



# Environmental News

## EMS Pollution Prevention



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### New EO (Environment Officer) Training Link:

<http://tti.na.amec.com/IMCOM/login.asp>

### 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

## EPAS Update

### Environmental Performance Assessment System

EPAS is the Army's program for auditing installation-level environmental performance, and is a 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 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 by making site visits,
- an outline of corrective actions required to address deficiencies identified during the assessment.

We had our external EPAS from 9 - 20 Sept 2013. The result is that we have 83 findings (down from 108 previous cycle) and 2 of the 83 are major findings (down from 11 previous cycle).

One could say we have improved and we can be proud of ourselves. The phase of the EPAS cycle we are presently in is the phase of correcting the 83 findings. We need your cooperation to work together to correct the findings.

The Environmental Office will be visiting customers and tenants to assist them.

*By: Andy Poppen*



## Recycling Saves USAG-Ansbach Money

In FY13 the US Army spent **\$1.5 million** for solid waste disposal at USAG-Ansbach. But about **\$500,000** could have been saved if the community members would have properly recycled.

In FY13 we reached a recycling rate of 45%. If everybody would recycle all materials that are recyclable, our recycling rate could reach 75%!!!!

**We have lots of room for improvement!!**

**Each ton of trash (trash is all solid waste that is not recyclable) costs the Army \$220 to dispose.**

### Comparatively, each ton of recyclable materials costs:

1 ton plastic	1 ton glass	1 ton mixed paper	1 ton cans (incl aluminum)	1 ton scrap metal
=	=	=	=	=
\$144	\$0	\$0	-\$14	-\$206

*By: Jutta Seefried & Nastasia Wanat*

## Upcoming Events

**5 April 2014**  
**Annual Clean-up Aktion Saub(ä)er**  
Off-post clean-up initiated by the city of Ansbach  
Join us at 8:00 am  
Bismarck Gate Parking

**Military Deployment**  
Before deploying, please properly dispose of your waste by bringing it to recycling centers at Katterbach and Storck Barracks. Open every Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9000-1200 and 1300-1800.  
**Remember, throwing recyclables in trash is prohibited.**  
More details on the flyer "deploying" available on our share portal (address at left)

## Yellow-Bellied Toad: Amphibian of the Year 2014

The Yellow-bellied Toad (*Bombina variegata*) has been selected by German nature protection organizations as the amphibian of the year. This animal is endemic to Europe which means it is present only there.

No bigger than 5 cm, it has a grey-brownish skin covered with little tubercles on the upper-side. Its belly is patterned with a bright yellow marking. These toads exist at our training area near Oberdachstetten and features one of the rare remaining places in Bavaria where this species can survive.

Their sticky tongues attached at the front of their mouth, allow them to catch flying insects:

they dart their tongue out and toss insects into their mouths. In order to swallow, they have to blink. This presses their eyes onto their mouth which pushes the food down their throats. After eating they wipe their mouth with their hands!

Year after year Yellow-bellied Toads are slowly disappearing. Therefore they are on the list of



Eyes of the yellow-bellied toad with heart-shaped pupils, by Daren Naish-Tetrapod Zoology Blog



The yellow belly shall deter predators, DPW-EMD

wetlands, and modern agricultural techniques severely impacted the original habitats.

Nowadays the most important substitute habitats are small bod-

ies of water found in quarries and on military training lands.

In accordance with nature protection law, USAG Ansbach is responsible for sustaining a healthy toad population. A monitoring program was established in close coordination with Host Nation authorities, and it is ensured that spawning grounds are in good condition. Water-filled ruts are created on a regular basis, and puddles are cleared from overgrowing vegetation.

By: Stephan Haas & Nastasia Wanat



Upper-side of the Yellow-bellied Toad: Good camouflage in loamy puddles, by Stephan Haas

endangered species of the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) because they face a very high risk of extinction. They are also strictly protected by European legislation.

Population decrease of this species is mainly caused by the loss of suitable habitats. Originally the toads were mainly living in lowlands prone to flooding. There, they could spawn in temporary puddles created by spring floods. River channelization, drainage of

### For Our Air **STOP IDLING at USAG Ansbach!**



**Don't Be Idle !!  
Idling is illegal!!**



Besides air pollution and noise, idling wastes gas and money!

