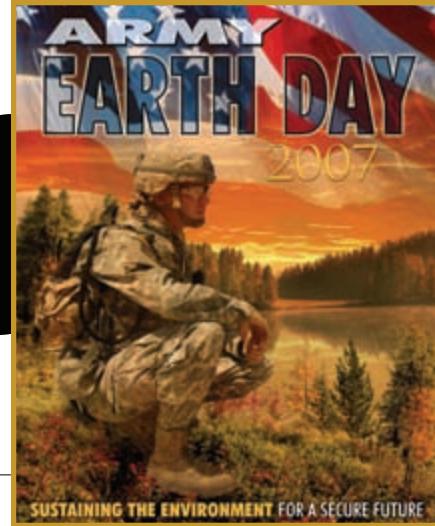


EARTH DAY, THE FT. CAMPBELL WAY



EARTH DAY 2007

Earth Day arrived at Fort Campbell like a welcoming spring rain. This is the 9th year the installation embraced Earth Day and the Army's theme "Sustaining the Environment for a Secure Future". The celebrations commenced with a tree planting ceremony at Fisher House Tuesday 17 April. Healthy habits for our planet were discussed Wednesday 18 April during the monthly Synergy meeting. And paper grocery bags decorated with environmental themes by the Fort Campbell elementary students were available for commissary patrons the last two weeks of April.

Friday 20 April the celebration blasted off with an all day fair held at Mahaffey Middle School. More than 30

exhibits included hands on activities such as digging for artifacts and flint knapping, making solar pizza box ovens, reduce, reuse, recycling activities, games such as "Treemendous Trivia", "Every Tree for Itself" and "Project Water Education for Teachers (W.E.T.)" experiments. There were honey bees, horses, goats, sheep and skunks to admire and pet while mascots Smokey



Bear, Sammy Soil and Ruby Raindrop mingled with the crowd.

There were hybrid automobiles, solar panels, health care materials and techniques to check out, as well as bandanas to decorate for our local homeless pets.

Participants learned about alternative energy, green house gases, water pollution, soil conservation, safe boating, new litter laws and other common pollutants such as mercury.

Door prizes included four trees and a basket valued with eco-friendly items. 1,000 shumard oaks seedlings and vegetable seeds were given to participants. And for the third year, "rag bags" replaced plastic bags.

The celebration culminated with an adult Earth Day Golf Scramble April 24th.

Earth Day Stats

- Approximately 2,000 students in attendance
- 37 educational exhibits
- Greater than 2,500 cloth rags bags sewn by community volunteers replaced traditional plastic bags
- Over 1,700 canned food items collected for local humanitarian aid
- 1,000 Shumard oak seedlings given to participants



EARTH DAY EVERY DAY

For the second year Fort Campbell schools participated in the "Earth Day Every Day" program. At the beginning of the school year schools are provided a list of environmentally friendly projects worth varying points. Projects include but are not limited to, planting trees and gardens, conducting waste sorts, composing

environmental literary pieces, creating earth art, carpooling, recycling, litter removal and forming environmental clubs. Earned points are displayed on the Fort Campbell Environmental website. The highest scoring schools receive the "Earth Day Every Day" trophy and banner during the Earth Day celebration.

2007 awardees:
Barkley Elementary School and
the High School Green Party.

TO PLANT A TREE IS TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Nelson Henderson said, "The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit". What a wonderful way to approach life and the Fort Campbell Forestry Office does this every year during Earth Day and Arbor Day. This year an "October Glory" red maple was planted at the Fisher House to welcome guests upon arrival, offer a cool place to reside as well as offer beauty to enjoy especially during Autumn.



COL Gallagher and a young participant inaugurate the new maple tree with a shovel of soil.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

The wonderful thing about Earth Day is community connection. This is a day to honor and celebrate our earth home.

Local teens volunteered as mascots, ran booths, as well as assisted the presenters with exhibits during the celebration.

The Taylor Youth Center Eagles, 4-H and Torch Club members and other community volunteers such as school teachers, and family members, sewed over 2,500 "rag bags". These reusable cloth bags made from scrap material

donated by the community replace plastic bags. The ragbags can be reused as rock bags, gift bags, book bags, beach bags, etc.

Volunteers spent countless hours cutting



bandanas to help comfort and publicize our homeless pets.

Community volunteers also created the trophies and

banners awarded to the schools. This year the trophies were made from materials rescued from the trash by Jodi Yanci and a team of local artists from the Guenette Arts and Crafts Center.

In addition, our busy soldiers provided tents and a first aid station for the event.

Lastly, healthy people create healthy environments; therefore, the schools and the Fort Campbell Family Housing offices collected more than 1,700 cans of food and non-perishable products for not only our local community members in need of assistance, but also for homeless pets.

Community volunteers equal Earth Day success.

PLANET FRIENDLY PRIZES

To help promote an eco-friendly spirit, the Earth Day Committee coupled with Family Housing gave away 4 trees (2 apple and 2 Kousa dogwood trees) and a bucket of eco-friendly materials valued over \$150.00.

Students donated their trees to their schools. Tree planting ceremonies/workshops will take place for each tree planted.

The bucket overflowed with organic towels, a sheet set, chocolate, and soaps. It also contained compact fluorescent lights, soy candles, eco-friendly detergent, coupons, coffee logs, native vegetable seeds, banana paper and more.



EARTH ART



Creativity leaped off the pages and onto t-shirts and paper grocery bags as Ft. Campbell elementary students flaunted their Earth Day spirit as they designed with the environment in mind.

The students decorated 1,100 paper grocery bags for installation commissary patrons and 50 t-shirts for all Earth Day presenters to remind folks how important our home is.

Each grocery bag and t-shirt is truly a masterpiece of its own.

In addition, family members created edible rice crispy earths as they discussed healthy planet habits during the housing synergy meeting 18 April.



ENVIRONMENTAL GOLF?

Believe it or not, there is such a thing as environmental golf. Tuesday 24 April, Fort Campbell hosted its second Earth Day golf scramble, a fun way to spend the day and learn about the environment. An environmental question was placed at every tee along the 18 hole course. In addition to many door prizes given, the team who answered the most environmental questions correctly won a free game of golf.

"Did you know that it takes approximately 1 pound of coal to generate enough electricity to light a 100 watt bulb for 10 hours and for every pound of coal burned 3 pounds of CO₂ are released into the atmosphere?"



2ND YEAR FOR TREE CITY USA RECOGNITION

For the second year, Fort Campbell earned the Tree City USA award. This award was presented during the Earth Day ceremony by Sarah Gracey, Urban Forestry Coordinator, KY Department of Forestry from Frankfort, Kentucky. As Sarah Gracey expressed, this is uncommon for a military installation to re-

ceive this award. Therefore, it is commendable that Ft. Campbell dedicates the resources necessary for such a successful program.

There are four standards required to be considered a Tree City USA; have a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive forestry pro-

gram and an Arbor Day Observance.

Roughly 40 people and 30 trees were planted this year during the Arbor Festivities on Fort Campbell following the Earth Day celebration.



AND FUN WAS HAD BY ALL...

