

USAG  
SCHWEINFURT

ENVIRONMENTAL  
DIVISION-NEWSLETTER  
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Inside this  
Newsletter  
you will find:

- Animal of the Year 2011: Lynx
- Bird of the Year 2011: Common Redstart
- Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points Upgraded
- Caritas Box - Recycling of Cartridges and Cell Phones for Charity

Environmental  
Services we  
provide:

- Environmental Management System
- Environmental compliance training and assistance
- Hazardous Material/ Hazardous Waste management
- Natural and cultural resources management

If you have any questions, please contact us at 354-6795 or

[environmental-usag-schweinfurt-dpw@eur.army.mil](mailto:environmental-usag-schweinfurt-dpw@eur.army.mil)

We can assist you with any occurring environmental problem!

Animal of the Year 2011: Lynx



The German Association for the Protection of Game (Schutzgemeinschaft Deutsches Wild) has declared the Lynx the Animal of 2011.

Originally the lynx could be found in all larger forests throughout Central, South, and Eastern Europe. Lynx were almost extinct by 1900 in South and Central Europe. In the 1950s the lynx slowly started to return to Central Europe through migration.

Apart from bear and wolf, lynx are the largest European carnivores, with a weight of 40 to 66 lbs (male) and a height of about 28 inches. They have characteristic tufts of black hair on the tips of their ears. Lynx are long legged and have large padded paws for walking on snow. In winter they change their short, reddish-brown coat for a thick silver-grey coat.

The wildcat hunts on the ground but also climbs trees and can swim quickly to catch fish. Their food mostly consists of small prey, such as rabbits, mice or hares. Adult lynx usually live and hunt alone; young lynx leave their mother after one year to find their own hunting grounds. Lynx are still very rare and inhabit high altitude forests with dense shrub and tall grass cover, like the European and Siberian forests.



Source: USAG Schweinfurt, Environmental Division

**At the Wildpark in Schweinfurt you can visit Liesel and Rufus from Sweden, 2 lynx which have been living in the park since 2006. From a roof-covered platform you can watch them climb on top of tree trunks or prowl through their species-appropriate lynx enclosure, called 'lynx-land'.**

Information flyers in English language are available at the Environmental Division or the Wildpark an den Eichen itself.

Bird of the Year 2011: Common Redstart

The German Conservation Association (Naturschutzbund Deutschland) and the Bavarian Association for the Protection of Birds have declared the Common Redstart as the Bird of 2011.

This little singing bird (about 5.5 inches and up to 0.5 lbs) is characterized by a quivering bright rust-red tail. Male birds are blue-grey above and orange below and have a striking black face and a white forehead patch. Females are sandy above and buff-white below their pale throat. They feed on insects like spiders, beetles, ants, wasps or butterflies.

The Redstart is a common migrant bird (April to October), which breeds in Europe, Asia Minor, and West and Central Siberia but spends its winters in tropical Africa, south of the Sahara but north of the Equator. Dry stone walls, native plants, an old barn and some old wood can serve as home for the Common Redstart. The singing birds build their nests in holes in trees or walls, sometimes in old swallow nests. Nesting boxes can help where natural locations are not available.

Did you know?

The Redstart got its name from its orange-red tail, since "start" is an old word for tail.

The female Redstart lays a clutch of 5 to 8 bluish-green eggs, sometimes twice a year. After an incubation period of 13-14 days, the young birds will hatch. Both parents will feed them 30-50 times per day! 14 days later, the young will start flying.

Male Redstart:



Source: NABU/Blickwinkel/McPhoto

Female Redstart:



Source: wikipedia

Redstarts can also be observed at USAG Schweinfurt.



## VOLUME 1 - FEBRUARY 2011



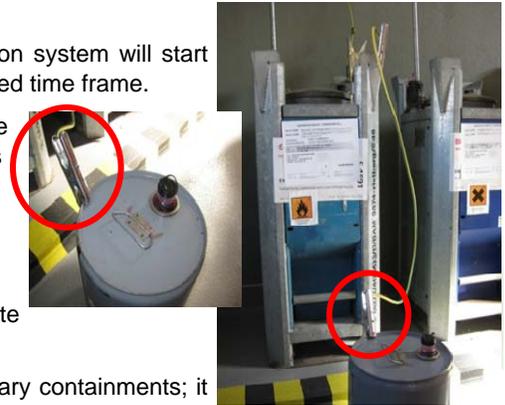
### Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points Upgraded



Hazardous Waste Accumulation Points (HWAPs) are provided at the motor pools to ensure that Hazardous Waste (HW) is segregated and disposed of properly. Recently, HWAPs have been renovated. These buildings not only received a new floor and cladding, but existing deficiencies were also repaired. Furthermore, some technical improvements were made; for additional safety all buildings now have fire and explosion protection, explosion-proof lighting, ventilation, grounding, surface sealing and proper signage.

#### The following guidelines apply for all HWAPs:

- There are no light switches. When entering the building, the lights and ventilation system will start automatically. To ensure proper ventilation, the system runs in intervals for a defined time frame.
- When decanting flammable fluids, both containers must be grounded. Use the grounding appliances provided (see pictures to the right). This prevents electrostatic charging, which could result in a fire or explosion.
- Follow checklist posted inside the HWAP and complete monthly.
- Cell phones are prohibited.
- HW should be brought into the HWAP daily. There are containers for most waste streams and wastes must be segregated accordingly.
- If a labeled container is not present (e.g. for paints), put the HW onto the secondary containments; it will be picked up and disposed of properly by a contractor.



For more information regarding the correct handling of HM and HW, please contact the Environmental Division.

### Caritas Box - Recycling of Cartridges and Cell Phones for Charity

Caritas is a German charity organization. In cooperation with the Environmental Division, Caritas Boxes are provided to collect:

- empty ink or toner cartridges (from inkjet printers, copy and fax machines or laser jet printers)
- cell phones



All collected items are handed over to a certified company for recycling. This company separates empty printer and copier cartridges by type, cleans them and tests them for damage. Intact cartridges can be refilled. **Most cartridges are much more valuable than their content.**

Collected mobile phones are tested for functionality and given away for reuse. If they can't be reused, they are broken down into their components. Any toxic materials, such as arsenic, lead or mercury, are disposed of properly to protect the environment. Valuable raw materials are reused in new handsets in order to preserve rare and expensive resources. **Did you know that 50,000 cell phones contain one kilogram of gold?**

A portion of the profit is handed over to Caritas to fund charitable projects for people in need in our neighborhood. **So, in bringing your old mobile phone or empty cartridges to a Caritas Box you are doing something great - for the environment and for your community!**



Unwanted cell phones or empty cartridges can be brought to

- any Recycling Center at USAG Schweinfurt
- the Hazardous Waste Acceptance Center #147, Conn Barracks

Please remember:

- Remove the SIM card before giving your cell phone away!
- Wrap the empty cartridges in the packaging (plastic/carton) of the replacement cartridge!

An Environmental Management System (EMS) has been implemented at USAG Schweinfurt. Within this system, special emphasis is placed on the generation of solid waste, a so-called significant aspect. The recycling of printer cartridges Garrison-wide helps to reduce the waste we generate.

For more information on this project see [caritasbox.com](http://caritasbox.com) (German language only).

This newsletter also appears online at <http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil/> For older editions see the archive at

[http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil/directorates/dpw/environmental/environmental\\_newsletter.htm](http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil/directorates/dpw/environmental/environmental_newsletter.htm)