Turn off the engine, if stopped for more than 20 seconds

- Don't bother to 'warm up' your car before driving - it is not necessary
- Also during **ice-scraping**, don't turn on the engine.
- Tip: Cover your windshield if night frost is expected!
- Don't run the engine for cooling while not driving either!

#### Don't forget:

Idling on-post and off-post is prohibited according to §30 of the German Road Traffic Regulation (StVO)

Idling can be fined with a **€10 ticket**



## Buy FAIRTRADE Corner:

Be aware that with every purchase you make, you decide what kind of world you want to live in. By buying Fairtrade products, you lay the foundation for a better world. But what does Fairtrade mean?



Fairtrade is an alternative approach to conventional trade and offers you a positive way to buy products in solidarity with those who produced them. The Fairtrade label (right) guarantees that the producers protect the environment in which they work and live. This includes areas of natural water, virgin forest and other important land areas and dealing with problems of erosion and waste management. When a product carries the Fairtrade label it means the producers and traders have met Fairtrade standards. Fairtrade standards exist for food products ranging from tea and coffee to fresh fruits and nuts. There are also standards for non-food products such as flowers and plants, sports balls and seed cotton.



By: Annika Dobin

# Environmental News



EMS

Pollution  
Prevention



## In This Edition:

- Energy Saving Efforts in Ansbach 1
- The green Woodpecker 1
- Green Corner: Seafood 2

## New EO (Environmental Officer) Training Link:

<http://tti.na.amec.com/IMCOM/login.asp>

## Visit our share portal:

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

## Visit our new WEBSITE:

<http://www.ansbach.army.mil/Environmental.html>

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2. Reduce Water Consumption by 2%
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## Energy Saving Efforts

By Regina Kranz and Gerda Koss

An Energy Awareness and Conservation Assessment (EACA) of selected facilities at USAG Ansbach were performed during January 2014. The last one was done in April 2010. The purpose of the EACA was to identify low cost/no cost Energy Conservation Opportunities savings and to conduct energy awareness and conservation training in support of Executive Order 13423, the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

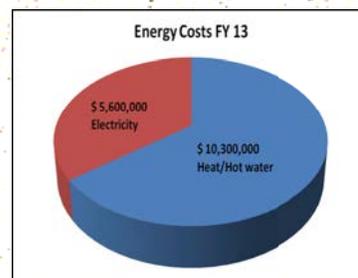
The large hangars are one major factor in determining the Energy Use Index for the Garrison. Historically, the Garrison had dramatically reduced energy use over the long term, but recent years have seen the trend ending. Recent energy improvements have installed some radiant heating panels in the hangars, and the 22 passive houses at Urfas. However this does not seem to be enough. More savings are possible without major investment, through routine maintenance and cleaning, replacement of incandescent lights, and turning off unnecessary lighting both in the daytime and at night. Many simple actions can lead to significant energy and cost savings.



Hangar door Bldg. 6501, Storck Barracks

The largest single source of building heat loss is generally through open hangar & maintenance bay doors at the operational buildings, and open windows in family housing with radiator valves set to "5". At bldg 6501, Storck Barracks if the hangar doors would be closed when not moving aircraft in/out and people would use the personnel doors \$21,000/yr could be saved.

In FY 13 the Garrison's total energy bill was around \$16 million. Two thirds of the consumption



costs were related to heating, including heating water. Everyone can help to reduce this amount, by heating (temperature) and hot water control. Generally you can assume that for each °C decrease in room temperature, your bill will decrease about 6%.

Any energy saving effort will help to reach the Garrison's goal and the Army target of 3% reduction per year.



Aware of an area, which could be improved? Share your ideas and call us at 467-2998 or 467-2774 or send us an email. Regina.kranz4.ln@mail.mil or Gerda.m.koss.ln@mail.mil.

**"You can make a difference"**

## Upcoming Events

**5 April 2014**  
**Annual Clean-up Aktion Saub(ä)er**  
Off-post clean-up sponsored by the City of Ansbach

Meet at 08:15  
Bismarck Gate



**29 April 2014**  
**Earth Day Event**

Oberdachstetten  
9:00- 12:30

Joint US/German Elementary School Kids discovering environmental and energy topics

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## Green Woodpecker: Bird of the Year 2014

The Green Woodpecker (*Picus veridis*) has been selected by German nature protection organizations as the bird of the year 2014. The Green Woodpecker usually needs old large trees for breeding because their trunks have some softer places where the bird is able to pick a hole in order to build its nest. The hole is usually situated between 2 and 10m high in the trunk. The hole size is about 6x7 cm.

