

# News from the Savannah River Site

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## SRS Tour Continues to Surprise and Impress Area Educators

### *Middle School and High School Science and Math Teachers “Experience” SRS*

AIKEN, S.C. (Nov. 22, 2016) – As a part of Nuclear Science Week, dozens of educators from throughout the region recently participated in an intensive one-day tour of the Savannah River Site (SRS) to learn firsthand of the programs and missions performed at the 310-square mile complex owned by the Department of Energy (DOE).

“This tour helps our teachers develop the training and education programs needed right here in the community. These same teachers are not only developing future scientists and nuclear engineers, but also welders, mechanics, production operators, radiation control personnel and several other occupations as well,” said Kim Mitchell, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, Education Outreach Program. “We want to help teachers throughout the Central Savannah River Area enhance interest in and prepare students for jobs related to the nuclear industry.”

Most of this year’s tour was dedicated to informing the educators about the Defense Waste Processing Facility, F/H Area Laboratories and the Salt Waste Processing Facility, though personnel from the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) provided an informational poster session. SRNL is a multi-program applied research and development laboratory for DOE.

“The goal is for teachers to return to their schools with a better understanding of how lessons in the classroom today relate to our work at SRS,” said Maddie Blair, Savannah River Remediation Public Affairs and Project Communications, who worked with the teachers while they were touring SRS. “The teachers are always interested and receptive to learning more about what we do.”



*As a part of Nuclear Science Week, dozens of local educators recently participated in an intensive one-day tour of the SRS to learn first-hand of the programs and missions performed at the 310-square mile complex. Above and right, teachers learn about missions performed at the SRNS F/H Laboratories.*

This is the fourth consecutive year that several facilities at SRS have been opened to local middle school and high school science and math educators, each gathering information to transfer to their students.

“I frequently tell my students that there are abundant opportunities for STEM careers. This tour presented me with examples that will bring that fact to life,” said Karen Stoner, Mead Hall Science Teacher. “I was excited to see the application of processes and skills I teach in my science classes. Students often ask where they will ever need to know how to use a skill I am asking them to learn. I can now say with confidence that ‘yes, you will use that skill! Here’s an example from my day at SRS.’”

Nuclear Science Week is an international (NSW), broadly observed week-long celebration to focus local, regional, national and international interest on all aspects of nuclear science. NSW activities advance education, stimulate participation and generate communication that provides insight and visibility for the achievements of the nuclear sciences.

DOE provides a wide variety of science and literacy outreach programs at SRS throughout the year. The primary goals of these outreach programs are to enhance interest in science, mathematics, engineering and technology and to support improvements in education in the Central Savannah River Area by using the unique resources available at SRS.

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*Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.*

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*SRNS- 2016 – 506*