



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON WIESBADEN
UNIT 29623 BOX 50
APO AE 09005-9623**

AMIM-WBG-ZA

MAY 01 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR All Members of the United States Army Garrison Wiesbaden Community

SUBJECT: United States Army Garrison (USAG) Wiesbaden Command Policy Letter #80, Safety and Usage Guidelines for Resident Provided Outdoor Recreation Equipment in Army Family Housing (AFH)

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 420-1, Army Facilities Management, 24 August 2012.
- b. Army in Europe Supplement to Army Regulation 420-1, Housing Management, 20 November 2008.
- c. Department of Army Pamphlet 420-1-1, Facilities Engineering, Housing Management, 2 April 2009.

2. Purpose. This policy establishes local standards and guidelines for resident provided outdoor recreation equipment in the AFH areas.

3. Applicability. This policy is applicable to all personnel assigned to AFH, their Family members, and guests.

4. Policy. Installation of play equipment in AFH shall meet manufacturer guidelines and the requirements stated within this policy. Area, Section, and Building Coordinators are responsible for monitoring and enforcing compliance with this policy and to resolve any non-compliance at the lowest level. Violators of this policy are subject to appropriate administrative actions. USAG Wiesbaden will not accept liability for any damage or injuries associated with installation or usage of any resident provided equipment.

5. Trampolines. Installation shall be on a flat/level surface, away from any potential safety hazards, and shall not create an adverse visual impact from the street or neighboring homes. A clearance of 10 feet around the trampoline is required and includes (but not limited to) any structure, fence, shed, trees, shrubs, etc.

- a. Residents shall follow the manufacturer's installation and safety guidelines. The top portion of all trampolines must be fully caged and encased in protective padding, to include the springs, and must have vertical safety netting attached to the outside perimeter.

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b. Trampolines will be removed or made inoperable during resident absences. Prior to vacating housing, residents will remove the trampoline. Residents will be held liable for any damages, including repair or re-seeding of grounds.

c. Installation and placement of trampolines should not cause conflict or disruption to the tranquility of the neighborhood and multiple trampolines at an individual building is not encouraged. Owners assume ALL liability for injuries or damages. USAG Wiesbaden shall not be responsible for injuries caused using a trampoline.

6. **Swimming Pools.** All swimming pools within AFH, other than small plastic wading pools are prohibited. There is a risk of damage should pools fail or collapse and they provide a haven for mosquitoes to breed. Pool dimensions may NOT exceed 14 inches in height and 60 inches in diameter. Pools shall not have a cover, plastic, or other material attached. When water is in the pool the sponsor or spouse will provide continuous supervision. Residents are required to empty and properly store pools when not in use. Pools should not be emptied close to buildings or anywhere that would pose a safety hazard.

7. **Swings, Swing Sets, and Slides.** Installation of swing sets, slides and other forms of children's play equipment, excluding small, plastic individual style equipment are prohibited. Only baby swings may be suspended from trees and must not pose a hazard.

8. **Fire Bowls.** Only commercially purchased fire bowls are permitted for use and the following rules apply. Repeated infractions of failure to comply may result in loss of privileges.

a. Fire bowls may only be used if neighbors are not bothered by smoke or fumes and no hazards are caused for traffic or pedestrians.

b. Fire bowls shall be located a minimum of 20 feet (6m) from buildings, combustible materials, and shrubbery. Choose areas that are clean and clutter-free. Do not locate beneath overhanging tree branches or canopies and surrounding areas must be cleared of leaves, branches, or other dry vegetation.

c. **ALWAYS** keep a fire extinguisher or garden hose with a spray nozzle nearby for use in emergencies.


d. Before lighting the fire, check the wind direction and do not use lighter fluid to start the fire. Lighter fluids are unpredictable and dangerous; instead, use kindling and build your fire up slowly so that it is always under control and manageable.

e. The type of firewood you select is also very important. Burn only seasoned hardwood and don't stack wood to extend beyond the upper rim of the fire bowl. Don't burn trash, leaves, paper, cardboard, or plywood. Avoid using softwood such as pine or cedar that can pop and throw sparks.

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- f. Burning of treated woods produces hazardous vapors and is strictly prohibited by environmental laws.
 - g. Wear safety gloves and keep children and animals a safe distance from the fire bowl.
 - h. When finished, ensure that all embers have been extinguished with water and that the fire bowl has cooled down completely before leaving it unattended. Do not dispose of hot embers or coals into trash containers and do not spread, cold or hot, on the ground.
 - i. Fire and alcohol don't mix. Not only is alcohol flammable, but overindulgence impairs coordination, judgment, and reflexes, which could result in injuries to anyone gathered around the perimeter of a fire. If you or your guests are going to drink by an open fire, do so in moderation. Keep everybody a safe distance from the flames and be ready to douse the fire in case of any alcohol-induced mishaps.
9. Barbeque Grills. Basic rules and precautions as above for fire bowls are required when using barbeque grills, regardless of whether charcoal or propane gas grills, and grilling on balconies is prohibited.
10. Point of contact for this memorandum is the Chief, DPW Housing Division at DSN 548-4402; civilian: 0611-143-548-4402; email paul.e.claybaugh.civ@army.mil.


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