

What's Happening in Nevada?

Nuclear weapons testing has been conducted worldwide on lands taken from indigenous people. In the case of the Nevada Test Site, the land belongs to the Western Shoshone Nation. Nuclear weapons despoil delicate ecosystems held sacred by those with the least power, and declared expendable by those with the most power. The Nevada Test Site is the most bombed site on the planet with over 1,000 nuclear weapons exploded there.

Since 1982 when the Franciscan community gave birth to Nevada Desert Experience, NDE has worked for nuclear abolition primarily by interfaith educational and spiritual events and working on behalf of environmental justice.

We come to the desert to counter limitless violence with nonviolence, and to seek reconnection with each other and the earth, by understanding and taking responsibility for the consequences of our actions.

"Since this is the place of the greatest acts of violence on earth, let it be the place of the greatest acts of nonviolence."

Dom Helder Camara

Mission Statement

The mission of the Nevada Desert Experience (NDE) is to stop nuclear weapons testing through a campaign of prayer, education, dialogue, and non-violent direct action. NDE mobilizes people of all faiths to work toward nuclear abolition and nonviolent social change. We are committed to providing support for personal renewal in the desert tradition. Our immediate goals include ending sub critical tests and other war-making preparations at the Nevada Test Site and preventing the return of full scale nuclear testing.



Nevada Desert Experience



Interfaith
Resistance
To Nuclear
Weapons

*Nevada Desert Experience
1420 W. Bartlett Ave.
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106*

*Phone 702.646.4814
Info@NevadaDesertExperience.org*

www.NevadaDesertExperience.org

We enter the 21st century reawakened to the threat that nuclear weapons pose to humankind and the planet that is our only home. The United States still asserts its right to possess nuclear weapons, while threatening violence toward states seeking to join the nuclear weapons club.

The Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) requires the original nuclear weapons states to pursue negotiations to end the arms race and disarm under strict and effective international control. Contrary to its treaty obligations the U.S. is designing a new generation of "useable" nuclear weapons for its over- stocked nuclear arsenal.

Currently the U.S. government plans to raise the readiness level of the Nevada Test Site for full-scale testing and the promise of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty is deteriorating. The time has come to return to the Test Site, bear witness to end testing and thus effectively contribute to the elimination of all nuclear weapons everywhere.

"Nonviolence is a powerful and just weapon, which cuts without wounding and ennobles the man who wields it."

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Nevada Desert Experience Witness

Sacred Peace Walk

In the midst of our urgent need for nuclear disarmament, the **Sacred Peace Walk** is a profound means for people to connect with each other and with the desert itself. This 65 mile pilgrimage is a time for celebrating holy days of various religious traditions. This spiritual journey for nuclear abolition climaxes in ritual civil resistance to the system of nuclear violence. The Sacred Peace Walk begins with a gathering in Las Vegas and ends at the Nevada Test Site.

The August Desert Witness

August Desert Witness commemorates the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by gathering people on behalf of peace. This interfaith event brings people out to the desert to publicly create prayer-actions for nuclear abolition and to honor the victims of nuclear radiation.

Youth and Student Immersion Program

The Immersion Program is an opportunity for participants to learn about the relationships between nuclear weapons and indigenous sovereignty, environmental degradation, militarism and economic injustice. Past immersion experiences have included:

- a visit to the Nevada Test Site and the surrounding desert, including hot springs and Red Rock State Park
- discussion with Western Shoshone National Council leaders
- a visit to the Goddess Temple
- meeting with homeless people with the Catholic workers on their morning soup line and joining in the weekly peace vigil
- tour of the Atomic Testing Museum and the Las Vegas strip with environmental and economic justice in mind

Call NDE to schedule an Immersion trip.

NDE is a member of the Pacific Life Community (PLC), created to enhance direct actions to abolish nuclear weapons and war making along the Pacific Rim. For more information please visit :

<http://PacificLifeCommunity.wordpress.com>