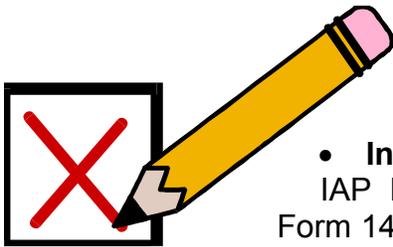
- Make sure all of your air emission sources are properly identified (with yellow Source ID labels) and all required record keeping is in order.



POL and Storage Tanks

- Do you have storage tanks? If so, you are required to keep product inventory and leak check records as well as records of required equipment maintenance. Tanks must be registered with Environmental Management (77152 x265).
- Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan must be signed by a registered professional engineer. The plan must also be updated in the past three years and consistent with oil storage at the facility.
- Documentation of spill prevention/response training.
- Proper spill response procedures in place including appropriate response to any spills. Adequate spill control equipment and materials.
- Specific procedures for handling used oil and appropriate containment measures (dikes, berms) installed around oil facilities.
- Storage tanks must be secured and adequate secondary containment present. Secondary containment structures must not be cracked and signage must be adequate for volume of oil present.
- Properly functioning drains and locked drain valves on secondary containment dikes. Valves for secondary containment structures should be closed.
- Procedure for assessment and disposition of accumulated rainwater in containment structures should be available.
- Oil/water separators installed before stormwater is discharged to stream or sewer and maintained and cleaned periodically for efficient operation.
- Aboveground tanks leak tested and inspected periodically. **NO LEAKING TANKS.**
- Fuel systems regularly inspected and dispensing into properly labeled containers.

- Monthly monitoring and inventory conducted for new USTs. Tightness testing conducted every five years. New and existing suction piping tested every three years.
- New and existing pressurized piping outfitted with automatic flow restructure, automatic shut-off device, continuous alarm system; annual line testing or monthly monitoring.
- New USTs installed with proper corrosion and spill/overflow protection.
- “Used Oil” signs and/or labels present.
- Proper handling of petroleum-contaminated excavated soil.



Checklists

- **Initial Accumulation Point (IAP) Managers:** Use the IAP Daily Checklist and Weekly Inspection Log (WPAFB Form 1437) to make sure your IAPs are in compliance. Both of these forms can be found in the Hazardous Waste Management Plan or in the “Hazardous Waste Identification” handout provided during RCRA training. The IAPs are areas the evaluators will want to inspect.
- **Unit Environmental Coordinators:** Review the UEC Inspection Checklist (WPAFB Form 1432) to ensure your organization is in compliance.

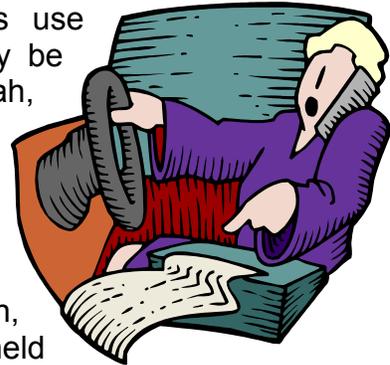
Remember that Environmental Compliance is important all year long, not just in preparation for ECAMP. Any corrections made should be sustainable all year long and integrated into your work practices, not just temporary fixes to make it through the inspection. Good luck!

If you have any questions while preparing for ECAMP, contact your supervisor, Unit Environmental Coordinator, or Environmental Management at x77152.

Study: Cell Phones Cause 'Blindness' in Drivers

This is from a recent article in National Safety Council, Safety & Health Magazine March 2003 issue. Thanks to Juan Vazquez, HQ AFMC/ SEG for forwarding it.

WASHINGTON --- Legislation that mandates drivers use hands-free devices when talking on a cell phone may be missing the point. Researchers at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, report that using a cell phone leads to what they called "inattention blindness," or the inability to recognize objects encountered along the road. This could result in anything from slow reaction action time when a light changes to causing a rear end collision. Using a hands-free device did not reduce this distraction, leading researchers to conclude that banning hand-held devices while permitting hands-free devices would not likely reduce driver distraction.



This study "underscores once again that a driver's primary obligation is to give his or her full attention to operating the motor vehicle safely," Alan C. McMillan, president and CEO of the National Safety Council, said in a statement.

The findings add to a series of studies that point to problems with cell phones and driving. Most recently, researchers at the University of Sydney found that hands-free devices gave drivers a false sense of security. (Their article was in the Safety & Health, December Issue).

The Utah study, "Cell Phone Use Can Lead to Inattention Blindness Behind the Wheel," was originally published in the Journal of Experimental Psychology Applied.

