



# The 2015 Secretary of Defense ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS



**Camp Blanding Joint Training Center**  
Natural Resources Conservation, Large Installation



Camp Blanding partners with several state agencies and non-governmental organizations to provide mutually beneficial ecosystem assistance and training. Camp Blanding partners with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to conduct aerial ignition prescribed fire projects. These controlled burns improve both the quality of military lands and the habitats of various species of concern.



Over the past two years, Camp Blanding's natural resources conservation program has achieved key milestones, including establishing stable populations of endangered red cockaded woodpecker (RCW). Here, a team member works to remove and replace artificial nesting boxes for RCW in live longleaf pine trees.



**Robins Air Force Base, Georgia**  
Environmental Quality, Industrial Installation



Robins Air Force Base (AFB) leads the way with one of the most wide-ranging and proactive installation environmental programs in the nation. Natural resources at Robins AFB are shared both statewide and with the local community. Birding trips are held during the annual spring Earth Day events, which facilitate positive community ties. An average of 75-80 species are identified during these events.



The Robins AFB Qualified Recycling Program is an award winning recycling program. Houston County Association for Exceptional Citizens, Inc. is the local contractor who transports recycled goods from the base to the "Happy Hour" facility for sorting and packaging for resale. Loose cardboard is properly baled and packaged for resale.



**Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Japan**  
Environmental Quality, Overseas Installation



Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Butler is a leader in enhancing environmental quality while sustaining the Marine Corps' ability to train and maintain readiness in Okinawa, Japan. MCB Camp Butler's innovative soil erosion efforts have been instrumental in protecting this vital coral habitat on the island of Okinawa.



MCB Camp Butler's environmental program proactively supports operational efficiency and mission readiness. The Hawker Battery Reuse Program was initiated in an effort to reduce waste and the associated costs of disposal. Since the Hawker Battery Reuse Program started in FY13, no conditioned battery has been sent back through the waste disposal process.



**Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center**  
Twentynine Palms, California  
Sustainability, Non-Industrial Installation



The desert environment surrounding Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) Twentynine Palms mandates that sustainable approaches be implemented in order for the installation to excel in training Marines. During the award period, MCAGCC Twentynine Palms exceeded DoD goals in energy reduction and water conservation, and aggressively applied renewable energy solutions with an innovative and collaborative sustainability program.



Cooperation with the community and across the installation helps MCAGCC Twentynine Palms achieve mission and program goals. MCAGCC Twentynine Palms Earth Day events, such as this Fun Run, promote sustainability efforts as well as Marine fitness.



**Minnesota Army National Guard Sustainability Team, Minnesota**  
Sustainability, Individual Team



The Minnesota Army National Guard (MNARNG) recognizes that incorporating sustainability into its operations, acquisitions, and infrastructure will help reduce resource demands, while preserving current and future operational flexibility. This solar photovoltaic system at the MNARNG Arden Hills Army Training Site was designed to provide a significant percentage of the facilities' electrical requirements.



MNARNG issued a state-wide Energy Challenge, with a goal of reducing energy intensity at each facility by 3% from the previous year. Pictured above are ground source heat pumps that were installed for the new Education Center addition at Camp Ripley; this type of technology has decreased energy consumption by 45% at similar facilities.



**Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina**  
Environmental Restoration, Installation



MCB Camp Lejeune made tremendous progress in investigating and cleaning up 49 sites during this achievement period by maintaining collaborative relationships with regulatory agencies and a supportive local community. MCB Camp Lejeune conducted a phased investigation from 2009 through 2013 to determine if any further action was necessary to protect human health and the environment on approximately 1,600 acres of surface danger zones.



MCB Camp Lejeune conducted a study in Wallace Creek to evaluate the effectiveness of a Sediment Bed Passive Flux Meter (SBPFM) to validate whether the technology could successfully measure the exchange of water between the creek and subsurface. The study supported critical research to advance SBPFM science, with an ultimate goal of helping sites negotiate more reasonable cleanup levels.



**U.S. Army Garrison Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey**  
Cultural Resources Management, Small Installation



Jason Huggan and historian Dr. Patrick Owens are pictured as they give a tour of the Walton Burial Ground in celebration of Earth Day. USAG Picatinny coordinates cultural resources tours, workforce, members of the public, and local organizations.



Above is a pre-1918 view of Buildings 3250 and 3316 located at the former Lake Denmark Naval Ammunition Depot, Picatinny Arsenal, U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Picatinny gathered this photo during archival research as part of an installation-wide Cultural Landscape Analysis. USAG Picatinny conducted the analysis to better inform cultural resources management planning and decision making.



**Dr. Paul R. Green, U.S. Air Force Civil Engineer Center, Virginia**  
Cultural Resources Management, Individual/Team



As the Cultural Resources Specialist for the East Region Support Team, U.S. Air Force (USAF) Civil Engineer Center, Dr. Paul Green oversees and assists the cultural resources management programs in his area of responsibility, and supports USAF Subject Matter Experts as necessary.



Dr. Green has experience in tribal consultations in several regions. Above, he is conversing with Caddo Nation elders at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. This experience was critical in developing the Powder River Training Complex Programmatic Agreement and Environmental Impact Statement, which established the largest military training airspace in the Western Hemisphere.



**Halon Extinguisher Replacement Program for Aviation Weapon Systems Integrated Product Team, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama**  
Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition, Small Program



The Halon Extinguisher Replacement Program Integrated Product Team developed an environmentally friendly and mission critical replacement handheld fire extinguisher (HHFE) for the Army. The new Non-Ozone Depleting Substance (ODS) HHFE (left) uses the same bracket that holds the current Halon HHFE (right). This benefit will save many labor hours, since a new bracket will not be required when fielding the new fire extinguisher and is more environmentally sustainable.



The Army Test and Evaluation Center performed hundreds of pass-fail tests during the developmental phase of the program. The Aviation Engineering Directorate reviewed all of the test data. In September 2013, the Directorate issued airworthiness approval to use the new non-ODS HHFE on Army rotary wing aircraft.