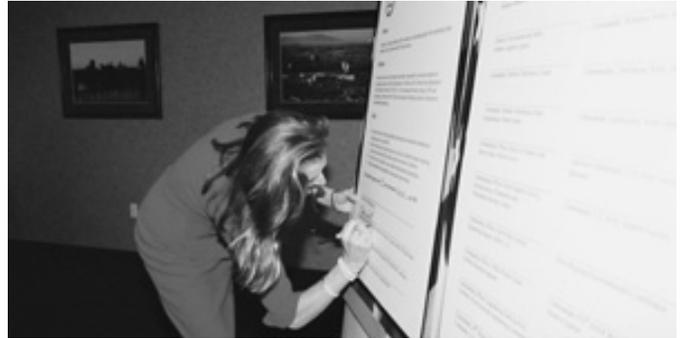


DDC Hosts Pennsylvania Environmental Partnership Charter Signing

The Defense Distribution Center (DDC) hosted the Charter signing for the Pennsylvania Environmental Partnership (PEP) on December 18, 2003 in DDC's Conference Center located in New Cumberland, Pennsylvania. The Partnership was established to promote innovative environmental stewardship, sustainability and mission readiness by leveraging resources and new perspectives. "Pennsylvania is proud to be host and home to so many important military facilities and key personnel," said the Honorable Kathleen McGinty, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, keynote speaker at the signing. "The military is an integral part of the Pennsylvania family. They are a proud and important part of the vitality of Pennsylvania."



Secretary McGinty signs the PEP Charter.

Bullard, Navy/DoD Regional Environmental Coordination Office. "This partnership will improve environmental quality and at the same time enhance military readiness."

In addition to Secretary McGinty, signers to the PEP charter included representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Commanders, or their representatives, of all military installations in Pennsylvania.



Kathleen McGinty, Secretary, PA Department of Environmental, speaks to the audience at the PEP Charter signing.



COL Michael Sullivan, USA, DDC Chief of Staff, signs Charter on behalf of the DDC.

"This partnership will help us to creatively manage our environmental challenges," McGinty said, "and afford us many opportunities to learn from each other and adopt creative solutions. The military is responsible for a vast amount of American soil and they are extraordinarily responsible and forward looking stewards of that land."

Resources for the partnership will be drawn from within the Department of Defense (DoD), Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and participating Pennsylvania agencies, through a proactive, results-driven environmental partnership. The goal of PEP is to enhance environmental quality while supporting military readiness in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through a voluntary partnering effort.

"This ambitious group met to forge a volunteer partnership to improve communications and share expertise," said William

From left to right:
Mr. Stan Laskowski, Director, Environmental Assessment and Innovation, USA EPA Region 3; Secretary Kathleen McGinty; and CAPT Frank Aucremanne, Chief of Staff, Navy Mid-Atlantic Region.