The Green Woodpecker lives preferentially in orchards which are not intensively managed without using pesticides and fertilizers, conversely to conventional fruit tree plantations. Moreover such orchards are mown only about two times a year which



Green Woodpecker after eating ants, German Society for Nature Conservation

help to preserve the biodiversity of insects. In such orchards the Green Woodpecker can peacefully forage ants, its favorite food.

Although the Germany-wide population recovered somewhat over the last 20 years, the birds' main habitat is still considered threatened. The disappearing of its habitat is mainly caused by modern agriculture practices leading to the disappearance of old orchards which are ecologically managed.

The Environmental Office of the USAG-Ansbach is currently implementing an orchard southeast of the Airfield at Katterbach since recent construction in the Garrison has required environmental compensation. Apple, pear, plum, and cherry trees are currently planted and will provide a suitable habitat for Green Woodpeckers and many other species.

The choice of planting an orchard has been made because in the Franconia Region orchards are one of the important elements of the rural landscape. As a result, the footprint of the USAG Ansbach will have a significantly higher ecological value when the orchard is completed and will be able to welcome the Green Woodpeckers of the region!



Green Woodpecker, German Society for Nature Conservation



In your daily life you can also support the Green Woodpecker! Many shops in the region offer juices produced locally and in an ecologically friendly manner. For example, 'Grünspecht Streu-obst Apfleschorle' (see left) supports orchards from the Hohenlohe Region west of Ansbach. The apple farmers receive a higher price for a sustainable production by preserving the old orchards.

By: Nastasia Wanat & Stephan Haas

### Buy Green Corner: Seafood

Healthy oceans are essential for thriving marine ecosystems, livelihoods and economies around the world. Today our oceans are under more pressure than ever from human impacts. Due to the growth of the world's population, the global consumption of seafood increased by 21% between 1992 and 2002. But the levels of fish catches in the wild have remained roughly stable since the mid-1990s. According to a UN Food and Agriculture Organization report, it is estimated that

- one-quarter of the world's fish stocks are overexploited. They have been under excess fishing pressure which has reduced their capacity.
- about half of the stocks are fully exploited. They are being fished at or close to their maximum sustainable limits.
- around one-quarter of fish stocks are underexploited or moderately exploited and could perhaps produce more.

The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) is an independent non-profit organization which sets a standard for sustainable fishing. Fisheries that wish to demonstrate they are well managed and sustainable are assessed by a team of experts who are independent of

both the fishery and the MSC. Seafood products can display the blue MSC ecolabel (see right) only if that seafood can be traced back through the supply chain to a fishery that has been certified to the MSC standard. The MSC's mission is to use its ecolabel and fishery certification program to contribute to the health of the world's oceans by recognizing and rewarding sustainable fishing practices, influencing the choices people make when buying seafood, and working with partners to transform the seafood market to a sustainable basis.

Wondering what fish to buy? Search for certified sustainable seafood that you can be sure comes from a well-managed fishery with the MSC's official Seafood Finder app:

- For Android devices:  
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.msc.product.finder&hl=en>
- For Apple devices:  
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/msc-seafood-finder/id593037565>



By: Annika Dobin



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EMS

Pollution  
Prevention



**In This Edition:**

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**Community**

**Environmental Stewardship Events**

100+ soldiers and family members joined the Spring Clean-up called Saub(ä)er, organized by the city of Ansbach

The Environmental Management Division (EMD) thanks all the participants for their outstanding contribution to preserve the environment.

**Spring Clean-up, 5 April 2014**



**Earth Day, 29 April 2014**



About 170 German and American children took part in the annual Earth Day organized by the EMD in cooperation with Host Nation Nature Conservation offices and volunteers from the garrison. They experienced topics like: forests, water, soil, sheep farming, energy.

**Upcoming Events**

Sign up for the **EO Class!**



23 -27 June  
2014

The Environmental Officer (EO) Class is targeted for military and civilians who will be assigned as EO for their unit. It includes theory, field trips and hands-on spill response training.

Registration: DSN 467-3424

**Military Deployment**

Any questions regarding your wastes dispose of?

