

Environmental News

EMS

Pollution
Prevention



In This Edition:

EPAS Preparation	1
2012 Year in Review	1
Cultural Resources	2
Bird of the Year	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

External EPAS in March 2013

WHAT: HQ IMCOM-E will conduct an environmental assessment of USAG Ansbach, called EPAS. This will consist of a multi-disciplinary team, led by HQ.

WHEN: 11-15 March 2013

WHY: EPAS is a system used to assess and monitor environmental programs, compliance with regulations, and Environmental Management System (EMS) within the community. The assessment will identify environmental deficiencies, the root cause, and suggest corrective actions. External EPASs are conducted every 3 years.

WHO WILL BE ASSESSED: All tenant units and organizations of the USAG Ansbach will be evaluated in 20 environmental media protocols. These will include Hazardous Material, Hazardous Waste, Medical Waste, Noise, Natural Resources, Drinking Water, Air Pollution, etc.

WHAT WILL BE EVALUATED: General environmental awareness and training, management practices, SOPs, waste management and handling, Environmental Management System implementation, documentation, etc.

If you have any questions or need assistance in preparing for the audit in March, please contact the Environmental Office!

2012 Year in Review

The USAG Ansbach has established several initiatives to improve the environment by implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS). The Garrison's three main objectives:

- Develop a green procurement program;
Reduce energy consumption by 3 percent per year, based on 2003;
Reduce water consumption by 2 percent per year, based on 2007;

To achieve these overall goals, the Garrison developed several targets during the year; e.g. train the Building Coordinators on energy and water saving, replace

light bulbs with energy saving ones or installing motion control sensors, and replacing faucet aerators or toilet tanks to more environmental friendly ones. Baseline studies were conducted on the purchase of paper, paint, light bulbs and cleaning compounds to evaluate where improvements are necessary and possible for the green procurement program.

Monitoring throughout the year and a final analysis at the end of FY12 determined we met our targets and our overall objectives. We had a 1.2% reduction in energy consumption (electricity 3.5%, heating 0.1%) and a 12% reduction in water consumption. Although we did not meet the

yearly target of 2% for energy, overall USAG Ansbach has reached a 21% reduction since the 2003 baseline. Furthermore, we have met the overall water reduction of 10% compared to the 2007 baseline.

Maybe better: An efficient Environmental Management System relies on everyone's participation, that's why we need your help again in 2013 to help achieve the above mentioned goals. Participating in an efficient EMS will ensure the USAG Ansbach Community is a better steward of the environment.

Upcoming Events

Environmental
Performance
Assessment
System



Environmental News

EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

EPAS Preparation	1
2012 Year in Review	1
Cultural Resources	2
Bird of the Year	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

External EPAS in March 2013

WHAT: HQ IMCOM-E will conduct an environmental assessment of USAG Ansbach, called EPAS. This will consist of a multi-disciplinary team, led by HQ.

WHEN: 11-15 March 2013

WHY: EPAS is a system used to assess and monitor environmental programs, compliance with regulations, and Environmental Management System (EMS) within the community. The assessment will identify environmental deficiencies, the root cause, and suggest corrective actions. External EPASs are conducted every 3 years.

WHO WILL BE ASSESSED: All tenant units and organizations of the USAG Ansbach will be evaluated in 20 environmental media protocols. These will include Hazardous Material, Hazardous Waste, Medical Waste, Noise, Natural Resources, Drinking Water, Air Pollution, etc.

WHAT WILL BE EVALUATED: General environmental awareness and training, management practices, SOPs, waste management and handling, Environmental Management System implementation, documentation, etc.

If you have any questions or need assistance in preparing for the audit in March, please contact the Environmental Office!

2012 Year in Review

The USAG Ansbach has established several initiatives to improve the environment by implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS). The Garrison's three main objectives:

- Develop a green procurement program;
Reduce energy consumption by 3 percent per year, based on 2003;
Reduce water consumption by 2 percent per year, based on 2007;

To achieve these overall goals, the Garrison developed several targets during the year; e.g. train the Building Coordinators on energy and water saving, replace

light bulbs with energy saving ones or installing motion control sensors, and replacing faucet aerators or toilet tanks to more environmental friendly ones. Baseline studies were conducted on the purchase of paper, paint, light bulbs and cleaning compounds to evaluate where improvements are necessary and possible for the green procurement program.

Monitoring throughout the year and a final analysis at the end of FY12 determined we met our targets and our overall objectives. We had a 1.2% reduction in energy consumption (electricity 3.5%, heating 0.1%) and a 12% reduction in water consumption. Although we did not meet the

yearly target of 2% for energy, overall USAG Ansbach has reached a 21% reduction since the 2003 baseline. Furthermore, we have met the overall water reduction of 10% compared to the 2007 baseline.

Maybe better: An efficient Environmental Management System relies on everyone's participation, that's why we need your help again in 2013 to help achieve the above mentioned goals. Participating in an efficient EMS will ensure the USAG Ansbach Community is a better steward of the environment.

Upcoming Events

Environmental
Performance
Assessment
System



Environmental News

EMS

Pollution
Prevention



In This Edition:

EPAS Preparation	1
2012 Year in Review	1
Cultural Resources	2
Bird of the Year	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

External EPAS in March 2013

WHAT: HQ IMCOM-E will conduct an environmental assessment of USAG Ansbach, called EPAS. This will consist of a multi-disciplinary team, led by HQ.

WHEN: 11-15 March 2013

WHY: EPAS is a system used to assess and monitor environmental programs, compliance with regulations, and Environmental Management System (EMS) within the community. The assessment will identify environmental deficiencies, the root cause, and suggest corrective actions. External EPASs are conducted every 3 years.

WHO WILL BE ASSESSED: All tenant units and organizations of the USAG Ansbach will be evaluated in 20 environmental media protocols. These will include Hazardous Material, Hazardous Waste, Medical Waste, Noise, Natural Resources, Drinking Water, Air Pollution, etc.

WHAT WILL BE EVALUATED: General environmental awareness and training, management practices, SOPs, waste management and handling, Environmental Management System implementation, documentation, etc.

If you have any questions or need assistance in preparing for the audit in March, please contact the Environmental Office!

2012 Year in Review

The USAG Ansbach has established several initiatives to improve the environment by implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS). The Garrison's three main objectives:

- Develop a green procurement program;
Reduce energy consumption by 3 percent per year, based on 2003;
Reduce water consumption by 2 percent per year, based on 2007;

To achieve these overall goals, the Garrison developed several targets during the year; e.g. train the Building Coordinators on energy and water saving, replace

light bulbs with energy saving ones or installing motion control sensors, and replacing faucet aerators or toilet tanks to more environmental friendly ones. Baseline studies were conducted on the purchase of paper, paint, light bulbs and cleaning compounds to evaluate where improvements are necessary and possible for the green procurement program.

Monitoring throughout the year and a final analysis at the end of FY12 determined we met our targets and our overall objectives. We had a 1.2% reduction in energy consumption (electricity 3.5%, heating 0.1%) and a 12% reduction in water consumption. Although we did not meet the

yearly target of 2% for energy, overall USAG Ansbach has reached a 21% reduction since the 2003 baseline. Furthermore, we have met the overall water reduction of 10% compared to the 2007 baseline.

Maybe better: An efficient Environmental Management System relies on everyone's participation, that's why we need your help again in 2013 to help achieve the above mentioned goals. Participating in an efficient EMS will ensure the USAG Ansbach Community is a better steward of the environment.

Upcoming Events

Environmental
Performance
Assessment
System



Cultural Resources

Preservation of Cultural Resources provides insight as to how people used to live many years ago on the same land, which in turn provides a key to understanding human history. It is important to preserve relicts from former societies to draw conclusions on how humanity has evolved.

The Environmental Management Division is responsible for several Cultural Resources at our Garrison.

The “Von Steuben Building” (Bldg. 5845), which is located in the northern part of Bismarck Kaserne, was built between 1933 and 1935 during the “German Third Reich”. The historical building structure is still almost completely unchanged today. The interior and exterior architecture of the

building are based on the eras Neo- baroque, Neo- renaissance and geometric Art Nouveau Style.

Another historical monument in Katterbach is Hangar #4 (Bldg. 5801), built in 1935. Hangar #4 is a tessellated brick building with a flat gabled roof and a monumental steel sliding door. This building’s architecture is strongly influenced by the “New Objectivity” Style.

In terms of preservation for both historical monuments, it is required from the Federal German Law for Cultural Resources to have a permit in order to make any changes to these buildings including any renovations and/or other modifications.

In addition to the historical buildings in Katterbach, there are also archaeological findings in the re-

gion of Oberdachstetten LTA. The history of human settlement in the Region around Ansbach dates back 12,000 years to the early middle stone age. In the surrounding area of Oberdachstetten, there were 29 findings from the Bronze Age, the Urnfield Culture and from the Celtic Period. Acknowledging these precious traces of early human settlement, it is of great importance to pay special attention for archaeological artifacts during construction projects.

It is important to maintain these cultural resources due to their meaningful value to modern human societies and to follow the established regulations of the German Government Agency for Protection of historical Monuments.



The Environmental Division is primarily responsible for projects to be in compliance with the Cultural Resources Preservation Requirements. However, it requires working together with all divisions of the DPW to guarantee a sustainable work ethic and outcome. The goal is to preserve their original character and to raise awareness of the importance of these buildings or relicts that we are responsible for.

Bird of the Year - 2013

The Common Snipe has been selected by the German Nature Protection Organizations as the 2013 Bird of the Year. The bird shall serve as an ambassador for wetland and grassland conservation. It inhabits moist grass-

land and open swamps where it can easily be recognized during the breeding season due to its distinct courtship flights. The Snipe is also called “sky goat” and gets its nickname from a winnowing sound, which is made when

the bird holds its tail feathers spread out while in a nosedive.

The Germany-wide population of the Snipe had declined by half during the past 20 years. Today, it is estimated that only 6,000 breeding pairs are left in Germany. The Snipe is threatened with extinction nationwide. Intensive agriculture and accompanying measures such as drainage and soil leveling are to blame for the steady decline in population.

Considering the nation-wide population decrease, it is especially gratifying for USAG Ansbach to provide a habitat for a small, stable population of 3-5 breeding pairs. The Snipe enjoys



living in the moist grasslands at Oberdachstetten Local Training Area., which is not affected by any agricultural activities. In order to maintain the presence of this rare bird in our local area, continual coordination between the Training Support Command, USAG Ansbach, and the German Federal Forestry is required. These organizations ensure that the breeding grounds are not impaired by any project or activity and that the Common Snipe is a permanent resident in the USAG Ansbach area.



Environmental News



EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Management Review	1
Sustainable Range	1
Energy Efficiency	2
Hazardous Waste	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

EMS – A Strategic Approach

By: Gerda Koss

As part of the continual improvement process of our Environmental Management System (EMS), the standard requires an organization's top management to review the EMS annually to ensure that the objectives of the EMS are being met and the Garrison is in compliance with all environmental requirements. The Management Review evaluates the overall performance and changing circumstances, such as legal requirements or mission changes, in order to make recommendations for further improvement of the system. The continual improvement process requires the Garrison to move forward from established environmental business to a strategic approach on how to plan upcoming environmental challenges.

