

Fort Sill plans bicycle trails for travel, recreation

Did you know Fort Sill is working on adding bicycle trails to the community?

Fort Sill is aware of the desire of military families, civilians and those from surrounding communities to ride bicycles on post, not only for recreation and exercise, but also to travel back and forth to work.

We welcome everyone to bicycle on Fort Sill and enjoy the history of our post, historic old buildings and new buildings. There's not much that can beat the beautiful natural scenery as you cycle to Lake Elmer Thomas Recreation Area.

Our goal is to one day provide bicycle routes, paths and trails throughout Fort Sill, where cyclists can ride with minimal interaction

with vehicles. So, we are in the very early planning stages of developing such routes. However, the many projects being proposed on Fort Sill compete for time with the limited amount of personnel available to work on them.

The 2005 BRAC decisions, along with other Big Army actions, started the ball rolling on construction projects on Fort Sill that will last well past 2015. With this constant construction comes constant construction traffic. Once a construction project is completed, the customers move in, and in some cases, such as the 6th Air Defense Artillery Brigade and the 31st ADA Brigade complexes, the number of customers is sub-



Did you know?

By Col. Raymond Lacey
Fort Sill Garrison commander

stantial. That being said, we ask that those who do choose to ride their bicycles around Fort Sill, to cycle with caution and avoid streets that have the potential to be busy during peak hours. Some of the early planning we have to accommodate bicyclists at Fort Sill include:

- Coordination with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the city of Lawton on the city's bicycle master plan.

Lawton is in the early stages of implementing their Bicycle Master Plan. One of their connector trails to Fort Sill includes Fort Sill Boulevard, which according to the Lawton planning department, will probably be completed in early 2011. This connects to ODOT property which then connects to Fort Sill at Scott Gate. ODOT is in the final designs of connecting Lawton's path to Fort Sill by way of a 10-foot wide side-

walk. This connection will be included in an ODOT signalization project scheduled for early fall 2011.

- Bicycle trail in access control point.

We have worked with engineering firm, Burns & McDonnell, to include a 10-foot wide path on the east side of the Fort Sill Boulevard access control point, from ODOT property to the north end of the ACP, close to Mow-Way Road.

- Reserved room for future bicycle trails along Mow-Way and Sheridan roads.

As projects are planned along major arteries on post, like along Mow-Way and Sheridan roads and Fort Sill Boulevard, master planning is notifying the design firms

to locate the facilities far enough off the road so, later on, as funding becomes available, we'll have room to place a bicycle trail.

- Hiking/biking trails at LETRA.

Fort Sill Family & Morale, Welfare and Recreation is working with the Army Corps of Engineers in the development of a plan to create hiking and biking trails around LETRA.

To reach me

To send questions or comments to me, please e-mail fscms@conus.army.mil or you can mail your comments to Commander, USAG-Fort Sill, 462 Hamilton Road, Suite 120, Fort Sill, OK 73503.

Thanks and have a great Fort Sill day.

Sill shorts

Road closure

Corral Road will be closed Sept. 6-10 for a sewer line replacement. Access to the corral and the Fort Sill Old Post Museum can be gained from the north.

Dental clinic closures

The Fort Sill Dental Activity is closed Sept. 2 for an organizational day, but Allen Dental Clinic is open regular sick call hours from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Allen Dental Clinic is open for the training holiday Sept. 3, and all dental clinics are closed for the Labor Day holiday Sept. 6.

Businesses off-limits

Maj. Gen. David Halverson, U.S. Army Fires Center of Excellence

and Fort Sill commanding general, has placed **Gert's Pub and Grub**, 2617 NW Cache Road in Lawton off-limits. **Smart Buy**, in Lawton's Central Mall, remains off-limits.

This order applies to all military personnel to protect the health, safety, morale, welfare and discipline of military members. Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines who violate this order may be subject to actions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

School physicals

The Fires Center Clinic is providing school and sports physicals to active-duty family members, ages 4 to 18 years-old today and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Each child should have a separate

appointment. Call 558-2888/2878 for an appointment.

Office closure

The Directorate of Human Resources, including Administrative Service, the Military Personnel Division, the Army Substance Abuse Division and Educational Services, will close Friday at 11:30 a.m. for an organization day.

Patriot Spouse's Club

All military and DoD civilian spouses are invited to the Patriot Spouse's Club Super Sign-up Monday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sherman House on the Old Post Quadrangle. For more information, go to www.fortsillpsc.org or go to the PSC page on Facebook.

VIOS out-processing

Any Soldier, DoD employee or contractor who has used the Visual Information Ordering System, VIOS, here must out-process from the system before permanently leaving Fort Sill by going to Building 3162 Harvey Road, Room 214. For more information, call 442-4958.

Garrison hotline

The Fort Sill Garrison Commander has established a direct e-mail hotline for Soldiers, families and employees to address issues that they feel are not being resolved through other channels. Those with access to the global directory can select "Tell the Garrison Commander." Others can click on the "Tell the Garrison

Commander" link on the Fort Sill Garrison web site.

Well Being Center

Fort Sill's new Well Being Center, which incorporates the Army Substance Abuse, Employee Assistance and Suicide Prevention programs among others, has moved to its new location in Building 3415 on Miner Road. The facility opens today. For more information, call 442-4205.

Job fair

The Army Career and Alumni Program is sponsoring a job fair Sept. 16 at 1 p.m. at the Fort Sill Welcome and Conference Center, formerly the Gunners Inn. For more information, call 442-6428.

the Cannoneer

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or call (580) 442-5150. Deadline to submit announcement and other information is close of business Thursday before the following Thursday's issue.

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Circulation 12,000 weekly.
E-mail: cannoneersill@conus.army.mil

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