

**Your actions make a difference
to our Air Force and to our nation.**

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Steps to Sustainability

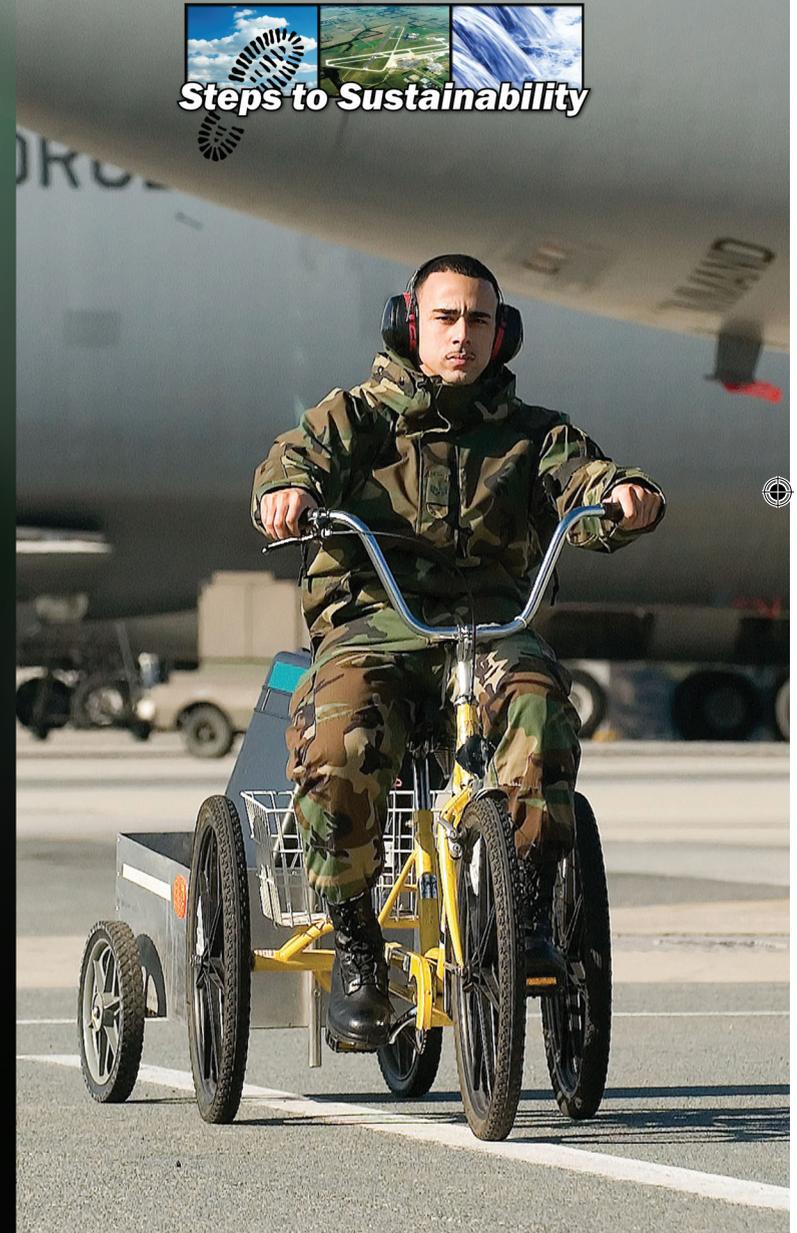
Your installation has an environmental policy, a commitment to focus on mission sustainability, the local community, and the environment. All Air Force employees play a role in sustaining the resources necessary to meet the needs of missions both today and into the future. You should understand the environmental policy and how it impacts your job.

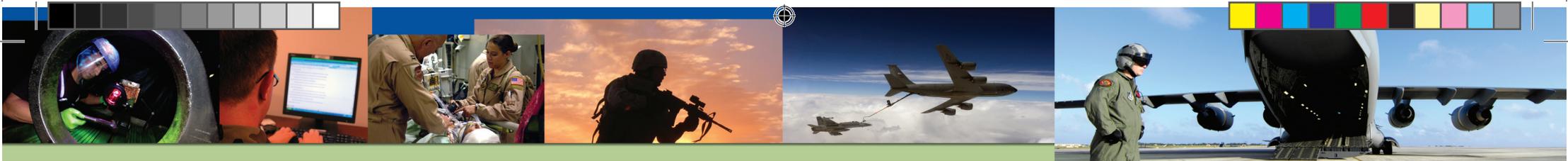
Get Involved

1. Know your environmental policy.
2. Look for ways to minimize environmental impacts in your work area.
3. Reduce your environmental footprint.
4. Share best practices on ways to improve your job with your Unit Environmental Coordinator.



**For more information, contact your
Unit Environmental Coordinator or
EMS Coordinator:**





Sustainability Begins With You

Sustainability enables us to continue our mission today and in the future. We defend the American people, our land, and our heritage. How we manage our business, our resources, and our community relationships affects our ability to organize, equip, train, and deploy our Airmen. The Environmental Management System (EMS) provides the structure for us to:

- Be innovative in our business practices
- Reenergize our commitment to be good stewards of our resources
- Work with our local communities to protect natural resources

Shifting Our Focus

In years past, the Air Force approach to mission sustainability was to provide infrastructure for base operations – runways, buildings, and pavement. Our environmental and restoration efforts have focused on fulfilling environmental laws and regulations and we have had an exceptional track record.

Today, our approach to sustainability has broadened to manage all of our assets – air, land, and water. Air Force leadership is working proactively to identify opportunities such as air credits, water rights, and sources of renewable energy. We are shifting our focus from reactive management to a more proactive approach.

What Can EMS Do For Me?

The benefits of EMS are already being seen at the Department of Defense and Air Force. In 2004, McGuire AFB doubled its mission capability through proactive investments in pollution prevention projects which allowed the C-17 beddown.

Rewarding Hard Work

An effective EMS can also improve morale by getting rewarded for a job well done. The Air Force has been awarded for innovative, cost-effective contributions to resource conservation, including EMS.

- **Fairchild AFB:** 2007 Secretary of Defense Award for Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition
- **Charleston AFB:** 2008 White House Closing the Circle Award for their EMS
- **Dover AFB:** 2008 Commander in Chief Installation Excellence Award



Ways You Can Support Your EMS

The way in which you use air, land, and water resources leaves a lasting impression. Civilians, contractors, and military personnel each play a role in environmental management and mission sustainability. No matter where you work your actions affect the natural resources needed to sustain the mission.

Steps You Can Take

- **Turn off lights** when rooms are vacant
- Switch **computer monitors off** when not in use
- **Conserve Water** - clean sidewalks with a broom, report leaks, and turn off hoses
- Follow environmental & safety **regulations**
- Properly **calibrate & maintain** equipment
- **Dispose** of hazardous chemicals responsibly
- **Purchase** Green products
- **Reduce! Reuse! Recycle!**
- **Carpool**, bike, or use mass transit

