



MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Recreation activities at Forts Richardson and Wainwright provide well-rounded recreation programs including arts and crafts, auto crafts, libraries, sports and athletics, outdoor recreation, and information, ticketing and registration.

Though there are some variances in programs and facilities, they all have much in common. Soldiers and their families have first priority to a wide variety of facilities and services.

Department of Defense and United Service Organizations shows are also presented periodically. The performers invite the entire military community and public to watch them set the stage with musical performances, fashion and talent shows.



Seward Resort
Photo: Terry Yeomans

Seward Resort

The Seward Resort has 56 motel rooms, 12 townhouses, a log cabin, and tent and RV sites. It's an affordable retreat for military, retirees, National Guard, Reserves, civilian employees, their families and guests. The resort is open year round, seven days a week. Reservations can be made one year in advance.

The Seward Resort is 125 miles south of Fort Richardson and the Anchorage metro area, on the beautiful Kenai Peninsula, just inside the city limits of Seward Alaska, adjacent to Resurrection Bay. En route, you'll travel the Seward Highway, a "National Scenic Byway," famous for scenic views along Turnagain Arm.

Watch for moose, Dall sheep, beluga whales, bald eagles, black bear and the many glaciers tucked in and around the Chugach Mountains. The resort is accessible by car, RV, (approximately a 2.5 hour drive from Anchorage), the Alaska Railroad, cruise ship and by air. The magnificent Kenai Fjords National Park, the immense Harding Icefield, and the incredible natural beauty of the Chugach National Forest surround the Seward Resort.

While visiting the resort, tour spectacular Resurrection Bay, gateway to Kenai Fjords National Park on our eight-hour wildlife & glacier cruise to Holgate Glacier. See the

many active glaciers and waterfalls creeping down the steep mountainsides. Look for majestic bald eagles, colorful tufted and horned puffins, mountain goats and a variety of seabird colonies. Watch for Alaska's famous marine mammals: killer whales, humpback whales, Steller sea lions, harbor seals, sea otters and Dall's porpoises. Anglers can book our deep-sea charter fishing adventures and experience the thrill of fishing in the Gulf of Alaska, while enjoying the unique beauty of the Alaskan coastline.

Summer amenities include 40 RV sites with full hookups, 10 tent sites, five yurts (12' round-framed tents), a covered picnic pavilion with a large grill, a playground, fish house and freezer, showers, and laundry facilities. Fishing charters and glacier cruises are available. Discount travel and tour tickets are also available.

Winter recreation includes snow machine rentals, ice fishing, cross-country skiing, and snow shoeing, sledging and mushing. The Seabolt Hall is available to rent for conferences, weddings, banquets and holiday parties.

For reservations, call 224-2654/2659 or leave a message on (800) 770-1858. Visit the web site at www.sewardresort.com



Left, a day's catch of halibut at Seward's dock. Above, a peaceful day canoeing on Kenai Lake.
Photos: AlaskanExpress

Outdoor Recreation

The Army posts in Alaska are in tune with the needs of avid adventurers. They have a wide variety of equipment for those who want to be outdoors. From fishing, skiing and camping gear, to ice augers (for cutting holes for ice fishing) and trailers, Soldiers and family members can challenge the outdoors at a moderate price.

Fort Richardson's Recreation Equipment Issue Office is at the Outdoor Sports Center, Building 794. Boater safety training (mandatory for motorboat rental), life jackets, fishing rods, hip boots, tents, stoves, backpacks and camping gear are all available, as well as all terrain vehicles and equipment for smoking meat. For more information, call 384-1476/1475.

Fort Wainwright's Outdoor Recreation Program has its equipment issue center at Glass Park. There is a 48-space recreational vehicle park and a boat launch facility on the Chena River. In addition to renting a wide variety of equipment including riverboats and campers, Outdoor Recreation offers cross-country, downhill ski and snowboard instruction, canoe lessons, boater safety classes, river float trips and fishing excursions. For more information call 353-6349 or 353-6350.

Boat Shops

Boaters in Alaska must give special consideration to the water temperature that is generally in the 40-degree range, and to the tides, which can have a difference of over 20 feet. Each post rents riverboats and canoes. Anyone wanting to rent these boats must attend the boating safety course.

