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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Construction projects create minor on-post inconveniences**

**FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.** – Sewer line replacement and construction projects will affect motorists and occupants of several Fort Leonard Wood buildings.

Although work on the sewer replacement project in the area of the Engineer Trail is nearly complete, the reopening of the popular exercise and jogging trek has been delayed until the week of Nov. 16, according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

“The trail is unsafe, due to erosion and overgrowth issues,” said Bobby Rakes, Directorate of Public Works director. “We are working to fix those areas and reopen the trail as soon as possible.”

Patience is also being asked of motorists and pedestrians, as the sewer system work progresses through the populated area of the installation.

A section of the asphalt walking trail along the west side of Nebraska Avenue, between Replacement and Minnesota avenues, is now closed until the end of this month, according to Travis Lynch, Fort Leonard Wood South Resident Office engineer, USACE, Kansas City District.

There will be three detours around the closed section of the trail:

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From the intersection of Minnesota and Nebraska avenues, people may walk west along the shoulder of Minnesota Avenue, then turn right into the south-service entrance to the Exchange to gain access to the shopping areas;

From the north end of Specker Barracks, cross Minnesota Avenue at Michigan Avenue and follow Michigan Avenue, then turn left onto Replacement Avenue to gain access to the shopping areas;

From the north end of Colyer Park, walk west to the walking trail west of the baseball fields and follow the trail to Constitution Avenue and turn right to continue to the south-service entrance of the Exchange.

Cooler, but not cold, weather comes at the optimal time for residents and those within the Specker Barracks Complex. Multiple buildings will be without heat, air conditioning and hot water 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday.

There will be no AC for Buildings 1700 through 1776, except for 1705, 1711 (kitchen only) and 1750. Those same buildings, with the exception of 1701, will be without heat. The water outage will affect all buildings, except for 1711.

The long-term weather forecast is predicting moderate temperatures on and around Wednesday, "So there's a good chance the affected facilities will not require heat or air conditioning to stay comfortable," Lynch said.

"With both projects, we are doing everything within our abilities to lessen the impact on the population," Rakes added.

"These are projects that will positively impact the quality of life for the residents and modernize our systems. I ask for patience and understanding for the inconveniences caused by these projects," he said.

USACE is working in coordination with Fort Leonard Wood's DPW to replace more than 3 miles of sanitary sewer main. Work on the nearly \$9.2-million project began in early March.

Replacing the sewer lines with larger pipes will alleviate large amounts of water entering the sewer system during heavy rainfalls, according to J.D. Bales, Engineering Design Branch, DPW.

"There is a large inflow and infiltration problem, due to the small size of the current sewer main trunk lines," Bales said. "There is the danger of causing an overflow in the sewer lines. This project will decrease the chance of overflows and double the flow capacity."

Rakes explained the project was funded, in addition to the post's normal sustainment budget, entirely by the Army's Installation Management Command, and the project enables future growth and expansion, if required.

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The construction work represents the single, largest underground utilities upgrade project for the post in decades, added Rakes.

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For more information, contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145.

### *About Fort Leonard Wood*

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*Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains about 80,000 military and civilians each year.*

*Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, and the Army's largest Noncommissioned Officers Academy.*

*Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting a colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.*

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