



SUSTAINABILITY focus

Practice Greenhealth (PGH) Applications are CLOSING SOON!



- Deadline for internal DHA review: **29 March 2023**
(select “submit to health system”)
- Final PGH submission deadline: **12 April 2023**
(select “submit to PGH”)
- Awards will be announced Summer 2023
- DHA Sustainability Mailbox:
dha.ncr.j-1-8.mbx.fe-sustainability@health.mil



Please submit your application! It is required by the DHA Sustainability Annual Data Call.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Join us for CleanMed in Pittsburgh, PA on 23-25 May 2023!

It's not too late to register! The CleanMed conference provides training, opportunities to share success stories on improving sustainability in the healthcare field, and showcases innovative technologies and methods. There will also be a dedicated federal track this year. The training code under your environmental funding can be used to cover the cost of the conference. If needed, we can help provide justifications for attending.

Contact us if you're interested!

The DHA Sustainability Program is Growing!

We just completed our first Air Force sustainability workshop at 81st Medical Group, Keesler AFB!

Thank you and welcome Keesler Sustainability Team!



SUSTAINABILITY MISSION

Enhance Military Health System readiness and resiliency by safeguarding human health and the environment through the efficient use of resources and on-going process improvement.



SUSTAINABILITY VISION

We are leaders in delivering world-class health care solutions with minimal environmental footprint to support those who serve in the defense of our country. We focus on securing a sustainable and resilient future for all.

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

Happy Earth Day 2023!

Come together for Earth Day on April 22nd! Earth Day has been celebrated every year since 1970 to promote awareness for the health of our environment, including the link between pollution and human health. Military hospitals and clinics are highly encouraged to observe Earth Day and use it as an opportunity to engage with your community, facilitate good environmental practices, and raise awareness. Use your environmental stewardship funds to promote Earth Day activities and materials. For ideas and inspiration, you can review our old Earth Day Toolkits from previous years at <https://info.health.mil/bus/facplan/Sustainability/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx> in the “Earth Day” folder. Check out Earthday.org for more information on this year’s official theme, “Invest in our Planet”, and for a sense of the truly global nature of this event.

If you are at a former Army hospital or clinic, you may also find some materials and resources on the Army Environmental Center’s website: <https://aec.army.mil/index.php/earth-day>. From this site, you can download various materials such as guidebooks and children’s activity booklets.

Unique to this year, the Pentagon will be hosting its largest Earth Day event in history on 17 April 2023 from 1000 – 1430 EDT. All military Services will be represented with displays in the Pentagon courtyard. The event will also include distinguished speakers including the designated Chief Sustainability Officer for the DoD, Mr. Joe Bryan; live performances of the National Anthem; a DoD environmental accomplishments video, and more.

However you choose to observe Earth Day, we wish you a successful day of reflection and engagement. Please share any good news stories from Earth Day with us via the Sustainability Program’s mailbox.



SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

NEW Training Available on JKO!

The Sustainability Team is excited to share with you that we have created three trainings which are now accessible on the Joint Knowledge Online (JKO) training platform:

- DHA-US1256, Sustainability for DHA Facility Managers (approximately 45 minutes)
- DHA-US1257, Sustainability for MTF Leadership (approximately 10 minutes)
- DHA- US1258, Sustainability for MTF POCs (approximately 30 minutes)

You can take any or all of the trainings, and JKO will track completion. These are optional, but we highly encourage you to access at least one training most applicable to your role. Feel free to provide feedback on the training through the Sustainability Program mailbox.



Energy SOP & Sustainability SharePoint

There's a new energy and water management Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) coming! The purpose of this SOP is to provide the "how to" for implementing procedures outlined in DHA-PI 4000.3, Energy and Water Management. The SOP will:

- Delineate roles and responsibilities
- Provide guidance on reporting utility consumption, LEED (or other high performance and sustainable buildings certifications) documentation, etc.
- Connect reporting requirements under the Sustainability Program (Practice Greenhealth) to the Energy Program
- Provide information on alternative funding vehicles for energy projects

...and more

Our team conducted a training on this SOP which you can find in the "Monthly Sustainability Trainings" folder of our new DHA Sustainability SharePoint:

https://info.health.mil/bus/facplan/Sustainability/SitePages/Sustainability_Home.aspx

When the SOP is finalized, it will be posted to this site as well.

As a final reminder, the CAC-only DHA Publications site is a one-stop shop for all signed policy documents such as Administrative Instructions, Procedural Manuals, and more:

[https://info.health.mil/cos/admin/pubs/SitePages/DHA%20Publications%20System%20Office%20\(PSO\).aspx](https://info.health.mil/cos/admin/pubs/SitePages/DHA%20Publications%20System%20Office%20(PSO).aspx)



SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

Check it out!

New Solar Facility at Edwards Air Force Base, CA Makes DoD History

The 412th Test Wing at Edwards Air Force Base, California recently announced the completion of a new solar facility with almost 2 million solar panels installed, producing up to 1,300 megawatts of power. This clean energy going to the California Independent System Operator grid is estimated to power almost 240,000 homes and displace over 300,000 tons of carbon dioxide yearly. The solar facility resulted from a novel land management agreement which marks the largest private-public partnership within the Department of Defense. The solar array makes history itself as the “largest project of its kind in U.S. Air Force history”.



Solar panel array at Edwards Air Force Base, California. An Air Force photo by Giancarlo Casem

“The Edwards Air Force Base Solar Project is a triple win—it’s good for resilience, it’s good for energy security, and it’s good for the economy,” said Andrew Mayock, White House Federal Chief Sustainability Officer.

Read more here!

<https://www.edwards.af.mil/News/Article/3289170/largest-private-public-collaboration-in-department-of-defense-history-reflects/>

USPS Moves Closer to Electrifying the Nation’s Largest Federal Fleet

Did you hear? America’s largest and oldest fleet is going electric! In December 2022, the United States Postal Service (USPS) announced their plans to acquire 75% electric delivery vehicles by 2026. Acquisitions of Next Generation Delivery Vehicles will be 100% electric after 2026. In most recent news, USPS has awarded contracts for over 9,000 commercial battery electric vehicles and more than 14,000 charging stations to be deployed at USPS facilities. Within the next year, USPS plans to build out its charging infrastructure across at least 75 locations, then continue in the coming years as part of their delivery vehicle electrification strategy.



USPS battery-electric vehicle

“We are moving forward with our plans to simultaneously improve our service, reduce our cost, grow our revenue, and improve the working environment for our employees. Electrification of our vehicle fleet is now an important component of these initiatives,” said Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General.

Read more here!

<https://about.usps.com/newsroom/national-releases/2023/0228-usps-moves-forward-with-awards-to-modernize-and-electrify-nations-largest-federal-fleet.htm>