The **Management Review** for FY 12 determined that all our objectives were achieved:

- Develop a green procurement program;
- Reduce energy consumption by 3 percent per year, based on 2003;
- Reduce water consumption by 2 percent per year, based on 2007;

Furthermore, Management sees the need of tenant organizations to increase their participation and also to continue with the effort to include EMS as well as green procurement for all garrison contracts.

The focus for continual improvement process during FY13 will be on:

- * **Environmental Awareness**
- * **Monitoring and measuring of objectives and key processes**
- * **Compliance with laws and permits**
- * **Self control/ inspections**
- * **Operational control & Documentation**

Sustainable Range Projects

By: Jasmina Wirsich



GranTex Pellets Catchment



Replacement of wood paneling

Due to the recent changes of European Environmental Laws

concerning the increased costs for landfill disposal of lead contaminated sand/soil from bullet catches, the idea and recommendation to substitute sand with a rubber material, called GranTex was suggested for the range complex area at Oberdachstetten. Currently two ranges will be replaced with the new GranTex pellets.

The new material has several advantages:

Disposal costs for sand is eliminated; GranTex is more durable and fully recyclable; loss of material from wind erosion is reduced;

and GranTex absorbs the impact of the bullets, leaving them whole, which reduces the environmental impact and health hazards of the lead.

In addition to the replacement of sand at the catchment areas, the paneling on the front side of the shooting range was replaced by a more durable material. The material does not need to be replaced as often as its wood counterpart. These simple improvements not only save money, but also reduce the overall impact to the environment and will have a resounding positive impact on the sustainability of the range.

Spring Cleaning Tips

Consider using these environmentally friendly brands when cleaning your home:

- ✓ Seventh Generation
- ✓ Small Steps
- ✓ Clorox Green Works
- ✓ Mrs. Meyers Clean Day
- ✓ Simple Green



Come out and join us at Oberdachstetten to celebrate **EARTH DAY** on **April 23rd** from 0900-1230!

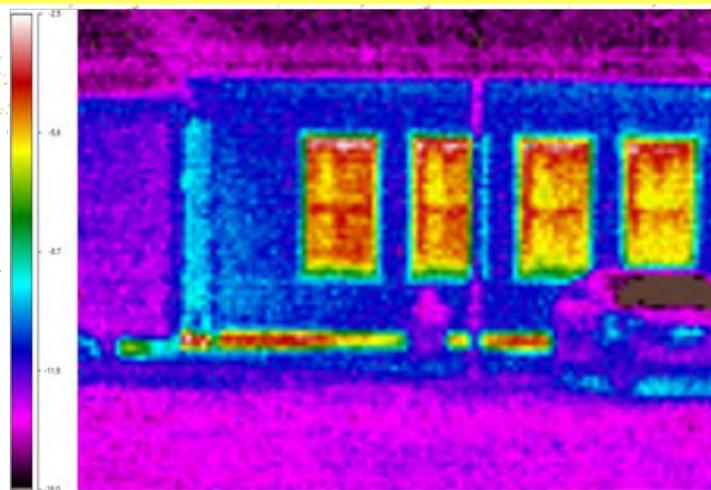
Energy Efficiency Evaluation

By: *Jasmina Wirsich*

Within the Environmental Management System (EMS) at USAG Ansbach, the Cross Functional Team has set the goal to evaluate and monitor two buildings at the Garrison concerning their energy efficiency and water consumption: the Dining Facility in Katterbach and in Storck.

Most of the buildings at our Garrison were built decades ago, when energy efficiency standards did not exist and therefore there is a potential of saving energy and money by evaluating these buildings for their energy efficiency (or lack of). With the help of a thermal camera, areas of heat loss can be detected. This evaluation of the thermal properties of the building will unveil the current situation and the potential for

improvement. One of the pictures taken with the thermal camera is shown (Katterbach DFAC). The colors coordinate with the temperature scale shows what parts of the building have the greatest heat loss (red being the most extreme). The weather and the time of the day have an impact on picture quality. The pictures were taken at 7:00 hrs, ambient temperature was -8 degrees C, and a clear sky. The most suitable conditions for evaluating heat loss are before sunrise on a winter day, with a significant temperature difference between the exterior and the interior of the building. As expected, the thermal bridges like windows, doors, vents, etc. have the biggest heat loss. An evaluation of the picture shown clearly shows that the replacement of windows would be appropriate.



Temperature variants of the windows at Katterbach DFAC

After improvements have been made to these buildings, the thermal camera will be used to re-evaluate the energy efficiency of the building and compare to the initial pictures. These buildings will help determine which measures are the most energy efficient

and cost effective to apply to other buildings throughout the garrison to help reach the overall Army target of 3% energy reduction per year at our installation.

New Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points

By: *Daniel Woernlein*



Rules that must be followed at the HWAP:

- ✓ Bring Hazardous Waste (HW) to the HWAP, daily
- ✓ Maintain records of monthly inspections
- ✓ Must be kept clean and orderly
- ✓ Fire extinguishers must be kept on-site and inspected monthly
- ✓ Smoking and open flames are prohibited
- ✓ There should only be one container per waste stream
- ✓ Spill equipment should be readily available to clean up minor spills
- ✓ Never use secondary containments for disposal of HW or waste oil

The Environmental Management Division has equipped Katterbach, Barton, and Storck Barracks with new Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points (HWAP) at the Hangars and Motor Pool areas. These containers will provide adequate secondary containment and protection from the weather elements to temporarily store hazardous waste. In addition, the above ground storage tanks for waste fuel, anti-freeze, and waste oil will also be stored in these containers. The containers have three sliding doors and are equipped with a ramp. The HWAPs are for authorized personnel only and should be locked. The DLA Disposition Services contractor, Südmüll, visits each container every week and consolidates the hazardous waste at our three main storage areas on Katterbach, Shipton and Storck Barracks prior to disposal.

Containers are only for the storage of hazardous waste. DO NOT store Hazardous Material in these containers.

Environmental News

EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Ground Breeding Birds	1
Hazardous Waste	1
Bees Vs. Wasps	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.evr.army.mil/sites/TMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

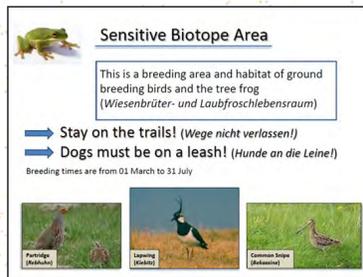
Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Ground Breeding Birds

By: *Jasmina Wirsich*

Ground Breeding Birds are bird species that live and nest in moist open grasslands. The lapwing, the partridge and the common snipe, belong to this category of birds. This specific habitat, which has become quite rare, occurs in Urlas, south and east of the housing area and all around Ansbach, e.g. along the Rezat river. Due to increasing land conversion - mostly grassland into either sealed ground for housing, commerce or industry, or into industrialized agricultural land - suitable habitats for ground breeding birds are decreasing in size and quality, which goes hand in hand with a dramatic decrease in ground breeder population. Therefore, ground breeders are considered a threatened and endangered species. As if those circumstances wouldn't be challenging enough, breeding on the ground brings along additional risks that the birds are exposed to,



e.g. wild animals and pets. The birds can be frightened away from their nests and leave their young vulnerable to predators.

Due to the potential risk of disturbing the nests, the environmental office is in the process of putting up signs in Urlas for the protection of the ground breeders and other threatened species living in the same habitat. For the well being of these species, it is crucial to stay on the trails and in particular to keep your dog on a leash. Please follow the rules posted so we can support and maintain a steady population of ground breeding birds in this region.

Upcoming Events

- 40 hr Environmental Officer Course & 8 hr Refresher Training:
- Storck Barracks (17-21 June)
- Katterbach (24-28 June)
- EPAS Sept. 16-20, 2013



JUNE 21st :

This date marks the event where the sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer in the Northern Hemisphere. So, get out and enjoy the longest day of the year and welcome Summer!!

Hazardous Waste Management



CAUTION: You may have noticed that our storage areas are currently under construction. During this time, our hazardous waste storage areas are still fully operational. Construction will be completed by July 2013

Army Oil Analysis Program (AOAP):

AOAP Laboratory Center
405th Army Field Support Brigade
Kaiserslautern Army Depot
Bldg. 2256 / DSN 483-7980

- ✓ Real-time customer support via logistics information warehouse
- ✓ On condition oil change capabilities
- ✓ Comprehensive laboratory testing



Check out our new link (**Environmental Protection**) on the USAG Ansbach Webpage:
<http://www.ansbach.army.mil/>

The Importance of Bees and Wasps

H
O
N
E
Y



There are approximately 20,000 different species of bees known. Honey bees are just a small fraction of those classified.



By: Jessica Gawron

pollination. Bees feed mostly on nectar and pollen. Their hairy bodies and flat legs help collect the pollen from flowers and disperse in other areas. While gathering food, bees are not likely to sting unsuspecting humans. However, if they are provoked or threatened they may use their stinger for defense. Due to the conversion of land into commercialized areas, residential areas, and/ or agricultural use, the amount of wild flowers that bees depend on for food are not as abundant, resulting in declining bee populations. The increasing use of pesticides has also been found to contribute to the declining bee population.

Wasps:

In contrast, most wasps do not have an active role in pollination (with some exceptions). There are over 100,000 different wasp species and most are considered predators or parasitoids. Wasps generally feed on all types of pest insect species and terrestrial insects such as spiders, flies, etc... and are considered a natural agricultural pest control. This makes wasps critical to the control of these insects and the production of crops that they feed on. Wasps have slender, smooth bodies and can be a variety of

colors. Another distinguishing characteristic of wasps are the types of nests that they build. Wasps secrete a papery substance from wood pulp, unlike honey bees that have wax producing glands (pictured left and below). Nests can be found in all sorts of cracks and crevices. Wasps will attack and sting humans if threatened, therefore always check your surroundings for nests.

Wasps will be most prominent during the summer months and right before temperatures drop in the fall. At the onset of steady cold temperatures, all but the fertilized queen wasps die. Therefore, unless the nest is in a high traffic area or near children's play areas, it is best to leave the nest alone until winter.

Avoiding Stings:

- do not use perfume, cologne, or sweet smelling soaps
- avoid bright colored or patterned clothing
- always wear shoes
- wear long sleeves and pants
- be observant and avoid areas where bees or wasps may nest
- do not try to remove a nest yourself
- cover foods and meat products when cooking

As the weather warms and we spend more time outside, it is important to remember the other animals, insects, etc... that will also make their appearance during this time. Bees and wasps are associated with the onset of spring and warmer weather. To us they may seem like annoying pests, but both bees and wasps are very valuable in the natural food chain. We sometimes mistakenly identify bees and wasps for the other even though each has distinguishing characteristics.

Bees:

Bees are very important to the production of food as they are classified as pollinators and some types of bees also produce honey. Approximately 1/3 of the human food supply depends on insect



Wasps can be distinguished from bees by their narrow, smooth body. Brightly colored wasps are generally from the stinging, or Vespidae family. Pictured above is the common "Yellow Jacket"



Buy Green Corner: All Purpose Cleaners

- ✓ Reduce exposure to toxic chemicals
- ✓ Lower environmental impact / footprint
- ✓ Safer for families and pets
- ✓ Reduces the release of chemicals into the air

Examples:
Green Works, Ms. Meyer's, & Seventh Generation

Check the label!!





