



PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY FROM ASBESTOS AND LEAD HAZARDS IN THE HOUSEHOLD

*Article for UET by William C. McGinnis, Asbestos & Lead Program Manager
DPW Environmental Division, Tel. 656-2878, ext. 1018*



Aaah, the comforts of home: the security, the safety, and our refuge from the outside world. Surprisingly, our homes can be a maze of potential hazards, especially for children. Besides slips, trips, and falls, it seems like possible dangers lurk everywhere – drain cleaner under the sink, bleach in the laundry room, medicines in the bathroom cabinet, sharp objects like knives in the kitchen, and the list goes on and on.

Fortunately forewarned is forearmed. We know about these hazards and are taught proper handling and proper behaviors to protect ourselves. It's no different for asbestos and lead hazards. With appropriate knowledge, we can easily protect ourselves from these hazards too!

The Directorate of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Division has active program managing asbestos and lead hazards for all USAG-HI facilities that exceeds compliance with State and Federal laws. DPW Housing Welcome Packets for all new tenants contain the informational brochures "*Asbestos in Your Home*" and "*Protect Your Family From Lead in Your Home.*" If you can't find your copy or never received one, request these brochures from your DPW Housing Inspector or the DPW Environmental Division Asbestos and Lead Program Manager, 656-2878, ext. 1018.

What You Can Do To Protect Yourself and Your Family:

- If you have damaged building materials or deteriorated paint, request an asbestos and/or lead hazard survey through the DPW Work Order System at 656-1275.
- Regularly clean floors, windowsills, and other surfaces using damp cloth dusting and wet mopping.
- Don't disturb asbestos-containing materials or lead-based paint.
- Clean up debris from damaged materials immediately.
- Wash hands often, especially prior to eating.
- Eat nutritious, low-fat meals high in iron and calcium, to reduce the absorption and effects of lead exposure.
- Lead poisoning has steadily declined so that it is considered rare today. However, if you suspect you or your child has been exposed to lead, request a blood lead level test from your medical care provider.
- Don't dry dust, dry sweep, or vacuum (unless it is High Efficiency Particulate Air rated) debris that may contain asbestos or lead.
- Don't use a belt sander, propane torch, heat gun, dry scraper, or dry sandpaper on painted surfaces that may contain lead.
- Don't saw, sand, scrape, or drill holes in asbestos materials.
- Don't try to remove asbestos or lead-based paint yourself.



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) enacted bans on lead-based paint and most asbestos containing building products in the late 1970's and early 1980's due to the potential health consequences of exposure. Since then, asbestos and lead-based paint awareness has steadily increased and the incidence of asbestos related diseases and lead poisoning has steadily decreased. Facilities built prior to 1980 will potentially contain asbestos and lead. Facilities may still contain asbestos building materials and lead-based paint, but if they are in good condition they are not considered hazards.



Who to Call Regarding Asbestos and Lead-Based Paint Questions: DPW Environmental Division, Asbestos and Lead Program Manager 656-2878 x1018. Additional information can be obtained from the National Lead Information Center 1-800-424-LEAD (424-5323) or websites www.EPA.gov/lead and www.HUD.gov/offices/lead/.

UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON HAWAII, POLLUTION PREVENTION SUCCESS STORY:
ARMY RECYCLING CENTER

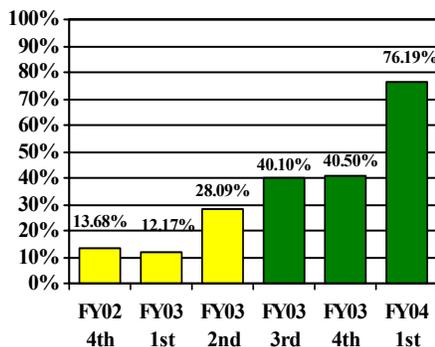
*Article for UET by John Whitney, Recycle Program Manager
 DPW Environmental Division, Tel. 656-2878, Ext. 1020*

The ever dwindling landfill space in Hawaii is a real environmental concern and the Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works, United States Army Garrison, Hawaii realizes the need to be good stewards of the environment when conducting business. The Army operates a full service recycling program on Schofield Barracks serving all Army activities and housing areas on Oahu. The recycling center accepts office paper, newspaper, cardboard, all colors of glass, toners, green waste, precious metals, wood, metals and aluminum cans for recycling. Curbside service in all housing areas is available on normal refuse pickup days and industrial users may call the recycling center, or use the online service to order a pickup, which will be accomplished within three working days. Large or bulky items may be delivered to the recycling center during normal operating hours.



