



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY GARRISON ALASKA
1046 MARKS ROAD #6000
FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA 99703-6000

NOV 06 2019

SUBJECT: Fort Wainwright Welcome Letter

On behalf of the entire U.S. Army Garrison Alaska Command Group, welcome to Fort Wainwright, Alaska! Fort Wainwright is the home of United States Army Alaska (USARAK) "America's Arctic Warriors," 1-25 Stryker Brigade Combat Team (1-25 SBCT), 1-25 Attack Reconnaissance Battalion (1-25 ARB), 1-52 General Support Aviation Battalion (1-52 GSAB), and Basset Army Community Hospital. Our great installation has been recognized as an Army Community of Excellence for six years running.

Fort Wainwright is co-located with the great city of Fairbanks, which is home to more than 40,000 people and provides virtually everything you and your Family would enjoy in any other city in America. The activities are endless. Nowhere else in the world will you see the display of the Alaskan northern lights as they dance across the skies. Wildlife is prominent, beautiful and a part of every Alaskan's adventure. Additionally, you will find Fairbanks to be among the most supportive communities found in the United States.

Your assignment to Fort Wainwright provides unique opportunities for you to be on the cutting edge of Army transformation and to enjoy the incredible opportunities this state has to offer. Our units are well-prepared to deploy anywhere in the world for contingencies ranging from humanitarian relief to combat operations, thanks to the superior support and professionalism of our well trained staff. Our strategic location, superior training capabilities and dynamic relationship with our local civilian communities make Alaska a significant national asset and world-class power projection platform for military operations anywhere in the world.

Our commitment to Soldiers, Families, Civilians and Retirees is unprecedented. Our Soldier and Family programs are second to none. Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, Army Community Service, medical care, Child, Youth and School Services and our outstanding recreational programs rank with the best anywhere in the Army. Families enjoy newly-built privatized housing, and our extensive training areas throughout this beautiful state provide critical backdrops for molding tough, well-trained Soldiers and units.

As you begin your transition to the Fort Wainwright team, you will receive assistance from a wide variety of sources. The first and foremost is your sponsor. Your sponsor can answer any questions you may have and give you the insight needed to quickly and successfully integrate into Fort Wainwright and the local community.

We also invite you to visit the websites below. These websites offer a wealth of information on upcoming events, services, and recreational opportunities available to Soldiers and Family members especially during the winter months.

USARAK website (www.army.mil/usarak/)
Fort Wainwright Facebook website (www.facebook.com/FortWainwrightPAO)
Fort Wainwright homepage (<https://home.army.mil/wainwright/index.php>)
Fairbanks North Star Borough (co.fairbanks.ak.us)
Fairbanks North Star Borough School District (<https://www.k12northstar.org/>)
Milepost Magazine (www.milepost.com)
Fort Wainwright MWR website (<http://wainwright.armymwr.com>)

You are joining a team of Soldiers, Family members and Civilians whose tremendous heart is matched only by the size of this wondrous state. It is the people and the community that make this installation one of the best. We look forward to you joining us on top of the world!

Sincerely,



Robert M. Preusser Jr.
Command Sergeant Major, USA
Garrison Command Sergeant Major



Catherine D. Miller
Deputy to the Garrison Commander



Christopher J. Ruga
Colonel, U.S. Army
Commanding



Fort Wainwright eWelcome Packet

Congratulations on your assignment to Fort Wainwright, Alaska! Fort Wainwright is nestled in the **Fairbanks North Star Borough**; this includes the cities of **Fairbanks, North Pole**, Moose Creek, Fox, and Ester. Relocating to Alaska is an opportunity and an adventure of a life time.

Because the Last Frontier has so much to offer, the Army Community Service (ACS) Relocation Readiness Program (RRP) has created a eWelcome packet to assist you with your move.

As you begin your transition to Team Wainwright, you will receive assistance from a wide variety of sources. Your sponsor can answer any questions you may have and give you the insight needed to quickly and successfully integrate into Team Wainwright and the local community.

You will find embedded links throughout this eWelcome packet that contains valuable information that will ease your transition to Fort Wainwright.

The official Fort Wainwright web site is <https://www.wainwright.army.mil/>

- This page will keep you up-to-date with activities within USAG FWA

The official Fort Wainwright MWR site is <https://wainwright.armymwr.com/>

- This page will keep you up-to-date with Community Events, Recreation, Community Support and much more

The Fort Wainwright Resource guide:

<https://crg.amedd.army.mil/guides/usarpac/wainwright/Pages/default.aspx>

To download the MyBaseGuide mobile APP on your iPhone, Android, or Windows phone:

<http://www.mybaseguide.com>

DoD Civilian In-processing:

All DoD Civilians upon their arrival will in-process at the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC), located at 1045 Gaffney Rd, (907) 353-7240. In-processing typically starts the next business day. Your supervisor will assign a sponsor to you that will assist you with in-processing.

Emergencies:

If an extenuating emergency situation arises while transitioning to Ft Wainwright, please contact your gaining supervisor or CPAC at (907) 353-7201.

Transportation from Fairbanks International Airport (FAI):

Your sponsor or supervisor will greet you and your family at the airport and provide transportation to Fort Wainwright.

The Holiday Inn Express can also provide transportation to Fort Wainwright as long as they are notified 24 hours in advance. You can reach them at (907) 370-0999. <http://www.ihgarmyhotels.com>.