The National Safety Council's web site is <http://www.nsc.org/>.

ESOH Training and Opportunities

Wright-Patterson ESOH Web Sites:

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: <http://www.abwem.wpafb.af.mil/em/>

SAFETY: <https://www.asc.wpafb.af.mil/asc/safety/index.html>

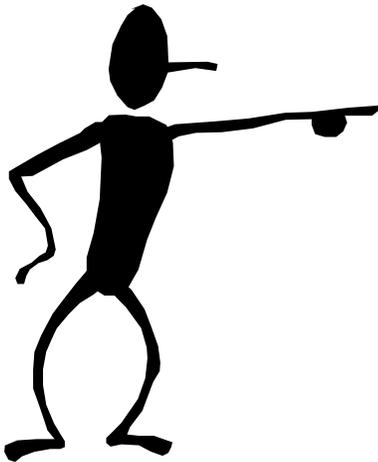
PUBLIC HEALTH: <https://wpmc3.wpafb.af.mil/amds/ph/index.htm>

BIOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING: <https://www.bio.wpafb.af.mil/>

HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER (HAWC):

<http://wpmc1.wpafb.af.mil/pages/hawc/>

CAP OFFICE: <https://www.afmc-mil.wpafb.af.mil/ESC/MM/CAP/>



[2003 Toxicology and Risk Assessment Conference](#)

**28 April – 1 May 03
Holiday Inn, Fairborn OH**

The conference will include ten scientific sessions, eight training workshops, and a poster session. For information and to register:

<http://www.he.afrl.af.mil/toxcon/ToxConf03.htm>

Conference Coordinator: Tara Grove (937) 255-5150 ext. 3146

Sponsored by USEPA-NCEA, US Air Force, AFRL/HEST, AFOSR, US Navy, NHRC/TD, US ARMY-CHPPM, NIOSH, ATSDR and the National Research Council/NAS.

RCRA Hazardous Waste Training: Mandatory for all employees who generate hazardous waste. Issue Point (IP) Managers, Hazwaste generators, primary and alternate Initial Accumulation Point (IAP) managers, Unit Environmental Coordinators (UECs), and supervisors of all these individuals must take annual RCRA training.



Initial Training: 15 May, 24 Jul, 25 Sep, 13 Nov 03
[CLICK HERE to schedule electronically](#)
or schedule with Susan Dilworth 75627 x223

Annual Refresher Training - AFRL Only
22 May, 24 Jul, 25 Sep, 13 Nov 03

Schedule with Mary Shelly x59000

(beginning in May 2003, please schedule all RCRA Hazardous Waste training through Susan Dilworth above)

Annual Refresher Training - Organizations other than AFRL

17 Apr, 19 Jun, 21 Aug, 16 Oct, 18 Dec 03

[CLICK HERE to schedule electronically](#)
or schedule with Susan Dilworth 75627 x223

Environmental Compliance, Assessment and Management Program (ECAMP) Training (ENV220)



This course is designed to give students knowledge to successfully plan and execute an internal or external compliance assessment (such as ECAMP), prepare required reports, and direct the follow-up actions. For more information on the course visit [AFIT's Website](http://cess.afit.af.mil/env_020/default.htm) (http://cess.afit.af.mil/env_020/default.htm).

You must sign up for the course through your Training Focal Point (TFP). Contractor registration should be coordinated through their assigned organization's TFP. Additional paperwork is required for contractors to attend this course.

For more information contact
Karen Thompson, 88 ABW/EMO at 72010 x 211

Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health (ESOH) Awareness Training

16 Apr, 15 Jul, 22 Oct 03

Sign up with 88 ABW/ EM, Treva Bashore, 72201 x233

This course covers a broad range of topics and requirements that apply to all of us at Wright-Patterson, including mandatory training requirements. This course is highly recommended for all employees on Base, including contractors. Supervisors are highly encouraged to attend.

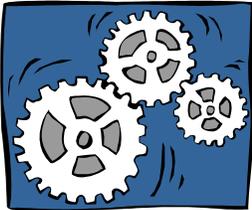




CPR Training

Required for electrical and confined space workers per 29 CFR 1910.151. The American Heart Association recommends CPR refresher training every two years and the American Red Cross recommends CPR refresher training every year. CPR training (per the American Heart Association) is **taught at the Base Hospital every Tuesday** provided that there are enough students.