Fort Richardson rents ocean-going boats, riverboats and canoes at the Outdoor Recreation Center. Call 384-1475. The Fort Wainwright boat shop is co-located at the Outdoor Adventure Center; call 353-6349.



Fort Wainwright's Physical Fitness Center.
Photo: Sgt. Cecil Cromarte

Physical Fitness Centers

Fort Richardson's Buckner Physical Fitness Center (BPFC) is at Sixth and D streets. It offers a seven-lane, 25-yard indoor swimming pool with a three-meter platform, low diving board, water slide and hot tub. It also offers three basketball/volleyball courts, four handball/racquetball courts, aerobics, wrestling, karate, computerized circuit training, free-weight equipment, and cardiovascular exercise machines. There are sauna and steam baths for both men and women, and tanning booths provide a great tan even in the winter.

The equipment issue counter and staff can meet most equipment needs within the center. Also available are various items for resale, including weight training, racquetball and swimming equipment, and specialized weight lifting and fitness drinks.

The sports office at the fitness center conducts our complete intramural sports program for Soldiers. It operates year-round and includes the more popular seasonal sports like flag football, basketball, softball, volleyball, tennis, racquetball, swimming and broomball. Various swimming classes are offered for adults and children. Other programs include swim periods and military training-related activities. Call 384-1301 for information.

For more information on BPFC, call 384-1308. The BPFC hours are Monday through Friday 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Fort Wainwright Physical Fitness Center is on South Post, adjacent to the Post Exchange. The center features an indoor running track, aerobics rooms, basketball and racquetball courts, sauna and steam rooms for men and women, an open exercise area that contains state-of-the-art equipment, and one of the Army's few indoor ice rinks. Free weights and Nautilus machines are also available. The center has a multi-purpose room used for broomball and recreational skating throughout the year. Outside, players will find a two-field softball complex, three tennis courts and a soccer practice field.

Melaven Gym offers a basketball court, four racquetball courts, a weight room featuring free weights and Nautilus machines, saunas and steam rooms and an indoor 25-meter pool. Melaven Gym also has two softball fields and tennis courts. The Physical Fitness Center and Melaven Gym operate year-round.

Major seasonal sports include basketball, softball, flag football, volleyball, broomball and many others as well as numerous invitational tournaments. For more information, call 353-7274/7275.





Arts and Crafts and AutoShops

The Fort Richardson Arts and Crafts facility is centrally located in a modern brick structure, Building 755 at the corner of Second and D streets. It is open Thursday through Friday from noon to 9 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. The facility includes a wood shop with numerous power tools and various woods for sale. The multi-craft shop includes equipment for creating ceramics, pottery, clay items and fine arts. The picture-framing shop allows for frame-it-yourself and custom framing with molding, glass and a colorful selection of matte boards for sale at reasonable rates. Framing classes are held weekly.

The sales store offers equipment and supplies for almost any artistic endeavor. Assistance and advice is available from our well-trained and friendly staff members. Classes and one-on-one instruction are provided. More information and schedules of events can be obtained by calling 384-3717.

The 16-bay auto shop provides instruction, tools and equipment for auto repairs, lubrication racks, tire changers, an auto paint booth and welding facility. The auto shop is open Thursday through Sunday. Emissions tests are also done. Call 384-3718 for appointments and information. Adjacent to the Arts and Crafts is a do-it-yourself car wash.

The Fort Wainwright Arts and Crafts Center is in Building 3727 on Neely Road next to the Aviation Brigade dining facility. The phone number is 353-7520. The shop has almost any woodworking equipment needed for building anything from a shelf to a stereo cabinet. Multiple crafts include leather, pottery, ceramics, jewelry/lapidary, macramé and mat cutting. Special classes are offered in several of these skills. We require a safety class before using the wood shop, mat cutter and ceramics facilities. The Arts and Crafts Center is open Monday through Wednesday from noon to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Auto Crafts Center located in Building 3730 on Oak Street behind the Post Exchange provides assistance to service members and their families. The center features 17 bays for vehicle work, and three car wash bays. Due to extreme temperature ranges in Interior Alaska—from 60 degrees below zero or colder in the winter to highs in the 80s and 90s in the summer—it is important for Soldiers to keep their vehicles in good running condition.

