

# The Missile Express

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The official Newsletter of Naval Weapons Station Earle

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## Earle Earns SECNAV Environmental Award

### Naval Weapons Station Earle Public Affairs

Naval Weapons Station Earle's Environmental Division received high honors for its efforts in environmental conservation by receiving the Secretary of the Navy's Environmental Excellence Award for large installations.

The division was formally recognized on June, 29 during a ceremony at the Navy War Memorial in Washington, D.C. The station had been presented the Chief Naval Officer's award for the same achievement earlier in the month as well as the Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Champion Award in May.

Eric Helms, Environmental Director for NWS Earle said the recognition was not only a welcome acknowledgement of his team's efforts, but the installation's attitude and support of environmental initiatives as a whole.

"Of course this award is really to the entire team at Earle that has contributed to these ongoing projects and supported the many initiatives from the top down.," he said.

The award specifically focused on the installation's Holistic Shoreline Management and Resiliency Program, which focused on five key environmental protection initiatives:



Photo by MC1 Jason Behnke /OPNAV

From left to right: Eric Helms, NWS Earle Environmental Director and Lt. Cdr. Christopher Lynch, NWS Earle Public Works Officer, are presented the SECNAV Environmental Excellence Award by Dr. Todd Calhoun, Executive Director Marine Corps Installations Command, Rear Adm. Louis V. Cariello, Director Energy and Environmental Readiness Division, OPNAV N45, Karnig Ohannessian, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Environment) and Thomas Dee, Vice Director, Navy Staff, Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of the Navy



U.S. Navy Photo

Sailors assist the NY/NJ Baykeepers install oyster castles in the waters off NWS Earle's pier. The Navy and the Baykeepers hope to establish a living shoreline at the entrance of Ware creek, on the northern side of the Navy's pier, which will help protect the shoreline from the effects of climate change and sea-level rise, while helping to clean the water in the Raritan Bay.

- Ware Creek Salt Marsh Water Flow and Mosquito Control
- Marsh Vegetation Restoration and Maintenance
- Creating a Living Shoreline: Introducing Oyster Reefs
- Coastal Land Preservation
- Green Infrastructure Planning and High Water Mark Initiative

Helms noted that each project required extensive coordination with local and state partners and municipalities in order to achieve success.

Specifically, the installation's partnership with the New York New Jersey Baykeepers created the opportunity to build and grow a living Oyster Reef on the northside the NWS pier trestle. The project provides the Baykeepers with a safe and secure research area to conduct testing of Oyster viability in the Raritan Bay, while providing additional shoreline protection for the Navy base.

# Civilian Spotlight: Jeff Petrauskas

*This month's spotlight is Jeff Petrauskas, A Firefighter with Naval Weapons Station Earle's Fire and Emergency Services Department. A lifetime resident of Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey, he began his career as a Federal Firefighter at McGuire Air Force Base, before coming to NWS Earle 13 years ago.*

## Can you tell us a little bit about what you do for NWS Earle?

I'm a firefighter, I'm responsible for riding with the crew, filling in for the crew chiefs when they're not in staffing. As an Emergency Medical Services technician, I provide first aid service to the base. As a Hazardous materials technician, we provide assistance with any hazards or emergencies that happen on the base, as well as environmental issues.

## Thirteen years, that's a long time. What's made you stay here?

Everybody always makes the comment that the firehouse is like a family. We're a small group and we get to know each other really well. Everybody just gets along, we have a good time. The work is enjoyable. It's a great work environment.

## How do you manage your work/home balance with shift work?

We work 24-hour shifts, 72 hours a week. We work every other day and then we have two days off on the week. Although we're here for 24 hours, other people may not have that time to go and see their kid in a play during school. If you're fortunate enough, you can go that day without having to take off. We certainly put in more time, overall, than most people, but the schedule certainly has its benefits.

## What type of training have you been through to qualify you?

We're all required to go to EMT school, which is 6 weeks of courses before you can practice. We've all gone through HAZMAT tech classes, which is a couple of weeks learning different procedures on how to stop various chemical spills. We also do Shipboard firefighting. We have a shipboard training we go to every year, along with the week-long initial shipboard course. I

was fortunate enough to go down to Norfolk, Virginia to attend a yearly shipboard course put on by the Port Authority down there.

## I understand you're in charge of the Public Access Automated Emergency Defibrillator (AED) program. Can you tell us a little about that?

We coordinate with our tenants, MWR, NMC, Childcare services. We ensure that if they have an AED available to them that signs are posted, that they know how to get to the device and that they have people in the building who are trained to use it. We also provide CPR training to those people as well, so that they can begin life saving measures on the victim before we get there.

## Is there a regulation that dictates who should have access to an AED?

There are Navy regulations which dictate that Childcare facilities, anyplace that services large numbers of people or are far away from medical facilities have these AED devices on hand.



