

North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Environmental Justice Goals

Executive Order 292 requires that each Cabinet agency identify three Environmental Justice goals and measurable outcomes.

As the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is not involved in environmental regulation or permitting, the agency has decided to focus goals and outcomes on consideration of impacted communities serviced by our agency moving forward.

1. **Goal:** Participate in the mapping tool development and work with the council to determine if military or veteran community data would be valid layers in building the tool. The rationale for including the military community data is that the military communities tend to have low-income families in the junior enlisted ranks, as well as a diverse population, and will likely have overlapping geographic areas to consider for the environmental justice communities as defined in Executive Order 292.

Measurable Outcome:

Qualitative: Review of policy impacts related to map analysis after the mapping tool is released.

Quantitative: Utilization of the Mapping tool and associated layering data can be measured over time by how often utilization occurs by map users.

2. **Goal:** Ensure that in Veteran Outreach event planning, the Veterans Affairs division operates at least two outreach events annually conducted within an environmental justice community.

Measurable Outcome: Review the Veteran Outreach yearly schedule and validate an outreach event that has been conducted in at least two distinct environmental justice communities.

3. **Goal:** Ensure that Veterans Service Offices service environmental justice communities and review veteran-to-VSO ratios within these communities.

Measurable Outcome: Report back on a county level the veteran-to-VSO ratios for any county identified as containing environmental justice communities.