Army Earth Day Message

April 22, 2012

The Army has long been at the forefront in finding and implementing ways to protect, preserve, conserve and restore the natural environment in which we live, work and train. We have done much over the years to protect our training lands and the natural and cultural resources on our installations.

Looking forward, our Army faces significant challenges in providing affordable, sustainable and environmentally conscious energy and other resources to our installations and our operational forces. Addressing energy security and sustainability is not only an operational imperative; it is financially prudent and essential to mission accomplishment. The Army's Net Zero initiative seeks to manage our critical resources so our installations produce at least as much energy as they use; limit water consumption to prevent negatively impacting the water resources of our installations or the regions in which they are located; and reduce, reuse, and recover installation waste with a goal of zero waste ending up in landfills. Our Net Zero goals touch every part of our Army and represent the kind of holistic solution to our installation energy and environmental challenges we need moving forward.

Operationally, we must explore new and efficient ways to produce more energy from alternate sources while aggressively promoting greater fuel and energy efficiency. We must promote recycling, repurposing, recovering and reusing. We must sustain our training lands and resources today, to ensure future Army leaders, Soldiers and Family members have the financial and natural resources to meet new challenges.

This Earth Day – and every day – we have an opportunity to make a difference. We encourage everyone to participate in Army Earth Day events and do your part to foster environmental stewardship. Learn more about the Army's environmental initiatives and take advantage of the many opportunities to make a difference on your installation. By joining together to find innovative ways to protect our precious natural environment, we will help secure the future for generations and remain The Strength of the Nation.

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