Please Call DSN 467-3403

**Hazardous Materials - Globally Harmonized System (GHS)**

By: Daniel Woernlein

The production of hazardous materials is an international business. There are many different regulations on hazard classification in use in different countries. This fact results in a jungle of different standards, classifications and labels for the same hazard in different countries. Therefore, the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) was designed to replace all the diverse classification systems and pre-

sent one universal standard which each country will follow. As of June 1 2015, the GHS will require pictograms on labels to alert users of the chemical hazards to which they may be exposed. The industry has already started with the transition from the old standards to the new international system. If you buy household hazardous material at AAFES, DeCA or German do-it-yourself stores you will find the new labels already today. Same

thing applies to hazardous materials in the workplace. Until 2015, you will recognize more and more hazardous material products labeled with the new GHS pictograms. The pictograms consist of a symbol on a white background framed within a red border and represent a distinct hazard(s). The pictograms on the product label are determined by the chemical hazard classification:



Pressurized



Flammable



Oxidizer



Explosive



Corrosive



Hazard to Environment



Health Hazard



Harmful



Acute Toxic

## Invasive Alien Species

By: *Nastasia Wanat & Stephan Haas*

Invasive alien species are species whose introduction and/or spread outside their native area threatens biological diversity. Due to increasing travel and trade, alien species are usually intentionally or unintentionally introduced in new ecosystems. All taxonomic groups, including animals, plants, fungi and micro-organisms are concerned by this problem.

If the new habitat of alien species is similar enough to their native range, they can survive and reproduce. After being introduced in a new ecosystem, alien species might not have any natural predators or competitors which could help in the regula-

tion of their population. Therefore they can out-compete native organisms for resources, increase in population density and become destructive.

Islands are particularly vulnerable to invasive species because they are naturally isolated from strong competitors and predators.

Invasive alien species may also carry human infectious diseases. For example the tiger mosquito native in Southeast Asia can carry over 20 human pathogens such as dengue fever. It has entered the United States as well as the European Union by accident on used tires.

The mosquito populates most of Italy in the meanwhile and is



*Asian tiger mosquito*

spreading along the Mediterranean shoreline to the west to France and Spain, and to southeastern Europe. Currently, it still does not represent an acute health threat in our region, even though isolated occurrences have already been reported in Germany too.

The giant hogweed is another example of an invasive specie in



*Giant hogweed*

Germany. The massive plant can grow up to 4 meters high. It causes a rash and dermatitis after skin contact, especially when the skin is exposed to sunlight at the same time.

New legislation has been proposed recently by European regulators in order to mitigate adverse impacts of invasive alien species.

By: *Gerda Koss & Andy Poppen*

Pet ownership is about accepting responsibility for a



*Royal Pythons next to a trash container : Storck Bks*

living animal. And ownership of a pet within Government housing is a privilege. The photo shows 2 pythons that were found in a box next to a dumpster in late March at Storck.

## Pets Becoming Invasive Species

These were obviously placed there on purpose. This is abandonment. How many days they were there is unknown. Abandoning pets is a violation of AR 40-905. Owners that abandon their pets are subject to action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), and are responsible for all costs incurred by the Government for transfer, care, custody, and final disposition of the animal. In the case of pythons for example these are not native to Europe. This presents a double problem, 1) they were abandoned, 2) since they are not native if they find their way into the environ-

ment they become invasive and destructive to the local ecosystem. A python problem similar to what the state of Florida is experiencing could've happened here and started with these 2 snakes! More info on pets can be found in the "Housing Guide", located on the garrison website.

If you PCS with your pet, here is a helpful checklist: <http://ervc.amedd.army.mil/animalmedicine/PCSing.html>

Abandoning pets is also a violation of German animal protection law and the nature protection law.

In case you cannot keep your pet

for any reason, you should contact an animal shelter to find a solution:

- **Ansbach**, Haldenweg 8, tel. 0981-62170
- **Bad Windsheim**, Walkmuehlweg, tel. 01520-6377635
- **Neustadt Aisch**, tel. 09164 - 317

*One of the pythons in the picture died, the other one was taken to a private shelter for reptiles in Bad Windsheim.*

## Buy Green Corner with the new HTV-Life Label

**HTV-Life®-mark of excellence** manifests a product that does not contain measures for the intentional reduction of product lifetime (planned obsolescence) and thus is sustainable. It is affixed directly to the product: <http://htv-life.com>

Manufacturers, who deliberately do not label "planned life limiting predetermined breaking points" into their goods, can clearly distinguish from competition **HTV-Life®-mark of excellence**.

