

SUSTAINMENT AND RESILIENCY DIVISION



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Devens Reserve Forces Training Area Resilience and Central Monitoring Initiative Cuts Water Usage By Forty-Four Percent

Devens Reserve Forces Training Area (DRFTA) is one of many Army Reserve installations experiencing impressive energy and water resilience achievements in the face of climate change and cybersecurity threats. Beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2021, a new initiative enabled DRFTA to quickly identify significant water leaks and execute repairs. Through their streamlined efforts, the installation cut over two million gallons of water use by the end of the first quarter of fiscal year 2022 – a 44% reduction in annual water consumption resulting in a cost avoidance of \$16,500.

In the fall of 2020, the installation's Directorate of Public Works (DPW) began reviewing water consumption twice daily through their advanced meters system. The intensified monitoring was spurred by a prolonged toilet leak episode in a barracks used for Covid quarantining. Due to the infrequent occupancy, the toilet ran undetected for more than nine days and consumed more than 426 thousand gallons of water.



Andrew Coffin, contract Resource Efficiency Manager, reviews DRFTA's daily water consumption data to look for spikes in usage.

"The biggest leaks we encounter are continually flushing toilets or urinals in the barracks," explained Andrew Coffin, the contract Resource Efficiency Manager for the installation. "These 'runaways' can use more than 30,000 gallons per day, and really stand out visually on data graphics. When we began leveraging our meter data on a daily basis, we started catching these major leaks soon after they started and were able to get the water shut off and the leaks repaired, usually within hours of when they start."

Coupled with support from multiple departments across the installation, the visibility of increased water usage has enabled DRFTA to more effectively identify the source of leaks with reduced personnel at the Army Reserve-funded training area. "We're working smarter with limited resources," added Coffin. "We do not have people in our buildings full time. Our human eyes and ears are diminished. That makes the data much more valuable. When we identify a potential leak, we notify the DPW shop immediately and begin trying to narrow down the leak location within the building. For barracks-building leaks, the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security Billeting staff shares schedules which identify floors and rooms in use. If necessary, we directly call points of contacts for visiting units to see if any Soldiers recall constantly flushing urinals and toilets in their rooms. The DPW shop personnel are really responsive and by helping narrow down the locations we can help them use their time effectively."

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SRD SNAPSHOT

The next step for DRFTA is the integration of its advanced meters into the Army Reserve's Enterprise Building Control Systems (EBCS) program. "The integration into EBCS makes sense for multiple reasons," Coffin noted. "It enables real-time alarming and remote notification, helping us to respond rapidly to issues like water leaks during off business hours. It also offers an authorized infrastructure for connecting compliant building automation systems to a central server. This will enable remote monitoring and control of our HVAC in critical mission facilities, which has huge energy and operational benefits."

By integrating advanced meters and selected building control systems into EBCS, DRFTA will have access to EBCS's robust central monitoring, control, and advanced analytical features. The installation will also have access to EBCS program sustainment support, technical reach back, and tailored research and development solutions through the program's partnership with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. This will enhance DRFTA's ability to address resource challenges, advance facility efficiency, increase mission readiness, and work towards critical climate change goals.

Closely monitoring water consumption is one component of an overall effort to increase energy and water efficiency to bolster the resilience and readiness of the installation. "Regularly reviewing our meter data is one of many initiatives that supports our Installation Energy and Water Plan," explained Lt. Col. Trent Colestock, DRFTA Garrison Commander. "By prioritizing resilient energy and water supplies, this enables our critical facilities and infrastructure to remain operable during times of disruption. In return, our Soldiers and our tenants remain operational and agile to meet the needs of the mission."

Earth Day Resource Guide Now Available

Earth Day is quickly approaching as the observance is annually held on 22 April. How will you celebrate the observance? Do you need support? Never fear – help is here! The Strategic Readiness Team under the Army Reserve Installation Management Directorate has created a resource guide to support educational and awareness events across the enterprise.

