

HANFORD COMMUNITIES

December 10, 2024 Hanford News & Updates

Hanford Meets EM 2024 Priority for Groundwater Treatment Ahead of Schedule

By DOE EM Staff November 26, 2024



The Hanford Site recently hit 2 billion gallons of contaminated groundwater treated in 2024, meeting a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management (EM) priority for the year nearly two months early.

“Our One Hanford team takes a lot of pride in the success of our groundwater program,” said Naomi Jaschke, director of the Hanford Field Office Soil and Groundwater Division. “Our sitewide network of wells and six treatment systems continues to work 24/7 to remove contamination from groundwater and reduce risk to the nearby Columbia River.”

While EM annual priorities are measured in calendar years, Hanford’s individual site goals are measured in fiscal years. Groundwater remediation met a similar

milestone this past fiscal year ending Sept. 30 when 2 billion gallons were treated for the 10th consecutive year.

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People, Partnerships and Pride in Finishing All Permits to Treat Hanford Tank Waste

By DOE EM Staff, November 26, 2024



Dozens of people from federal and state agencies and Hanford Site contractors recently gathered to celebrate completing the last of 77 environmental permits needed to start treating waste from Hanford's large underground tanks.

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Agriculture Advocates Get Close-up Look at Hanford Cleanup

By DOE EM Staff, November 26, 2024

Cleanup progress at the Hanford Site generates interest around the world. That's why the Hanford Field Office and tank operations contractor Washington River Protection Solutions recently hosted a site tour for representatives from Washington state's agriculture industry.

Farmers and agriculture workers drive Washington's economy by producing over 300 different crops and exporting them worldwide. From apples and carrots, to wheat, potatoes, raspberries and hops, foreign customers purchase more than \$16 billion of Washington-grown agricultural products. Agriculture industry experts often field questions about whether food is impacted because some of that produce is grown near the Hanford Site.

“Our buyers in foreign countries are aware of the Hanford Site and watch it very closely,” said Derek Sandison, director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture

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Leaking radioactive waste tank in Eastern WA won't be emptied soon. Here's why



The Department of Energy and Washington state have reached an agreement on steps to address radioactive waste suspected of leaking into the ground from a third storage tank at the Hanford nuclear site in Eastern Washington. Similar to the agreement on the first two huge underground tanks known to be leaking at the nuclear reservation, DOE is not required to immediately empty the tank.

The tank has been holding a stew of radioactive and other chemical waste for almost 80 years. Instead of draining the tank, an addition to the original order will include the steps that must be taken with Tank T-101, such as evaluating whether active ventilation could be used to evaporate liquid waste in the tank.

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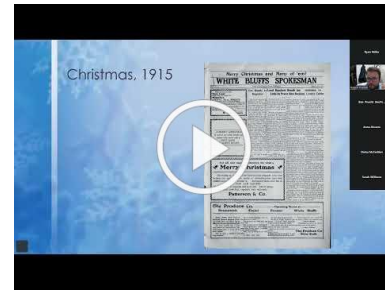
What We're Listening To

In this festive, year-end edition of Let's Talk About Hanford, the Washington Department of Ecology is taking a nostalgic look back at how holidays were celebrated during the early days of the Hanford Site!

Their guest for this conversation is Professor Robert Franklin, a familiar face to those following the series on Hanford's history.

Professor Franklin serves as the Assistant Director and Archivist of the Hanford History Project, Director of the Hanford Oral History Project, and Assistant Professor of History at Washington State University Tri-Cities.

In this special episode, Franklin will explore the unique ways holidays were marked during Hanford's production years, giving viewers a glimpse into what "merrymaking" looked like for those who worked and lived at the site.



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