Environmental News

EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Meadow Orchards in Grafenwöhr and Ansbach	1
Bicycling	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

<https://home.army.mil/sites/eur/Ger/Ans/dpw/Environmental/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Meadow Orchards

By: USAG Ansbach DPW EMD, USAG Grafenwöhr DPW ED

The meadow orchard is a well appreciated and supported biotope type in Germany. It consists of a meadow and several fruit and/or nut trees, such as apple, plum, walnut or pear. As in former times, neither artificial fertilizers nor pesticides were used. Meadow orchards are biodiversity, which is one of the main objectives in the field of nature conservancy. Since industrial agriculture has increased, biotopes like meadow orchards, have extremely diminished. This goes hand in hand with a loss of biodiversity and a significant change of our cultural landscape slowly becoming a monotonous landscape. Counteracting this development, one goal of our Environmental Offices, is to establish diversely structured biotopes in our landscape, e.g. meadow orchards.

Being aware of the dependence on biodiversity, both Garrisons of Grafenwöhr and Ansbach are involved in the establishment and/or management of orchard meadows.

Ansbach

At the USAG Ansbach, there are no meadow orchards yet. However, an area of 5000 m² farmland is going to be converted into a meadow orchard this fall (east of housing next to the rain water retention basin in Katterbach). This initiative was generated due to several construction projects at the USAG Ansbach. Per German Federal Nature Protection Act, projects that cause an environmental impact on the natural components such as water, air, soil, animals, plants, etc. need to be compensated by environmental upgrades in the vicinity of the impacted area. In this case, the environmental upgrade is the conversion of a species-poor area into a diversely structured meadow orchard, which is

an approved compensation method. The environmental compensation for three Garrison related construction projects is going to be implemented in October/November 2013 in the mentioned area.

Grafenwöhr

In 2009, the local Environmental Division (ED) started a project to revitalize old and rare fruit trees and orchards at Grafenwoehr Training Area (GTA). For the 2010 GTA centennial the deserted village of Hopfenohe had been one of the points of interest for visitors. Therefore, this location had been chosen to plant regional varieties of fruit trees to demonstrate an important environmental project. During the tree planting the ED accidentally discovered some old walls. These walls could be identified by a historic research and old field maps as a part of a house that was a guesthouse at this time. The house was part of a farm property. In historical times orchards played an important role for farmers. The fruits were used for many different products and were essential for the survival of the residents as well as for trading. Meadow orchards played an outstanding role for the biological cycle of food and a source of livelihood for the residents. No waste had to be disposed; all material was recycled, contrary to industrial cultivation methods nowadays. To commemorate the history and culture of this place a part of the discovered wall has been renovated, in close coordination with German authorities like the Federal Forest Service and the District Office for Historic Preservation. A new orchard was planted using regional varieties as well as varieties raised from scions originating from old fruit trees at the Hopfenohe area.

Upcoming Events

Environmental
Performance
Assessment
System (EPAS):

Sept. 09-20, 2013

Environmental Officer Guide App



Check out the links for the NEW Environmental Officer Guide App. It is aimed at educating garrison and unit personnel on environmental impacts within their jobs.

For Apple Products:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/usareur-environmental-officer/id611034650?mt=8>

For Android Appliances:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.usareu.co&hl=en>

Save our Climate: Ride a Bike

With nearly 70 million bikes on the road, bicycling is a very popular means of transportation in Germany. Also, it is the most environmentally friendly way of getting around. Every kilometer traveled by bike instead of using your car saves about 140 g of CO2 and helps to protect the environment. Bicycling uses no fossil fuels, such as gasoline or natural gas. Another benefit for the environment and even for the health of the surrounding people is it makes no noise and produces no emissions

Of course, you do something for your own health when riding your bike. It improves your physical fitness and reduces stress as well as give you lots of energy for your day. Cycling helps in the prevention of lifestyle diseases such as heart attack and diabetes. The independent movement of bicycling brings vitality and promotes mental health balance. This will benefit not only yourself, but also your fellow human beings. Of course: **cycling is fun.**



For cycling in the heat here are some tips for you:

1. Use thermos bottles to keep your drinks cool.
2. Take along enough to drink (about 1 liter each hour).
3. Put on a head covering and make sure that your bicycle helmet has enough ventilation slots.
4. Put on some sunscreen to protect yourself from the sunlight.
5. Take enough breaks to relax.

Now, you are prepared for your bicycle ride, but where can you get bicycle path information?



For this, you have several options:

- download the free app “Bayernnetz für Radler” (available for iPhones android cell phones) to plan your route (see below app), or
- visit <http://www.guide-to-bavaria.com/de/Mittelfranken-Radwege-Radwanderwege.html> for tours in Mittelfranken and <http://www.bbbike.org/en/Nuernberg/> (in English) for tours around Nürnberg.

So, what are you waiting for? There are so many reasons why it is better to ride your bicycle instead of using your car. Therefore, **take your bike and discover your surroundings!**

By: Annika Dobin



September 17th :

This date shall remind us of the importance of the earth's ozone layer. The ozone layer allows, due its protection from direct sun insulation, human life on earth. Prohibiting ozone depleting substances since 1994 has resulted in the closure of ozone layer holes to a significant extend.

Bayernnetz für Radler-App

Apple: <https://itunes.apple.com/de/app/bayernnetz-fur-radler/id558489249?mt=8>

Android : <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mdv.bayernnetz>

Buy Green Corner:

By: Jasmina Wirsich

Barbecuing - Take action - help protect climate and environment - and barbecue environmental friendly!

Charcoal - Buy charcoal that comes from sustainably managed forests and therefore, helps to avoid the decrease of tropical rain forest. FSC is a reliable non governmental organization which strives for a sound ecological, social, and economic forest management. Even better: Buy FSC Products produced in Germany (or any country you live in).

Igniter - It is highly recommended not to use paper, pinecones, or chemical igniters due to the release of carcinogenic substances by burning those materials. Instead - use compressed wood treated with oil or wax, or brush wood.

Foods to Grill - The environmental footprint really depends 95% on the “grillables” (foods you grill). One fifth of green house emissions are produced by raising cattle, confirming the fact that the ecological footprint of meat is several times worse than from vegetables. Grilling vegetables (try out <http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/vegetarian-barbecue> for recipes) can be a delicious and environmentally friendlier alternative. If meat is essential, look for bio meat, which stands for well treated animals and less environmental pollution.

Benefits:

- ✓ Reduce clear cuts of tropical forests
 - ✓ Support sustainability: social, economic, and ecological responsibility
 - ✓ Reduces carbon dioxide and methane (green house gases) air emissions
- **Overall lower environmental/health impact**



Check the label!

...for charcoal



DIN 51749
(guarantees charcoal contains no oil, coke or synthetics)

...for meat and vegetables





EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

EPAS	1
Energy Awareness	1
Thanksgiving Tips	1
Green Emissions Stickers	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Thank you for your Support!

A short Environmental Performance Assessment System Summary

Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) is the Army's program for auditing installation-level environmental performance, and is the key element in the plan-do-check-act framework of the Environmental Management System (EMS). Periodic external EPASs (every 3 years), together with annual internal EPASs, provide the Garrison Commander with an overview of the installation's overall environmental posture. An EPAS assessment includes:

- an assessment of the EMS's conformance to ISO 14001, EMS policy and the installation's own EMS procedures,
- an assessment of the installation's compliance with legal and other requirements and
- an outline of corrective actions required to address deficiencies identified during the assessment.

We, the USAG Ansbach, had our external EPAS from 09 - 20th September 2013.

Many thanks for your hard work and cooperation. Because of this, we improved our environmental performance, compared to the last EPAS in 2009. It is important to remember; after the EPAS, we need to work together to correct the findings. So help us continue working to improve the environment.

Thanksgiving means for many people being together with their family and friends, having a great dinner, being thankful for the past year—and cooking. For this, we have some cooking related energy saving tips for you:

- Use lids on pots to retain heat. The food you are cooking on the stovetop will heat up faster when you use lids.



- Use ceramic or glass pans. You can turn down the oven's temperature by up to 25 degrees and get the same results.

- Plan side dishes that can be cooked simultaneously with the turkey. If you cook dishes at the same temperature at the same time, you'll reduce the amount of time the oven has to be running. It's easier for the cook and saves energy too!

October - Energy Awareness Month 2013

October is Energy Action Month, a time to lead by example and empower others to make a difference. During this month, take action to empower leadership, innovation, and excellence to realize a secure energy future.

Empower Leadership.

One individual can empower collaboration and teamwork that can spark change and result in sustainable solutions. Empower coworkers, groups, and entire organizations to lead by example, build momentum, and make a difference.

Empower innovation.

Innovative thinking can guide strategic sustainability



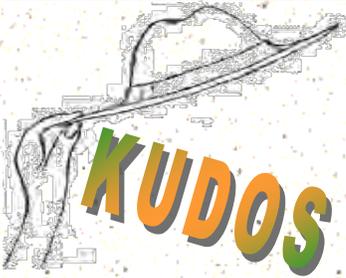
plans, generate new best practices, and accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies. Empower others to think creatively and harness the power of people and technology.



Empower excellence.

Leverage resources and maximize opportunities to move beyond "business as usual" and raise the bar for operational excellence and a secure energy future.

The garrison consumed during the first three quarters of FY13 around 300,000 MBTU, which equals \$13,039,000. Around 13% of energy consumed is water related (heat the water). Reduction of energy is intricately related to the reduction of water consumption. Please help us to reduce both!



... to the men and women of Echo Company 5-158 for their efforts in preserving our environment. Last month while maintaining a vehicle, they found a bird nest near the engine of one of their vehicles. They called the Environmental office, and to-

gether we were able to identify the birds as Black Redstarts. Native to Europe, they are protected due to dwindling numbers. The birds can be identified by their square ended tails, that are orange-red on the sides and brown in the center for the males of the species. The females are mostly brown, darker above than below. Their nests are made from twigs, leaves, roots, and mud. The Black Redstarts like to return to the same site every year to nest, and do so for their whole lives.

Again, thank you to Echo Co. 5-158!



Low Emission Zones and your POV



Air Pollution has become a bigger health risk than high cholesterol as it is linked to asthma, cardiovascular disease, lung cancer, and premature death. According to the World Health Organization, 4.6 million deaths a year occur directly because of air pollution; 310,000 deaths occur in Europe alone.

Laws were passed in 2006 in Germany because some cities did not meet air purity standards for NO2 and particulates set by the European Union. On January 1, 2008 the cities of Berlin, Cologne, and Hanover created Low Emission Zones or Umweltzonen that are now very prominent in Germany. You will recognize this area by this sign :

air pollution, which includes smoke and soot. This restriction applies to gasoline and diesel cars without catalytic converters. The colors at the bottom of the sign are the levels of restrictions of the cars that can be admitted in the area. This restriction is based on the level of particulates your car emits. A green



colored sticker means that the vehicle meets environmental emission standards. Most cities in Germany allow only green colored stickers in the area. A yellow colored sticker means that the vehicle is less acceptable and red colored stickers are even less acceptable. Since the implementation of Low Emission Zones, the access to these zones has been further restricted and will be further restricted in the future. Even now are in some Umweltzonen only cars with green stickers allowed. If you own a diesel vehicle it is likely that you will only receive a yellow or red sticker because there is a greater pollution hazard with diesel vehicles.

filter air particulates and must be retrofitted with an emission control device. If your post-1993 vehicle did not come with a sticker upon purchase, stickers can be obtained at the POV inspection at Barton or Storck. The sticker does not expire and must be displayed on the bottom corner of the windshield passenger-side. If you are in an Umweltzone without the proper sticker there is a €40 fine and 1 point on your license each time.

