



Welcome to Wiesbaden!

NEWCOMERS' IN-BRIEF

August 2024

DPW- Environmental Division



Overview

Trash and Recycling

- Recycling color Code
- Pfand
- Recycling/Re-use Center
- Hazardous waste

Reduce Consumption

- Fuel Laws
- Car Washing
- Gas/Electric use in house

Abatement

- Mold
- Other monitoring programs

Water

- Water Quality
- Conservation

Natural/Cultural Resources

- Environmental Awareness
- Resources
- Pests

Solid Waste Reduction



Paper and Cardboard

Flatten cardboard boxes before placing in the container



Packaging, Plastic

Trash bags and deli wrap packaging can go in plastic. Make sure they are not dirty/have excess food on them.



Residual Waste

Residual waste is BURNED not put in a landfill. Please do NOT throw electronics in residual waste.



Compost

This includes bones/ meat/ and grass clippings.



Solid Waste Reduction (Cont.)



Disposable batteries (and vapes) can be discarded in small green boxes appropriately labeled.



Glass (without pfand) is separated by color.

- Return old/unwanted RX drugs to pharmacy for disposal. Do not flush or dispose in residual waste.
- Return empty toner cartridges to the vendor for **free** –OR take them to the Recycling Center.

For a printable guide to waste separation, we have a PDF on the USAG Wiesbaden webpage under

DPW-> ENVIRONMENTAL



Solid Waste Reduction (Cont.)

- If you buy bottles, check them for refund symbols and return them to any store that sells bottles of this kind to get your deposit (**pfand**) back!

1. *Mehrwegflaschen* - refillable bottles:

- made of glass or sturdy plastic
- will be cleaned and reused
- refund between **8 ct** and **15 ct per bottle**

2. *Einwegflaschen* - nonrefillable bottle:

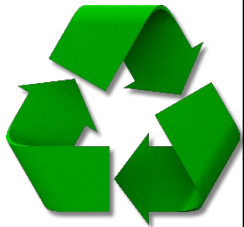
- bottles made of thin plastic and rarely thin glass
- aluminum cans
- will be crushed, melted, and made into new bottles
- refund of **25 ct per can or bottle**
- if label has been peeled, return at counter



Solid Waste Reduction (Cont.)

- **Recycling Center:**

- Household appliances, bulk items, metal, wood, broken furniture, green waste, electronic waste.
- Household hazardous waste (e.g. fluorescent tubes, aerosols, paint, batteries)
- Operating Hours: 12.00 - 15.30 h
Mon-Fri



Recycling and Re-Use
Center is located on Clay
Kaserne Bldg. 2450

Telephone number: CIV
0611-143-548-4029

- **Re-Use Center:**

- Donate re-useable household items for re-issue to other military ID card holders
- ID card holders eligible to select up to 10 items per day per household
- Non-perishable food items
- Operating Hours:
 - **Mon and Thurs- 12:00-15:00**
 - **1st Saturday of each month 09:00-12:00**



Household Hazardous Materials and Waste

Examples:

- Oil Filters, Brake Fluid, Windshield Defogger, Antifreeze, Car Polish and Waxes
- Oils, Solvents and Lubricants
- Stain and Paint Remover
- Wood Preservatives
- Varnishes and Paint
- Glues and Adhesives
- Disinfectants
- Drain cleaners
- Corrosion Inhibitor
- Scale and Rust Remover
- Pharmaceuticals
- Insecticides and Mothballs
- Shoe polish and sealer
- Fabric softener and Detergents
- Dry Cell batteries
- Grease, Turpentine
- Propane, Butane, or any other fuel canister
- Toner cartridges



Dispose of partially used chemicals/oils/paint at the Recycle Center.

Why properly manage your hazardous materials and waste?

- It's the law.
- People can get sick or hurt, especially children.
- The environment could be damaged.
- Wildlife can be endangered.
- Improper management can be very expensive - everybody is paying.

→ Very small amounts can do a great deal of damage!



Reduce Fuel Consumption

- **IDLING IS ILLEGAL** in Germany as it pollutes the air with toxic gases and harmful particulate matter! **You can be fined!**
- Take advantage of the local public transportation system or ride your bike more often.
- Maintaining proper tire pressure increases fuel economy.
- Avoid abrupt stops and acceleration.
- Consider procurement of fuel-efficient POVs.
- ❖ Be mindful of increasing diesel bans in certain cities in Europe - Stuttgart, Hamburg, Berlin,... Limitations vary by city, so check before travelling by car.