**Based on the label** the customer can immediately see that he purchased a product without planned obsolescence.

**Refraining from deliberate breaking points** constitutes an added value to the customer for which he is possibly willing to also invest more respectively to decide on the high-value product.

**The new mark of excellence HTV-Life® creates an objective decision criterion through which the consumer has now, for the first time, the possibility to make his purchase decision based on facts.**



*By: Gerda Koss*



**EMS**  
**Pollution  
Prevention**



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**DOWNRANGE  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Ensuring optimal training capability is the responsibility of not only those managing the land but also of those using the land, and here is where an educational component becomes critical.

**Environmental SOPs**

Documents such as the Training Unit Environmental SOP, You Spill You Dig, and the Red Plan were generated specifically for this purpose; to educate the soldier on the five 'w's of how to manage their footprint on the land while using the training area during an exercise.

**Soldier Field Cards**

Another such informational is the Soldier **Field Card**. The pocket-sized card provides MEDEVAC steps, safety and POC information, a map indicating re-fueling pads and potable water points, as well as basic Do's and Don'ts of training land utilization.

*By: Colleen Bergmanis, TSAE, ITAM*

**Soldier Field Card Apps**

Besides hardcopies, Soldier Field Card iPhone and Android phone Apps are also available and can be found via your favorite App store by searching: 'JMTC' and 'Soldier Field Card'.

**Available in Foreign Languages**

Every US Army training area within the USAREUR footprint has a specific Soldier Field Card and many of these have been translated into the languages of those NATO and partner nation militaries, which frequent the respective training installation.

Produced by ITAM, Soldier Field Cards are distributed via all US Army military installation Training Support Centers (TSCs).

**For more information**

please contact your local TSC or the USAREUR Sustainable Range Program at: [usareur.srp.contact@us.army.mil](mailto:usareur.srp.contact@us.army.mil) and <https://srp.usareur.army.mil>

**Environmental  
Tip**



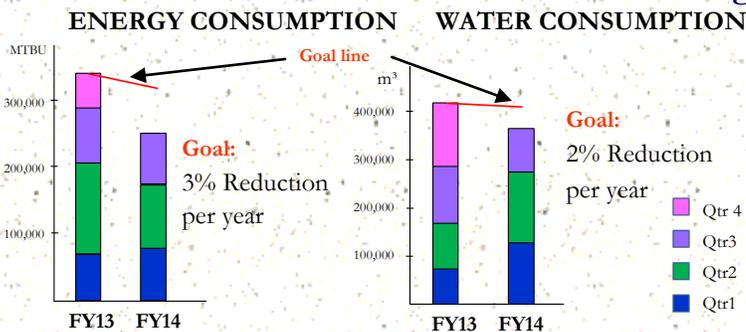
**Keep container lids closed to reduce foul odors and prevent vermin... or you may become Oscar the grouch!**



Android iPhone

**USAREUR Soldier  
Field Card App**

**Will we reach our goals in FY 14?**



Regarding energy: the 4th quarter is not over yet, however based on past consumption data, it appears that we will meet our goal.

Regarding water: the 4th quarter is not over yet, however this year's trend will likely put us above our goal. This is a bad thing!

**Therefore Please, help us by reducing your energy & water consumption!**

## Invasive Species creating a Health Risk for Humans

By: Gerda Koss

**A***mbrosia artemisiifolia*, Common Ragweed (Figure 1), is the most widespread plant of the genus *Ambrosia* in North America. It has also been called Annual Ragweed, Bitterweed, Blackweed, Carrot Weed, Hay Fever Weed, Roman Wormwood, Stickweed, Tassel Weed, and American Wormwood. It is native from North America. The species name, *artemisiifolia*, is given because the leaves were thought to bear a resemblance to the leaves of *Artemisia*, the true wormwoods.



Figure 1: Common Ragweed

The common Ragweed has become an invasive species in Germany and other European coun-

tries since it has been imported 150 years ago.

Common Ragweed can grow one meter (3 feet) high. Its wind-dispersed pollen (Figure 2) is a strong allergen to many people with hay fever. Since it blooms end of August until October, when all other plants are already faded, it gives people with hay fever no break from suffering.

