

Greening Initiatives at the United States Military Academy, West Point

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Abstract:

Under the direction of the Superintendent, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY, the West Point Energy Council was established during the summer of 2009 to combine the expertise in the Academy and the U.S. Army Garrison to assist West Point to: 1) reduce its energy use through energy conservation and the use of alternate energy technologies, 2) reduce its consumption of water, 3) reduce the amount spent each year to dispose of municipal solid waste, and 4) emphasize energy and environmental awareness for all cadets and leaders. Through the leadership of the council, cadet projects have been generated that educate cadets on energy and environmental security, and the Garrison has been able to work toward solutions to address energy conservation requirements and mandates. Through the efforts of the West Point Energy Council, West Point is uniquely positioned to combine the collective strengths of the Academy and the U.S. Army Garrison to educate future Army officers on topics and technologies related to energy and environmental security.

Biography:

LTC Mark Smith is an Assistant Professor and Academy Professor at the United States Military Academy, West Point. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Oregon State University in Wildlife Science, a Master of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Wildlife Ecology, and a joint PhD in Wildlife Ecology and Zoology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His interests involve integrating military training and wildlife on military lands, and using a systems methodology toward developing "green" initiatives that improve West Point. He serves as the lead Academy Professor on the West Point Energy Council with a vision to make West Point more energy and environmentally secure. He teaches Environmental Science, Ecology, Environmental Engineering Technologies, Environmental Engineering for Developing Communities, and Natural Hazards and Risk. LTC Smith is an Air Defense officer with experience in a wide variety of assignments, to include joint and combined tours with NATO and European Union forces. LTC Smith has also served two combat tours in Iraq (Platoon Leader during DESERT STORM, and NATO LNO to Multi-National Corps Iraq in support of the NATO training Mission in Iraq).



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