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Wiesbaden Student Art



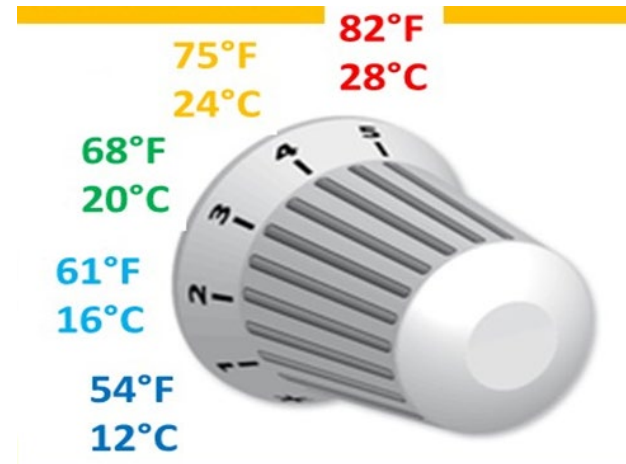
Car Washing and Maintenance

- **No** car-washing, oil changes, or engine cleaning in non-designated areas
 - German law to protect soil and drinking water sources.
- NTVs and POVs may only be washed here:
 - The hand wash area by the Auto Skills Center, Clay Kaserne, Bldg. 3500
 - Off-post car wash facilities
- If you witness a leak or spill of motor oil, fuel, or any other hazardous substance, **call the Fire Department 0611-143-548-0112** and do not endanger yourself!



Radiator FAQs

- ❖ The base is heated with district heat. Hot water is heated and sent underground to buildings and into the radiators.
- ❖ The base does pay to produce this heat. So please help to conserve it
- ❖ The number on the knob correspond to temperature settings.
- ❖ Radiators heat up at one speed (regardless of setting). Turning it up to 5 will not heat the room up faster.
- ❖ Once the room temp is the same temp as the knob setting the hidden valve will close. It will open and the water flow will turn back on when the room temp falls below the setting.
- ❖ Placing items too close to radiators or using them to dry clothes prevents even heat distribution

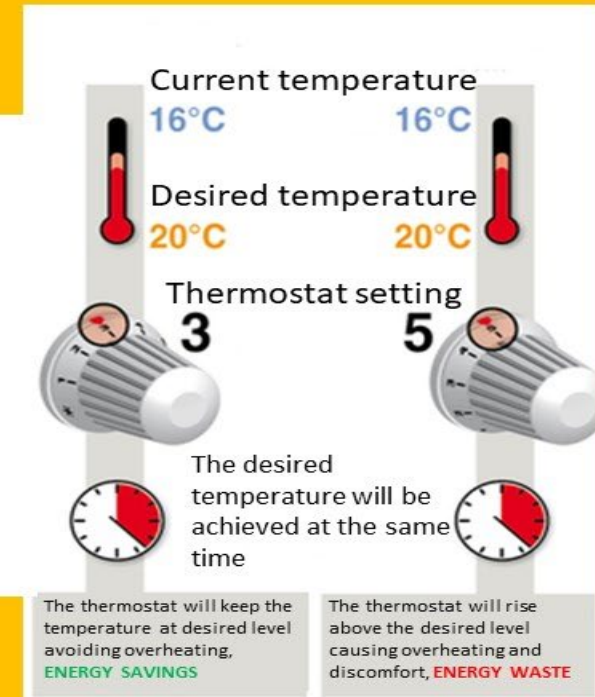
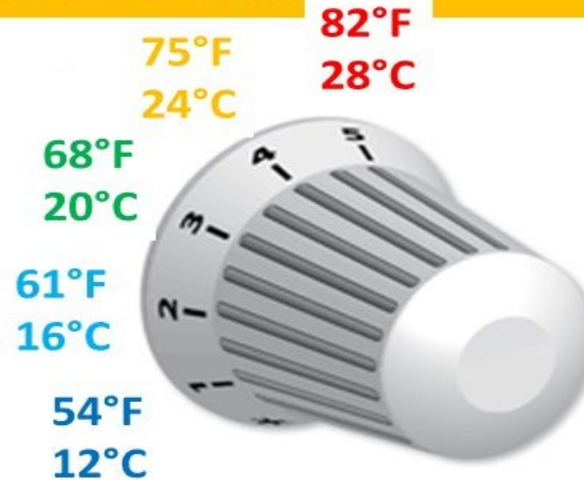


Reduce Energy Used for Heating



How to use your thermostat correctly

Set radiator valves to the desired temperature. It won't warm up faster by setting it to the highest number. Lower settings use less energy.



