

HANFORD COMMUNITIES

Hanford Cleanup & Community Updates

What the FY26 Federal Budget Means for Hanford Site Cleanup

By Hanford Communities Staff | June 23, 2025

The FY26 Federal Budget *And What it Means for Hanford Cleanup*



President's Request

\$0 Net Change



Shift

+163M Shift from Other Cleanup Activities to the Tank Waste Mission



Need

Additional Funding in Order to Meet Cleanup Deadlines



Is Flat Funding...Good?

In a year of cuts, flat funding is a strong starting point.
Final funding will depend on Congressional action



Hanford Must Maintain:

- DFLAW momentum
- HLW facility design, engineering and construction
- Waste shipping
- Central Plateau & River Corridor cleanup

What does the President's newly released FY26 Budget Request mean for Hanford cleanup efforts? While it proposes a \$34 million cut on paper, a deeper look reveals a more nuanced—and cautiously optimistic—picture. As flat funding becomes the norm in a year of widespread federal reductions, Hanford may still be starting from a relatively strong position. But the real question is: will it be enough to keep momentum on critical cleanup milestones? Dive into our full breakdown of the budget, what it means for the site's future, and how local leaders are pushing back to secure the funding Hanford needs.

[Read the Full Blog](#)

Cleanup News



\$95M Construction Project to Expand Hanford's Landfill Underway

By Annette Cary | June 16, 2025

The Department of Energy is launching a \$95 million, three-year construction project to expand Hanford's lined landfill, known as ERDF, with a new "super cell." This expansion will add capacity for 2.8 million cubic yards of radioactive and hazardous waste, ensuring safe disposal continues without delay. Construction starts soon and is expected to finish by September 2028.

[Read the Article](#)



New State-Approved Waste Analysis Method at 222-S Laboratory

By DOE EM Staff | June 10, 2025

Hanford's 222-S Laboratory received state approval to use an innovative technique called Stir Bar Sorptive Micro-Extraction. This method provides more precise chemical analysis while reducing radiation exposure and lab waste, supporting safer and more efficient cleanup efforts. This is part of ongoing collaboration across DOE cleanup sites.

[Read the Article](#)

Final Connection Made Between Waste Tanks and Treatment Plant

By Annette Cary | June 11, 2025

Hanford has completed the last piping link between its underground radioactive waste tanks and the vitrification plant. This milestone allows radioactive waste stored since WWII to begin treatment this summer, turning it into stable glass for safe, long-term disposal. The Low Activity Waste Facility is already running tests, with full-scale processing set to begin soon.

[Read More](#)



Open Comment Periods & Public Feedback Opportunities

Public Comment Period: 300 Area Cleanup Plan

June 9 – August 18, 2025

DOE and EPA invite public input on a proposed amendment to the 2013 cleanup plan for contaminated soil under Hanford's 324 Building. Two alternatives for remediation are available for review.

Public Meeting Details

-  June 30, 2025, 5:30 PM
-  Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Drive, Richland, WA
-  Join Online: bit.ly/4kQGgfQ
-  Call-in: (509) 931-1284 or (833) 633-0875
-  Conference ID: 156 530 249#

[See Event](#)

Public Feedback Opportunity 2025 Hanford Lifecycle Report

Comment Deadline: June 16, 2025

DOE released the 2025 Hanford Lifecycle Scope, Schedule, and Cost Report outlining future cleanup work under the Tri-Party Agreement. It provides important context but is not a decision document.

Submit Feedback to:

-  Email (preferred): lifecyclereport@rl.gov
-  Mail: Dana Gribble, HMIS, U.S. DOE, P.O. Box 450, H5-20, Richland, WA 99354
- Contact: dana_c_gribble@rl.gov

[See Event](#)

Got Graduates?

Pathways to Hanford (P2H) Program



Designed to support students exploring career opportunities at Hanford, P2H offers networking events, workshops, and insights into company values, careers, internships, and hiring processes.

P2H Opportunities

Events from our Partners

Explore the Manhattan Project This Summer! Free Programs | No Registration Required

Join National Park Service volunteers for Atomic Explorations, a series of engaging talks at the Manhattan Project National Historical Park Visitor Center in Richland, WA.

When: Monday – Thursday & Saturdays at 2:30 PM

Where: 2000 Logston Blvd, Richland, WA

Admission: Free & open to all!

Virtual B Reactor Tour

Monday, June 23 | 2:30

Take a virtual journey inside the world's first full-scale nuclear reactor, with visuals and demonstrations that bring its powerful history to life.

From Creation to Detonation

Tuesday, June 24 | 2:30

Uncover the science and story behind plutonium and how it fueled the Manhattan Project's atomic bomb.

Hanford Reach of the Columbia River

Wednesday, June 24 | 2:30

Dive into the environmental and cultural history of the Hanford Reach and how the area changed during and after WWII.

Was it Safe? Radiation Safety & the Manhattan Project

Thursday, June 26 | 2:30

Explore the early safety efforts used to protect workers from radiation—and what we've learned since.

Alphabet People

Saturday, June 28 | 2:30

Step back into the 1940s and discover the unique lifestyle of those who lived in the "secret city" of Richland.

Come once or come often! Whether you're a local or a visitor, there's something new to discover each week.

See the Events Calendar



July 14 | 7:00 PM
Richland Public Library

Join the [B Reactor Museum Association \(BRMA\)](#) to see history come to life as Richard Raymond takes us island-hopping through the Pacific Theater of World War II! Fresh off a March 2025 tour with the Ohio State University History Department, Richard shares personal notes, behind-the-scenes insights, and surprising stories from legendary sites like Pearl Harbor and Tokyo Bay.

Whether you're a history buff, a travel junkie, or just curious about the war that reshaped the world, come enjoy a night of storytelling, reflection, and maybe even a few laughs.

Free and open to all! So bring a friend and dive into history!

[See Event](#)

Hanford Communities | [Website](#)



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