



Back to School Safety Tips

USAG Fort Meade Safety Gram

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over and the time to send the kids back to school is once again upon us. Back to school time means it's also time to think about safety. Here are a few safety tips to help keep you and your children safe all school year long.

Playgrounds: Each year, more than 200,000 kids are treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms for playground-associated injuries. Report broken equipment to DPW or applicable maintenance division.

Backpacks: Textbooks, notebooks, lunch, toys... how much weight is your child toting back and forth each day? Take the load off your child by following these backpack safety tips.

◆ **Pack light.** Choose a backpack with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back. Organize the backpack to use all its compartments. Pack heavier items closest to the center of the back. The backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of your child's body weight.

◆ **Always use both shoulder straps.** Slinging a backpack over one shoulder can strain muscles.



Read the full article at [↓](#)



Safety Gram 24-04
Back to School Safety.

Col. Yolanda Gore Takes Charge as Fort George G. Meade Garrison Commander



Installation Management Command (IMCOM) Sustainment Director, Mr. Davis Tindoll, passes garrison colors to Incoming Garrison Commander, Col. Yolanda Gore.

FORT MEADE, Md. — Col. Yolanda Gore became the 89th garrison commander of Fort George G. Meade on Tuesday, Aug. 6, succeeding Col. Michael A. Sapp in a ceremony marked by strong community and political support.

The change of command ceremony was attended by representatives from Anne Arundel County government, Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Howard County government, and the Maryland Congressional Delegation. U.S. Army Military District of Washington and Joint Task Force-National Capital Region Commanding General Maj. Gen. Trevor Bredenkamp and Installation Management Command (IMCOM) Sustainment Director Davis Tindoll were also present.

Maj. Gen. Bredenkamp commended Sapp for his achievements during his two-year tenure, particularly his efforts in fostering collaboration among military and civilian organizations.

Read the full article at [↓](#)

<https://home.army.mil/meade/about/Garrison/public-affairs/digital-meade/fggm-launch-service-line-inventory>

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Personal & Professional Growth Event

WELCOME WORKS for new and newly onboarded (120 days or less) civilian employees, and those who are looking to gain more information on their benefits.

Every first Monday of the pay period at 1300 via TEAMS – link below:

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

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Meeting ID: 993 338 646 7

Passcode: g7ymyh

For more information, contact Careasa Greer at: careasa.r.greer.civ@army.mil or 301-677-5535

New cell phone tower to be completed at FGGM

Meade residents can expect a few bar increases on their phones in the next few months thanks to the Directorate of Public Works (DPW).

Over the last year, DPW constructed a new cell tower to replace the temporary, portable towers. In partnership with Verizon, AT&T and FirstNet Fielding, the team determined that the optimal location is the southern side of the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) parking lot.

The tower's new height will enhance coverage and improve 5G service for the Fort Meade area.

Col. Yolanda Gore Shares Vision and Values in First Commander's Call



Col. Yolanda Gore, the new garrison commander of Fort George G. Meade, held her first commander's call this week, sharing personal insights and outlining her vision and priorities for the installation.

Hailing from Estill, South Carolina, Col. Gore surprised many by revealing her loyalty to the San Francisco 49ers. She also shared her passion for deer hunting, recounting the patience required and the adrenaline rush she experienced when she bagged her first deer.

Beyond hunting, Col. Gore is an avid traveler and encouraged her staff to find time to unwind and de-stress.

Her hobbies don't stop there—Col. Gore is a fan of fast cars, a bourbon collector, and a sneaker enthusiast, showing a dynamic personality that she brings to her leadership role.

In her address, Col. Gore emphasized her vision for Fort Meade: "To deliver sustainable and comprehensive base support that ensures mission readiness, enhances the quality of life, and fosters a resilient community for the service members, family members, and civilians of Fort George G. Meade."

She outlined her command philosophy, focusing on the principles of **M**utual Respect, **E**ngagement, **A**ccountability, **D**evotion, and **E**mpowerment (MEADE). These values, she stated, will guide her leadership and the overall direction of the garrison.

Col. Gore also highlighted her top priorities for the garrison: *providing quality services, fostering leader development, and strengthening community partnerships*. She urged her team to embody these priorities as they work together to support the installation's mission.

As Col. Gore embarks on her command, her commitment to both mission readiness and community well-being sets a strong foundation for the future of Fort George G. Meade.



Col. Gore recognized two outstanding performers at the Commander's Call – Certificate of Achievement for Ms. Sherry Brynat for outstanding work efforts that ensured compliance with the DoD and the Army Child and Youth Services inspection standards (left); and ID-S Directors coin for Ms. Caryn Bethel-Washington for her special attention to the GFOQ program (right).

Highlight your team members or share your story in the future Team Meade Update edition. Send your events and/or spotlights to Chuck Yang, chul.h.yang.civ@army.mil

UPCOMING EVENTS



September

- 2 – Labor Day
- 11 – Patriot Day Run
- 11 – Community Job Fair
- 18 – Suicide Prevention Workshop
- 21 – Football Frenzy 5k Run

October

- 1 – Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- 14 – Columbus Day
- 25 – Retiree Appreciation Day
- 26 – Monster Dash 5k Run
- 26 – Trunk or Treat (w/NSA)
- 31 – Halloween

2024 Fun Runs:

Sept 21: Football Frenzy 5K - [Run Map](#) (PDF)

Oct. 26: Monster Dash 5K - [Run Map](#) (PDF)

Nov. 23: Gobble Til we Wobble 5K - [Run Map](#) (PDF)

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