



FORT DEVENS RFTA

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1



# SAFETY – READINESS MULTIPLIER



TY 2018 1ST QTR

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## SAFETY MANAGER NOTES

It has now been 4 months since I arrived and took on the duties of Garrison Safety Manager. In that time I have gotten to know some of the units and see most of the facilities here at Devens. I have also been able to get out to South Post and observe and comment on training and the conduct of live-fire ranges. I want to focus on Risk Assessments for a moment. Each place I go I ask to see the risk assessment and in 95% of the cases the unit can provide one. This is good, but a couple reminders: 1- the assessment needs to be a “living document” that gets updated as conditions change. 2- if you list someone to implementing the risk control actions—let them know!!

Fort Devens Safety Office:  
 BLDG 680, Room 6 (basement)  
 978-796-2441  
 Stephen.w.banks2.civ@mail.mil  
 Hours: 0730-1600

Fort Devens Safety Office:  
 Upcoming Training:  
**Hazard Communication Refresher**—  
 12 Dec 2017. Contact the Safety Office for more info.

## SAFETY TRENDS REPORT

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- None

### FY18 ARMY ACCIDENT FATALITIES = 11

No pie-chart this quarter, just some statistics for TY 2018. The training year is only 7 weeks old and we as an Army already have 11 deaths from accidents:

- On-Duty =
  - 2 Army Vehicle
  - Off-Duty =
    - 3 POV
    - 3 Motorcycle
    - 2 Personal Injury
    - 1 Pedestrian

This is almost 2 soldiers per week and the vast majority are off-duty. The message to all of us is that the risk management tools that we learn on-duty need to be applied off-duty. Also, leaders need to be more involved in reminding and enforcing safety requirements in off-duty activities.

## AMMUNITION AMNESTY MONTH—DECEMBER 2017

The Fort Devens RFTA ASP will be conducting an ammunition amnesty month for units to turn-in ammunition that has been found in your unit areas. The requirement is that the ammunition be .50 cal and smaller (so mostly small arms ammunition). You can drop it off at the Ammunition Warehouse (next to Range Control) If you have large quantities, please give the ASP a courtesy

call to let them know. If you discover you have larger ammunition items let the ASP know that also so they can coordinate for the proper personnel to be on hand. Remember, as you transport the items to the ASP make sure that your vehicle is in good shape mechanically and that the ammunition is securely tied-down.

Additional Info provided:

**POC: LRC Devens, ASP Manager, Mr. Eric Olsen at NIPR: [eric.r.olsen1.civ@mail.mil](mailto:eric.r.olsen1.civ@mail.mil) DSN: 256-3037**

**The installation amnesty program shall be conducted on a no-questions-asked basis to provide an opportunity for individuals to return items without fear of reprisal, or prosecution. The amnesty program is not intended to circumvent normal turn-in procedures.**

**When: 1 – 29 December 2017.**



## RADIATION SAFETY PROGRAM

Many of you will be asking does this apply to my unit and do I need to have a Radiation Safety Program? Both good questions that I hope we can start to answer here.

In almost all cases the answer is going to be YES! If your unit has NBC equipment like CAMs or iCAMS, AN/UDM-2, M8/M43 Alarms, ACADAs you need a Radiation Safety Program. Also, if you

have starlight scopes, night vision sites for weapons, night vision goggles you will need a Radiation Safety Program. There are many other items in units that have a radioactive source in them that need to be handled and stored properly. This is what your program will do.

How do you get started? Your higher HQ should have a Radiation Safety Officer

(RSO). If you cannot contact them you can contact the Fort Devens RFTA Safety Office/ RSO.

Once you start the program, there is training necessary for the RSO. Some of this is on-line, some of it in resident courses. The first thing to do is inventory your items and then store them properly. The Fort Devens Safety office can help with both. Call us!!



## COLD WEATHER SAFETY

If you have not realized it yet—WINTER is coming (and in some places in New England, already here). Are your soldiers ready? DA Pam 40-11 (Preventive Medicine) states that it is a Commander's responsibility to implement a cold weather injury prevention program and part of the program is to provide

training to all personnel. You can develop the basics of that training program by referencing TB Med 508. Safety folks, do not try and do this all by yourself, get your medics and your Field Sanitation team personnel involved. And for your risk assessments for cold weather exercises, look at App C of TB MED 508!

Finally, if you have personnel who have had previous cold weather injuries, make sure they are identified and evaluated for what they can do and not do.

Remember: **COLD**  
 C—Keep it CLEAN  
 O—Avoid OVERHEATING  
 L—Wear LOOSE and LAYERS  
 D—Keep it DRY



**RISK ASSESSMENT TRENDS**

Several trends have been identified as we look at unit Risk Assessments. Look these over and try and avoid these issues as you do your Risk Management:

1. Trying to capture multiple activities on one assessment form. If your unit is going to conduct a road movement to a range and then to an over-night bivouac where you will be doing

a night land navigation course you need at least 4 Risk Assessments to properly address all the hazards and controls for these events. Don't try to put everything on one just to get it done.

2. As mentioned in my notes at the beginning of this newsletter, make the Risk Assessment a "Living Document." Things change over time

and the conditions present when you wrote the initial assessment may not be the same 4-5 hours or a day later. Revisit your initial hazards and controls and update the assessment as necessary.

3. Make your risk assessment a part of your orders brief and keep everyone informed about the controls to get every-

one involved in SAFETY.

4. If you are having trouble identifying the hazards take a look in these areas:

- Look in Army publications: TMs have caution, warning and danger sections; FMs, ATPs and ATTPs in many cases have safety and Risk Assessment as one of their chapters, PS magazine usually has a few safety related articles.
- Look at previous Risk Assessments
- Ask others for input

**SAFETY AWARDS**

This quarter we are going to focus on the Army Safety Excellence Streamer Award. There are several levels based on the size of the unit or organization; Company, Battalion, Brigade or Division. Here are the requirements:

Company—12 months without a Class A or B accident and 100% of personnel completing the Risk Management course.

Battalion—Same as the Company with the addition of completing the Army Readiness Assessment Program survey.

Brigade— 12 months without a Class A or B accident in any of their units.

The approval authority is the O-6 or above level Commander for their units.

Make this a goal for your

organizations.

For more safety award information look at Chapter 6 of DA Pam 385-10 or contact the Fort Devens RFTA Safety Office.



**COMMENTS/ FEEDBACK AND NEEDS**

The Fort Devens RFTA Safety Office is here to help your unit with its safety program. Let us know what you need in the way of information, best practices or questions. In some cases we can point you in the right direction immediately. In others we will do the research for you and then get back with an answer or suggestion. There are many on-line courses that we can direct unit Safety Officers/ NCOs to that will help these key safety people become more knowledgeable in their duties.

Let us know how we can help.

**MAKE SAFETY A MISSION READINESS MULTIPLIER!!**