



## 2015 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Environmental Quality, Industrial Installation Award

Since 1962, the Department of Defense (DoD) has honored individuals, teams, and installations for their outstanding achievements and innovative work protecting the environment while sustaining mission readiness. The 2015 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards recognize accomplishments from October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2014. A diverse panel of judges with relevant expertise representing federal and state agencies, academia, and the private sector evaluated all nominees to select one winner for each of the nine categories that cover six subject areas: natural resources conservation; environmental quality; sustainability; environmental restoration; cultural resources management; and environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition.

### About the Environmental Quality, Industrial Installation Award

The Environmental Quality, Industrial Installation award recognizes the efforts of industrial installations to ensure mission accomplishment and protection of human health in the areas of environmental planning, waste management, and compliance with environmental laws and regulations (e.g., Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, etc.). Industrial installations have a primary mission of manufacturing, maintaining, or rehabilitating military equipment. Meeting or exceeding all environmental requirements not only enhances the protection of our environmental assets, but also sustains DoD's ability to effectively train and maintain readiness. The 2015 winner of the Environmental Quality, Industrial Installation award is *Robins Air Force Base, Georgia*.

### About Robins Air Force Base

Robins Air Force Base (AFB) is located on 6,935 acres in Central Georgia, adjacent to the City of Warner Robins. Over 23,000 civil service employees, military members, and contractors work at Robins, making it the largest industrial facility in the state of Georgia. The installation has an annual economic impact of \$2.9 billion across the state.

Robins AFB created a model environmental program for DoD through a commitment to environmental excellence, stewardship of community resources, and sustainability of the warfighter. Robins leads the way with one of the most wide-ranging and proactive installation environmental programs in the nation. The Environmental Management Branch efforts are centered on Air Quality, Community Relations, Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) and Waste Management, Pollution Prevention, Natural Resources, and Water Quality.



**EDIMGLAFAD:** *The community of Warner Robins works closely with the local, regional, state and national governments to ensure the long-term viability and sustainability of Robins AFB and economic development throughout the region. The official motto of Warner Robins is EDIMGLAFAD, which is an acronym for "Every Day In Middle Georgia Is Armed Forces Appreciation Day."*

## Major Accomplishments in FY 2013-2014

- Robins AFB Qualified Recycling Program (QRP) is a two-time winner of the Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) QRP Award and is “Winning the War Against Waste” each day. During FY 2014, Robins AFB recycled over 2,200 tons of recyclables and diverted 87.2% of its construction and demolition solid waste from the landfill. Robins generated over \$460,000 in total revenue from the resale of recycled materials.
- Robins AFB expanded the Transportation Incentive Program by partnering with the Macon-Bibb Transit Authority to establish a base shuttle from neighboring counties. The Georgia Department of Transportation and the Clean Air Campaign named Robins AFB as the Partnering Atlanta's Commuting Employees Award winner in November 2012 in the Government Champions/Federal Employer category.
- Robins AFB strives for excellence by ensuring workers are fully trained. In addition to on-the-job training, the Base trained 1,492 personnel in FY 2013-2014 on the Environmental Management System; Aerospace National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Hazardous Waste procedures; and Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures.
- Robins AFB improved HAZMAT and hazardous waste management by migrating to the Enterprise Environmental Safety and Occupational Health-Management Information System. With 331 industrial processes, 8,000 HAZMAT users, and 500,000 annual HAZMAT issues, it was the largest data migration in AFMC. The Air Force Civil Engineer Center Operations Division praised Robins’ teamwork and stated it was the smoothest transition in AFMC.
- Team Robins has a robust Water Quality program that effectively manages 489 million gallons of well water and 549 million gallons of discharged wastewater per year. With four different types of permits, including wastewater, industrial storm water, municipal separate storm sewer system, and construction storm water, the Water Quality program provides successful, efficient, and safe management of Robins AFB’s water.



**Birding:** Robins natural resources are shared both statewide and with the local community. Birding trips are held during the annual spring Earth Day events. An average of 75-80 species are identified during these events.



**Happy Hour:** Houston County Association for Exceptional Citizens, Inc. (Happy Hour) is the contractor responsible for recyclable goods on base. The contractor transports recycled goods to the Happy Hour facility for sorting and packaging for resale.

For information on past winners, please go to: [www.denix.osd.mil/awards](http://www.denix.osd.mil/awards).