The [2022 Earth Day Resource Guide](#) includes:

- Helpful resources and links to graphics
- Social media posts
- Tips for hosting events and event ideas
- Army and Army Reserve talking points and messaging

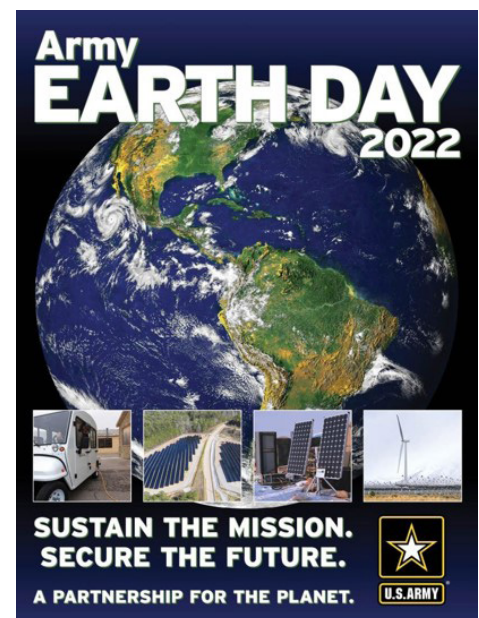
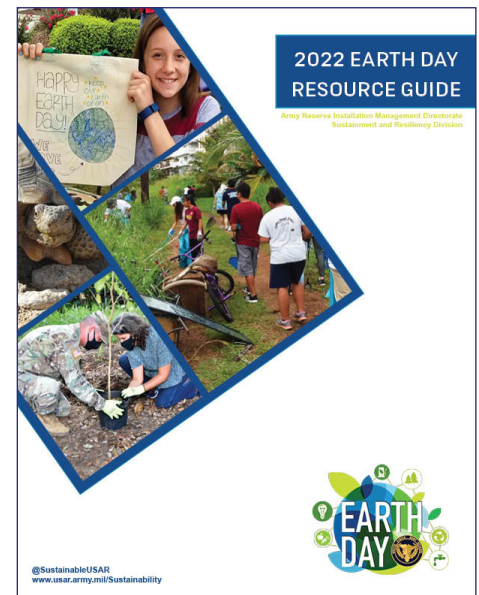
Army Earth Day Posters

Each year the Army develops an Army Earth Day poster and distributes it across the globe Army-wide. If you ordered posters this year, they should arrive by 1 April. If you do not receive them by 8 April, please call 443-243-0313.

Event Ideas

Need some ideas to spark Earth Day inspiration?

- Partner with your local utility providers, other sustainability agencies, and other Department of the Army agencies (such as your Family, Morale, Welfare, and Recreation entities; Army and Air Force Exchange Service; and Defense Commissary Agency) to host an Earth Day campaign that targets your entire community
- Conduct a free webinar open to the public
- Organize a brown bag lunch-and-learn in a conference room featuring a guest speaker or documentary on an environmental topic
- Provide tours of energy, water, and/or solid waste facilities
- Create a "trash smash" to collect litter, organize a spring gardening cleanup, or plant some trees
- Partner with installation schools to host an event by conducting science experiments to demonstrate concepts
- Collaborate with your Public Affairs Office to release a PSA, social media posts, and news articles about Army Reserve projects and initiatives
- Display advertisements on digital marquee signs at entrance gates and/or other available locations
- Visit office cubicles and share educational materials



SRD SNAPSHOT

Environmental Protection Agency National Recycling Strategy

In November 2021, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the National Recycling Strategy. The National Recycling Strategy is focused on enhancing and advancing the national municipal solid waste (MSW) recycling system and identifies strategic objectives and stakeholder-led actions to create a stronger, more resilient, and cost-effective U.S. MSW recycling system. This substantially revised version of the National Recycling Strategy focuses on improving the nation's MSW recycling system and broadens the vision to include the full impact of materials while also recognizing the need to achieve environmental justice priorities. The National Recycling Strategy reflects the work of many stakeholders – including the public, companies, and non-governmental and community-based organizations – and input from other federal agencies, states, tribes and local governments.

To learn more, view the strategy here: [EPA National Recycling Strategy](https://www.epa.gov/national-recycling-strategy).



2022 Senior Commander / Garrison Commander Conference

Senior leadership across the Army Reserve gathered on 23-24 March at the Senior Commander / Garrison Commander (SC/GC) Conference at Army Support Area Fort Dix, New Jersey.

The SC/GC Conference was well-attended with representation across the enterprise and proved invaluable as attendees reviewed performance trends, discussed policy and procedure, and developed strategic and operational efforts. These synchronized efforts are nested under Army and Army Reserve strategies that enable mission readiness.



Upcoming Teleconferences

Energy and Water Managers Teleconference

6 April
1400 - 1630 EST

Environmental Leadership Forum

14 April
1500 - 1630 EST

Solid Waste Program Teleconference

20 April
1430 - 1600 EST



Throughout history, women have made our Army stronger, from the vital roles they played in the Revolutionary War to their service today as Soldiers, nurses, telephone operators, secretaries, codebreakers, military intelligence, and maintenance and supply workers. In March, we take time to celebrate the exceptional female Soldiers, Army civilians, veterans, and family members of the Army Reserve.



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