



Net Zero

Energy



Water



Waste



Water Efficiency and Conservation on Fort Riley

Fort Riley is located on 100,700 acres between two large reservoirs and draws all its water from groundwater aquifers located along the Republican and Kansas Rivers, which supply water to two cities in addition to the installation. The area receives approximately 32 inches of rainfall annually. Fort Riley maintains its own drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities.

In April of 2011, Fort Riley received the honor of being selected to participate in the Army's Net Zero Initiative as one of six Net Zero Water Pilot Installations. A Net Zero Water Installation limits the consumption of freshwater resources and returns water back to the same watershed so as not to deplete the groundwater and surface water resources of that region in quantity and quality. The following examples are some of the projects that Fort Riley has implemented to conserve water, thereby assisting in their progress toward achieving Net Zero Water goals:

- Fort Riley's new Wastewater Treatment Plant recycles effluent for cleaning, maintenance, and equipment cooling purposes at the plant instead of using potable water, thereby greatly reducing the plant's potable water consumption.
- Low-flow, highly efficient water saving fixtures have been installed at the facility. These fixtures include showerheads, toilets, and water faucets that use far less water than traditional, less efficient fixtures.
- Turf grasses were originally planted along the Golf Course fairways. Converting to Zoysia grass varieties that are more drought tolerant and water efficient realized a reduction of 12 million gallons of water per year.
- All newly constructed buildings on Fort Riley are required to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards of Silver. In one example, Fort Riley was able to meet LEED standards while improving the troops' training capabilities. Permeable pavement was installed around the Battle Command Tactical Center (BCTC) where Tactical Operations Centers (TOCs) are located. This pavement has holes that allow TOC tents to be staked to the ground and that allow stormwater to infiltrate into the ground instead of running off into local streams.
- The Central Vehicle Wash Facility at Fort Riley uses a closed loop system that catches rinse water from the washing area and allows it to filter through a series of ponds. In the process, contaminants are removed and by the time the water reaches the final pond, the water is relatively clean. That water is then pumped back up to the washing area and is reused to wash vehicles. This system saves hundreds of thousands of gallons of water each year.

Contribution to Net Zero



Using drought resistant grasses at the Golf Course has saved 12 million gallons of water per year.