If you lower the settings, each degree Celsius can generate up to 6% of energy savings.

Tomasz Filatow, DPW, Engineering

- The “❄️” setting is for frost protection and should be used in off season and unused rooms.
- 68°F (“3”) is the recommended setting when rooms are in use.



Reduce Energy Consumption

- Don't leave windows or outside doors wide open while heating or operating the A/C (if permitted).
- Turn off lights when leaving the room. Turn off or unplug electrical devices and turn off radiators when not in use.
- Do not leave AC running if you are not present.



What can you do to prevent mold in your home?

The key to prevent mold is to control moisture and condensation

- ▶ Clean mold with **VINEGAR**, not bleach. Bleach does NOT kill mold.
- ▶ Ventilate with windows open at least twice a day (5 to 10 minutes) to prevent any mold issues and allow adequate air flow.
- ▶ The best way to prevent mold is to keep a **clean, dry home**
- ▶ Address or report any water damage quickly and stop water infiltration immediately; clean up spills or floods right away
- ▶ Always use ventilation fans in bathrooms and kitchens and change air filters regularly
- ▶ Keep humidity in your home below 50%; use an air conditioner (if permitted) or dehumidifier, when needed
- ▶ Avoid using carpet in areas of the home that may become wet or damp such as kitchens, bathrooms and basements
- ▶ **Report mold issues to DPW via ARMA**



Monitoring Programs

- DPW-Housing and Environmental Divisions monitor for the following potential hazards in Army Family Housing:
 - Asbestos
 - Radon (naturally occurring in bedrock)
 - Lead-based Paint
 - Lead and Copper in Drinking Water
 - Lead in Drinking Water
 - Legionella bacteria in showers
- If you wish to receive detailed information regarding any of the above mentioned programs, please contact your Environmental Division POCs.



Drinking Water Program Update

- **USAG Wiesbaden is blessed with high quality drinking water provided by local German providers!**
- **Annual Public Health Command Drinking Water Monitoring.** USAG-Wiesbaden complies with the German Final Governing Standards (GFGS) water quality criteria for 90+ drinking water parameters evaluated annually.
- USAG Wiesbaden's Annual Consumer Confidence Report provides transparent overview of water sources and testing results. (Found: [FYCCR](#))
- **Army Lead Testing:** 5-year recurring campaigns test primary drinking water sources in all high-risk facilities (HRF-child occupied facilities with children 6 and under) and Army Family Housing (AFH) units (at rate of 20%/year) for lead.
 - To find out information on your specific unit, please contact the program manager.



Tips to Improve Drinking Water Quality

1. **Flush the pipes 10-30seconds daily** or after extended periods (3+days) of non-use. Briefly let the cold water run until it becomes noticeably colder indicating you are receiving fresh water from the water main.
2. **Use only cold water from the kitchen faucet** for drinking, cooking, and especially for making baby formula. If hot water is needed for consumption, water should be drawn from the cold tap and heated. Hot water is more aggressive on plumbing and tends to have higher mineral content.
3. **Regularly clean your faucet aerators**. Sediment and mineral deposits potentially containing lead and copper from solder or plumbing fixtures can accumulate on faucet aerators degrading water quality. Routinely clean or replace aerators (twice/year) to remove deposits. Soaking aerators in vinegar overnight will dissolve built-up minerals and sediments. New replacement aerators are available at the **Self-Help Store** (bldg. 7802, Hainerberg) (0611)143-548-4072. Bring old aerator for exchange as there are several different types.
4. **Use a water filter pitcher or faucet mounted filter**. Make sure to change filters per manufacturers instructions to prevent bacteria growth.

Additional information available from USEPA at: www.epa.gov/safewater/lead



Water Conservation

- Fix all leaks or submit Service Orders via ARMA - a dripping faucet can waste up to 2000 gallons of water a year.
- Take showers instead of a bath - showering only uses 10 to 25 gallons, while a bath takes up to 70 gallons!
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or soaping hands or body - especially warm water must not be wasted.
- Collect rainwater to water your garden.
- If you have a yard, avoid watering mid-day in the summer.

Please keep your contact information current with Housing in order to be notified about water sampling events for ongoing drinking water monitoring!

Contact your housing representative to add your spouses' email to the distro list.



