



# **FACT SHEET**

## **Safety**



**Fort Detrick Public Affairs Office**  
**810 Schreider Street**  
**Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5000**

**Fact Number FDFS 10-03**  
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### **What is it:**

At Fort Detrick, Safety is considered first, last and all the time.

Fort Detrick is a recognized leader in individual and organizational safety.

### **What is the background:**

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recognized Fort Detrick as the first U.S Army Garrison to receive this top civilian industry award as a Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) STAR site on July 27, 2010 joining the top 1 percent of workplaces in the United States that provide exemplary occupational safety and health protections and serve as role models for others.

The average VPP worksite has a lost workday incidence rate at least 50 percent below the average for its industry. Fort Detrick realized a 75% reduction in lost work days from accidents between fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

VPP Sites are committed to effective employee protection beyond the requirements of OSHA standards. VPP participants develop and implement systems to effectively identify, evaluate, prevent, and control occupational hazards to prevent employee injuries and illnesses.

Employees at Fort Detrick follow national health standards as well as participate in advanced safety training, risk management strategies, and medical monitoring programs geared to their specific occupational safety.

Fort Detrick hosts specialized laboratories that are designed to maximize the protection of scientists while investigating treatments for illness. These labs are designed with redundant systems to ensure uninterrupted power, engineered controls including negative airflow, and sterilized waste streams that prevent exposure to employees and the community.

Waste is chemically treated and sterilized multiple times prior to leaving a lab, then Fort Detrick continues to use a Laboratory Sewer System (LSS) to transport this sterilized waste water to the existing Steam Sterilization Plant for a final thermal sterilization prior to release to a sanitary sewer.

### **Why is it important to the Community:**

Fort Detrick is rated in the top 1 percent in safety in the nation and has received a number of environmental and safety awards.

Fort Detrick follows all applicable state and federal regulations and laws and is inspected by OSHA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, Department of the Army, and the Department of Defense to ensure maximum protection for Soldiers, Families, and Civilians within our community.

If the community or members of the media desire to seek information on Fort Detrick's activities, they are encouraged to visit <http://www.detrick.army.mil>, or contact the Garrison Public Affairs Office at (301) 619-2018.