The Umweltzone is primarily in larger cities and is in place because of the high levels of particle

Typically, you receive a sticker when you register your vehicle. However, pre-1993 vehicles do not have the proper equipment to

So do not drive in a higher category than your sticker allows!

For a complete list of the cities in Germany that require a Green Emissions Sticker, please visit http://www.umwelt-plakette.de/int_england.php?SID=d83ec60a7120fc7b39d2d7026329e485

Buy Green Corner: Information about Green Procurement

Do you want to buy green, but don't know where you can get information regarding green products? The Environmental Management Division provides:

- Environmentally friendly Buying-flyer → for household products, e.g. paper, cleaners, or paint
- Green Procurement Guide → for work related products, e.g. toner, solvents, or lighting

Visit us at our office Bldg. 5843-B or at our share portal

(<https://home.army.mil/sites/eur/Ger/Ans/dpw/Environmental/default.aspx#>) to get the information!

Green companies that offer environmentally friendly products usually have special labels on their items. For several examples of labels to look for, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/>



Cultural Resources

Preservation of Cultural Resources provides insight as to how people used to live many years ago on the same land, which in turn provides a key to understanding human history. It is important to preserve relicts from former societies to draw conclusions on how humanity has evolved.

The Environmental Management Division is responsible for several Cultural Resources at our Garrison.

The “Von Steuben Building” (Bldg. 5845), which is located in the northern part of Bismarck Kaserne, was built between 1933 and 1935 during the “German Third Reich”. The historical building structure is still almost completely unchanged today. The interior and exterior architecture of the

building are based on the eras Neo- baroque, Neo- renaissance and geometric Art Nouveau Style.

Another historical monument in Katterbach is Hangar #4 (Bldg. 5801), built in 1935. Hangar #4 is a tessellated brick building with a flat gabled roof and a monumental steel sliding door. This building’s architecture is strongly influenced by the “New Objectivity” Style.

In terms of preservation for both historical monuments, it is required from the Federal German Law for Cultural Resources to have a permit in order to make any changes to these buildings including any renovations and/or other modifications.

In addition to the historical buildings in Katterbach, there are also archaeological findings in the re-

gion of Oberdachstetten LTA. The history of human settlement in the Region around Ansbach dates back 12,000 years to the early middle stone age. In the surrounding area of Oberdachstetten, there were 29 findings from the Bronze Age, the Urnfield Culture and from the Celtic Period. Acknowledging these precious traces of early human settlement, it is of great importance to pay special attention for archaeological artifacts during construction projects.

It is important to maintain these cultural resources due to their meaningful value to modern human societies and to follow the established regulations of the German Government Agency for Protection of historical Monuments.



The Environmental Division is primarily responsible for projects to be in compliance with the Cultural Resources Preservation Requirements. However, it requires working together with all divisions of the DPW to guarantee a sustainable work ethic and outcome. The goal is to preserve their original character and to raise awareness of the importance of these buildings or relicts that we are responsible for.

Bird of the Year - 2013

The Common Snipe has been selected by the German Nature Protection Organizations as the 2013 Bird of the Year. The bird shall serve as an ambassador for wetland and grassland conservation. It inhabits moist grass-

land and open swamps where it can easily be recognized during the breeding season due to its distinct courtship flights. The Snipe is also called “sky goat” and gets its nickname from a winnowing sound, which is made when

the bird holds its tail feathers spread out while in a nosedive.

The Germany-wide population of the Snipe had declined by half during the past 20 years. Today, it is estimated that only 6,000 breeding pairs are left in Germany. The Snipe is threatened with extinction nationwide. Intensive agriculture and accompanying measures such as drainage and soil leveling are to blame for the steady decline in population.

Considering the nation-wide population decrease, it is especially gratifying for USAG Ansbach to provide a habitat for a small, stable population of 3-5 breeding pairs. The Snipe enjoys



living in the moist grasslands at Oberdachstetten Local Training Area., which is not affected by any agricultural activities. In order to maintain the presence of this rare bird in our local area, continual coordination between the Training Support Command, USAG Ansbach, and the German Federal Forestry is required. These organizations ensure that the breeding grounds are not impaired by any project or activity and that the Common Snipe is a permanent resident in the USAG Ansbach area.



Environmental News



EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Management Review	1
Sustainable Range	1
Energy Efficiency	2
Hazardous Waste	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

EMS – A Strategic Approach

By: Gerda Koss

As part of the continual improvement process of our Environmental Management System (EMS), the standard requires an organization's top management to review the EMS annually to ensure that the objectives of the EMS are being met and the Garrison is in compliance with all environmental requirements. The Management Review evaluates the overall performance and changing circumstances, such as legal requirements or mission changes, in order to make recommendations for further improvement of the system. The continual improvement process requires the Garrison to move forward from established environmental business to a strategic approach on how to plan upcoming environmental challenges.

The **Management Review** for FY 12 determined that all our objectives were achieved:

- Develop a green procurement program;
- Reduce energy consumption by 3 percent per year, based on 2003;
- Reduce water consumption by 2 percent per year, based on 2007;

Furthermore, Management sees the need of tenant organizations to increase their participation and also to continue with the effort to include EMS as well as green procurement for all garrison contracts.

The focus for continual improvement process during FY13 will be on:

- * **Environmental Awareness**
- * **Monitoring and measuring of objectives and key processes**
- * **Compliance with laws and permits**
- * **Self control/ inspections**
- * **Operational control & Documentation**

Sustainable Range Projects

By: Jasmina Wirsich



GranTex Pellets Catchment



Replacement of wood paneling

Due to the recent changes of European Environmental Laws

concerning the increased costs for landfill disposal of lead contaminated sand/soil from bullet catches, the idea and recommendation to substitute sand with a rubber material, called GranTex was suggested for the range complex area at Oberdachstetten. Currently two ranges will be replaced with the new GranTex pellets.

The new material has several advantages:

Disposal costs for sand is eliminated; GranTex is more durable and fully recyclable; loss of material from wind erosion is reduced;

and GranTex absorbs the impact of the bullets, leaving them whole, which reduces the environmental impact and health hazards of the lead.

In addition to the replacement of sand at the catchment areas, the paneling on the front side of the shooting range was replaced by a more durable material. The material does not need to be replaced as often as its wood counterpart. These simple improvements not only save money, but also reduce the overall impact to the environment and will have a resounding positive impact on the sustainability of the range.

Spring Cleaning Tips

Consider using these environmentally friendly brands when cleaning your home:

- ✓ Seventh Generation
- ✓ Small Steps
- ✓ Clorox Green Works
- ✓ Mrs. Meyers Clean Day
- ✓ Simple Green



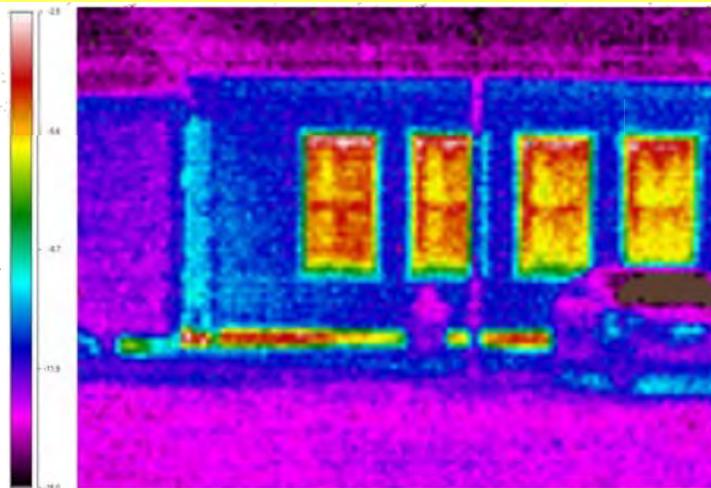
Come out and join us at Oberdachstetten to celebrate **EARTH DAY** on **April 23rd** from 0900-1230!

Energy Efficiency Evaluation

By: *Jasmina Wirsich*

Within the Environmental Management System (EMS) at USAG Ansbach, the Cross Functional Team has set the goal to evaluate and monitor two buildings at the Garrison concerning their energy efficiency and water consumption: the Dining Facility in Katterbach and in Storck. Most of the buildings at our Garrison were built decades ago, when energy efficiency standards did not exist and therefore there is a potential of saving energy and money by evaluating these buildings for their energy efficiency (or lack of). With the help of a thermal camera, areas of heat loss can be detected. This evaluation of the thermal properties of the building will unveil the current situation and the potential for

improvement. One of the pictures taken with the thermal camera is shown (Katterbach DFAC). The Functional Team has set the colors coordinate with the temperature scale shows what parts of the building have the greatest heat loss (red being the most extreme). The weather and the time of the day have an impact on picture quality. The pictures were taken at 7:00 hrs, ambient temperature was -8 degrees C, and a clear sky. The most suitable conditions for evaluating heat loss are before sunrise on a winter day, with a significant temperature difference between the exterior and the interior of the building. As expected, the thermal bridges like windows, doors, vents, etc. have the biggest heat loss. An evaluation of the picture shown clearly shows that the replacement of windows would be appropriate.



Temperature variants of the windows at Katterbach DFAC

After improvements have been made to these buildings, the thermal camera will be used to re-evaluate the energy efficiency of the building and compare to the initial pictures. These buildings will help determine which measures are the most energy efficient

and cost effective to apply to other buildings throughout the garrison to help reach the overall Army target of 3% energy reduction per year at our installation.

New Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points

By: *Daniel Woernlein*



The Environmental Management Division has equipped Katterbach, Barton, and Storck Barracks with new Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points (HWAP) at the Hangars and Motor Pool areas. These containers will provide adequate secondary containment and protection from the weather elements to temporarily store hazardous waste. In addition, the above ground storage tanks for waste fuel, anti-freeze, and waste oil will also be stored in these containers. The containers have three sliding doors and are equipped with a ramp. The HWAPs are for authorized personnel only and should be locked. The DLA Disposition Services contractor, Südmüll, visits each container every week and consolidates the hazardous waste at our three main storage areas on Katterbach, Shipton and Storck Barracks prior to disposal.

Rules that must be followed at the HWAP:

- ✓ Bring Hazardous Waste (HW) to the HWAP, daily
- ✓ Maintain records of monthly inspections
- ✓ Must be kept clean and orderly
- ✓ Fire extinguishers must be kept on-site and inspected monthly
- ✓ Smoking and open flames are prohibited
- ✓ There should only be one container per waste stream
- ✓ Spill equipment should be readily available to clean up minor spills
- ✓ Never use secondary containments for disposal of HW or waste oil

Containers are only for the storage of hazardous waste. DO NOT store Hazardous Material in these containers.



EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Ground Breeding Birds	1
Hazardous Waste	1
Bees Vs. Wasps	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/TMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

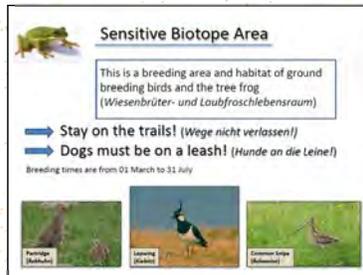
Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Ground Breeding Birds

By: *Jasmina Wirsich*

Ground Breeding Birds are bird species that live and nest in moist open grasslands. The lapwing, the partridge and the common snipe, belong to this category of birds. This specific habitat, which has become quite rare, occurs in Urlas, south and east of the housing area and all around Ansbach, e.g. along the Rezat river. Due to increasing land conversion - mostly grassland into either sealed ground for housing, commerce or industry, or into industrialized agricultural land - suitable habitats for ground breeding birds are decreasing in size and quality, which goes hand in hand with a dramatic decrease in ground breeder population. Therefore, ground breeders are considered a threatened and endangered species. As if those circumstances wouldn't be challenging enough, breeding on the ground brings along additional risks that the birds are exposed to,



e.g. wild animals and pets. The birds can be frightened away from their nests and leave their young vulnerable to predators.

Due to the potential risk of disturbing the nests, the environmental office is in the process of putting up signs in Urlas for the protection of the ground breeders and other threatened species living in the same habitat. For the well being of these species, it is crucial to stay on the trails and in particular to keep your dog on a leash. Please follow the rules posted so we can support and maintain a steady population of ground breeding birds in this region.

Hazardous Waste Management



CAUTION: You may have noticed that our storage areas are currently under construction. During this time, our hazardous waste storage areas are still fully operational. Construction will be completed by July 2013

Army Oil Analysis Program (AOAP):

AOAP Laboratory Center
405th Army Field Support Brigade
Kaiserslautern Army Depot
Bldg. 2256 / DSN 483-7980

- ✓ Real-time customer support via logistics information warehouse
- ✓ On condition oil change capabilities
- ✓ Comprehensive laboratory testing

Upcoming Events

- 40 hr Environmental Officer Course & 8 hr Refresher Training:
- Storck Barracks (17-21 June)
- Katterbach (24-28 June)
- EPAS Sept. 16-20, 2013



JUNE 21st :

This date marks the event where the sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer in the Northern Hemisphere. So, get out and enjoy the longest day of the year and welcome Summer!!



Check out our new link (**Environmental Protection**) on the USAG Ansbach Webpage:
<http://www.ansbach.army.mil/>

The Importance of Bees and Wasps

H
O
N
E
Y



There are approximately 20,000 different species of bees known. Honey bees are just a small fraction of those classified.

Avoiding Stings:

- do not use perfume, cologne, or sweet smelling soaps
- avoid bright colored or patterned clothing
- always wear shoes
- wear long sleeves and pants
- be observant and avoid areas where bees or wasps may nest
- do not try to remove a nest yourself
- cover foods and meat products when cooking

As the weather warms and we spend more time outside, it is important to remember the other animals, insects, etc... that will also make their appearance during this time. Bees and wasps are associated with the onset of spring and warmer weather. To us they may seem like annoying pests, but both bees and wasps are very valuable in the natural food chain. We sometimes mistakenly identify bees and wasps for the other even though each has distinguishing characteristics.

Bees:

Bees are very important to the production of food as they are classified as pollinators and some types of bees also produce honey. Approximately 1/3 of the human food supply depends on insect

By: Jessica Gawron

pollination. Bees feed mostly on nectar and pollen. Their hairy bodies and flat legs help collect the pollen from flowers and disperse in other areas. While gathering food, bees are not likely to sting unsuspecting humans. However, if they are provoked or threatened they may use their stinger for defense. Due to the conversion of land into commercialized areas, residential areas, and/ or agricultural use, the amount of wild flowers that bees depend on for food are not as abundant, resulting in declining bee populations. The increasing use of pesticides has also been found to contribute to the declining bee population.

Wasps:

In contrast, most wasps do not have an active role in pollination (with some exceptions). There are over 100,000 different wasp species and most are considered predators or parasitoids. Wasps generally feed on all types of pest insect species and terrestrial insects such as spiders, flies, etc... and are considered a natural agricultural pest control. This makes wasps critical to the control of these insects and the production of crops that they feed on. Wasps have slender, smooth bodies and can be a variety of

colors. Another distinguishing characteristic of wasps are the types of nests that they build. Wasps secrete a papery substance from wood pulp, unlike honey bees that have wax producing glands (pictured left and below). Nests can be found in all sorts of cracks and crevices. Wasps will attack and sting humans if threatened, therefore always check your surroundings for nests.

Wasps will be most prominent during the summer months and right before temperatures drop in the fall. At the onset of steady cold temperatures, all but the fertilized queen wasps die. Therefore, unless the nest is in a high traffic area or near children's play areas, it is best to leave the nest alone until winter.



Wasps can be distinguished from bees by their narrow, smooth body. Brightly colored wasps are generally from the stinging, or Vespidae family. Pictured above is the common "Yellow Jacket"



Buy Green Corner: All Purpose Cleaners

- ✓ Reduce exposure to toxic chemicals
- ✓ Lower environmental impact / footprint
- ✓ Safer for families and pets
- ✓ Reduces the release of chemicals into the air

Examples: Green Works, Ms. Meyer's, & Seventh Generation

Check the label!!





Environmental News

EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Meadow Orchards in Grafenwöhr and Ansbach	1
Bicycling	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

<https://home.army.mil/sites/eur/Ger/Ans/dpw/Environmental/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Meadow Orchards

By: USAG Ansbach DPW EMD, USAG Grafenwöhr DPW ED

The meadow orchard is a well appreciated and supported biotope type in Germany. It consists of a meadow and several fruit and/or nut trees, such as apple, plum, walnut or pear. As in former times, neither artificial fertilizers nor pesticides were used. Meadow orchards are biodiversity, which is one of the main objectives in the field of nature conservancy. Since industrial agriculture has increased, biotopes like meadow orchards, have extremely diminished. This goes hand in hand with a loss of biodiversity and a significant change of our cultural landscape slowly becoming a monotonous landscape. Counteracting this development, one goal of our Environmental Offices, is to establish diversely structured biotopes in our landscape, e.g. meadow orchards.

Being aware of the dependence on biodiversity, both Garrisons of Grafenwöhr and Ansbach are involved in the establishment and/or management of orchard meadows.

Ansbach

At the USAG Ansbach, there are no meadow orchards yet. However, an area of 5000 m² farmland is going to be converted into a meadow orchard this fall (east of housing next to the rain water retention basin in Katterbach). This initiative was generated due to several construction projects at the USAG Ansbach. Per German Federal Nature Protection Act, projects that cause an environmental impact on the natural components such as water, air, soil, animals, plants, etc. need to be compensated by environmental upgrades in the vicinity of the impacted area. In this case, the environmental upgrade is the conversion of a species-poor area into a diversely structured meadow orchard, which is

an approved compensation method. The environmental compensation for three Garrison related construction projects is going to be implemented in October/November 2013 in the mentioned area.

Grafenwöhr

In 2009, the local Environmental Division (ED) started a project to revitalize old and rare fruit trees and orchards at Grafenwoehr Training Area (GTA). For the 2010 GTA centennial the deserted village of Hopfenohe had been one of the points of interest for visitors. Therefore, this location had been chosen to plant regional varieties of fruit trees to demonstrate an important environmental project. During the tree planting the ED accidentally discovered some old walls. These walls could be identified by a historic research and old field maps as a part of a house that was a guesthouse at this time. The house was part of a farm property. In historical times orchards played an important role for farmers. The fruits were used for many different products and were essential for the survival of the residents as well as for trading. Meadow orchards played an outstanding role for the biological cycle of food and a source of livelihood for the residents. No waste had to be disposed; all material was recycled, contrary to industrial cultivation methods nowadays. To commemorate the history and culture of this place a part of the discovered wall has been renovated, in close coordination with German authorities like the Federal Forest Service and the District Office for Historic Preservation. A new orchard was planted using regional varieties as well as varieties raised from scions originating from old fruit trees at the Hopfenohe area.

Upcoming Events

Environmental
Performance
Assessment
System (EPAS):

Sept. 09-20, 2013

Environmental Officer Guide App



Check out the links for the NEW Environmental Officer Guide App. It is aimed at educating garrison and unit personnel on environmental impacts within their jobs.

For Apple Products:

[https://
itunes.apple.com/us/
app/usareur-
environmental-officer/
id611034650?mt=8](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/usareur-environmental-officer/id611034650?mt=8)

For Android Appli- ances:

[https://
play.google.com/store/
apps/details?
id=com.usareu.co&hl=
en](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.usareu.co&hl=en)

Save our Climate: Ride a Bike

By: Annika Dobin

With nearly 70 million bikes on the road, bicycling is a very popular means of transportation in Germany. Also, it is the most environmentally friendly way of getting around. Every kilometer traveled by bike instead of using your car saves about 140 g of CO2 and helps to protect the environment. Bicycling uses no fossil fuels, such as gasoline or natural gas. Another benefit for the environment and even for the health of the surrounding people is it makes no noise and produces no emissions

Of course, you do something for your own health when riding your bike. It improves your physical fitness and reduces stress as well as give you lots of energy for your day. Cycling helps in the prevention of lifestyle diseases such as heart attack and diabetes. The independent movement of bicycling brings vitality and promotes mental health balance. This will benefit not only yourself, but also your fellow human beings. Of course: **cycling is fun.**



September 17th :

This date shall remind us of the importance of the earth's ozone layer. The ozone layer allows, due it's protection from direct sun insulation, human life on earth. Prohibiting ozone depleting substances since 1994 has resulted in the closure of ozone layer holes to a significant extend.



For cycling in the heat here are some tips for you:

1. Use thermos bottles to keep your drinks cool.
2. Take along enough to drink (about 1 liter each hour).
3. Put on a head covering and make sure that your bicycle helmet has enough ventilation slots.
4. Put on some sunscreen to protect yourself from the sunlight.
5. Take enough breaks to relax.



Now, you are prepared for your bicycle ride, but where can you get bicycle path information?

For this, you have several options:

- download the free app "Bayernnetz für Radler" (available for iPhones android cell phones) to plan your route (see below app), or
- visit <http://www.guide-to-bavaria.com/de/Mittelfranken-Radwege-Radwanderwege.html> for tours in Mittelfranken and <http://www.bbbike.org/en/Nuernberg/> (in English) for tours around Nürnberg.

So, what are you waiting for? There are so many reasons why it is better to ride your bicycle instead of using your car. Therefore, **take your bike and discover your surroundings!**

Bayernnetz für Radler-App

Apple: <https://itunes.apple.com/de/app/bayernnetz-fur-radler/id558489249?mt=8>

Android : <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mdv.bayernnetz>

Buy Green Corner:

By: Jasmina Wirsich

Barbecuing - Take action - help protect climate and environment - and barbecue environmental friendly!

Charcoal - Buy charcoal that comes from sustainably managed forests and therefore, helps to avoid the decrease of tropical rain forest. FSC is a reliable non governmental organization which strives for a sound ecological, social, and economic forest management. Even better: Buy FSC Products produced in Germany (or any country you live in).

Igniter - It is highly recommended not to use paper, pinecones, or chemical igniters due to the release of carcinogenic substances by burning those materials. Instead - use compressed wood treated with oil or wax, or brush wood.

Foods to Grill - The environmental footprint really depends 95% on the "grillables" (foods you grill). One fifth of green house emissions are produced by raising cattle, confirming the fact that the ecological footprint of meat is several times worse than from vegetables. Grilling vegetables (try out <http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/vegetarian-barbecue> for recipes) can be a delicious and environmentally friendlier alternative. If meat is essential, look for bio meat, which stands for well treated animals and less environmental pollution.

