

TRAINING AND THE ENVIRONMENT SOLDIER'S FIELD CARD

Protection of the environment is an important aspect of soldier/leader responsibility. A variety of environmental laws and regulations can affect how and where the soldier will train. Not only must the military comply with these rules to maintain sites that meet training requirements, but it is the soldier's duty to preserve a healthy and sustainable natural environment for future generations to train, use, and enjoy.



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VEHICLE MOVEMENT

- Observe posted speed limits.
- Avoid neutral (locked tread) steers and sharp turns where possible.
- Stay on designated roads.
- Do not drive on road shoulders.
- Use ground guides when in doubt, even in daylight.
- Do not drive through off-limits areas.
- Cross streams at authorized ford sites only.

REFUELING

- Place drip pans, diapers, or absorbent materials under the vehicle when refueling.
- Ensure a spill kit is available near the site.
- Prevent spills.



PETROLEUM, OILS, AND LUBRICANTS (POL)

- Minimize the use of hazardous substances including POL.
- Carry drip pans, drums, and dry absorbent for spills.
- Have a trained spill response team on call.
- Use the following hazardous-materials spill procedures:
 - Step 1.** Protect yourself, and evacuate the area if necessary.
 - Step 2.** Stop the flow if you can do it safely.
 - Step 3.** Contain the flow and the spread of contaminant if you can do it quickly and safely.
 - Step 4.** Report the spill immediately. Notify the chain of command and the unit's environmental compliance officer that a spill has occurred.
 - Step 5.** Clean up the spill.
- Report a hazardous spill. Failure to do so is a federal offense.

TRAINING AREAS

- DO NOT cut trees without first obtaining permission.
- Use camouflage netting instead of vegetation.
- Stay out of off-limits areas.
- Receive approval for any digging operations prior to training.
- Properly backfill and smooth all excavation/holes.
- Restore any disturbed areas to a natural condition.
- Recover all barrier materials.



UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE (UXO)

During Operation Desert Storm, there were 21 United States Army personnel killed and 53 injured as a direct result of handling UXO. Follow these three simple rules of UXO safety:

- **RECOGNIZE**. Have you found something that could be UXO? Leave it alone. DO NOT touch it. DO NOT throw anything at it.
- **RETREAT**. If you have found something that could be UXO, leave it alone and leave the area. It does not matter how old, rusty, new, or shiny UXO is. UXO is dangerous and could injure or kill you. DO NOT take any chances. Leave the area.
- **REPORT**. If you have found something that could be UXO, report what you saw and where you saw it to your supervisor. Reporting it can save another person from injury or death. Report anything you think could be UXO.



FIRES

- Report all fires to range control.
- Use caution with pyrotechnics.
- Fight the fire. DO NOT endanger soldiers.
- DO NOT fight fires in the impact area.
- Remove vehicles, and move personnel not fighting the fire out of harm's way.
- Assist the fire department to fight the fire in your area of operations.
- Smoke only in designated areas.

NOTE: Once the fire department is on-site, it is in charge of fighting the fire.

WILDLIFE

- Do not harass, capture, touch, or kill any wildlife.
- Do not feed wildlife.
- Follow installation endangered species regulations.
- Avoid areas marked with signs indicating endangered plant and animal habitats. These habitats are protected by federal law.

WETLANDS

Federal law prohibits the destruction of wetlands. Wetlands include ponds, streams, floodplains, bogs, or any other areas that are wet much of the time. The following activities are prohibited in wetlands:

- Vehicle traffic.
- Soil-disturbing activities.
- Destroying vegetation, including cutting trees.

CULTURAL/ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Stop digging activity and immediately report to range control if historic or prehistoric artifacts are found.

- Disturbing or damaging these resources is illegal.
- Collecting artifacts is illegal.
- Disrupting, vandalizing, or entering cemeteries is against regulations.

MEAL, READY-TO-EAT (MRE) HEATERS

Unused heaters are hazardous waste. Used heaters do not pose the same problem; at the end of the heating cycle, all that remains are inert substances.

- Properly use the heaters and place them in the trash after use.
- Collect and turn in unused heaters to unit supply.

LITTER

- Police all areas for litter before, during, and after training activities.
- Return all waste to the cantonment area for proper disposal.
- Police all brass, pallets, and wires (barbed, commo, concertina and trip) after training activities.
- DO NOT burn or bury trash.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- Range control _____
- Fire department _____
- Ambulance _____
- Environmental office _____
- Safety office _____