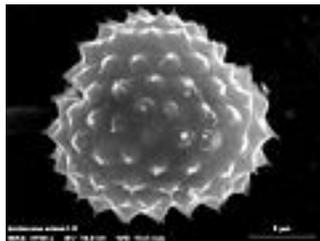


Figure 2: Pollen spore

Ragweed produces more pollen than other plants. One plant produces up to one billion! The pollen are more allergen than any grass-pollen. Moreover the pollen stays germinable for around 40 years in the ground.

Seeds which are given in winter to birds often contain Ragweed achenes (fruits of Ragweed containing the seed, Figure 3). This intensively contributes to its dispersion. To limit that problem, it is possible to look for

bird seeds certified without Ragweed.

Furthermore, since 2011, European Union restricts the import of seed contaminated with ragweed.



Figure 3: Achenes

Germany started a campaign to eliminate this plant which out-compete native species.

All areas with more than 100

plants have to be notified to Host Nation officials, and plants should be destroyed. The migration follows road axis and the transportation path of agricultural products. Since 2007 the Bavarian government systematically registers all impacted areas to stop further migration (Figure 4). All affected areas are monitored by Host Nation Officials.

If you noticed you have some hay fever symptoms in August, check around if you can recognize the Common Ragweed. In the event you find plants, please notify the DPW-Environmental Office, DSN 467-2225, CIV 09802-83-2225.

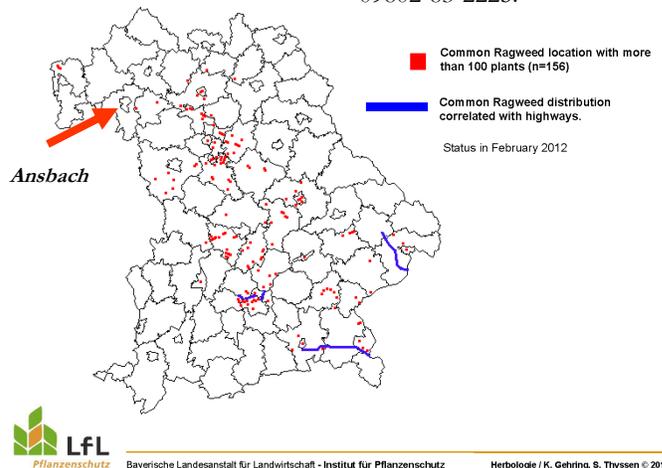


Figure 4: Distribution of common Ragweed in Bavaria

### Buy Green Corner: Deodorant without aluminum salts

**D**ue to its unique properties (does not rust, is particularly light, has no taste when it is used as wrapping ...) aluminum is an element which is present every where in our daily life (food, pots, aluminum foil, cosmetics...). This element is also naturally present in vegetables we eat as it is naturally up taken by plants.

Humans tolerate up to 1 mg Aluminum via ingestion per Kg body weight. Using cosmetics that contain aluminum creates a second pathway into the body and therefore increases ones amount of aluminum in the body.

Aluminum salts are commonly used as an antiperspirant ingredient. The frequency of breast cancer situated in the upper outer quadrant of the breast led scientists to research the relation between aluminum and such diseases.

Aluminum can cause DNA alterations and can have effects on the

genes expression. It can also interfere with the function of estrogen (hormone) receptor or alter the cells mobility. Although medical research could not entirely demonstrate yet that aluminum contained in antiperspirant deodorants is directly associated with breast cancer, more and more scientists see correlations.

Therefore, the medical community as well as the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment advice is to lower the use of products that contain aluminum. Furthermore the application of antiperspirant right after shaving is not advised because it increases the body absorption of aluminum.

The presence or absence of aluminum salt is listed in the ingredients. Most of organic cosmetics are aluminum free.



By: Nastasia Wanat



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**Installation of a Co-generation Unit-  
Heat Power Module at Shipton**

As the heating period lasts about 6 months in Germany heating costs represent 70% of the energy costs of USAG Ansbach. Depending on the year, winter can even be longer which increases costs.

In order to save energy the heating systems of the Shipton Caserne are currently upgraded. Two boilers were replaced by more efficient ones and a co-generation unit-heat power module has been installed.

Co-generation is the process in which a single fuel source, such as natural gas, is used to produce both electrical and thermal energy. The production of electricity generates thermal energy which is captured for use. The generated

electricity will feed the Garrison Grid.

Before this upgrade, three gas boilers were heating tap water and water for the heating system of the Shipton Caserne. Conventional boilers have a power factor of 80% which means 80% of the energy consumption of the boilers is transformed in real power (heating). The Co-generation Unit has a power factor of 90% which means it can achieve primary energy savings up to 38% compared to a conventional system.