Benefits:

- ✓ Reduce clear cuts of tropical forests
 - ✓ Support sustainability: social, economic, and ecological responsibility
 - ✓ Reduces carbon dioxide and methane (green house gases) air emissions
- **Overall lower environmental/health impact**



Check the label!

...for charcoal



DIN 51749
(guarantees charcoal contains no oil, coke or synthetics)

...for meat and vegetables





Environmental News

EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

EPAS	1
Energy Awareness	1
Thanksgiving Tips	1
Green Emissions Stickers	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Thank you for your Support!

A short Environmental Performance Assessment System Summary

Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) is the Army's program for auditing installation-level environmental performance, and is the key element in the plan-do-check-act framework of the Environmental Management System (EMS). Periodic external EPASs (every 3 years), together with annual internal EPASs, provide the Garrison Commander with an overview of the installation's overall environmental posture. An EPAS assessment includes:

- an assessment of the EMS's conformance to ISO 14001, EMS policy and the installation's own EMS procedures,
- an assessment of the installation's compliance with legal and other requirements and
- an outline of corrective actions required to address deficiencies identified during the assessment.

We, the USAG Ansbach, had our external EPAS from 09 - 20th September 2013.

Many thanks for your hard work and cooperation. Because of this, we improved our environmental performance compared to the last EPAS in 2009. It is important to remember: after the EPAS, we need to work together to correct the findings. So help us continue working to improve the environment.

Thanksgiving means for many people being together with their family and friends, having a great dinner, being thankful for the past year—and cooking. For this, we have some cooking related energy saving tips for you:

- Use lids on pots to retain heat. The food you are cooking on the stovetop will heat up faster when you use lids.
- Use ceramic or glass pans. You can turn down the oven's temperature by up to 25 degrees and get the same results.
- Plan side dishes that can be cooked simultaneously with the turkey. If you cook dishes at the same temperature at the same time, you'll reduce the amount of time the oven has to be running. It's easier for the cook and saves energy too!



October - Energy Awareness Month 2013

October is Energy Action Month, a time to lead by example and empower others to make a difference. During this month, take action to empower leadership, innovation, and excellence to realize a secure energy future.

Empower Leadership.

One individual can empower collaboration and teamwork that can spark change and result in sustainable solutions. Empower coworkers, groups, and entire organizations to lead by example, build momentum, and make a difference.

Empower innovation.

Innovative thinking can guide strategic sustainability



plans, generate new best practices, and accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies. Empower others to think creatively and harness the power of people and technology.

Empower excellence.

Leverage resources and maximize opportunities to move beyond "business as usual" and raise the bar for operational excellence and a secure energy future.

The garrison consumed during the first three quarters of FY13 around 300,000 MBTU which equals \$13,039,000. Around 13% of energy consumed is water related (heat the water). Reduction of energy is intricately related to the reduction of water consumption. Please help us to reduce both!





... to the men and women of Echo Company 5-158 for their efforts in preserving our environment. Last month while maintaining a vehicle, they found a bird nest near the engine of one of their vehicles. They called the Environmental office, and to-

gether we were able to identify the birds as Black Redstarts. Native to Europe, they are protected due to dwindling numbers. The birds can be identified by their square ended tails, that are orange-red on the sides and brown in the center for the males of the species. The females are mostly brown, darker above than below. Their nests are made from twigs, leaves, roots, and mud. The Black Redstarts like to return to the same site every year to nest, and do so for their whole lives.

Again, thank you to Echo Co. 5-158!



The bird nest found near the engine of one of the vehicles from Echo Co. 5-158.

Left: Adult Black Redstart.



Low Emission Zones and your POV



Air Pollution has become a bigger health risk than high cholesterol as it is linked to asthma, cardiovascular disease, lung cancer, and premature death. According to the World Health Organization, 4.6 million deaths a year occur directly because of air pollution; 310,000 deaths occur in Europe alone.

Laws were passed in 2006 in Germany because some cities did not meet air purity standards for NO2 and particulates set by the European Union. On January 1, 2008 the cities of Berlin, Cologne, and Hanover created Low Emission Zones or Umweltzonen that are now very prominent in Germany. You will recognize this area by this sign :

air pollution, which includes smoke and soot. This restriction applies to gasoline and diesel cars without catalytic converters. The colors at the bottom of the sign are the levels of restrictions of the cars that can be admitted in the area. This restriction is based on the level of particulates your car emits. A green



colored sticker means that the vehicle meets environmental emission standards. Most cities in Germany allow only green colored stickers in the area. A yellow colored sticker means that the vehicle is less acceptable and red colored stickers are even less acceptable. Since the implementation of Low Emission Zones, the access to these zones has been further restricted and will be further restricted in the future. Even now are in some Umweltzonen only cars with green stickers allowed. If you own a diesel vehicle it is likely that you will only receive a yellow or red sticker because there is a greater pollution hazard with diesel vehicles.

filter air particulates and must be retrofitted with an emission control device. If your post-1993 vehicle did not come with a sticker upon purchase, stickers can be obtained at the POV inspection at Barton or Storck. The sticker does not expire and must be displayed on the bottom corner of the windshield passenger-side. If you are in an Umweltzone without the proper sticker there is a €40 fine and 1 point on your license each time.

The Umweltzone is primarily in larger cities and is in place because of the high levels of particle

Typically, you receive a sticker when you register your vehicle. However, pre-1993 vehicles do not have the proper equipment to

So do not drive in a higher category than your sticker allows!

For a complete list of the cities in Germany that require a Green Emissions Sticker, please visit http://www.umwelt-plakette.de/int_england.php?SID=d83ec60a7120fc7b39d2d7026329e485

Buy Green Corner: Information about Green Procurement

Do you want to buy green, but don't know where you can get information regarding green products? The Environmental Management Division provides:

- Environmentally friendly Buying-flyer → for household products, e.g. paper, cleaners, or paint
- Green Procurement Guide → for work related products, e.g. toner, solvents, or lighting

Visit us at our office Bldg. 5843-B or at our share portal (<https://home.army.mil/sites/eur/Ger/Ans/dpw/Environmental/default.aspx#>) to get the information!

Green companies that offer environmentally friendly products usually have special labels on their items. For several examples of labels to look for, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/>



Cultural Resources

Preservation of Cultural Resources provides insight as to how people used to live many years ago on the same land, which in turn provides a key to understanding human history. It is important to preserve relicts from former societies to draw conclusions on how humanity has evolved.

The Environmental Management Division is responsible for several Cultural Resources at our Garrison.

The "Von Steuben Building" (Bldg. 5845), which is located in the northern part of Bismarck Kaserne, was built between 1933 and 1935 during the "German Third Reich". The historical building structure is still almost completely unchanged today. The interior and exterior architecture of the

building are based on the eras Neo-baroque, Neo-renaissance and geometric Art Nouveau Style.

Another historical monument in Katterbach is Hangar #4 (Bldg. 5801), built in 1935. Hangar #4 is a tessellated brick building with a flat gabled roof and a monumental steel sliding door. This building's architecture is strongly influenced by the "New Objectivity" Style.

In terms of preservation for both historical monuments, it is required from the Federal German Law for Cultural Resources to have a permit in order to make any changes to these buildings including any renovations and/or other modifications.

In addition to the historical buildings in Katterbach, there are also archaeological findings in the re-

gion of Oberdachstetten LTA. The history of human settlement in the Region around Ansbach dates back 12,000 years to the early middle stone age. In the surrounding area of Oberdachstetten, there were 29 findings from the Bronze Age, the Urnfield Culture and from the Celtic Period.

Acknowledging these precious traces of early human settlement, it is of great importance to pay special attention for archaeological artifacts during construction projects.

It is important to maintain these cultural resources due to their meaningful value to modern human societies and to follow the established regulations of the German Government Agency for Protection of historical Monuments.



The Environmental Division is primarily responsible for projects to be in compliance with the Cultural Resources Preservation Requirements. However, it requires working together with all divisions of the DPW to guarantee a sustainable work ethic and outcome. The goal is to preserve their original character and to raise awareness of the importance of these buildings or relicts that we are responsible for.

Bird of the Year - 2013

The Common Snipe has been selected by the German Nature Protection Organizations as the 2013 Bird of the Year. The bird shall serve as an ambassador for wetland and grassland conservation. It inhabits moist grass-

land and open swamps where it can easily be recognized during the breeding season due to its distinct courtship flights. The Snipe is also called "sky goat" and gets its nickname from a winnowing sound, which is made when

the bird holds its tail feathers spread out while in a nosedive.

The Germany-wide population of the Snipe had declined by half during the past 20 years. Today, it is estimated that only 6,000 breeding pairs are left in Germany. The Snipe is threatened with extinction nationwide. Intensive agriculture and accompanying measures such as drainage and soil leveling are to blame for the steady decline in population.

Considering the nation-wide population decrease, it is especially gratifying for USAG Ansbach to provide a habitat for a small, stable population of 3-5 breeding pairs. The Snipe enjoys

living in the moist grasslands at Oberdachstetten Local Training Area., which is not affected by any agricultural activities. In order to maintain the presence of this rare bird in our local area, continual coordination between the Training Support Command, USAG Ansbach, and the German Federal Forestry is required. These organizations ensure that the breeding grounds are not impaired by any project or activity and that the Common Snipe is a permanent resident in the USAG Ansbach area.



Environmental News



EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Management Review	1
Sustainable Range	1
Energy Efficiency	2
Hazardous Waste	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

EMS – A Strategic Approach

By: Gerda Koss

As part of the continual improvement process of our Environmental Management System (EMS), the standard requires an organization's top management to review the EMS annually to ensure that the objectives of the EMS are being met and the Garrison is in compliance with all environmental requirements. The Management Review evaluates the overall performance and changing circumstances, such as legal requirements or mission changes, in order to make recommendations for further improvement of the system. The continual improvement process requires the Garrison to move forward from established environmental business to a strategic approach on how to plan upcoming environmental challenges.

The **Management Review** for FY 12 determined that all our objectives were achieved:

- Develop a green procurement program;
- Reduce energy consumption by 3 percent per year, based on 2003;
- Reduce water consumption by 2 percent per year, based on 2007;

Furthermore, Management sees the need of tenant organizations to increase their participation and also to continue with the effort to include EMS as well as green procurement for all garrison contracts.

The focus for continual improvement process during FY13 will be on:

- * **Environmental Awareness**
- * **Monitoring and measuring of objectives and key processes**
- * **Compliance with laws and permits**
- * **Self control/ inspections**
- * **Operational control & Documentation**

Sustainable Range Projects

By: Jasmina Wirsich



GranTex Pellets Catchment



Replacement of wood paneling

Due to the recent changes of European Environmental Laws

concerning the increased costs for landfill disposal of lead contaminated sand/soil from bullet catches, the idea and recommendation to substitute sand with a rubber material, called GranTex was suggested for the range complex area at Oberdachstetten. Currently two ranges will be replaced with the new GranTex pellets.

The new material has several advantages:

Disposal costs for sand is eliminated; GranTex is more durable and fully recyclable; loss of material from wind erosion is reduced;

and GranTex absorbs the impact of the bullets, leaving them whole, which reduces the environmental impact and health hazards of the lead.

