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TSC San Diego Kicks off 'Do Watts Right' Campaign

SAN DIEGO – Training Support Center San Diego (TSC SD) in conjunction with Navy Region Southwest and Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest (NAVFAC) kicked off the “Do Watts Right” campaign April 22 in an effort to curb electricity usage and save money on other utilities.

The campaign was part of an pilot program conceived by Naval Base San Diego (NBSD) Public Works Department’s Energy Team and coincided with Earth Day.

The program’s goal is to cut down on the money Navy Region Southwest spends annually on utilities. Seventeen of TSC’s buildings at Naval Bases San Diego, Point Loma and Coronado will serve as testbeds for possible base-wide program implementation at regional installations.

“TSC’s utility costs for fiscal year 2013 were \$1.98 million,” said Jeff Jacobson, resource efficiency manager at NBSD. “Those utilities include electricity, gas, steam and water for all of TSC. We’re focusing right now on changing command’s individual energy-usage behavior with the *Do Watts Right* campaign.”

In the initial stages, the program seeks to alter behaviors to achieve eight to 12 percent savings. Those behaviors include unnecessary use of lighting in unoccupied spaces, wasting water, over use of air conditioning. Julie Lee, TSC SD facilities director is leading TSC’s efforts of awareness and resource management.

“While we are members of the Navy, we are also taxpayers,” Lee said. “Knowing small changes in our behavior could save the Navy and our nation hundreds of thousands of dollars is surprising, and well-worth our efforts.”

Service members and civilians alike are reminded to curb wasteful behavior through visual reminders in all rooms, and command building monitors who serve as ‘energy champions’ to promote efficient energy usage. Results are incentivized with on-the-spot rewards of Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) gift certificates, monthly reserved parking privileges, and other prizes for the TSC building that shows the greatest percentage reduction of energy usage compared to previous years. Quick Response (QR) codes on posters that can be read by smartphone applications also link to more information and quizzes on the *Do Watts Right* webpage.

NBSD’s Public Works Officer Cmdr. Alexander Kohnen noted that the cost of energy is a growing concern for the Navy, as costs for all manner of fuels and utilities are increasing, with energy costs in the San Diego region among the highest in the nation.

“The costs of utilities among San Diego metro-area installations was \$73 million in 2013 alone,” said Kohnen. “The Navy alone represents five percent of San Diego’s electric grid. Even a 10 percent reduction can save the Navy a huge amount of money and place less strain on the power grid.”

Training Support Center San Diego provides centralized student management and support to Naval Education and Training Command Learning Sites in the Southwest region.

For more information on the Naval Education and Training Command, visit the NETC website: <https://www.netc.navy.mil>.

For more news from Naval Education and Training Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnet/.

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