



News Sports Weekend Community Ledger Viewpoint Education Transitions Health Beat Sustainability Across DOD

JBLM

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## Net Zero nets big bucks for units

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Twenty units received some extra cash in their Morale, Welfare and Recreation fund accounts last week, just by making their workplace and operations more sustainable.

The winners of the sixth Net Zero Contest were announced and some units earned up to \$10,000.

The Net Zero competition provides a monetary incentive to demonstrate more sustainable behaviors. This money came from the Joint Base Lewis-McChord Qualified Recycling Program.

“Recycling proceeds goes into the QRP and is then used for projects related to recycling, sustainability and morale, welfare and recreation,” said Tammy Shoop, recycling outreach coordinator and one of the staff that helps run the contest.

Commanders registered their units and had four months to meet certain requirements that support the sustainability of JBLM.

Actions related to affecting positive behavior change in the areas of energy, recycling, sustainable acquisition, training areas, transportation, water and outreach education included having a comprehensive recycling program, appointing building energy monitors for each building to ensure energy conservation is taking place, providing environmental training to the entire unit and encouraging service members to take alternate modes of transportation.

The units were then scored by subject matter experts and an executive judging panel comprised of JBLM leadership provided their recommendation to the joint base commander.

Units were also given the opportunity to create their own Net Zero initiative. 62nd Operations Support Squadron reduced the amount of runway lighting used while still complying with mandatory runway lighting, resulting in a 27 percent energy reduction.

Madigan Army Medical Center constantly looks for ways to reduce waste and recycle, often overcoming obstacles for difficult to recycle medical equipment.

373rd Training Squadron, Detachment 12 continues to help expand the bicycle sharing program they’ve been a part of for years.

“Ultimately, these actions help save money, protect training lands and enhance air and water quality in the JBLM community,” Shoop said. “In addition, it also ensures that the military of tomorrow has the same access to energy, water, air, land and natural resources as we do today.”

Subsequent contests are currently on hold as the Installation Sustainability Program assesses the efficacy of the program. For updates on sustainability and Net Zero follow Sustainable JBLM on Facebook.

More information  
 Super-Large  
 1st Place: Madigan Troop Command — \$10,000  
 2nd Place: 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron — \$7,500  
 Large  
 1st Place: 62nd Aerial Port Squadron — \$10,000  
 2nd Place: 62nd Operations Support Squadron — \$7,500  
 3rd Place: 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment — \$5,000  
 Medium  
 1st Place: 308th Brigade Support Battalion — \$5,000 plus \$3,000 Grand Prize for most total points  
 2nd Place: A Co., 4-23 Inf. — \$4,000  
 3rd Place: 542nd Support Maintenance Company — \$3,000  
 Small  
 1st Place: 373rd Training Squadron, Det. 12 — \$1,000  
 2nd Place: Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 14th Brigade Engineer Battalion — \$800  
 3rd Place: 1st Weather Squadron — \$600  
 Units receiving \$500: 864th Engineer Battalion; 62d Maintenance Squadron; 47th Combat Support Hospital; 1st Battalion, 37th Field Artillery Regiment; 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment; 627th Civil Engineer Squadron; 22nd Engineer Clearance Company, Battle Company; 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment; 8th Airlift Squadron.

