

A Winning Cycle

Bicycle storage lockers promote sustainable wellness and fitness on military bases

By Susan Hartger

An emphasis on fitness and staying healthy is part of life on a military base. That goal is underscored by a strategic plan from the U.S. Department of Defense aimed at creating a military culture that fully integrates health and fitness into everyday life.

At the same time, military bases are also putting more focus on energy savings and sustainability. One simple answer to both these needs is the bicycle storage locker.

Bike lockers fit perfectly into military aims and goals. They help keep members of the military fit, and they earn LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) points toward site sustainability by promoting alternative transportation. The lockers also provide a wellness amenity for military and federal personnel while enforcing environmental policies.

Global fitness

Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and CID Corry Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida, are two of the many military locations with bicycle lockers in the United States. Lockers are also found on international bases such as Okinawa, Japan.

Providing bicycle lockers boosts health and wellness, adding to the “war-fit” programs that Peterson AFB promotes. The base installed bike lockers not just to promote fitness, however, but also to promote alternative transportation and to move toward a nontoxic environment at the base.



According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, vehicles are the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions, and this is of growing global concern. Secure bicycle parking can reduce single-occupancy motor vehicle trips by encouraging cycling as a means of travel that contributes to a healthy lifestyle.

Military personnel have embraced the program with more positive feedback than any other improvement the base has provided, reports the Peterson facilities architect. Users of the bike lockers range

from uniformed men and women of all ages to retirees.

At CID Corry Naval Station, bike lockers were purchased to obtain LEED points with the construction of the bachelor housing units, where the majority of residents own bikes. The lockers have improved the quality of life for personnel, who walk and bike daily—a win-win for the military and for the environment. ■

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