KULEANA

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT ★ A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

U.S. ARMY

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He'e by Liz Somerall



Unload, Unpack, Recycle: Proper Corrugated Cardboard Disposal

Cardboard is a ubiquitous material for packaging, shipping, or storing practically any item and is a major component of the global packaging market. Used cardboard accounts for a large part of the global waste stream but luckily is highly recyclable.

Recycling corrugated cardboard on U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Hawai'i installations is mandatory. **Corrugated cardboard is not permitted in USAG Hawai'i refuse dumpsters** and the garrison is required under 40 CRF 246.202-1 to separate corrugated cardboard containers from other waste for recycling purposes.

USAG Hawai'i recycled 560 tons of cardboard in FY25. Here on O'ahu, once our cardboard gets placed in the recycle bin and collected it is then brought to RRR Recycling in Kapolei where it is sorted and baled. The cardboard is then exported to paper mills where it is pulped, screened, and formed into new cardboard products such as paper bags, paper towels, and all different kinds of boxes. Paper products including cardboard can be recycled five to seven times before reaching the end of their lifecycle. Each time cardboard goes through the recycling process the fibers become shorter, making the product thinner and less durable. At the end of its lifecycle, recycled cardboard can be made into paper paste which is used to manufacture products like newspaper and egg cartons.

All soldiers, civilians, contractors, and other tenants of USAG Hawai'i must do their part to divert corrugated cardboard from the waste stream. Keep corrugated cardboard out of the dumpsters and instead place it in an appropriate recycling collection container or deliver it to the Army Recycle Center at 1087 McMahon Rd, Schofield Barracks. Reach out to the Army Recycle Program at 808-787-0867 with any questions.

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Remember: ONLY CORRUGATED CARDBOARD is accepted through the Army Recycle Program. Other cardboard products including cake boxes, cereal boxes, gift boxes, soap boxes, toothpaste boxes, and other items that have a glossy coating should be placed in the regular trash.





Follow the guidance below for proper corrugated cardboard recycling:

1. Do not put cardboard in the dumpster!
2. Make sure boxes are empty. Place any styrofoam, bubble wrap, or packing peanuts in the trash.
3. Small amounts of tape are generally fine and can be removed at the recycling center. Excessive amounts of tape should be removed before recycling.
4. Remove plastic delivery labels and envelopes.
5. Make sure your cardboard is clean before recycling it. If it has food residue, grease, or oil, it cannot be recycled. For example, pizza boxes are not recyclable.
6. Keep cardboard dry, store in a location that is not exposed to rain. Saturated cardboard cannot be recycled and should be placed in the trash.
7. To save space, flatten cardboard boxes before putting them in your recycling bin.

What Ancient Rome Taught Us About Lead Safety

Did you know lead has been used since ancient times? Ancient Romans used lead in household items, cosmetics, and even wine containers because it was durable, easy to work with, and widely available.

At the time, lead was considered a useful and valuable material. However, historians and scientists later discovered that long-term lead exposure may have contributed to serious health problems throughout Roman society.

Centuries later, lead continued to be commonly used in paints, pipes, fuels, and building materials across the world—including in many older military and civilian facilities. Over time, researchers learned that lead dust and paint chips can become hazardous when disturbed or damaged.

Today, the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) helps regulate lead-containing materials to protect our communities. Many older facilities may still contain lead-based paint, which is why repairs and renovations must be handled carefully.

Remember, lead-based paint is generally safe when left undisturbed and in good condition. Activities such as sanding, scraping, drilling, or demolition can create lead dust and increase exposure risks.



OpenAI. (2026, May 19). What Ancient Rome Taught Us About Lead Safety. [AI-generated illustration]. ChatGPT image generator.

Before starting repairs or renovations:

- Submit a Facility Engineering Work Request (FEWR)
- Coordinate work through DPW Environmental Division, TSCA Program: 808-787-1966
- Report damaged paint or suspect materials

Learning from history helps protect our community today.

DPW Environmental Staff Highlights

E komo mai Taryn!

Hello, my name is Taryn and I am excited to have just recently started with DPW Environmental's Colorado State University Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML) team as the new Aboveground Storage Tank (AST) Environmental Specialist. I am looking forward to spending my time in the field supporting the efforts of CEMML in environmental compliance across U.S. Army Garrison Hawai'i installations.

After receiving my B.S. in Wildlife and Conservation Science and my M.S. in Agricultural Science, I pursued the start of my career in Colorado working with the county in the Department of Natural Resources. During this time, my love for environmental efforts and the outdoors grew, allowing me to strengthen my environmental knowledge through career development and volunteer opportunities.



I typically love being outdoors camping, hiking or rock climbing, so I look forward to the opportunities Hawai'i has to offer. Other than being outdoors, I love drawing, reading and watching movies. I am very excited to be a part of the CEMML team and look forward to working with everyone.

Used Cooking Oil Disposal

Keep our drains clean for a healthy environment!

Do not pour used cooking oil into sinks, drains, toilets, or onto a parking lot or street.



Whether you are cooking up some delightfully greasy game day snacks or deep frying the Thanksgiving turkey, please follow proper procedures for used cooking oil disposal this Fall.

Fully absorb cooled oil in a plastic bag with absorbent material or with an oil change box. Then dispose of in the trash.

Environmental Compliance Officer Training

The ECO Basic Course covers a wide range of environmental management requirements. One primary and one alternate ECO is required at all levels of command. The ECO Basic Course is now a 1-day certification course offered monthly! Register online through the link on the DPW Environmental Division website here!

All ECO Basic Course classes are 0900-1600 at SB 2624 DPW Training Classroom

Class Number	Class Date
002-27	04 NOV 26
003-27	02 DEC 26
004-27	13 JAN 27
005-27	03 FEB 27

Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities

- Oʻahu Events
- MWR Calendar Events
- Kōkua Hawaiʻi Foundation
- DLNR Volunteer Opportunities
- HI Sustainability Events
- 808 Beach Cleanups
- Army Natural Resources

Contact Us

REPORT ALL SPILLS TO 808-787-1966

Environmental Compliance Branch Office
808-787-1966

ECO Training / Environmental Inspections
928-998-2742

Recycling Program
808-787-0867

Spill Prevention and Response Program
808-787-1966
After hours: 808-787-5396 or 808-425-6819

Hazardous Waste Program
808-787-9911

Clean Air / Safe Drinking Water Programs
520-687-2254

Clean Water Program
808-787-1966

TSCA Lead and Asbestos Program
808-787-1966