Mechanics are on duty to assist you with vehicle problems. There are also tools and equipment for most minor technical work, with some special equipment for major jobs. Inspection and maintenance (emission control) certificates are also available. The phone number is 353-7436.

Bowling Center

Fort Wainwright's Nugget Lanes Bowling Center provides league, open bowling, youth programs and a variety of weekend tournaments for active-duty and retired military, authorized civilian employees, and their family members. The facility has 32 lanes, a pro shop, snack bar, cocktail lounge and glow-in-the-dark bowling.

Open year round on Friday and Saturday, it offers birthday party and unit- and youth-outing packages. Fridays are non-smoking days at the lanes. Call 353-2654 for more information.

Fort Wainwright's Nugget Lanes Bowling Center.



Golf

The Fort Richardson Moose Run Golf Course opened its second 18 holes, the Creek Course, in 2000, making Moose Run the world's northern-most 36-hole layout. Built with the most up-to-date construction techniques, this 7,324-yard, par-72, 18-hole course crosses Ship Creek several times, offering challenging golf and incredible views of the Chugach Mountains. Along with Moose Run's original 18, the Hill Course (a 6,417-yard par-72), the facility typically opens in mid-May and closes in mid-September.

The clubhouse has a large deck, a snack bar, and a fully stocked pro shop with rental equipment. Moose Run is located east of Gate 1 on Arctic Valley Road. For more information and tee times, call 428-0056.

Chena Bend Golf Course is nestled between the east end of the Fort Wainwright airfield and the Chena River. The course, the only 18-hole golf course in the Fairbanks area, was rated by Golf Digest as Alaska's best for 1999. Carts and clubs are available for rent, and the clubhouse offers a snack bar and pro shop. The course is open May through September. Call 353-6223 during the summer months for more information.



A moose enjoys a meal as golfers tee off.
Courtesy Photo



Above, Otter Lake Lodge. Below, one of Otter Lake's rental cabins.
Photos: Terry Yeomans



Ice Rinks

Fort Richardson's Buckner Physical Fitness Center (BPFC) has a lighted ice-skating rink located behind the gym.

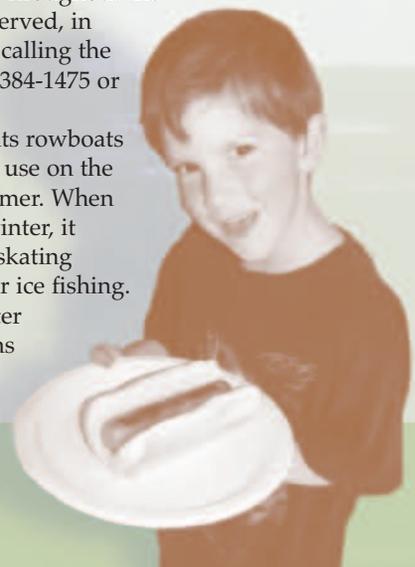
Fort Wainwright has one of the few indoor ice rinks in the Army, which allows for a variety of on-ice activities including hockey, broomball, figure-skating lessons, as well as extended hours for general skating. There is also an outdoor rink at Youth Services.

Lakes

Fort Richardson's Otter Lake complex is a picturesque outdoor recreation area nestled amid spruce and birch trees, and boasts a beautiful view of the mountains. It is an ideal place for unit and family parties, picnics, and camping.

The focal point of Otter Lake is a lodge overlooking the lake and the Chugach Mountain Range. The lodge is available for parties throughout the year and may be reserved, in whole or in part, by calling the reservation office at 384-1475 or 384-1476.

The issue hut rents rowboats and paddleboats for use on the lake during the summer. When the lake freezes in winter, it becomes a fantastic skating surface, and great for ice fishing. Also available at Otter Lake are rental cabins overlooking the lake.



