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MCAS Cherry Point Receives Commander in Chief's Award for Installation Excellence

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. (July 2, 2024) — Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point was named a 2024 recipient of the Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence by Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin. The award confirms the notion that MCAS Cherry Point is among the Department of Defense's top-tier military installation.

Cherry Point realized excellence in installation management through demonstration of administrative discipline, high-dollar and high-profile asset and project management, innovative business practices, community engagement and support, and meritorious personnel service.

Notably, Cherry Point demonstrated unparalleled excellence through its management of the \$1.1 billion F-35 transition program, with key milestones of welcoming the first operational squadron during the spring of 2023 and the successful occupancy of the \$53 million simulator facility. Cherry Point further reduced its carbon footprint with the implementation and final acceptance of a \$47 million Utility Energy Service Contract that enhanced energy resilience, hardened control system cybersecurity, improved energy system reliability, and reduced the air station's energy consumption. Department of Energy estimates annual utility cost savings of \$2 million. This accomplishment further garnered the Energy Manager acclaim, earning a 2023 Federal Energy Management Program Spotlight Award.

The Commander in Chief's Award for Installation Excellence recognizes the outstanding and innovative efforts of the people who operate and maintain U.S. military installations. Excellent installations improve mission performance and enhance the quality of life for military personnel, Defense Department civilians, and their families by providing superior working and living conditions.

[Attribution: Col. Brendan Burks, MCAS Cherry Point commanding officer]

"This award is a testament to the teamwork and relationships between MCAS Cherry Point, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Readiness Center East, Naval Health Clinic Cherry Point, and our local communities."

"We are proud to bring this award back to America's Air Station, the Carolina Marine Air Ground Task Force, and Eastern North Carolina after 21 years."

MCAS Cherry Point was last named a Commander in Chief's Installation Excellence Award winner in 2003 for all Marine Corps bases. This marks the 7th time the installation has been awarded the CINC Award.

MCAS Cherry Point staff and personnel received the news virtually, via telecom during an assembly at the air station theater, July 2, 2024. The commanding officer and sergeant major are expected to go and accept the award, in-person, during a ceremony at the Pentagon later this year.

Questions can be directed to MCAS Cherry Point Communication Strategy and Operations at 252-466-4241 or cherrypoint@usmc.mil.

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Commissioned in 1942, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, the 2024 Marine Corps Air Station of the Year, is the world's largest Marine Corps air station. It supports and employs a population of more than 38,000 that includes active-duty military members and family members, and reserve and guard, civilians, permanent contractors, and retirees. It currently occupies more than 29,000 acres of land in Eastern NC. Cherry Point provides air traffic control 24 hours a day, year-round, controlling 9,145 square miles of air space, supporting more than 150,000 annual flight operations.

A full list of award winners can be found online at [DOD Announces Winners of the 2024 Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence > U.S. Department of Defense > Release](#).