Contact Marcia Wilson at 79347 or Karen Turner 48384 (Bldg 675 Area B)



Operational Risk Management (ORM)

To sign up, contact Chuck Swankhaus at 43390

ORM is a tool anyone can use to help with planning and decision-making in order to reduce or eliminate potential risks and increase efficiency. The Safety Office (ASC/SEG) has made two ORM briefings available over the Internet. Click on the following links to learn more about ORM:

Awareness Level ORM Training:

https://www.asc.wpafb.af.mil/asc/safety/orm/exec_training.ppt

Level II ORM Training:

https://www.asc.wpafb.af.mil/asc/safety/orm/orm_level_ii_training.ppt

Public Health Training for 2003

All Training will be held at 1400 in the Public Health Classroom in building 675, located in Area B. If needed, more classes will be added to the schedule. To sign up for training or work specific education, please contact Public Health at 255-2515.



Hazardous Communication (HAZCOM)

25 Apr, 25 Jul, 24 Oct 03

This course is a Train-the-Trainer course that provides mandatory HAZCOM training to supervisors and safety reps responsible for their organization's HAZCOM program. Must have previously had general Hazcom.

Hazcom training per 29 CFR 1910.1200 is required for all employees who use, handle, or may be exposed to hazardous materials upon initial assignment to that job (if not already receiving Chemical Hygiene Training per 29 CFR 1910.1450). HAZCOM refresher training is required whenever a new chemical or hazardous process is introduced into the work area or it is evident an employee needs refresher training. Otherwise, there is no "annual" requirement for HAZCOM training.

Ergonomics Training

23 May, 22 Aug, 21 Nov 03

Open to all interested DOD and military workers. Focus will be on Repetitive Motion Illnesses. If you would like in-depth ergonomic training that is more job specific, Public Health is available to do that on a one-to-one basis.



Reproductive Hazards in the Workplace

9 May, 8 Aug, 7 Nov 03

Open to workplace supervisors, safety reps, and any interested Base personnel.

Laser Hazards

13 Jun, 12 Sep, 12 Dec 03

Open to workplace supervisors or Safety Reps.

Asbestos Awareness

20 Jun, 19 Sep, 5 Dec 03

Mandatory for all building managers and CE personnel.

Hearing Conservation (General)

2 May, 11 Jul, 26 Sep, 14 Nov 03

Open to all base employees, recommended for all employees routinely exposed to noise.

Hearing Conservation (Supervisors)

4 Apr, 6 Jun, 22 Aug 03

Mandatory for all supervisors and safety reps working around hazardous noise.



Chemical Hygiene

18 Apr, 27 Jun, 5 Sep 03

Open to all AFRL supervisors and safety reps.

OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Cadmium | Carbon monoxide |
| Cold Stress | Heat Stress |
| Lead | Personal Protective Equipment |
| Respiratory Protection | Benzene |
| Formaldehyde | Universal Precautions/
Bloodborne Pathogens |

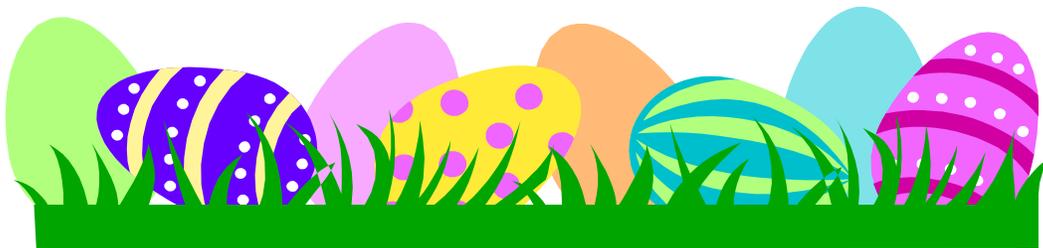


Health and Wellness Center

Call **904-WELL (9355)** to get the latest schedule of classes. Class sizes are limited. All classes require pre-registration but are free. Classes will be held at Hangar 22 (Bldg 571) Area B - Wright Field Fitness Center. Many briefings can be individualized and brought to your organization.

The Physical Therapy Flight offers a satellite clinic at the Health and Wellness Center (HAWC) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All base employees are eligible to be seen by the physical therapist. Hours of operation are from 1100-1300 Tuesdays and Thursdays. Appointments are available, or you may be seen on a walk-in basis.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, please email Annette.Crawford@wpafb.af.mil, or call the HAWC at 904-WELL (9355).



If you have any suggestions for this newsletter or if you would like to be added / removed from the distribution list, please contact [Mary Shelly](#) at (937) 255-9000.