One of the advantages of this unit is the production of warm water in summer without the need to turn the gas boilers on. Moreover the unit is environmentally friendly and will reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of the boiler room by 9%.



*Co-generation Unit currently installed, Shipton Caserne*

*By: Nastasia Wanat & Regina Kranz*

**Upcoming  
events**



October 2014  
**ENERGY  
AWARENESS  
MONTH**



**Help Do Your  
Part!!!**

If you leave a transformer plugged in during 24h, it idles as much electricity as if you watch your TV during 9 hours.



**Happy Thanksgiving**

- Using lids on pots retains heat & will heat up your food faster
- Simultaneously cooking side dishes with the turkey reduces the running time of the oven.
- Ceramic or glass pans conduct the heat better and allow to reduce the oven temperature.

## Window panes - deadly traps for birds

By: Stephan Haas

In August, the Environmental Division was informed about birds regularly crashing into the window pane structure at the entrance of the Health and Dental Clinic (HDC) Katterbach. The glass panels along the access ramp and stairs are already poorly silhouetted against the building façade for the human eye - for a flying bird they are totally invisible. SFC Colburn reported that perished birds are found on a weekly basis at the HDC entrance.

Many preventive measures can be implemented in order to prevent bird collisions. One option is to place some stickers on the interior side of the window - they are usually black and shaped like a bird of prey (see picture). However, the benefit of those

type of stickers is controversially discussed among experts, as some internet research revealed (eg. [www.windowcollisions.info](http://www.windowcollisions.info)). Some studies suggest that birds do not recognize the sticker as a predator bird, but only as an obstacle they can fly round.



Because the stickers alone might not be sufficient to effectively prevent window collisions, the Environmental Division decided to apply the stickers in combination with a permanent ultraviolet marker: These UV markers are available from different manu-

factures. They are invisible for the human eye but are recognized by birds since birds can see ultraviolet light.

Studies suggest that UV marker



strips with a distance of approx. 2 inches provide a sufficient visual barrier for the birds. Depending on the brand, the UV coating is somewhat resistant to window cleaning, but nevertheless needs to be renewed periodically, e.g. on an annually basis.



## Buy Green Corner 'In your motor pool'

Years ago, the U.S. Army started a green procurement initiative. U.S. Army customers are still required to buy environmentally-friendly products whenever possible. But green procurement is a team effort – it can be accomplished in your motor pool as well! Before your supply sergeant puts an item in the shopping cart, make an environmentally smart decision and buy green products. Furthermore, if your command prepares a government contract, consider 'green' services. Each small ecological adjustment over pure economical decision will reduce our carbon-footprint and supports the government's sustainability initiatives.

Buy green is so easy - please check out some examples of green products/services for your motor pool:

- Green cleaning supplies, hand cleaners and degreaser
- Solvent-free & biodegradable parts cleaner
- Asbestos-free brake pads and clutches
- Low VOC paints, varnish and spray cans
- Recycled printing paper
- Energy-efficient electrical devices and tools



- Bulk POL products (e.g. 55gal drums) plus dispensing unit
- Nonspillable lead-acid batteries & multi-time rechargeable batteries
- Universal 'Green' Spill Kits

Check out the [GSA Advantage!®'s Environmental Aisle](#) and discover thousands of individual green products or contact your Garrison's subject matter expert of the green procurement team at DSN 486-7703 or 467-2774.

By: Daniel Wörnlein



# Environmental News



## Heater Booster to Save Energy

By: Nastasia Wanat

Every day, the Dining Facilities (DFAC) prepare hundreds of meals for the community, which are cooked in large pots. The cleaning procedure of pots requires three baths with the following temperatures: 110°F (43°C), 120°F (49°C) and 171°F (77°C). But normal warm water cannot reach temperatures of more than 133°F (60°C).

If the water temperature is too low, additional chemicals are necessary to sanitize the pots and considerably more water is used.

As part of the Environmental Management System (EMS) of the Garrison (according to the ISO 14001), the members of the Cross Functional Team (CFT) continually set up programs to reduce energy, water and to buy more green procurements.