Skiing and Snowboarding

Fort Richardson's Dyea Ski Hill is located on Dyea Street behind Building 470. The ski hill includes a towrope, and inner tubes and ice skates for checkout. Cross-country and downhill skiing equipment is available for rent and there are adjacent cross-country trails. Dyea opens for ski season around October 15, depending on snowfall, and closes for the season in early April. Off post, there are several downhill resorts and many cross-country trails. Call 384-2960 for information. Fort Wainwright's Birch Hill Ski Lodge is in Building 1172 on Birch Hill on the north side of the Chena River. The phone number is 353-9131. The lighted ski hill includes a chair lift and one paddle lift, and sleds for checkout. Cross-country, downhill skiing and snowboard equipment are available for rent. The ski lodge has a large lounge and snack bar. Beginner through advanced lessons are available on the 35-acre slope. Tournaments are offered throughout the ski season, and military arctic skills championships are conducted annually.



Skeet & Trap Ranges

Sports shooters have a treat in store at the Fort Richardson ranges located at the Outdoor Sports Center between the post and Elmendorf Air Force Base. Intramural and recreational leagues and national Skeet Shooters Association-sponsored shoots are frequent on the lighted skeet and trap ranges. Shotgun shell sales, reloading equipment, gun rentals and shooting supplies are also available.

A Sporting Clays Range is also available and a snack bar provides refreshments for patrons. The schedule and information can be obtained by calling 384-1480.

Fort Wainwright's Birch Hill Skeet and Trap Range is next to the ski lodge. Registered skeet shoots as well as skeet and trap leagues are available throughout the year on three lighted fields. The range offers resale of ammunition and reloading supplies, as well as gun rental. Call 353-7869 for more information.

Black Spruce Campground

Black Spruce Park is at Quarter-Mile Loop Road on the way to the picturesque backwoods of Fort Richardson. It operates on a first-come, first-served basis; priority is given to Soldiers who need accommodations due to PCS moves. The park is open from May through September. There are 45 sites with complete hookups and tent camping, and sites are equipped with barbecue pits and picnic tables. Full RV hookups are provided; the camp also has shower and laundry facilities and a playground. For more information and reservations, call the Outdoor Sports Center at 384-1475/1476 or 428-0001.

Fort Richardson Off-Road Trail

Interested in off-road excitement? An off-road trail system for ATVs and BMX motorcycles is located at Fort Richardson on the north side of Davis Highway. When riding, always watch for hikers and wildlife. Remember to stay off the cross-country ski trails in the winter.

Permits for an ATV may be obtained through the Outdoor Recreation Office, Building 794. For more information, contact them at 384-1475/1476. Fishing and hunting permits are also available at the Outdoor Recreation Office.



Fort Wainwright MWR Phone Numbers

Community and Family Activities Manager	(Bldg 1555)	353-7611
Army Substance Abuse Program	(Bldg 1064)	353-1370
Army Community Services	(Bldg 3722)	353-4227
AER, EFMP, Family Support Services, Food Stamps		353-7453
Boss Representative	(Bldg 1555)	353-9452
Child and Youth Services	(Bldg 4176)	353-9545
Child Development Center	(Bldg 4024)	356-1550
Family Childcare	(Bldg 4176)	353-6266
School Age Services	(Bldg 4391)	353-7394
Supplemental Programs & Services	(Bldg 4176)	353-7713
USDA Nutritionist	(Bldg 4176)	353-7395
Youth Services	(Bldg 4109)	353-7714
Arctic Oasis	(Bldg 3205)	353-1085
Arts and Crafts	(Bldg 3727)	353-7525
Auto Craft Shop	(Bldg 3730)	353-7436
Birch Hill Ski Facility	(Bldg 1171)	353-9131
Chena Bend Golf Course	(Bldg 2092)	353-6223
Nugget Lanes Bowling Center	(Bldg 3702)	353-2654
Physical Fitness Center/Sports - Ice Rink	(Bldg 3709)	353-7272
Melaven Gym - Swimming Pool	(Bldg 3452)	353-1994
Skeet Range	(Bldg 1172)	353-7869
Education Center-MOS Library, Learning Center, Post Library	(Bldg 2110)	353-7486
Glass Park Outdoor Recreation Center		353-6349
Marketing & Commercial Sponsorship	(Bldg 1555)	353-9828
Supplies & Services	(Bldg 1053)	353-7115



Club System

Fort Richardson operates a club called the Down Under located in Building 655. The club is open Friday and Saturday nights and for Monday Night Football. It is available for unit and private party functions any day of the week except Friday. The club is a great place to get together for fun and dancing and boasts the second largest dance floor in Anchorage. For more info, call 384-7619.

