STEARNS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE | EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

FUEL FOR THE PATROL

It's all about choices.

You have to eat. What you choose to eat is up to you. Real food, real energy.

MEAL PREP GUIDE

Every meal: a lean protein, a complex carb, a vegetable.

1. Lean protein

Keeps you full, supports muscle and energy.

- Chicken or turkey breast
- Lean beef (sirloin, 93% lean)
- Ground turkey
- Salmon or other fish
- Tuna packets
- Hard-boiled eggs
- Plain Greek yogurt
- Cottage cheese

2. Complex carb

Long-lasting energy that helps you stay focused.

- Brown rice, quinoa
- Sweet potatoes
- Oats (plain or overnight)
- Whole grain bread or wraps
- Ezekiel bread
- Beans and lentils
- Fruit: berries, apple, banana

3. Vegetable

Fiber and nutrients to keep you full longer.

- Broccoli, green beans
- Asparagus
- Bell peppers, carrots
- Cucumber
- Spinach or mixed greens
- Salad kits (watch the dressing)

MEAL PREP EXAMPLES

Chicken, rice and vegetables
Grilled chicken, brown rice, roasted vegetables.

Turkey, sweet potato and green beans
Lean ground turkey, roasted sweet potato, green beans.

Salmon, quinoa and asparagus
Baked salmon, quinoa, roasted asparagus.

ON THE GO

Healthy picks at Kwik Trip, gas stations and convenience stores

Hard-boiled eggs

String cheese
part-skim

Turkey or beef jerky
low sodium

Fresh fruit cups
berries, melon, grapes

Protein shake
about 30 g protein

Rotisserie chicken, premade salad
light dressing

Greek yogurt
check the sugar

FAST FOOD

Better picks at common stops

Subway

- 6-inch turkey or chicken
- Whole grain bread or wrap
- Extra vegetables
- Mustard, vinegar or light mayo

Chick-fil-A

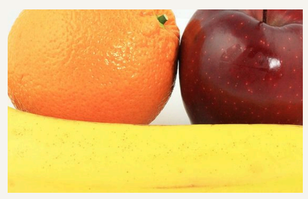
- Grilled chicken sandwich
- Salad with grilled chicken
- Side salad or fruit cup
- Market salad, light dressing
- Unsweetened tea or water

Any drive-thru

- Grilled over fried
- Side salad or fruit for fries
- Ask for extra vegetables
- Order the smaller size
- Skip sugary sauces: BBQ, honey mustard, creamy dressings

SMART SNACKS

Keep some in your squad



Fresh fruit

Nuts
almonds, cashews

Jerky
low sodium

Greek yogurt
plain or low sugar

Veggies and hummus

Rice cake, nut butter

BETTER BEVERAGES

Stay hydrated, skip the spikes and crashes

Water goal: 64+ oz a day	**Black coffee**	**Sparkling water** no sugar
Fruit-infused water citrus, cucumber, berries	**Unsweetened tea**	**Electrolyte drinks** zero sugar
Protein shakes about 30 g protein	**BCAA drinks** check the sugar	**Herbal tea** caffeine-free

QUICK TIPS FOR PATROL

- ✓ **Plan ahead.** Pack meals and snacks in your squad.
- ✓ **Meal prep on a free day.** Freeze containers that are easy to grab and stack in a cooler you keep in your patrol vehicle. Don't have a small cooler? Get one. It makes eating healthy on the road easier.
- ✓ Build every meal with a lean protein, a complex carb and a vegetable.
- ✓ Keep grab-and-go food on hand: nuts, jerky, protein bars, fruit.
- ✓ Choose water or zero-sugar drinks.
- ✓ Watch portion sizes at fast food stops.
- ✓ Small, steady meals and snacks keep your focus and mood level all shift.

FOR MORE NUTRITION GUIDANCE, CONTACT

KAMI PRIBNOW

320.309.9020
www.fitmisstraining.com
kami@fitmisstraining.com

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