In addition to the replacement of sand at the catchment areas, the paneling on the front side of the shooting range was replaced by a more durable material. The material does not need to be replaced as often as its wood counterpart. These simple improvements not only save money, but also reduce the overall impact to the environment and will have a resounding positive impact on the sustainability of the range.

Spring Cleaning Tips

Consider using these environmentally friendly brands when cleaning your home:

- ✓ Seventh Generation
- ✓ Small Steps
- ✓ Clorox Green Works
- ✓ Mrs. Meyers Clean Day
- ✓ Simple Green



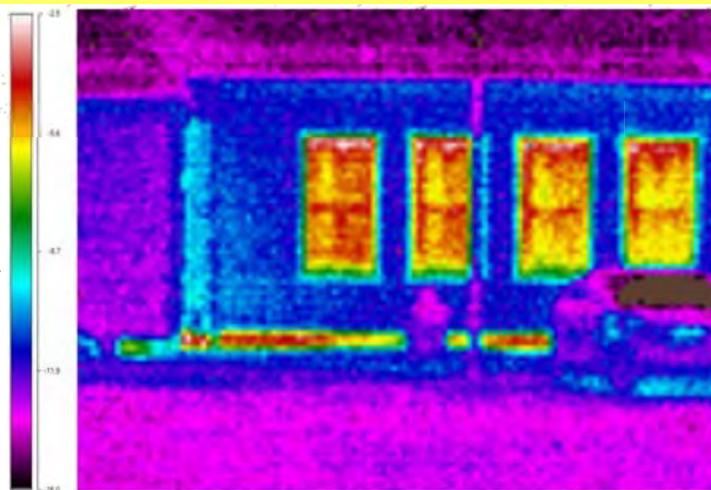
Come out and join us at Oberdachstetten to celebrate **EARTH DAY** on **April 23rd** from 0900-1230!

Energy Efficiency Evaluation

By: *Jasmina Wirsich*

Within the Environmental Management System (EMS) at USAG Ansbach, the Cross Functional Team has set the goal to evaluate and monitor two buildings at the Garrison concerning their energy efficiency and water consumption: the Dining Facility in Katterbach and in Storck. Most of the buildings at our Garrison were built decades ago, when energy efficiency standards did not exist and therefore there is a potential of saving energy and money by evaluating these buildings for their energy efficiency (or lack of). With the help of a thermal camera, areas of heat loss can be detected. This evaluation of the thermal properties of the building will unveil the current situation and the potential for

improvement. One of the pictures taken with the thermal camera is shown (Katterbach DFAC). The Functional Team has set the colors coordinate with the temperature scale shows what parts of the building have the greatest heat loss (red being the most extreme). The weather and the time of the day have an impact on picture quality. The pictures were taken at 7:00 hrs, ambient temperature was -8 degrees C, and a clear sky. The most suitable conditions for evaluating heat loss are before sunrise on a winter day, with a significant temperature difference between the exterior and the interior of the building. As expected, the thermal bridges like windows, doors, vents, etc. have the biggest heat loss. An evaluation of the picture shown clearly shows that the replacement of windows would be appropriate.



Temperature variants of the windows at Katterbach DFAC

After improvements have been made to these buildings, the thermal camera will be used to re-evaluate the energy efficiency of the building and compare to the initial pictures. These buildings will help determine which measures are the most energy efficient

and cost effective to apply to other buildings throughout the garrison to help reach the overall Army target of 3% energy reduction per year at our installation.

New Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points

By: *Daniel Woernlein*



The Environmental Management Division has equipped Katterbach, Barton, and Storck Barracks with new Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points (HWAP) at the Hangars and Motor Pool areas. These containers will provide adequate secondary containment and protection from the weather elements to temporarily store hazardous waste. In addition, the above ground storage tanks for waste fuel, anti-freeze, and waste oil will also be stored in these containers. The containers have three sliding doors and are equipped with a ramp. The HWAPs are for authorized personnel only and should be locked. The DLA Disposition Services contractor, Südmüll, visits each container every week and consolidates the hazardous waste at our three main storage areas on Katterbach, Shipton and Storck Barracks prior to disposal.

Rules that must be followed at the HWAP:

- ✓ Bring Hazardous Waste (HW) to the HWAP, daily
- ✓ Maintain records of monthly inspections
- ✓ Must be kept clean and orderly
- ✓ Fire extinguishers must be kept on-site and inspected monthly
- ✓ Smoking and open flames are prohibited
- ✓ There should only be one container per waste stream
- ✓ Spill equipment should be readily available to clean up minor spills
- ✓ Never use secondary containments for disposal of HW or waste oil

Containers are only for the storage of hazardous waste. DO NOT store Hazardous Material in these containers.

Environmental News

EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Ground Breeding Birds	1
Hazardous Waste	1
Bees Vs. Wasps	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/TMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

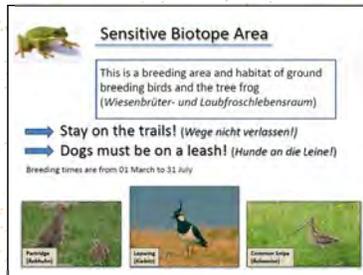
Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Ground Breeding Birds

By: Jasmina Wirsich

Ground Breeding Birds are bird species that live and nest in moist open grasslands. The lapwing, the partridge and the common snipe, belong to this category of birds. This specific habitat, which has become quite rare, occurs in Urlas, south and east of the housing area and all around Ansbach, e.g. along the Rezat river. Due to increasing land conversion - mostly grassland into either sealed ground for housing, commerce or industry, or into industrialized agricultural land - suitable habitats for ground breeding birds are decreasing in size and quality, which goes hand in hand with a dramatic decrease in ground breeder population. Therefore, ground breeders are considered a threatened and endangered species. As if those circumstances wouldn't be challenging enough, breeding on the ground brings along additional risks that the birds are exposed to,



e.g. wild animals and pets. The birds can be frightened away from their nests and leave their young vulnerable to predators.

Due to the potential risk of disturbing the nests, the environmental office is in the process of putting up signs in Urlas for the protection of the ground breeders and other threatened species living in the same habitat. For the well being of these species, it is crucial to stay on the trails and in particular to keep your dog on a leash. Please follow the rules posted so we can support and maintain a steady population of ground breeding birds in this region.

Hazardous Waste Management



CAUTION: You may have noticed that our storage areas are currently under construction. During this time, our hazardous waste storage areas are still fully operational. Construction will be completed by July 2013

Army Oil Analysis Program (AOAP):

AOAP Laboratory Center
405th Army Field Support Brigade
Kaiserslautern Army Depot
Bldg. 2256 / DSN 483-7980

- ✓ Real-time customer support via logistics information warehouse
- ✓ On condition oil change capabilities
- ✓ Comprehensive laboratory testing

Upcoming Events

- 40 hr Environmental Officer Course & 8 hr Refresher Training:
- Storck Barracks (17-21 June)
- Katterbach (24-28 June)
- EPAS Sept. 16-20, 2013



JUNE 21st :

This date marks the event where the sun is directly over the Tropic of Cancer in the Northern Hemisphere. So, get out and enjoy the longest day of the year and welcome Summer!!



Check out our new link (**Environmental Protection**) on the USAG Ansbach Webpage:
<http://www.ansbach.army.mil/>

The Importance of Bees and Wasps

H
O
N
E
Y



There are approximately 20,000 different species of bees known. Honey bees are just a small fraction of those classified.

Avoiding Stings:

- do not use perfume, cologne, or sweet smelling soaps
- avoid bright colored or patterned clothing
- always wear shoes
- wear long sleeves and pants
- be observant and avoid areas where bees or wasps may nest
- do not try to remove a nest yourself
- cover foods and meat products when cooking

As the weather warms and we spend more time outside, it is important to remember the other animals, insects, etc... that will also make their appearance during this time. Bees and wasps are associated with the onset of spring and warmer weather. To us they may seem like annoying pests, but both bees and wasps are very valuable in the natural food chain. We sometimes mistakenly identify bees and wasps for the other even though each has distinguishing characteristics.

Bees:

Bees are very important to the production of food as they are classified as pollinators and some types of bees also produce honey. Approximately 1/3 of the human food supply depends on insect

By: Jessica Gawron

pollination. Bees feed mostly on nectar and pollen. Their hairy bodies and flat legs help collect the pollen from flowers and disperse in other areas. While gathering food, bees are not likely to sting unsuspecting humans. However, if they are provoked or threatened they may use their stinger for defense. Due to the conversion of land into commercialized areas, residential areas, and/ or agricultural use, the amount of wild flowers that bees depend on for food are not as abundant, resulting in declining bee populations. The increasing use of pesticides has also been found to contribute to the declining bee population.

Wasps:

In contrast, most wasps do not have an active role in pollination (with some exceptions). There are over 100,000 different wasp species and most are considered predators or parasitoids. Wasps generally feed on all types of pest insect species and terrestrial insects such as spiders, flies, etc... and are considered a natural agricultural pest control. This makes

Another distinguishing characteristic of wasps are the types of nests that they build. Wasps secrete a papery substance from wood pulp, unlike honey bees that have wax producing glands (pictured left and below). Nests can be found in all sorts of cracks and crevices. Wasps will attack and sting humans if threatened, therefore always check your surroundings for nests.

Wasps will be most prominent during the summer months and right before temperatures drop in the fall. At the onset of steady cold temperatures, all but the fertilized queen wasps die. Therefore, unless the nest is in a high traffic area or near children's play areas, it is best to leave the nest alone until winter.



Wasps can be distinguished from bees by their narrow, smooth body. Brightly colored wasps are generally from the stinging, or Vespidae family. Pictured above is the common "Yellow Jacket"



Buy Green Corner: All Purpose Cleaners

- ✓ Reduce exposure to toxic chemicals
- ✓ Lower environmental impact / footprint
- ✓ Safer for families and pets
- ✓ Reduces the release of chemicals into the air

Examples: Green Works, Ms. Meyer's, & Seventh Generation

Check the label!!





Environmental News

EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

Meadow Orchards in Grafenwöhr and Ansbach	1
Bicycling	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

<https://home.army.mil/sites/eur/Ger/Ans/dpw/Environmental/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Meadow Orchards

By: USAG Ansbach DPW EMD, USAG Grafenwöhr DPW ED

The meadow orchard is a well appreciated and supported biotope type in Germany. It consists of a meadow and several fruit and/or nut trees, such as apple, plum, walnut or pear. As in former times, neither artificial fertilizers nor pesticides were used. Meadow orchards are biodiversity, which is one of the main objectives in the field of nature conservancy. Since industrial agriculture has increased, biotopes like meadow orchards, have extremely diminished. This goes hand in hand with a loss of biodiversity and a significant change of our cultural landscape slowly becoming a monotonous landscape. Counteracting this development, one goal of our Environmental Offices, is to establish diversely structured biotopes in our landscape, e.g. meadow orchards.

Being aware of the dependence on biodiversity, both Garrisons of Grafenwöhr and Ansbach are involved in the establishment and/or management of orchard meadows.

