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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "CIVILIAN HELP SOUGHT ON MAYPORT CLEANUP" NS MAYPORT
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SHORELINES

THE BEACHES

Civilian help sought on Mayport cleanup

By Michelle R. Moore

Shorelines correspondent

The U.S. Navy is looking for a few good citizens to help it decide how to deal with old disposal and spill sites at the Mayport Naval Station.

Through the Installation Restoration Program, which pinpoints and cleans up such sites, the Navy is calling for people to apply for the Restoration Advisory Board.

The board, which will be made up of people involved with organizations affected by base cleanup activities, will help the Navy decide how to deal with the sites, some of which materialized during World War II, when proper waste disposal and storage methods were virtually unknown.

"We have had community involvement in base cleanup for years," said Capt. Scott T. Cantfil, commanding officer at Mayport. "The RAB will both formalize the process and increase the amount of community involvement."

Cheryl Mitchell, coordinator of the program, said the groups and organizations targeted for the board include local environmental groups

and segments of the religious, educational, social and business communities. Also targeted are the governments of Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach and Jacksonville Beach, and state and city representatives. Individuals will also be considered, she said.

The board will consist of federal and state environmental personnel, Mayport base representatives, and at least five community members and three community alternates. It will be co-chaired by a community member and a Mayport base representative, Mitchell said.

Community members and alternates will be chosen by a selection committee through an application process.

Information on base environment cleanup activities and Restoration Advisory Board activities may be obtained from the Information Repository of the Beaches branch library at 600 Third St., Neptune Beach. For an information packet which includes a Restoration Advisory Board application, contact the Public Affairs Officer, Mayport Naval Station, P.O. Box 280032, Mayport, FL 32228-0032, or call 270-5226. Applications must be submitted to public affairs by 4 p.m. Jan. 13. Questions about the IR program or base environmental cleanup activities may be directed to Cheryl Mitchell, Code N4E4, Staff Civil Engineer, Environmental, Mayport Naval Station, Mayport, FL 32228-0067, or call 270-6730, extension 31.