Fort Wainwright offers two clubs with diversified programs of social activities. The Last Frontier Club, 353-6109, offers lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. In addition, the club is available for unit and private party functions any day of the week.

The Arctic Oasis is in building 3205 on the corner of Santiago and Neely Roads. The club's sports lounge offers a variety of activities to include video games, pool tables and numerous TVs.

The Oasis Room at the Arctic Oasis features a state-of-the-art dance lighting system, a large dance floor, and seating for more than 200 people. Parties and other functions may be booked at the Arctic Oasis as well. For more information call 353-1085. For phone numbers to all of the USARAK MWR facilities, look in the directory on these two pages.

Fort Richardson MWR Phone Numbers

USARAK Director of Community Activities (DCA)	(Bldg 1)	384-2003
USARAK Deputy Director	(Bldg 1)	384-2261
Administrative Assistant	(Bldg 1)	384-2017
NCOIC	(Bldg 1)	384-2159
Community and Family Activities Manager (CFAM)	(Bldg 1)	384-2053/2031
Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)	(Bldg 1113)	384-1418
Adolescent Substance Abuse Counseling Services (ASACS)		384-0134
Army Community Services (ACS)	(Bldg 600)	384-1517/1518
Army Emergency Relief (AER)		384-7478
Army Family Team Building (AFTB)		384-1513
Employment Readiness Program (ERP)		384-6716
Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)		384-0225
Family Advocacy Program (FAP)		384-1006
Family Readiness Group (FRG)		384-6736
Financial Readiness Program (FRP)		384-7509
Loan Closet		384-7485
New Parent Support Program		384-7506
Relocation Readiness		384-1515
Victim Advocate		384-0504
Volunteer Resource Council (VRC)		384-6736
Women, Infant & Children (WIC)		384-2033
Community Mental Health/Family Advocacy Office	(Bldg 602)	384-0405
Arts & Crafts Center	(Bldg 755)	384-3717/3719
(Ceramics - 384-3419, Frame - 384-3417, Wood - 384-3418)		
Automotive Skills Center	(Bldg 755)	384-3718
Black Spruce RV Campground		384-7740
Buckner Physical Fitness Center (BPFC)	(Bldg 690)	
Front Desk & Equip/Tanning		384-1308
Sports		384-1304
Pool Office		384-1301
Recording		384-1302
Child Development Center (CDC)	(Bldg 6)	384-0686
School Age Services (SAS)	(Bldg 337)	384-1068
Hourly Care Program	(Bldg 337)	384-1510
Family Child Care (FCC)	(Bldg 337)	384-1500
Part Day Program (PDP)	(Bldg 337)	384-1510
Central Registration	(Bldg 600)	384-7483
Supplemental Programs & Services (SPS)	(Bldg 600)	384-7484
Down Under Lounge	(Bldg 655)	384-7619
Dyea Ski Rental	(Bldg 470)	384-2960/428-1309
Army Continuing Education System (ACES)	(Bldg 658)	384-0970/0968
Testing Office		384-0961
Learning Resource Center		384-0964
MOS Library		384-0301
Library, Post	(Bldg 5)	384-1640/1648
Lodging (Billeting)	(Bldg 600)	384-0421/0436
		(1-800-GO-ARMY1)
Marketing & Multimedia	(Bldg 1)	384-2299
Commercial Sponsorship		384-0639
Moose Run Golf Course (MRGC)	(Bldg 27000)	428-0056
Otter Lake Boat Rental (Otter Lake)		384-6245/6250
Otter Lake Lodge Reservations		384-1475/1476
Lodge	(Bldg 65-505)	384-6246
Outdoor Recreation Center (REI)/Boat Shop	(Bldg 794)	384-1475/1476/428-0001
RV Storage (Big Dipper, Little Dipper & Northern Lights)		384-1475/1476
Seward Resort (Open Year Round)		
www.sewardresort.com		907-224-2654/2659
Leave Message		1-800-770-1858
Skeet Range (Skeet, Sporting Clays & Archery)	(Bldg 45-100)	384-1480
Youth Services (YS)	(Bldg 297)	384-1508
Computer Lab		384-1508