DPW Environmental Division



Environmental Awareness

- Info flyers developed to inform residents about potential environmental hazards in Army Family Housing units
- Will be distributed at events such as the Back-to-School Expo, Newcomers In-briefs, etc. Also available on Garrison website, DPW Environmental Division page under Resources tab.
- Environmental Division :: USAG WIESBADEN (army.mil)

 **Preventing Mold at Home and Work Information Flyer** Page 1


What is mold?
Mold is fungi found naturally both indoors and outdoors. Mold releases microscopic spores to the air, that can be inhaled and may cause allergic symptoms. Individuals may experience a range of reactions when exposed to mold. This range can go from no symptoms present to allergic reactions. Mold has many different textures and a variety of colors, including green, black, white, brown and orange.

What causes mold to grow inside my home?
Mold needs moisture and a food source such as cloth, wood, leather, and damp wallboard. Of course mold will quickly thrive on food items such as bread and fruit, which is why keeping your home clean is one important factor in preventing mold. Mold loves damp areas that are not dried promptly—for example water damage from a burst pipe, leaking windows, or moist surfaces due to condensation. Mold moves in and reproduces quickly around sinks, windows, and bathroom tiles, if not kept clean and dry. Sleeping releases water vapor through our skin and breath, therefore it is crucial to ventilate bedrooms in the morning. Utilize exhaust fans and ventilate bathrooms after taking showers or baths. Controlling moisture and proper ventilation are key to preventing mold growth.

How can mold affect my health?
Some people may suffer from allergic reactions to mold, including runny nose, scratchy throat, itchy eyes, sneezing, and in more severe cases, wheezing and coughing. Allergic reactions to mold are more common for people who suffer from respiratory problems such as asthma. If you have symptoms or concerns that you believe are related to mold, you should note the timing of the symptoms and see a health care provider for evaluation.

Does it make sense to test or sample for mold?
No. Since no EPA or other federal limits have been set for mold or mold spores, sampling cannot be used to check a building's compliance with federal mold standards. Mold spores are everywhere, and if visible mold growth is present, sampling is unnecessary. It is simple: If you see mold, it needs to be cleaned off and the source of moisture needs to be eliminated.

Report water damage or excessive mold to:
USAG Wiesbaden
DPW Customer Service
Clay Kaserne, Bldg. 1056
CIV: 0611-143-548-4357
Email: usarmy.wiesbaden.incom-europe.list-dpw-customer-rep@mail.mil



 **Preventing Lead Hazards at Home Information Flyer** Page 1

What is lead?
Lead is a naturally occurring metal found in small amounts throughout our environment. While this heavy metal has some beneficial uses such as in batteries, paint, and plumbing materials it is toxic if ingested to humans, especially children.

Who is at risk of lead exposure?
Children.
Lead is particularly dangerous to children because their growing bodies absorb more lead than adults do and their brains and nervous systems are more sensitive to the damaging effects of lead. Babies and young children are also more susceptible to lead exposure due to frequent hand to mouth contact with objects that may contain lead or lead dust. Children can be exposed to lead in the same ways as adults.


Adults, especially pregnant women.
Adults may be exposed to lead by eating food or drinking water containing lead, using lead containing dishes or pottery, or from lead crystal glassware. Inhalation of lead dust may occur through the release of deteriorating lead-based paint or from renovation or repair work that disturbs painted surfaces in older homes and buildings are other sources. Working in a job or engaging in hobbies where lead is used, such as making stained glass, casting fishing sinkers, and handling ammunition can increase exposure as can following certain folk remedies that contain lead.

What do I do if I think my child or I have been exposed to lead?
Consult with your health care provider to conduct a lead exposure screening and blood lead testing if necessary.

Questions or concerns:
USAG Wiesbaden
DPW Environmental Division
POC: Mr. William Karanagh
CIV: 0611-143-548-4092
Email: william.j.karanagh.civ@mail.mil

Report water damage / paint deterioration:
USAG Wiesbaden
DPW Customer Service
Clay Kaserne, Bldg. 1056
CIV: 0611-143-548-4357
Email: usarmy.wiesbaden.incom-europe.list-dpw-customer-rep@mail.mil




 **Preventing Exposure to Asbestos Information Flyer** Page 1

What is asbestos?
Asbestos is a commercial term referring to a class of minerals that form long, thin, and very strong fibers that naturally occur in rock. Because of its sturdy properties, asbestos was mined and used in making many products, including insulation, fireproofing and acoustic materials, wallboard, plaster, cement, floor tiles, brake linings, and roofing shingles. Unfortunately, disturbing asbestos-containing materials (ACM) can release microscopic asbestos fibers to the air that, if inhaled, can cause severe lung diseases. Many uses of asbestos were banned after discovering the risks, but asbestos is still present in old materials and used in products such as automobile brakes and roofing materials.

