

Did you know that only 1 percent of the world's water is suitable for human consumption? The Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MAGTFTC, MCAGCC) is dedicated to conserving this precious resource.

The Combat Center isn't just changing the way it conserves water today, it's planning for the future, too! The Commanding General's Water Conservation Task Force (WCTF) is developing a Water Conservation Plan (WCP) that consists of six key elements directly from the CG's Water Conservation Policy Statement — Management & Tracking, Education & Outreach, Infrastructure Assessment, Regulations & Enforcement, Operations & Maintenance, and Research & Development.

These six elements will serve as a "roadmap" for conservation and planning at MCAGCC. The plan will analyze current efforts and provide suggestions for future courses of action. These actions will allow the Combat Center to continue to be a good environmental steward.



MCAGCC utilizes AstroTurf to reduce the irrigation demands of green space.

LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE...

MCAGCC leadership is looking ahead at how the installation can better conserve water. Here are a few future projects:

SHORT-TERM

- A commitment to exceed conservation requirements
- Developing public outreach brochures & news articles
- Working with Public Works Department, Marine Corps Community Services & Lincoln Military Housing to reduce irrigation (time & frequency)
- Continued installation of low-flow and water-wise fixtures in both new and older buildings

LONG-TERM

- Green space (grass area) reductions
- Optimizing the wastewater treatment plant for maximum water reuse
- Developing installation-wide Water Conservation Plan
- Developing a matrix for tracking the success of conservation efforts
- Removing or altering Ocotillo ponds to reduce evaporation loss
- Dedicated car wash sites where used water is collected, recycled and reused
- Expanding recycled water irrigation system to the parade deck and other fields
- Installing additional artificial turf in various areas
- Future system for capturing and utilizing rain water

**For more information,
call the NREA Water Resources Manager
760-830-7883
or visit our website at www.green29.org**

Water Conservation HOTLINE 760-830-SAVE (7283)



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**MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
WATER CONSERVATION**



WATER: IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Water is a precious commodity, especially in the desert Southwest, which is why MCAGCC is doing all it can to ensure this resource isn't just going down the drain. California is experiencing an unprecedented drought with no relief in sight. In addition to Gov. Brown declaring a drought State of Emergency in 2014, the state also adopted legislation that imposed new restrictions on outdoor water use. Combat Center leaders are committed to doing their part during this drought while protecting and conserving the installation's water resources for the long term.

MCAGCC is leading the charge in water conservation with the development of the CG's water policy, and the recently chartered Water Conservation Task Force (WCTF). The task force, which includes tenant units/organizations, is charged with seeking new methods of conserving water and educating everyone who lives and works aboard the installation. The WCTF has already implemented a number of water conservation practices, to include a significant reduction in the amount of irrigation.



Since 2007, non-housing grass areas aboard the Combat Center have been reduced from 47 acres to 28 acres, a savings of 265,232 gallons per day for irrigation demand.

Here are some facts that most individuals aboard the installation may not be aware of:

MAGTFTC, MCAGCC has begun landscaping with native and drought-resistant plants, rocks and artificial turf, reducing the amount of water used for garden and lawn upkeep while maintaining maximum curb appeal.

With one exception, ALL domestic water (including irrigation, family housing, MCCS fields and car wash, tactical vehicle wash racks, etc.) comes from the Twentynine Palms Groundwater Basin's Surprise Springs sub-aquifer. Water is extracted by 11 production wells at a depth between 500 and 700 feet in a protected area of the Sand Hill Training Area. The one exception: No potable water is used to irrigate the golf course. Instead, water treated by MCAGCC's wastewater treatment plant is used. The installation will expand recycled water use as its treatment plant is upgraded.



MCAGCC utilizes recycled water to irrigate the golf course, saving valuable drinking water.

Water from Surprise Springs is of such high quality that it routinely meets or exceeds all EPA and California Department of Public Health Services water standards without any treatment required other than basic disinfection. As usage continues to draw down Surprise Springs, water quality will degrade, forcing MCAGCC to build a water treatment facility and tap into another aquifer on the installation to meet the quantities of water needed to support the Combat Center's mission.

Conserving water is good for everyone. Using less water means less energy is used to treat it, pump it and distribute it. When you conserve water, you help maintain our natural resources. We can all help by going low-flow!

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Turn off the water while you brush your teeth.

Don't run the sink when shaving. Fill it instead.

Grass should be watered to just above brown. Water only in early morning or late evening.

Install low-flow shower-heads and faucet aerators to reduce water use while maintaining flow.

Report/repair drips and leaks. One drop per second wastes 2,700 gallons of water a year.

Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose to prevent water from running excessively.

Sweep driveways, sidewalks and patios instead of hosing them off.

Only run the dishwasher or washing machine when full.

Adjust sprinklers so they don't water driveways and sidewalks.

Take short showers, no more than five to eight minutes. Shut the water off while soaping down. A bathtub uses about 70 gallons of water, while a five-minute shower with low-flow showerhead uses between 20 and 25 gallons.

Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or use the defrost setting on your microwave.