*U.S. Navy Photo*

Firefighter Jeff Petrauskas has served on Naval Weapons Station Earle for 13 years. Among his many duties, he trains and certifies installation personnel on the proper use Automated Emergency Defibrillator devices.

## How important would you say having these devices and people trained to use them is?

I know from personal experience. One of my co-workers from a part-time job did have a heart attack while at home. Within two minutes, a police officer was there and able to defibrillate him with an AED and save his life. Anything that you can do to administer aid quicker has a huge effect on increasing their chances of survival. It will take us a few minutes to get there, but if you can help them until we get there, it has a huge effect.

## What would you say your favorite thing about being a firefighter here?

I think knowing that you're prepared for any emergencies that come up, and that everyone you work with is willing to jump in and do whatever it takes to help people.. That's why we do it. It's fun to ring the bells and blast the siren, but we're here to help people in their time of need.

# Navy Announces NEC Code Overhaul and Updated Enlisted Rating Communities and Career Fields

## From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy announced July 13, in NAVADMIN 174/17 that as part of its Sailor 2025 efforts, the service will implement a new Navy Enlisted Classification (NEC) code construct this October and also realign enlisted rating communities and career fields.

"These efforts are about warfighting readiness and are absolutely critical to the development and implementation of the Navy's Ready Relevant Learning (RRL) and rating modernization initiatives," said Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Robert Burke. "Not only will these changes improve our personnel and billet management processes to assign the right individual to the right job, but it will ultimately provide us the ability to train and repurpose elements of our force to meet a rapidly changing world."

Beginning in October 2017, NEC codes will have four alphanumeric characters and be organized into 12 communities and 23 career fields as part of the new construct.

These revised communities and career fields, which can be viewed at [www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/reference/nec/pages/default.aspx](http://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/reference/nec/pages/default.aspx), were developed within the rating modernization working group and will replace the current occupational fields and associated ratings listed in the Navy Enlisted Occupational Standards Manual (NAVPERS 18068F, Volume I). As new NEC codes are developed, they will be created using this new construct.

The new career fields and communities will not only aid the rating modernization effort, but they also more directly translate to civilian occupations and will help facilitate licensing and credentialing efforts.

Going forward, the first digit of the new NEC code will be based on a Sailor's community and identify the individual's respective career field. The second and third digits will be unique alphanumeric identifiers developed by the Navy Manpower Analysis Center. The fourth digit will represent how many blocks of training remain for a Sailor, or if the NEC code is not yet part of blocked training.

For example, the current NEC code for a Logistics Specialist Postal Basic (NEC 2800) would become S000 under the new construct.

- 1st Digit: S (supply career field)
- 2nd Digit: 0 (part of unique identifier assigned by NAVMAC)
- 3rd Digit: 0 (part of unique identifier assigned by NAVMAC)
- 4th Digit: 0 (all blocks complete)
- 1 (1 block remaining)
- 2 (2 blocks remaining)
- 3 (3 blocks remaining)



*U.S. Navy file photo*

4 (4 blocks remaining)

Letters A-Z (NEC code is not associated with blocked training).

Another aspect of the revised NEC construct currently being developed is a two digit suffix to the NEC code which will contain additional information about a Sailor's skillset. This is intended to better capture a Sailor's proficiency, experience and currency, which is a fundamental element of the Navy's rating modernization efforts.

Quarterly updates, released in NAVPERS 18068F, VOLUME II Navy Enlisted Classifications, will identify the Navy's 1,400 NEC codes that have completed their conversion to the revised construct.

No action is required on a Sailor's part - these changes will occur automatically.

NEC codes are used to track skills and training, distribute Sailors to appropriate billets, and ensure operational units have Sailors with the necessary skills to carry out their missions.

RRL is a Sailor 2025 initiative focused on providing the right training at the right time in a way that Sailors will retain. Block Learning, an important part of RRL, will divide enlisted Sailors' training into separate courses delivered at multiple points throughout a career to help improve their retention. This will also help ensure that content is refreshed for changing platforms and technologies so Sailors are ready to perform on day one at their new units and help the Navy transform its industrial, conveyor-belt-training-model into a more modern one.

NAVADMIN 174/17 has complete information on these changes and can be found at [www.npc.navy.mil](http://www.npc.navy.mil).

# Seen around Earle!



**Blue Jacket of the Quarter**  
MASN Courtney Curry



**Jr. Sailor of the Quarter**  
YN2 Yaritza Negron



**Sailor of the Quarter**  
MA1 Joseph Hammond



**Command Master Chief Ronald Herman Named Athlete of the Year!**

**MA2 Hunter Ashmore Re-enlists!**



**UN Ambassador Visit's Earle**

United States Ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley (center) visited NWS Earle July 8th during a visit to Colts Neck, New Jersey.

## Welcome Aboard

- MA3 Spencer Dawe
- MA3 Brian Valverde
- MASR Briana Taylor

## Farewell

- MA1 Benjamin Jaster
- MA2 Christopher Pilgrim