Ansbach

At the USAG Ansbach, there are no meadow orchards yet. However, an area of 5000 m² farmland is going to be converted into a meadow orchard this fall (east of housing next to the rain water retention basin in Katterbach). This initiative was generated due to several construction projects at the USAG Ansbach. Per German Federal Nature Protection Act, projects that cause an environmental impact on the natural components such as water, air, soil, animals, plants, etc. need to be compensated by environmental upgrades in the vicinity of the impacted area. In this case, the environmental upgrade is the conversion of a species-poor area into a diversely structured meadow orchard, which is

an approved compensation method. The environmental compensation for three Garrison related construction projects is going to be implemented in October/November 2013 in the mentioned area.

Grafenwöhr

In 2009, the local Environmental Division (ED) started a project to revitalize old and rare fruit trees and orchards at Grafenwoehr Training Area (GTA). For the 2010 GTA centennial the deserted village of Hopfenohe had been one of the points of interest for visitors. Therefore, this location had been chosen to plant regional varieties of fruit trees to demonstrate an important environmental project. During the tree planting the ED accidentally discovered some old walls. These walls could be identified by a historic research and old field maps as a part of a house that was a guesthouse at this time. The house was part of a farm property. In historical times orchards played an important role for farmers. The fruits were used for many different products and were essential for the survival of the residents as well as for trading. Meadow orchards played an outstanding role for the biological cycle of food and a source of livelihood for the residents. No waste had to be disposed; all material was recycled, contrary to industrial cultivation methods nowadays. To commemorate the history and culture of this place a part of the discovered wall has been renovated, in close coordination with German authorities like the Federal Forest Service and the District Office for Historic Preservation. A new orchard was planted using regional varieties as well as varieties raised from scions originating from old fruit trees at the Hopfenohe area.

Upcoming Events

Environmental
Performance
Assessment
System (EPAS):

Sept. 09-20, 2013

Environmental Officer Guide App



Check out the links for the NEW Environmental Officer Guide App. It is aimed at educating garrison and unit personnel on environmental impacts within their jobs.

For Apple Products:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/usareur-environmental-officer/id611034650?mt=8>

For Android Appliances:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.usareu.co&hl=en>

Save our Climate: Ride a Bike

With nearly 70 million bikes on the road, bicycling is a very popular means of transportation in Germany. Also, it is the most environmentally friendly way of getting around. Every kilometer traveled by bike instead of using your car saves about 140 g of CO2 and helps to protect the environment. Bicycling uses no fossil fuels, such as gasoline or natural gas. Another benefit for the environment and even for the health of the surrounding people is it makes no noise and produces no emissions

Of course, you do something for your own health when riding your bike. It improves your physical fitness and reduces stress as well as give you lots of energy for your day. Cycling helps in the prevention of lifestyle diseases such as heart attack and diabetes. The independent movement of bicycling brings vitality and promotes mental health balance. This will benefit not only yourself, but also your fellow human beings. Of course: **cycling is fun.**



For cycling in the heat here are some tips for you:

1. Use thermos bottles to keep your drinks cool.
2. Take along enough to drink (about 1 liter each hour).
3. Put on a head covering and make sure that your bicycle helmet has enough ventilation slots.
4. Put on some sunscreen to protect yourself from the sunlight.
5. Take enough breaks to relax.



Now, you are prepared for your bicycle ride, but where can you get bicycle path information?

For this, you have several options:

- download the free app "Bayernnetz für Radler" (available for iPhones android cell phones) to plan your route (see below app), or
- visit <http://www.guide-to-bavaria.com/de/Mittelfranken-Radwege-Radwanderwege.html> for tours in Mittelfranken and <http://www.bbbike.org/en/Nuernberg/> (in English) for tours around Nürnberg.

So, what are you waiting for? There are so many reasons why it is better to ride your bicycle instead of using your car. Therefore, **take your bike and discover your surroundings!**



September 17th :
This date shall remind us of the importance of the earth's ozone layer. The ozone layer allows, due its protection from direct sun insulation, human life on earth. Prohibiting ozone depleting substances since 1994 has resulted in the closure of ozone layer holes to a significant extend.

Bayernnetz für Radler-App

Apple: <https://itunes.apple.com/de/app/bayernnetz-fur-radler/id558489249?mt=8>

Android : <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mdv.bayernnetz>

Buy Green Corner:

By: Jasmina Wirsich

Barbecuing - Take action - help protect climate and environment - and barbecue environmental friendly!

Charcoal - Buy charcoal that comes from sustainably managed forests and therefore, helps to avoid the decrease of tropical rain forest. FSC is a reliable non governmental organization which strives for a sound ecological, social, and economic forest management. Even better: Buy FSC Products produced in Germany (or any country you live in).

Igniter - It is highly recommended not to use paper, pinecones, or chemical igniters due to the release of carcinogenic substances by burning those materials. Instead - use compressed wood treated with oil or wax, or brush wood.

Foods to Grill - The environmental footprint really depends 95% on the "grillables" (foods you grill). One fifth of green house emissions are produced by raising cattle, confirming the fact that the ecological footprint of meat is several times worse than from vegetables. Grilling vegetables (try out <http://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/vegetarian-barbecue> for recipes) can be a delicious and environmentally friendlier alternative. If meat is essential, look for bio meat, which stands for well treated animals and less environmental pollution.

Benefits:

- ✓ Reduce clear cuts of tropical forests
 - ✓ Support sustainability: social, economic, and ecological responsibility
 - ✓ Reduces carbon dioxide and methane (green house gases) air emissions
- **Overall lower environmental/health impact**



Check the label!

...for charcoal



DIN 51749
(guarantees charcoal contains no oil, coke or synthetics)

...for meat and vegetables





Environmental News

EMS

Pollution Prevention



In This Edition:

EPAS	1
Energy Awareness	1
Thanksgiving Tips	1
Green Emissions Stickers	2
Green Corner	2

Visit our share portal:

- <https://portal.eur.army.mil/sites/IMCOM-E-A/DPW2/EMD/default.aspx>

Our EMS Goals for this Year:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 3%
2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program

Thank you for your Support!

A short Environmental Performance Assessment System Summary

Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) is the Army's program for auditing installation-level environmental performance, and is the key element in the plan-do-check-act framework of the Environmental Management System (EMS). Periodic external EPASs (every 3 years), together with annual internal EPASs, provide the Garrison Commander with an overview of the installation's overall environmental posture. An EPAS assessment includes:

- an assessment of the EMS's conformance to ISO 14001, EMS policy and the installation's own EMS procedures,
- an assessment of the installation's compliance with legal and other requirements and
- an outline of corrective actions required to address deficiencies identified during the assessment.

We, the USAG Ansbach, had our external EPAS from 09 - 20th September 2013.

Many thanks for your hard work and cooperation. Because of this, we improved our environmental performance compared to the last EPAS in 2009. It is important to remember: after the EPAS, we need to work together to correct the findings. So help us continue working to improve the environment.

Thanksgiving means for many people being together with their family and friends, having a great dinner, being thankful for the past year—and cooking. For this, we have some cooking related energy saving tips for you:

- Use lids on pots to retain heat. The food you are cooking on the stovetop will heat up faster when you use lids.
- Use ceramic or glass pans. You can turn down the oven's temperature by up to 25 degrees and get the same results.
- Plan side dishes that can be cooked simultaneously with the turkey. If you cook dishes at the same temperature at the same time, you'll reduce the amount of time the oven has to be running. It's easier for the cook and saves energy too!



October - Energy Awareness Month 2013

October is Energy Action Month, a time to lead by example and empower others to make a difference. During this month, take action to empower leadership, innovation, and excellence to realize a secure energy future.

Empower Leadership.

One individual can empower collaboration and teamwork that can spark change and result in sustainable solutions. Empower coworkers, groups, and entire organizations to lead by example, build momentum, and make a difference.

Empower innovation.

Innovative thinking can guide strategic sustainability



plans, generate new best practices, and accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies. Empower others to think creatively and harness the power of people and technology.

Empower excellence.

Leverage resources and maximize opportunities to move beyond "business as usual" and raise the bar for operational excellence and a secure energy future.

The garrison consumed during the first three quarters of FY13 around 300,000 MBTU which equals \$13,039,000. Around 13% of energy consumed is water related (heat the water). Reduction of energy is intricately related to the reduction of water consumption. Please help us to reduce both!





... to the men and women of Echo Company 5-158 for their efforts in preserving our environment. Last month while maintaining a vehicle, they found a bird nest near the engine of one of their vehicles. They called the Environmental office, and to-

gether we were able to identify the birds as Black Redstarts. Native to Europe, they are protected due to dwindling numbers. The birds can be identified by their square ended tails, that are orange-red on the sides and brown in the center for the males of the species. The females are mostly brown, darker above than below. Their nests are made from twigs, leaves, roots, and mud. The Black Redstarts like to return to the same site every year to nest, and do so for their whole lives.

Again, thank you to Echo Co. 5-158!



The bird nest found near the engine of one of the vehicles from Echo Co. 5-158.

Left: Adult Black Redstart.



Low Emission Zones and your POV



Air Pollution has become a bigger health risk than high cholesterol as it is linked to asthma, cardiovascular disease, lung cancer, and premature death. According to the World Health Organization, 4.6 million deaths a year occur directly because of air pollution; 310,000 deaths occur in Europe alone.

Laws were passed in 2006 in Germany because some cities did not meet air purity standards for NO2 and particulates set by the European Union. On January 1, 2008 the cities of Berlin, Cologne, and Hanover created Low Emission Zones or Umweltzonen that are now very prominent in Germany. You will recognize this area by this sign :

air pollution, which includes smoke and soot. This restriction applies to gasoline and diesel cars without catalytic converters. The colors at the bottom of the sign are the levels of restrictions of the cars that can be admitted in the area. This restriction is based on the level of particulates your car emits. A green



The Umweltzone is primarily in larger cities and is in place because of the high levels of particle

colored sticker means that the vehicle meets environmental emission standards. Most cities in Germany allow only green colored stickers in the area. A yellow colored sticker means that the vehicle is less acceptable and red colored stickers are even less acceptable. Since the implementation of Low Emission Zones, the access to these zones has been further restricted and will be further restricted in the future. Even now are in some Umweltzonen only cars with green stickers allowed. If you own a diesel vehicle it is likely that you will only receive a yellow or red sticker because there is a greater pollution hazard with diesel vehicles.

Typically, you receive a sticker when you register your vehicle. However, pre-1993 vehicles do not have the proper equipment to

filter air particulates and must be retrofitted with an emission control device. If your post-1993 vehicle did not come with a sticker upon purchase, stickers can be obtained at the POV inspection at Barton or Storck. The sticker does not expire and must be displayed on the bottom corner of the windshield passenger-side. If you are in an Umweltzone without the proper sticker there is a €40 fine and 1 point on your license each time.

So do not drive in a higher category than your sticker allows!

For a complete list of the cities in Germany that require a Green Emissions Sticker, please visit http://www.umwelt-plakette.de/int_england.php?SID=d83ec60a7120fc7b39d2d7026329e485

Buy Green Corner: Information about Green Procurement

Do you want to buy green, but don't know where you can get information regarding green products? The Environmental Management Division provides:

- Environmentally friendly Buying-flyer → for household products, e.g. paper, cleaners, or paint
- Green Procurement Guide → for work related products, e.g. toner, solvents, or lighting

Visit us at our office Bldg. 5843-B or at our share portal (<https://home.army.mil/sites/eur/Ger/Ans/dpw/Environmental/default.aspx#>) to get the information!

Green companies that offer environmentally friendly products usually have special labels on their items. For several examples of labels to look for, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/>

