



US ARMY GARRISON ANSBACH, DPW ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EMD)

Environmental News

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SEMS POLLUTION PREVENTION

OUR SEMS GOALS FOR THIS YEAR

1. Reduce Energy Consumption by 2.5%
2. Reduce Waster Consumption by 2%
3. Implement a Green Procurement Program
4. Increase Recycling Rate to be greater than 50%

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

Environment Officer (EO) Training Link:

<http://tti.na.amec.com/IMCOM/login.asp>

Visit our share portal:
<https://home.army.mil/sites/eur/Ger/Ans/dpw/Environmental/default.aspx>

Environmental Outreach

Earth Day 2016

On the morning of 20 April, EMD celebrated Earth Day 2016 at Oberdachstetten together with 150 US and German Elementary School children.



EMD prepared 9 booths with different environmental topics. The children had the opportunity to learn about the forest, fire department, beekeeper, soil, shepherd,



Plastic Bags

It is commonly known that plastic bags contaminate the oceans and are responsible for the deaths of many fish and birds. The fact that the amount of plastic bags must be reduced to turn this situation An option to achieve this is to ban free plastic bags and introduce a fee. Experience in countries such as Ireland shows that a reduction

flowers, tastes and water.



Arbor Day 2016

This year's Arbor Day celebration was held on German Arbor Day 25 April 2016 at the Ansbach Brückencenter in coordination with the City of Ansbach. 50 participants joined the tree planting ceremony.



Reminders

External Environmental Performance Assessment and Assistance System (EPAAS) Audit

13 to 17 June 2016

During the EPAAS the Environmental Status of the USAG Ansbach will be audited. Please check your documentation to have current

Appointment Orders, EMS Information, Training & Inspection Records, Spill/Red Plan, SDS, HM Inventories, Labelling & SOPs



Android iPhone

USAREUR Soldier Field Card App

from 328 to 16 plastic bags used per person per year can be achieved by implementing a 22 Cent fee. The background is that the EU requires their member states to reduce the number of plastic bags to 90 per year per citizen until 2019 and to 40 plastic bags until 2025. 240 companies in Germany will now im-

plement a voluntary self commitment starting 1 June 2016 to introduce a fee for plastic bags. The companies can decide the amount of the fee. Some companies such as C&A have already started to charge 20 Cent per plastic bag and reported a decrease in the demand of plastic bags of about 50%.

How do you prefer to have your Coffee prepared?

Regular coffee capsules¹German Bio-Label²Refillable Coffee Capsules³

First there was the coffee bean, then the instant coffee jar, and then expensive coffee shop drinks on the go.

In the past decade coffee drinkers worldwide have adopted a new method of getting their daily jolt of caffeine - the coffee capsule machine, in which capped small aluminium pods containing coffee grounds are put into a machine that fills a cup quickly with palatable coffee. The largest market share is still with the traditional drip-brewed filter coffee. The coffee capsules are second in the US with 33% and third in Germany with approximately 10%. However, the capsules are the fastest growing portion with a growth rate of 2,500% from 2005 to 2015. This is interesting, when looking at the significant variance in cost of the different coffee types:

- Filter Coffee	10 Euros/kg
- Coffee Pads	20 Euros/kg
- Capsules	50 Euros/kg

By the way, coffee consumption in Germany is with 162 liters per person per year higher than the annual consumption of beer or mineral water.

Increasingly the single-serving coffee pods, which Nespresso first sold in 1986, are attracting critics who say they are an environmental problem. It is fair to say that 70% of the total environmental impacts related to coffee is due to the long transportation distances from the main producing countries in South America, Africa and Vietnam, water consumption during coffee farming (140 liters/kilogram coffee beans) and the application of pesticides and fertilizers during farming. However, looking at the waste side, coffee ground and filter as well as used coffee pads are compostable, but plastic and aluminium coffee capsules are not.

The following shows how much packaging material is used for one cup:

- Filter Coffee	0.2 g/cup
- Coffee Pads	0.8 g/cup
- Capsules	2-3 g/cup

It seems, coffee capsules provide little coffee for the amount of packaging they come with.

Over 3 billion coffee capsules were sold only in Germany in 2015 and generated 5,000 tons of waste. Placing all coffee capsules consumed world-wide in 2015 in a row, the capsules row will 10 times circle the equator.

It is sometimes difficult to act against trends, especially if you need your cup of coffee in the morning to get you started; however, there are environmentally preferable options regarding coffee capsules that may even save you money. Therefore, consider buying:

- Bio-labeled coffee capsules
- Coffee pads against capsules
- Reusable coffee capsules made of stainless steel or other material that you can fill and refill with your favorite brand of coffee.

Green Corner: Single or Multiple Use Coffee Mugs

The coffee-to-go single-use coffee mugs have become a symbol for our throw-away society. 2.8 billion single-use mugs are filled with coffee in Germany every year. 320,000 mugs per hour. Every German citizen is using 34 mugs per year. 29,000 tons paper are required to produce the mugs or 64,000 tons of wood. Therefore, 43,000 trees are being cut every year, which is an area of approximately 80 hectares of forest. This is equivalent to an area of 160 soccer or football fields of forest per year for the production of an annual demand of single-use paper coffee mugs. Additionally, 1.5 billion liters of water are required for the production of the mugs; 0.5 liter per mug. This is equivalent to the annual water consumption of 32,000 people. 320 million kilowatt hours are required for the paper fiber production. This equals the annual consumption of a city with 100,000 residents. 22,000 tons crude oil or 11,000 tons plastics are used to produce the mug coating and lids. The mugs have an average service life of 15 minutes and then turn into waste. The 2.8 billion single-use mugs produce an annual waste amount of 44,000 tons just in Germany.

Only a small portion of the used mugs are being recycled through the yellow bag and the green dot system. The majority of the mugs end up in public trash cans and are being burned. The only ecological alternative that makes sense is the use of multi-use double-walled coffee mugs made of stainless steel or plastics. With every saved single-use mug we are saving natural resources (430 milliliter water considering washing) and energy (0.1 kilowatt hour) and prevent the emission of harmful greenhouse gases (21 grams of carbon dioxide) and generation of waste. Therefore become a Coffee Mug Hero and use Multiple-Use Mugs.



¹images.google.de ; ²de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bio-Siegel; ³kapsel-kaffee.net