

ARNG Environmental Program

What is it? The Army National Guard Environmental Program continued to enjoy successes in FY10 despite increased mission requirements and funding levels significantly lower than in past years. Significant strides were made with Environmental Management System implementation, the Non-Defense Non-Operational Defense Sites Program, operational range assessments, Sustainability measures, and the Massachusetts Military Reservation and Camp Navajo cleanup programs.

What has the Army Guard done? Recent accomplishments include:

- The Environmental Program is on track to complete environmental documentation to support a Military Construction Program first year execution rate of over 95%.
- The ARNG has merged preservation goals with sustainability initiatives in the renovation of the historic Urbana Armory in Illinois. The Urbana armory is the first historic building to receive a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification.
- The ARNG received approval to use \$19.5 million of Defense Environmental Restoration (2020) funds to support site investigations on Non-Defense Non-Operational Defense Sites – sites previously used for ARNG training but never leased by the Department of Defense.
- The Environmental Protection Agency sought public comment and held a public hearing for the Range Remedy Selection Plan.
- The ARNG is working through the final stages of cleanup of a major open burn/detonation area at Camp Navajo, Arizona. This land will become maneuver training land, enhancing the Guard's training and readiness.
- The Compliance-related Cleanup Program supported remedial cleanup activities in 16 states, achieving "remedy in place" on 18 sites.
- Operational Range Assessments were initiated at 14 of 57 ARNG sites requiring quantitative assessments. The ARNG is collecting quantitative data to determine whether a munitions contaminant release from an operational range to an off-range area creates an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

What continued efforts does the Army Guard have planned for the future?

One ARNG goal is to ensure the long-term viability of operational ranges while protecting human health and the environment. The estimated cost to complete these Phase II assessments programmed for FY 11-14 is \$30 million.

Why is this important to the Army and the Army Guard? Army National Guard training lands provide the platforms for trained and ready Soldiers.

Despite funding challenges, the health of the Army National Guard Environmental Program is excellent as successes are being achieved in multiple areas. The Army National Guard has over two million acres of training lands and continues to be a good steward of the lands and a proactive planner for realistic outdoor and indoor training.