

Hazardous Materials and Waste Management

Hazardous materials/hazardous waste (HM/HW) are substances that may pose a risk to health, safety, property, or the environment when used, transported, handled or stored. Fort Riley's Hazardous Waste, Hazardous Materials Management Program (HMMP), and Waste Minimization programs are dedicated to implementing programs to avoid improper exposure to or disposal, release or dumping of products/substances that are hazardous to human health and the environment. The Hazardous Waste Program tracks hazardous waste generation, samples and characterizes wastes, designs proper storage facilities, recommends personal protective equipment to maintain worker safety, ensures proper packaging in Department of Transportation containers, administers a permit for hazardous waste storage facility, and tracks hazardous waste shipments to disposal facilities.



Hazardous Material Processing Center Bldg
1930

The HMMP is responsible for assisting Fort Riley in maintaining compliance with the "cradle-to-grave" tracking provisions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and was implemented to track all HM storage, use, and disposal, as well as to reduce the amount and toxicity of HM used on Fort Riley. The HMMP consists of three functional groups: The Hazardous Materials Control Group (HMCG), which approves changes and provides oversight of business practices; the Directorate of Logistics (DOL) Hazardous Materials Control Center (HMCC), which approves and issues HM (cradle) and recovers MilSpec HM; and the Hazardous Materials Processing Center (HMPC), which receives non-specification HM, reissues HM for non-MilSpec use, and processes unusable HM for disposal (grave).

The HMMP has diverted approximately 1,099,000 pounds of HM from Fort Riley's waste stream, saving the installation \$4,233,000 through disposal cost avoidance, product reissue, and shelf life extension.

The Waste Minimization Program works to reduce or eliminate chemicals and waste streams. The program looks at less toxic alternatives, new technology, and more effective control methods to identify viable, cost-effective means to reduce the installation's use of these chemicals and substances.

Due to these and other efforts, in 2013 Fort Riley reduced its disposal of hazardous by over 82% since 1999. In 1999 Fort Riley disposed of 394,900 pounds of hazardous waste, in 2013 that number decreased to 71,567 pounds. The Environmental Division is always looking for ways to reduce waste disposal and find less toxic materials to use in day-to-day operations on Fort Riley. If you think you may have an idea that could help, please call 239-8163.