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Inside this Newsletter

- Facts about cork
- Nature park and biosphere reserve 'Bayerische Rhön'
- External EPAS
- Environmental Management System (EMS)
- New Core Compliance Manager
- Summer 2009 - Watch out for the Oak Processionary moths
- Fuel Saving Tips

Environmental Services:

- Environmental Management System
- Environmental compliance training and assistance
- Hazardous material/hazardous waste management
- Natural and cultural resources management

For any question please contact us at 354-6795 or

environmental-usag-schweinfurt-dpw@eur.army.mil

or visit our web page at

www.schweinfurt.army.mil/sites/dpw/

We can assist you with any occurring environmental problem!

Facts about cork



Cork is a natural and renewable resource, which comes from the outer bark of the evergreen cork oak tree (*Quercus suber*). The special structure and thickness of the cork bark protects the tree from forest fires, heat, pests, dehydration, and infections. These characteristics of cork makes it a perfect seal for wine, champagne, and other bottles: light, flexible, and almost impermeable. Once the trees are about 25 years old the cork is stripped from the trunks every 9 years.



Cork is easy to recycle and can be used as insulation material. Its production uses 75 % less CO₂ than the production and disposal of screw caps.



Joint us in recycling cork! The Cork Collection Point is located at Askren Manor Recycling Center.

The cork will be donated to charity for recycling. For further information contact the DPW Environmental Division: **DSN 354-6795 CIV 09721 966892** environmental-usag-schweinfurt-dpw@eur.army.mil

Nature park and biosphere reserve 'Bayerische Rhön'



The 'Bayerische Rhön' is a 125 km² nature park in northern Bavaria. 70 km² of the area are declared as biosphere reserve by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Mixed forests, streams, fens (marshlands), and arid biotopes can be found in the park, which contains a great variety of landscapes and species. The biosphere reserve is intended to protect the species in their habitats, to conserve this diversity for future generations.

Nonetheless, the nature park offers many possibilities for recreational activities such as hiking, cycling, canoeing, and horseback riding. A special feature are the nature studies trails, where one can explore birds, butterflies, fens (marshlands), and much more. For further information on this topic, please visit the web page <http://brrhoen.de/en/>.

Also worth seeing is the 'Kreuzberg' abbey which is located on the 928-m-high mountain from which it gets its name. The abbey, built by the Franciscans in 1681 - 1692, contains a brewery which dates from 1731. It is still in operation and the abbey pub offers a friendly atmosphere with rustic charm. The abbey is a common destination for pilgrims as well as hikers and nature lovers.



External EPAS



An Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) program has been implemented to assist the USAG Schweinfurt in achieving full compliance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations. During the external EPAS inspection in April 2009, 81 deficiencies were identified. The assessors also identified one positive finding: The DPW Environmental Division has established an exceptional Natural Resource Conservation Program (see picture). Several negative findings have already been resolved. For those remaining, corrective actions are planned or work is ongoing to achieve compliance.



Environmental Management System (EMS)

EMS is not just a program for the Environmental Division—it is applicable to everyone in the USAG Schweinfurt community!

HOW does EMS effect you???

- Know how your on-post activities can impact the environment!
- Implement environmentally friendly actions into your daily work!

...for more information: <http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil/sites/dpw/>



EMS TIP — “Energy”

Switch off the air conditioning when nobody is in the room. Ensure windows are kept closed when the air conditioning is running!

Open windows to generate a draft or wear light clothing and leave the air conditioning off.



EMS TIP — “Solid waste”

Separate your household hazardous waste from regular trash.

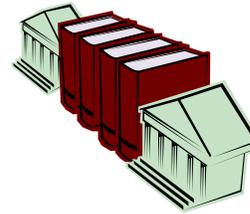
Bring your household hazardous waste to the recycling center!



New Core Compliance Manager

In May, a new Core Compliance Manager (a geocologist) joined the Environmental Division. She supports the Garrison to ensure compliance with US and Host Nation requirements. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding Core Compliance at USAG Schweinfurt you can contact her at:

DSN 354-6892 or CIV 09721-96-6892 or
environmental-usag-schweinfurt-dpw@eur.army.mil



Summer 2009 - Watch out for the Oak Processionary Moths



The oak processionary moth (see picture #1) is a major defoliator of oak in Europe. Caterpillars typically follow one another head-to-tail in long ‘processions’ to and from the nest and from one feeding position to another (#2), which gives them their common name.

The moth lives in moderate climates, but is migrating northwards due to global warming. The moths are usually found on oak trees, but attacks on hornbeam, hazel, beech, sweet chestnut, and birch have also been reported, mainly when the trees have been growing next to severely effected oaks. The nest of the oak processionary moth (#3) can be between 10cm (4 inches) up to 1 m (40 inches) in diameter and the caterpillars shed and pupate in their nest.

Hair from the caterpillars can cause skin irritation and/or other health problems (respiratory problems), since it contains a defensive toxin, a chemical harmful for humans. Hairs are often airborne. Typical symptoms are red spots on the skin (#4), which itch and can be very painful. These symptoms disappear after 3 to 6 days. In rare cases, allergic reactions occur. Medical care is recommended.



Reduction of health risks:

DON'T play/walk under oak trees!

DON'T wear short-sleeved clothing in wooded areas!

DON'T touch caterpillars!

DO shower after detecting contact with hair!

DO wash affected clothing!

DO consult a physician if severe exposure occurs!

Fuel Saving Tips

- * Shift to a higher gear as soon as possible!
- * Remove surplus weight from your car!
- * Check the tire pressure regularly!
- * Practice car sharing!
- * Walk short distances!

