

417th Base Support Battalion, Kitzingen, Germany

15th Annual German-American Earth Day

The 417th Base Support Battalion, Kitzingen together with their German counterpart, Umweltstation of the city of Wuerzburg, Franconia, hosted their 15th annual German-American Earth Day for German and American school children (3rd and 4th grades) on April 21, 2005. Representatives from various agencies, e.g. Water Management Board Wuerzburg, State Department of Lower Franconia for Natural Protection and the city of Wuerzburg, as well as volunteers participated in this event.



The exhibits consisted of geology of Lower Franconia, local plants, beavers, bees and bee-keeping, endangered species, conserving and producing energy, recycling, composting, potting sun flowers, crafting with natural materials, small amphibians living in the Main river, a parcours of senses (smelling, hearing and feeling), and a falconer with a life bird show.

The event was designed to help children who live in the city learn how to protect the earth and its precious resources. For instance they learned from Erhard Kaiser, Water Management Board how to determine the cleanliness of the Main river water, depending on the number of crayfish, dragonfly larva and fish. At the endangered species exhibit the children learn about some animals being killed for particular products used for men's vanity or souvenirs.

German and American teachers have been involved in the 417th Base Support Battalion Earth Day since 1991. Everyone agrees that it has been a great success for the children, as well as the participants.