How can I be exposed to asbestos?
The presence of intact ACM in your home or at work is not a hazard. However, people may get exposed to ACM fibers disturbing or damaging items due to demolition work, building or home maintenance, repair, or automotive work.

How can asbestos affect my health?
Exposure to airborne asbestos fibers increases your risk of developing severe lung diseases such as lung cancer, which often take many years to develop following exposure. Smoking increases that risk. In general, the greater the exposure to asbestos, the greater the chance of developing harmful health effects.

USAG Wiesbaden
DPW Environmental Division
POC: Mr. Adam Benbridge
CIV: 0611-143-548-4099
Email: adam.c.benbridge.civ@mail.mil





Cultural Resources

Cultural Resources:

- Final Governing Standards at the USAG Wiesbaden maintains several structures/buildings that have been identified as historic or cultural resources.
- Disturbing or removing historic or cultural resources without permission of the Host Nation is prohibited.
- Wiesbaden area was part of the Roman Empire and artifacts may be found still. Do not dig to find anything. If you should come upon something, contact the Environmental Division.
- Prior to performing any kind of activities (repair or renovation work) in a building, contact the Environmental Division first, to ensure no historic or cultural resources are removed or disturbed in any way.



Old Overhead Crane at
Mainz Kastel Station



Historic Racetrack bldg.



Natural Resources

Natural Resources

- Summers have been very hot and dry leading to drought conditions
- Completely put out cigarettes and dispose of them in residual waste containers or bins only; cigarette butts are not biodegradable and contain a high concentration of toxins.
- Only use grills or designated fire pits for BBQs; always have a bucket filled with water on hand; put out coals before leaving the site.
- Prevent ignition sources when being outside (mechanical work involving generation of heat, sparks; off-road driving, heated exhaust pipes).



DPW Environmental Division



Threatened and Endangered species

- e.g. Wasps, Earwigs, ants, birds ...
- All these species are protected by nature conservation law IAW Para 39: "it is prohibited to willfully disturb or catch, hurt, kill these animals without a reasonable cause."
- [...] "Removal of nests, eggs, fledglings as well as disturbing birds during breeding is strictly prohibited."
- Protect yourself from wasps, ants, earwigs and birds:
- Covering food or store in an airtight container
- Immediate disposal of leftovers food and waste
- ***For further help call the garrisons Pest Control Team (next slide)***



Pest Control

Animal Found:

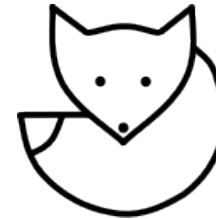
- **Case of an Emergency:** Garrisons Fire department
- <https://www.armymaintenance.com/arma>

Pest Control



BOLD Customer Service Team will coordinate best method within DPW and will contact the Customer for further coordination.

Animal Control



- **Weekend, German/American Holidays, after DPW business hours:**
Please call the fire department for further coordination (0611-143-548-0112).
- ***Please note: Trapping rats using rat glue is against the animal protection law and prohibited.***



Environmental Points of Contact

PROGRAM	NAME	DSN	@army.mil
Chief, Environmental Division	Mr. Platzer	548 - 4086	Karl.c.platzer.ln
Drinking Water, Stormwater, Air Emissions	Ms. McLeod	548 - 4093	Mary.a.mcleod8.civ
Spill Prevention/Response, Earth Day, PCBs, Underground Storage Tans	Dr. Grimm	548 - 4091	mirco.grimm.ln
Remediation, Environmental Baseline Studies	Mr. Grell	548 - 4088	axel.grell.ln
Asbestos, Radon, Mold, Environmental Inspections	Mr. Bembridge	548 – 4099	adam.c.bembridge.ln
Environmental Review Process, Natural and Cultural Resources, Impact Assessments, Noise	Mrs. Lambrecht	548 - 4095	annegret.lambrecht.ln
Solid Waste Manager, Recycling and Re-Use Center	Mr. Schneider	548 - 4071	heinzpeter.schneider.ln
Energy Conservation Program Manager, DPW Engineering	Mr. Griessinger	548 - 4222	Alexander.m.Griessinger.ln
Lead Based Paint, Pesticides, Hazardous Materials	Mr. Khan	548 - 4090	Anzar.h.khan.ln
Hazardous Waste, Hazardous Waste Storage Area	Ms. Stromajer	548- 4098	jana.stromajer.ln



Environmental Division

- Office Location: Clay Kaserne, Bldg. 1059
- Operating Hours: Monday to Friday 0715 - 1600 hrs

