

Commander's Call Topics



April 18, 2013

"Leadership cannot be taught; it can only be learned."

Harold S. Geneen
(1910-1997)
American Businessman

*Air Superiority is an AF
tradition for 60 years.
Read the whole story
[here.](#)*

Blue Acts of Green Protect the Earth for More Than Just Earth Day

Demonstrating support for environmental protection is the foundation for Earth Day, observed on April 22nd each year. Designated as International Mother Earth Day by a consensus resolution of the United Nations in 2009, Earth Day has morphed in both date and process, but never in its focus.

Pioneered at a UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) in 1969, and augmented by a separate environmental teach-in on April 22, 1970, the day has come to focus awareness of Earth's vulnerabilities through the lens of over 22,000 organizations in 169 countries in 2013.

The Air Force's observance of Earth Day 2013 will build on the service's commitment to "Conserve Today. Secure Tomorrow" by focusing this year's campaign on water resource management, including water conservation, use of water saving technologies in design and construction, storm and wastewater management, water quality and pollution prevention.

For the Air Force, focusing on energy conservation also saves water—millions of gallons a year. More importantly, they save money, as in these projects:

- At Hurlburt Field, Fla., eight miles of new reuse pipes distribute more than half a million gallons of treated wastewater a day for construction and irrigation. The

old capacity was only two percent of that at 10,000 gallons.

- Cannon AFB has increased its effluent capacity by adding two holding ponds next to the wastewater treatment plant. Xeriscaping, the use of rocks and mulch with drought-tolerant plants, is also part of Cannon's conservation program, replacing the need for grass, water and maintenance.
- On Holloman AFB, construction of a water reclamation facility uses pretreated wastewater to create secondary irrigation for the golf course, realizing a yearly savings of 70 million gallons of water.

At the individual level, simple habit changes to the daily routine contribute to immense water savings over time: Shorten your shower by one minute. Turn off the water as you're brushing your teeth. Repair leaky faucets and toilets. Water the lawn only in the morning or evening to prevent evaporation. Capture and reuse rainwater. Wash only full loads in the dishwasher and in the laundry.

Although the Air Force is emphasizing water conservation during this year's focus on Earth Day, conservation resources and tips relating to a variety of recycling, pollution prevention and energy initiatives can be found on the Air Force's [Blue Acts of Green](#) webpage.

*Martha Lockwood
Chief, Information Products, AFPRO*

► TRENDING ...

"Voluntary efforts to balance the civilian workforce in FY12 have gotten us significantly closer to funded levels, but we still have a way to go in placing the number of [surplus employees to funded vacancies](#), and (reduction-in-force) authorities will enable us to achieve that goal," -- Brig. Gen. Gina Grosso, the director of force management policy for the Air Force, speaking about the Air Force effort to meet FY 2012 budget targets by reducing the civilian work force.

► RESOURCES

AF.mil

<http://www.af.mil>

Airman magazine

<http://www.airmanonline.af.mil>

Air Force Outreach

<http://www.afoutreach.af.mil>

Military OneSource

<http://militaryonesource.af.mil>

Military HOMEFRONT

<http://www.militaryhomefront.dod>

Air Force Personnel Center

<https://mypers.af.mil>

<http://www.afpc.af.mil>

Air Reserve Personnel Center

<http://www.arpc.afrc.af.mil>

Department of Defense News

<http://www.defense.gov>

Department of Veteran Affairs

<http://www.va.gov>

TRICARE

<http://www.tricare.mil>

U.S. Government Website

<http://www.firstgov.gov/>

Employment Opportunities

www.usajobs.com

www.nafjobs.org

Air Force Association

Scholarships

<http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/scholars.asp>

Air Force Safety Center

www.afsec.af.mil

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

April 18, 1942 - From the carrier USS Hornet, located 668 miles off Tokyo, Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle led 16 B-25s in the first raid on Japan. The range of the mission caused the raiders to crash land in China. The attack caused little damage; however, the mission raised U.S. morale and reversed a trend of Japanese victories. Doolittle later received the Medal of Honor for leading the mission.

► CURRENT ISSUES

['Every dollar counts' ushers in new savings culture](#)

With budgets shrinking, Air Force leaders are calling on Airmen to share their best money-saving ideas through the Every Dollar Counts campaign.

[Hagel eliminates Distinguished Warfare Medal](#)

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has eliminated the Distinguished Warfare Medal, DOD officials announced.

► PERSONNEL ISSUES

[DOD 'scrubbing money pot' to reduce furloughs, Carter says](#)

Pentagon leaders from Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel on down are looking for ways to reduce the pending civilian employee layoffs known as furloughs, Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter said April 16.

► FAMILY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Program launches to educate communities on family needs](#)

A new publication series designed to educate civilians on the specialized needs of military and veteran families in their neighborhoods launched here April 15.

► ENVIRONMENT, SPACE AND TECHNOLOGY

[Science, technology remain critical, official says](#)

Despite fiscal uncertainty, science and technology remain critical elements in mitigating emerging threats against the United States, a Defense Department official told Congress yesterday.

For more information on Air Force heritage, visit

<http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>.

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April 19, 1919 - Leslie Leroy Irvin made the first successful parachute jump from an airplane.

April 20, 1966 - Vandenberg AFB launched its last Titan II operational test vehicle.

April 21, 1972 - The F-111 Joint Test Force at Edwards AFB flew an F-111A on its longest flight to date—5,400 nautical miles in 12 hours.

April 22, 1962 - Jacqueline Cochran claimed 49 world records for her 5,120-mile, three-stop flight in a Lockheed Jet-Star from New Orleans to Hanover, Germany, via Gander, Newfoundland and Shannon, Ireland.

April 23, 1956 - The Douglas C-133 Globemaster was flown for the first time.

April 24, 1943 - First class of women pilots graduated from US AAF flight training.