

# Highlights of a Charged Energy Awareness Month

## Encouraging Culture Change Across the Globe

**OCTOBER WAS ENERGY** Awareness Month. Why should that interest you? Well, can you imagine a day—or longer—without your cell phone?

Probably not, but some of the energy awareness activities in October

brought home the disquieting message that our wasteful energy practices, coupled with our increasingly interdependent world, highly susceptible electric grid, and increasingly frequent cyber attacks all work

together to amplify vulnerabilities that cause widespread and long-term power outages, throwing us back to the 19th century, technologically.

Fortunately, as Rear Admiral Phil Cullom, Director, Energy and Environmental Readiness (OPNAV N45) pointed out at the 2011 Naval Energy Forum held 13–14 October 2011 in Washington, D.C., “There’s still time to get it right and secure our energy future, but no one group—not the military and not industry—can do it alone. We must leverage our combined skills and resources and form an enduring synergy. Each of us must continue doing his or her part.”

Interested in doing your share to secure our energy future? Rear Admiral Cullom explains how: “To change our energy future, we must all begin now to change our energy culture. We have to alter the way we think about energy. We must develop and practice frugal habits; we must conserve energy, not just

Boatswain’s Mate 2nd Class Kerik Vargas switches his lights to high efficient light bulbs as part of an energy conservation initiative at Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH).

*MC2 Mark Logico*





Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) officials inspect newly-installed solar runway lights on the PMRF airfield. More than 200 of these renewable energy lights were installed at the facility located on the western shore of Kauai.

MC1 Johnny Michael

## There's still time to get it right and secure our energy future.

—Rear Admiral Phil Cullom

when it's convenient—but at all times. Thoughts drive actions. Actions become habits. Habits become lifestyles.”

Encouraging Culture Change was the basis for many of the Navy's 2011 Energy Awareness Month activities. From Singapore, Sasebo, Diego Garcia, Yokosuka, Atsugi, and Guam, to all across the United States, hundreds of Department of the Navy bases and community events reinforced the fact that if we want to turn the tide and become an energy inde-

pendent nation, we must all change our mindset and lifestyles to value energy as a strategic resource.

Energy Awareness Month was celebrated globally in a wide-variety of ways.

- Atsugi's recycled airplane contest (airplanes made of recycled/reusable items), solar-powered band concert, and base family fun-fest.
- Diego Garcia's 5-K Energy Fun Run, picnic, and beach clean-up day.
- Finegayan's (Guam) energy fair with numerous exhibits, solar cars, solar powered food preparations, and give-aways.
- Guantanamo's base energy conservation fair that featured energy awareness give-aways, music, food, and school-age art competition.
- Sasebo's "Zombie Stomp" was part of a fun day of energy activities for the whole family, including numerous booths, static displays, and activities that heightened energy awareness.



Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii is upgrading the wastewater treatment plant at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam by removing the floating steel roofs and replacing them with fixed aluminum dome covers. The new covers will help capture methane gas for future energy projects and use it as an alternative fuel source.  
*Denise Emsley*


At home in the United States, Energy Awareness Month was celebrated as well.

- Corpus Christi's Energy Awareness Appreciation Day, including energy awareness essay competitions and awards presentations.
- Gulfport's electric car static display, energy conservation activities for youth, and various energy projects including energy management tool displays.
- Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's Energy Awareness Fair, youth activities, and training event included visits by BRITE, the energy mascot.
- Kings Bay's (student) energy conservation essay contests, energy conservation technology (science) competition, and family picnic.
- Mayport's "All-Things Energy" fair with workshops for all ages, training for the military and the community, games for children, and a visit from BRITE, the energy mascot.
- Pensacola's electric dune buggy display at a base energy fair, complete with a 5K fun run, prizes, and give-aways.

While Energy Awareness Month is over, we are still responsible to do what is right, to do what should and must be done to secure our nation's energy independence. Stay inspired all year round. Embrace a frugal energy lifestyle, but if you ever find yourself needing inspiration or wanting to learn more about the latest Naval



Seaman Andrea Gonzales maneuvers the biodiesel ferryboat #39-5 Jackson C. Pharris as she transports visitors to the USS Arizona Memorial. Sailors assigned to USS Arizona Memorial Detachment transport as many as 4,500 people to the historic site every day on biodiesel-powered boats.  
*MC2 Mark Logico*

energy and environmental activities taking place worldwide, visit [www.greenfleet.dodlive.mil/](http://www.greenfleet.dodlive.mil/) or <http://facebook.com/NavalEnergy>. Visit often and follow Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus' dynamic and rapidly evolving energy charge that is best explained by the message on his favorite Navy recruiting poster: "Sometimes, we follow the storm to the shore. Sometimes, we are the storm!" 

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