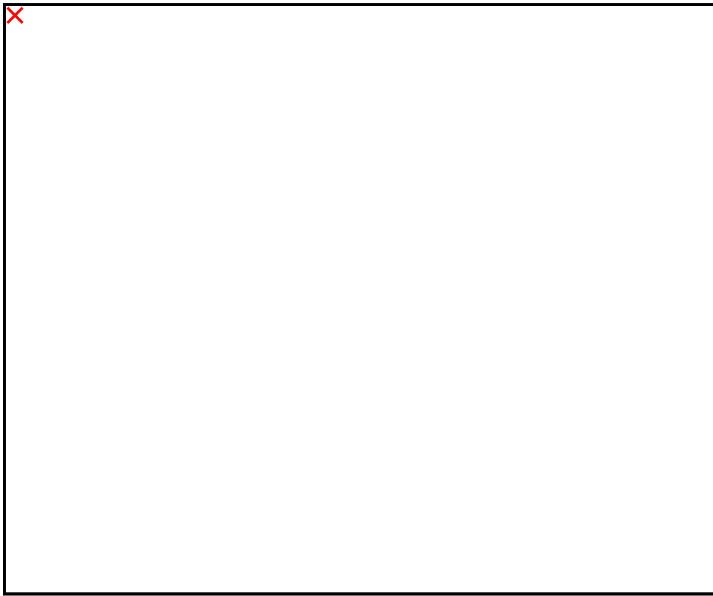


New face to help post usher in Earth Day

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A new face to help Carlisle Barracks usher in Earth Day



Colonel Carlisle is the new face of recycling at Carlisle Barracks. Look for him to find out ways to reduce, reuse and recycle all over post.

March 30, 2010 -- A new face will soon grace a recycling bin near you at Carlisle Barracks and he wants you to Live Green!

Seen at the left, Col. Carlisle, will help community members dispose of their

recyclables properly, conserve energy and live greener lives while residing and working at Carlisle Barracks and the Army War College.

Armed with a thorough knowledge of efficient environmental practices, Col. Carlisle will be spotted around post, helping community members make eco-minded choices in their daily lives and identifying important items such as recycling bins. Cans, glass bottles and plastic containers can be recycled in various locations in Root Hall and other buildings while white office paper can be placed in recycling bins in seminar rooms and offices.

Earth Day celebration set for April 30

Col. Carlisle will help usher in the 2010 Carlisle Barracks Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebration on April 30 at 10:30 a.m., starting with a tree planting ceremony at the Butler Road Bridge.

Activities will continue back at the Delaney Field Clubhouse where children can enjoy hot dogs and see Smokey Bear who will put in an appearance amid displays from various organizations focused on helping visitors and families learn Earth-friendly practices.

Displays will include different types of light bulbs and lighting options, recyclables turned into

everyday products, and pervious pavement options, all to create a more energy efficient home and installation.

With the help of children from the CDC on Earth Day, the Directorate of Public Works will create a wildflower conservation area on the embankment near the Vet Clinic as a way to prevent soil erosion. As a low maintenance area, it will cut down on emissions produced from mowers while adding to the bucolic scenery, explained Donna Swauger, manager of the Carlisle Barracks Environmental Management System.

"Carlisle Barracks is a Tree City USA community, which means that we have demonstrated a public commitment to caring for and conserving our trees. Many of the trees here on the post are hundreds of years old and add to the historic feel of the community," said Lt. Col. Janet Holliday, garrison commander. "We are looking forward to celebrating Arbor Day and renewing our commitment to the Tree City USA program and being one of the premier "green" communities in the Army."

As part of the ceremony Carlisle Barracks will also celebrate its 19 years of being named a Tree City USA with a tree planting ceremony. This year the post will plant a flowering dogwood, provided by Balfour Beatty Communities.

"Flowering dogwoods are native to Pennsylvania and are well-adapted to the site," explained DPW's Donna Swauger, environmental management system manager. "Native dogwood populations have been struggling against Dogwood Anthracnose which is a serious, fungal disease that, since it was first reported in 1978, has spread rapidly from its northeastern origins. Also, dogwoods provide food for wildlife, are lovely in bloom, and have unique bark."

The flowering dogwood typically stands up to 30 to 40 feet at maturity and its branches can span up to 20 feet across, creating shady spots perfect for picnics or reading a good book. The spring-blooming tree is commonly found along the east coast from Maine to Florida and as far west as Texas. It grows in a variety of habitats throughout its range, but generally occurs on fertile, well-drained but moist sites, making it an ideal candidate for the area near the Butler Road Bridge.

This species has been severely impacted by dogwood blight, a fungal disease that can decimate natural populations, but will have one more added to its numbers when it finds a new home across from the bowling center.

Post aims to be more 'green' with new initiatives

Col. Carlisle's debut and the Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebration highlight a shift around post to help conserve the natural resources and keep Carlisle Barracks green.

As part of the Office of the Secretary of Defense's new policy to ensure the viability of the housing privatization initiative and to help reduce the Department of Defense's consumption of utilities, residents on post already receive "mock" utility bills, and will begin to receive "actual or live" utility bills July 1, 2010. The initiative exists to promote conservation and environmental awareness on military installations across America.

The latest is another initiative added to the Army's increased emphasis on reducing its carbon "footprint."

After July 1, residents who conserve energy below the baseline, or the average usage in a particular neighborhood, can earn rebates or credits, while those who exceed average figures will be required to pay overage fees.

"This OSD directive and Army policy really began as a tool to encourage residents to conserve energy and with all of our new construction and renovations on our residential housing, utility meters have been installed," explained Bif Coyle, chief of the Army Housing and Residential Communities Office.

"Go Green, Be Green, Live Army Green," is the mantra Balfour Beatty Communities is touting at military installations across America. The tagline is designed to get Soldiers and Army families to start thinking environmentally as part of the housing management's Residential Communities Initiative and actual billing process.

Carlisle Barracks residents can learn more about the new utility billing program at Balfour Beatty Communities' Live Army Green website, as well as review a video featuring helpful tips about how to conserve energy and avoid paying overages on utility bills at <http://www.balfourbeattycommunities.com/livearmygreen/default.aspx>.