



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Hanford contractor hosts zero waste company events**

*CH2M HILL shares sustainable event management practices with local vendors*

RICHLAND, Wash., May 13, 2014 – [U.S. Department of Energy \(DOE\)](#) contractor [CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company \(CH2M HILL\)](#) is partnering with local businesses to host “zero waste” employee events. Materials are diverted from landfills by being recycled, reused, taken home by workers or given to a local pig farmer.

“Two years ago we set a goal to use sustainable event management and pollution prevention practices at our employee events,” said Moses Jaraysi, CH2M HILL vice president for Environmental Programs and Strategic Planning. “Through careful planning and partnering with local vendors and small businesses, we have progressively become better and proved that a zero waste event can be accomplished no matter how large it is.”

Since 2012, CH2M HILL has partnered with local businesses, including the TRAC Center in Pasco, Wash., and Country Gentleman, in Kennewick, Wash., to use recycling, sorting stations to separate food and utensils and alternative disposal methods to reduce waste generation of its more than 2,000 employees at company events.

“We wanted to set the precedent in this community that zero waste is achievable and it is a shared success between us, the community and the environment. The businesses we work with now have the capability to share sustainable practices with other organizations,” said Jaraysi.

CH2M HILL’s first zero waste event in 2012 diverted 95 percent of the waste (more than 1,200 pounds) from local landfills and earned CH2M HILL the City of Richland Green Living Award. The second picnic, in 2013, diverted 98 percent of the waste (1,700 pounds). Most recently, in March 2014, CH2M HILL partnered

with the TRAC for a completely zero waste employee meeting - everything was diverted from landfills. The remaining food was given to a local pig farmer.

To learn more about CH2M HILL's zero waste events, visit

[www.youtube.com/hanfordplateau](http://www.youtube.com/hanfordplateau) or contact Sara Austin, CH2M HILL's environmental management system coordinator, at [mailto:sara\\_g\\_austin@rl.gov](mailto:sara_g_austin@rl.gov) for ways your company can be an environmental sustainability partner in the Tri-Cities.

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*Headquartered near Denver, Colorado, USA, employee-owned CH2M HILL is a global leader in consulting, design, design-build, operations, and program management for government, civil, industrial and energy clients. The firm's work is concentrated in the areas of water, transportation, environmental, energy, facilities and resources. With US\$7 billion in revenue and 28,000 employees, CH2M HILL is an industry-leading program management, construction management and design firm, as ranked by Engineering News-Record. Visit us at [ch2mhill.com](http://ch2mhill.com), [twitter.com/ch2mhill](https://twitter.com/ch2mhill) and [facebook.com/ch2mhill](https://facebook.com/ch2mhill). Search for jobs at [ch2mhill.jobs](http://ch2mhill.jobs).*

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