Heater Booster installed at DFACs

To greatly reduce the hot water consumption at the DFAC, the CFT members had a heater booster installed in DFACs. The booster is continually warming up the same amount of water and keeps it at a temperature of 171°F (77°C). As a result we are saving 2.5 to 3m<sup>3</sup> per day which represents 45 to 54 euros per day namely 38% of the hot water consumption or between **16,400 and 19,700 euros (\$21,400 - \$25,700) per year!**

Heater boosters also reduce the use of chemicals and ensure good sanitary conditions for the cleaning of pots.

## Did we Achieve our GOALS for 2014???



### Heating consumption: Reduce 3% per year

FY13	240,629 MTBU \$ 10,304K	→ -13.1%	FY14	209,155 MTBU \$ 8,185K	
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### Electricity consumption: Reduce 3% per year

FY13	100,094 MTBU \$ 5,606K	→ +7.3%	FY14	107,345 MTBU \$ 5,696K	
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### Water consumption: Reduce 2% per year

FY13	111,200,000 gal 16.50 gal/sf \$ 1,351K	→ +30%	FY14	144,560,000 gal 21.32 gal/sf \$ 2,265K	
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### New EO (Environment Officer) Training Link:

<http://tti.na.amec.com/IMCOM/login.asp>

### 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

## Upcoming events

LOOK FOR our free 2015 environmental calendar now available at the EMD Office or around the Garrison



Katterbach & Storck  
**NEW OPENING HOURS!!!**

MON-WED-FRI:  
1000-1200 / 1300-1800  
AND 1st Saturday of the month 0800-1400

In FY14, the recycling rate of the Community reached 48.3%

**Let's recycle better to reach 50% in FY15!**

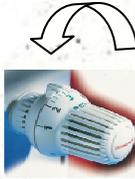
All recyclables have to be properly separated!

### Be green for Christmas

Turn off tree lights and outdoor house decorations at bedtime



Lower the thermostat:



Body warmth and heat from the oven will compensate

### Do not forget to recycle while celebrating Xmas!



- \* Dispose of wrapping paper in the paper (green) container
- \* Separate plastic and metal cans/aluminum
- \* Break down/fold cardboard boxes
- \* Keep waste container lids closed!

For more details, take a look to the SORT Brochure available on the website

<http://www.ansbach.army.mil/Recycling.html>

On 12th and 20th of January leave your undecorated Christmas tree in the grass area close to your building

Disposal area for Katt/Urlas/Bleidorn:

- Urlas Mout site (follow arrows)

Disposal area for Storck Barracks:

- Outside the Garrison, follow arrows "Kompostanlage", behind housing

Artificial Christmas trees can be reused!

If disposed, bring to recycling centers.



Keep your eyes open and track Host Nation Logos to get **products of quality**



Deck the halls with **LED lights** and **Save** a quarter of electricity and keep them 10 to 25 times longer! **Reduce the size** of outdoor lighting displays.



Salt is usually used to clean walkways and path from snow and ice. But salt is harmful to soil, groundwater and pets. Consider using **sand or gravel mixture and/or kitty litter**, less harmful to the environment.



**IDLING is PROHIBITED** on-post and off-post: I turn my engine off when parked to preserve air quality and save fuel.



**Air your house regularly for at least 5 min** per day after turning off the heating system. This helps to prevent mold and preserve air quality.

### Buy Green Corner: Palm Oil, an Environmental & Health Hazard

Palm oil is extracted from the fruit of palm oil trees. It has the consistency of butter at room temperature. It is the cheapest oil on the market and today it is five times more often consumed than in 1990. Half of all supermarket products contain palm oil, which is also part of the biodiesel composition. The production of biodiesel particularly contributes to the increase of palm oil production.

Plant oils are generally more beneficial to human health than animal fats. However, palm oil is an exception to the rule as it is particularly high in saturated fat.



Palm Oil Fruits (source: one green planet)

Excessive consumption of palm oil containing products might lead to weight gain, elevated cholesterol level, plaque in the arteries increasing risks of heart attacks or stroke. 85% of palm oil is produced in Indonesia

and Malaysia where millions of hectares of rainforest are currently destroyed to grow palm oil trees at a rate of 300 soccer fields of rainforest per hour.



Deforestation of the Rainforest (source: Rainforest Rescue)

These destructions lead to huge amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions as well as strong reduction of biodiversity as animals are losing their habitats.

This environmental catastrophe is unfortunately also associated to child labor: 82% of the 10-14 years old children in Indonesia are working in plantations.

By: Nastasia Wanat