

VETERAN ALERT: MARINE CORPS CAMP LEJEUNE TOXIC EXPOSURE

The VA recently published the final rule in the Code of Federal Regulations on certain diseases which now can be considered presumptive for exposure to water contamination at Marine Corps Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

Any military service members, from any branch of service, as well as the Guard and reserves, who were stationed at Camp Lejeune or the attached Marine Corps Air Station New River, for a period of at least 30 days (consecutive or cumulative) between the dates of August 1, 1953 through and including December 31, 1987, may be entitled to service-connected disability compensation if they have developed any of the following diseases:

- 1) Kidney Cancer;
- 2) Liver Cancer;
- 3) Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma;
- 4) Adult Leukemia;
- 5) Multiple Myeloma;
- 6) Parkinson's Disease;
- 7) Aplastic Anemia and Other Myelodysplastic Syndromes;
- 8) Bladder Cancer.

Surviving spouses of veterans may also be eligible for benefits if their deceased veteran spouses were stationed at Camp Lejeune or MCAS New River during the same period of time and died from cause of any of the above diseases.

If you feel you may personally qualify under this new VA benefits program, or know of someone who may qualify, please call or visit the Columbia County Veterans Service Office in Portage. You can also reach us by phone at 608-742-9618 or by email at veterans@co.columbia.wi.us