



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Pollution Prevention Champion

Idaho Air/Army National Guard

Boise, Idaho

2002

Environmental Commitment

To sustain and enhance mission readiness by implementing sound, cost-effective strategies for complying with existing or new environmental requirements while minimizing or eliminating potential hazards to human health and the environment. Pollution prevention is the preferred solution for assuring an environmentally friendly installation.

Pollution Prevention Success

Employee Commitment

Pollution prevention is an annual mandatory training class required of all environmental personnel, shop supervisors and personnel working with hazardous materials.

Transportation

For on-base transport, the Guard encourages the use of bicycles and golf carts as alternatives to cars. In addition, many employees use carpools or vanpools for their daily commute.

Green Purchasing

For vehicle and equipment parts washing, the Guard has purchased aqueous parts washers and aqueous recycling units designed to minimize solvent use and reduce hazardous waste. The facility also purchases alternatively fueled vehicles.

Best Management Practices

The Guard follows pollution prevention environmental management practices for its metal painting and coating operations and vehicle maintenance facilities. These practices range from technologies to processes that minimize waste and improve efficiency.

Waste Reduction

The Guard operates its own recycling center at Gowen Field. The center collects, prepares and processes materials at the base for recycling or reuse. The recycling center has diverted over 1.5 million pounds of waste from Idaho landfills since 1994.

Resource Conservation

The Gowen Field facility tracks energy and water use. Changes in use are analyzed to ensure systems are operating efficiently and to minimize waste. The facility minimizes energy use through energy-efficient equipment purchases, efficient lighting, and computer-monitored heating and cooling systems. Water is conserved through monitoring to identify and prevent leaks. The Guard also uses xeriscape gardening practices such as alternative mulch and drought-resistant plants.

Leadership

The Idaho Air/Army National Guard was the eighth facility in Idaho to be recognized under the Governor's Idaho GEMStars environmental leadership program.

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