

Inside Wallops

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va.



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NASA Wallops Fire Department Fights Aircraft Fires

NASA Wallops Fire Department (WFD) firefighters have been busy this week dealing with almost every type of aircraft emergency.

They've had to extinguish cabin, brake and engine fires.

flight data recorders, aircraft batteries, pressurized cylinders and front and rear exit doors.

"The system allows for multiple training scenarios including a main cabin fire, an engine and a three dimensional running fuel



Photo by Lee Wingfield

A simulated fuel spill erupted in flames and was extinguished.

Perhaps you're wondering why this didn't make the local news.

Actually, the firefighters were receiving training at NASA Wallops Flight Facility on the Commonwealth of Virginia's Mobile Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Trainer.

The best place to train airport firefighters is, of course, at their own airport. The Wallops Research Airport has three active runways.

However, the ability to provide adequate on-site training with a suitable airplane to simulate real-life situations is difficult.

The WFD firefighters are able to have the onsite training with Virginia's mobile trainer, which looks like a small corporate jet with only one wing.

The unit simulates realistic fire scenarios with mockups of landing gear, cockpit,

fire, fuel spill fire and a wheel/break fire," said Tom Phalen, Virginia Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting, Division Chief. "To insure realism, the unit also generates smoke in the baggage compartment, cockpit, main cabin and battery compartment. To allow for munitions training, a mock-up of a "Sidewinder" missile is included."

The trainer is controlled by computer commands and can be programmed to repeat training as needed.

The system uses propane gas as a fuel for the fire simulations and includes many safety features such as gas and temperature monitoring in the unlikely event of a component failure.

The trainer has an emergency shutdown system in the event of a problem during a simulation.



Words to Live by

"A sense of humor is part of the art of leadership, of getting along with people, of getting things done"
..... Dwight D. Eisenhower

Academic Achievement Awards

The Wallops Black History Club recognized local science, math and technology teachers and presented Academic Achievement Awards during the annual Evening of Entertainment held February 23.

Awards were presented to: James Carter, a student at Northampton High School in Machipongo, Va.;

Asia Johnson, a student at Arcadia High School, Oak Hall, Va., and daughter of Cheryl Johnson, Wallops Procurement Office;

and TyAndrea Wise, a student at Nandua High School, Onley, Va., and daughter of Rebecca Beach, Wallops Safety Office.

Each of the students will be pursuing careers in either computer science or electronics.

Wallops Knows How to Recycle

The following is a quick look at 2007 recycling totals for NASA Wallops Flight Facility.

Item	Quantity
Aluminum	28,025 lbs
Batteries	8,840 lbs
Brass	648 lbs
Cardboard	71,040 lbs
Cement and Concrete	6,732,000 lbs
Cooking Grease	3,300 gals
Copper	462 lbs
Drums	880 lbs
Electronics (scrap)	4,145 lbs
Fluorescent Lamps	2,966 lbs
Lead	17,452 lbs
Plastic	716 lbs
Scrap Metal	816,420 lbs
Silver Sludge	120 lbs
Solvents	7,904 lbs
Stainless Steel	2,456 lbs
Tires (1 for 1 swap)	3,180 lbs
Toner Cartridges	785 lbs
Used Oil	5,740 gals
White Paper	51,980 lbs

Recreational Use of Wallops Island

Permanently badged Wallops employees and their escorted guests have access to the beach on Wallops Island for recreational use in the area that is north of the launch complexes and south the beach cable barrier.

Pedestrians and off-road vehicles (ORV) can gain access to this area by the dirt road to the dune crossing northeast of Camera Station V-100. This crossing is clearly marked and is the only authorized ORV access point.

ORVs may not be driven on or over dunes or into closed areas.

A section of the south end and the north end of WI are closed from March 15 to August 31 to protect piping plover nesting area.

The recreational beach area may be used during non-operational hours between sunrise and sunset.

Non-operational hours are normally weekends and holidays, and before 7:30 a.m. and after 4:30 p.m. on weekdays.

Launch activities may require additional closure of the beach area outside of normal working hours.

Be reminded that:

1. Recreational areas are open from sunrise to sunset, non-duty hours only.
2. Launch areas are NEVER open for recreational use.
3. Maintain the natural state of the Island and properly dispose of all trash.
4. Open fires, pets and weapons are not allowed on Wallops Island.
5. ORV access is limited to the dune crossing at Camera Station V-100.



The marsh area along the Virginia Inside Passage waterway that runs under the WI bridge also is open for recreational use; however, access to this area is by boat only.

Note that this does not include the use of weapons.

For further information or a WI Recreation Map call Lisa Gogo at x1245.

St. Patrick's Day Party

Today, March 17
Rocket Club (F-3)
5 p.m.

Tip-toe through the clover and be Irish for awhile. Green beer and food.



Sponsored by the Wallops Exchange and Morale Association, Morale Activities Committee.

March Events at the Visitor Center

Saturday, March 22 "Sun-Earth Connections" Celebrate the recent equinox by learning all about the Sun and how it affects us on Earth. Following the presentation, each child will make their very own functional sundial.

The program will begin at 1 p.m. and last 40 minutes.

Saturday, March 29: "Weather Wise" The weather affects our plans, what we wear and even how we feel. Find out more about weather in this fun children's program. After the presentation children will make their own snowflakes to take home.

The program will begin at 1 p.m. and last 35 minutes.

All Visitor Center programs are free. The Visitor Center is currently closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. For further information contact April Davis at x2298.

Employee Coffee March 27

Employees are invited to a morning coffee with Wallops Director, Dr. John Campbell, from 8 to 9 a.m., Thursday, March 27, in the cafeteria.

Dr. Campbell will provide updates on the latest items in the news impacting Wallops. His remarks will begin at 8:30 a.m. Coffee will be provided. All employees are invited.



Happy Easter

Spinoff

The Library in Building E-105 has received several copies of NASA's Spinoff 2007. Stop by and get a free copy.

Parts Count Reliability Analysis Technique and Spreadsheet Tool

April 2 - 1 p.m.

Building E-109, Room 107

Presented by Brett Vincent, Guidance, Navigation, and Control and Mission Systems Engineering Branch

The Parts Count Reliability prediction method provides a simple means to estimate the reliability of electronic designs. This method is applicable during proposal and early design phases when insufficient information is available to perform a detailed analysis (such as a Parts Stress Analysis). The reliability of competing designs can quickly be compared, allowing for changes to be implemented early in the design process.

Carpool Wanted

Anyone interested in either adding one more person to their existing carpool or starting a new carpool from lower to middle Northampton County to Wallops, please contact Robert Trower at x2183 or by email: Robert.M.Trower@nasa.gov



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