You may also contact a taxi to transport you on to Fort Wainwright. The taxi ride to Fort Wainwright may or may not be reimbursable. It is your responsibility to verify if certain expenses are reimbursable prior to leaving you losing installation.

IHG Hotel Lodging:

It is recommended that you contact the IHG Hotels Lodging Office before seeking transient accommodations off post. Call (907) 370-0999 or visit IHG at <http://www.ihgarmyhotels.com>

Housing

On post housing is authorized for Active duty and DoD Civilians. Contact FWA HSO at 907 353-1661 for more information: www.fortwainwrighthousing.com/

Schools.

The School Liaison Office (SLO) assists Ft. Wainwright families living both on and off post. The SLO can assist you in locating points of contacts in the schools and makes appropriate referrals. For more information call the Fort Wainwright School Liaison Office (907) 353-3216 <https://www.k12northstar.org/>

Visit Youth on the Move www.defenselink.mil/mtom, a helpful tool for youth who are relocating.

Travel to Alaska

Winters in Alaska can start as early as October and last through April. It is recommended that you travel by air during this time of year unless you are experienced in driving in severe winter conditions, (blizzards, extreme cold temperatures -60 and black ice. If you decide to drive, [The Mile Post](#) magazine is an excellent tool to help you with maps, motels, gas stations, etc. For more information, visit [Driving the Alaskan Highway](#).

- Driving the Alaska Highway is not advised during the October to April time frame without in-depth research of the route and associated planning. Gas stations and motels along the highway may have seasonal operating hours, (closing for the winter) or even may be closed temporarily due to adverse weather conditions (forcing you to wait). There are several locations throughout your travels to Alaska that may not have a cellular signal.
- Legal issues misdemeanors, DUIs, step-children, and firearms can prevent you from crossing the Canadian border. Canada has strict stipulations and restrictions on what you can transport and the requirements to cross the Canadian border.
- Contact your auto insurance company and the lien holder on your vehicle to see if there are any restrictions or specific guidance for your travel through Canada.
- Your Family members 16 years and older will need passports. Visit the web sites listed below for details and up to date information.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html>

<http://cbsa.gc.ca/menu-eng.html>

<http://www.dhs.gov/files/crossingborders/travelers.shtm#0>

Winter Driving/Preparation:

During the winter season the Department of Emergency Service recommend installing studded tires, adding windshield fluid rated-30, installing an engine block heater, and ensure engine fluids are rated to -60 degrees. Winterizing your car can be done at many of the northern states car dealerships.

Carry an emergency winter safety car kit for all passengers that includes winter clothes, food, water, blankets and/or sleeping bags, propane stove, road flares, jumper cables, shovel, hand and foot warmers, etc. Dress in layers including gloves and/or mittens, hats, scarves, coats, and boots.

Note: It is not recommended to drive to Fort Wainwright between Oct-Apr due to extreme cold weather conditions.

Moving Made Easy – Helpful Websites

Preparing for the Move:

Military Homefront: [Military Installations](#); and select [Plan My Move](#):

Military Youth: <https://youth.gov/federal-links/military-youth-move>

Moving: www.pcsamerica.net

Pay Entitlements www.dfas.mil

Shipping Personally Owned Vehicle (POV): <http://www.pcsmypov.com/>

Shipping Household Goods (Defense Personal Property System – DPS): www.move.mil

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District: <http://www.k12northstar.org/>

Traveling Through Canada - Important Information:

US/Canadian Border crossing information: 1-204-983-3500

Canadian Import-Export Laws: 1-206-443-1777

US National Passport Info Center: 1-877-4USA-PPT

Canadian Firearms Declaration Form: www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca/online-en_ligne/form-assistance/indiv_forms/909_e.asp

Driving through Canada (Road/Highway Conditions): www.drivebc.ca/

Canadian Consulate (before travel): <http://www.international.gc.ca/international/index.aspx?lang=eng>

Getting to Alaska:

The MILEPOST Alaska Travel Guide & Trip Planner, an excellent resource to help plan your drive: <http://www.milepost.com>

Road/Highway Conditions: <http://511.alaska.gov> or 1-866-282-7577 (toll free)

Alaska Marine Highway System (ferry): www.dot.state.ak.us/amhs or 1-800- 642-0066

Alaska Department of Transportation: www.dot.state.ak.us

Pet Travel - US Department of Agriculture: www.petswelcome.com

General and Community Information:

U.S. Army Alaska: <https://www.army.mil/usarak>

Fort Wainwright Homepage: <https://www.wainwright.army.mil/>

Fort Wainwright FMWR web site <https://wainwright.armymwr.com/>

Fort Wainwright Features Magazine: <https://wainwright.armymwr.com/promos/features-magazine-e-publications>

[ACS Programs and assistance FWA .pdf](#)

[Dressing Children for AK Winter Pamphlet.pdf](#)

Fort Wainwright Post Information: (907) 353-1110

ACS Relocation Readiness Program (RRP).

Newcomers Orientation

It is highly encourage that DoD Civilians attend this Newcomers Orientation held every Tuesday from 0900-1530. Please call 353-4227 for more details.

Army Community Service Specialist
Army Community Service
Bldg 3401 Santiago Ave
Fort Wainwright, AK 99703
907-353-7908
907 353-4328 (Fax)
DSN 317-353-7908

Anyone with legal issues, misdemeanors, DUIs, step-children, and firearms should contact the Canadian Embassy or nearest Canadian Consulate before traveling the ALCAN:

<http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/ci-ci/index.aspx?lang=eng>