Starting Early With The Children

School children taking a tour of the Army Recycling Center located on Schofield Barracks. Early age education, facility tours and assistance in setting up recycling programs are but some of the outreach services provided by the DPW Recycling Program.



Percentage of Solid Waste Diverted From Landfill

During the past year, the US Army Garrison Hawaii has increased the solid waste diversion rate from 12% to over 76% through implementation of a wide variety of outreach programs and a mandatory Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Program, resulting in a monthly diversion of over 8,000 tons of solid waste from Hawaii's landfills.

EARTH DAY:

Article for UET by Nita R. Truss, Admin Asst, DPW Environmental Division

April 22 was Earth Day and this year, our Nation marked the 34th celebration of Earth Day. This is the day we celebrate and recognize the value of our environment. We all breathe the same air, drink water, and everyone of us contributes to pollution. By working together, we can find the solutions and effect the changes needed to protect our environment.

The Army Earth Day theme this year was “Preserving the Environment While Protecting Our Freedom”. On April 10, DPW Environmental Division participated in the Family Fun Fest to provide public outreach to military families and provide information in order to increase their level of awareness and understanding of environmental issues. During the event, DPW Environmental Division volunteer staff displayed environmental exhibits on termites/pest management, distributed pamphlets and information on recycling and conservation, conducted educational games such as drinking water surveys and games demonstrating the effect of pollution at sea. DPW Environmental Division volunteer staff were Clifton Takenaka, Debra Ikeno, Alvin Char, John Whitney, Robin Yamamoto, Nita Truss, and Gary Akasaki.

Environmental sustainability and public outreach issues are more and more increasingly important. You can make Earth Day everyday at home and in your office.

At the office you can:

- Turn-off lights, computers & monitors when not in use
- Shut off coffee pots, radios, fans, and other appliances when not needed
- Close or tilt window blinds to block direct sunlight to reduce cooling needs during warm months
- Photocopy only what you need
- At close of business, assign someone to turn-off general lighting, copiers, and printers
- Carpool, bike, or use mass transit when commuting to work

At home you can:

- Recycle newspapers, aluminum, glass, and tin
- Use fluorescent lighting instead of incandescent bulbs
- Plant trees to stop soil erosion, provide shade and give birds a home

Pictures below were taken during the Family Fun Fest



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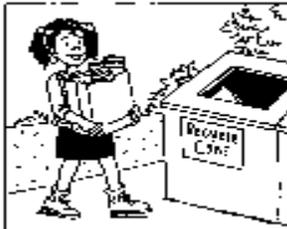
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USAG-HI RECYCLING PROGRAM

- A. Establish office paper bag stations at strategic locations throughout a building. You may request bag stations by contacting the recycling center at 655-0011.
- B. Fill all bags until each is full but not overstuffed.
- C. Drop off bags of office paper at Building 1087B, Schofield Barracks, Monday through Friday, between 0730 and 1600 hours, except on Federal holidays.
- D. On-call pick-ups are available. Coordinate collection of recyclable material prior to requesting a pick-up. To request a pick-up, please call the Recycling Pick-Up Request Line at 655-0011, or order online at:

USARPAC intranet site (<https://dpwhawaii.army.mil>).

- E. Only white office paper, white computer paper, and newspaper can be recycled. Office paper and computer paper can be collected together, but newspaper needs to be kept separate. Colored paper, filmed newspaper inserts, carbon paper, plastic bindings, paper clips, or any other contaminants should be removed and discarded into the trash.
- F. Confetti-like shredded paper is currently not recyclable. Confetti-like shredded paper should be thrown in the trash.
- G. A replacement bag will be given for each bag dropped off or collected.
- H. You may request office paper recycling stations or more bags by calling the Army Recycling Center at 655-0011.
- I. The Program Manager is Mr. John Whitney, Environmental Division, DPW, 656-2878 x1020.