



West Valley Fire Department

Issue 1 – Spring 2021

"Protecting And Serving Our Community"



Phase III Construction of Station 51

TW Clark Construction is wrapping up construction of Station 51 at 10000 Zier Rd. The addition to our existing Administration and Training Center adds 6,095 square feet of fire station space. Including, 4 additional apparatus bays, 4 restrooms with showers, 4 offices capable of conversion to bedrooms, a fitness center for all members of the District and a day room with kitchenette for in-station training and meetings. This new space will house our 30 operational on-call firefighters and 12 support members currently assigned to Station 51 as well as suit the needs of the Community for the next 20 plus years. In the future, when Covid guidelines allow, we plan to hold an open house/ribbon cutting ceremony with the Community.



NEIGHBORS helping NEIGHBORS

Yakima County Fire District 12 is currently accepting applications for the positions of Paid-On-Call Firefighters and Non-Combat Support Services. If you are a self motivated individual that is looking for a way to serve your Community in a fast paced, hands-on environment we encourage you to apply! The position of firefighter requires physical endurance. Firefighters respond to all types of incidents including structure and wildland fires, hazmat, all-risk incidents and emergency medical situations. If the physical aspect of firefighting does not appeal to you but you would still like to serve your Community, our Support Services team is also looking for members. Support Services, also known as "Rehab", primary function is to take care of our own members on extended incidents. This includes monitoring vitals, keeping members hydrated, as well as many other aspects of firefighter health and safety. If you are interested in either of these roles, please turn your application in, before 5PM on March 31st. Applications can be found online at www.westvalleyfire.com, or picked up/dropped off at our Administration office, located at 10000 Zier Rd, Yakima, WA 98908.



Strategic Plan 2021-2025



Strategic Priority 1: Personnel recruitment, selection, retention, and development.

Goal: Maintain an adequate number of members and fulltime staff to meet our Mission through established and expected service levels for response within one mile 8-minutes and 2-minutes per mile thereafter.

Strategic Priority 2: Financial management and accountability.

Goal: Meet the financial needs of the District while ethically and accurately managing the financial resources of the District in accordance with State and County laws.

Strategic Priority 3: Resource management.

Goal: Provide a sufficient number of stations and apparatus strategically located throughout the District to meet 8-minute response one mile from a station to all areas of high growth, population and commercial areas in the District. As well as provide and maintain efficient and effective apparatus and equipment to safely carry out the Mission of the Department.

Strategic Priority 4: Community accountability.

Strategic Issue: Ensure the District meets Community expectations for operations, fiscal accountability and public education.

Goal: Identify level of satisfaction, opinions and priorities of the Community in addition to Community awareness of current and proposed programs and capabilities.

DRIVE-THRU EGGSTRAVAGANZA

HOSTED BY: WEST VALLEY FIREFIGHTERS

Join us April 3rd from 1-2pm

1 Surprise per Kiddo

Kids must be present

Limited to supplies on hand

WFFA
Donations
Accepted

Calendar

- 3/9 Commissioner Meeting 7:00 pm
- 3/14 Daylight Savings Begins
- 3/23 Commissioner Meeting 4:00 pm
- 4/3 Easter Eggstravaganza 1:00 pm
- 4/4 Easter
- 4/13 Commissioner Meeting 7:00 pm
- 4/27 Commissioner Meeting 4:00 pm
- 5/9 Mother's Day
- 5/11 Commissioner Meeting 7:00 pm

2020 CALL VOLUME



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	%
Fires	116	12.43%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	650	69.67%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	31	3.32%
Service Call	40	4.29%
Good Intent Call	61	6.54%
False Alarm & False Call	35	3.75%
TOTAL INCIDENTS FOR 2020	933	100%



2020 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

- January: Scott Wellner
- February: Andrew Pfaff
- March: Ray Thomas
- April: Jason Tupy, Chase Tucker, & Mike Gohl
- June: Lindsey Christopher
- August: Randy Gohl
- September: Chris Lyons
- October: Greg Melroy
- November: Mat Weiler
- December: Andrew Pfaff & Chris Payne



YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #12
WEST VALLEY FIRE-RESCUE
10000 ZIER ROAD
YAKIMA, WA 98908

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Yakima, WA
Permit No. 1

****ECRWSS****
Postal Customer

Change Your Clock-Change Your Battery !!!

Preparing for Wildland Season

What can you do as a Residential or Commercial customer to help you and the West Valley Fire Department be prepared for vegetation fires? Simple....provide a buffer around your house or building to slow the pace of Wildland fire. In Wildland terms we call this a Defensible Space. So what is a defensible space? It is a zone that extends about 30 feet from your building around its perimeter. It is well maintained to limit radiant and convective heat as well as direct flame exposure to your building. This includes rockery, green lawns, limited combustible shrubbery (i.e. green leafy), etc. Other preventative items would be to remove overhanging tree branches from above roofs, remove combustible items from under or around decks, and move firewood piles to outside the 30 foot zone. For areas beyond the 30 foot green zone, trim down weeds and grasses to stubble less than 4 inches. Also provide a 6 foot clearance from the tree limbs. If you should have any questions or concerns please contact us for additional information at 509-966-3111. Information may also be found at: www.firesafemarin.org/defensible-space.com



YAKIMA COUNTY SOLE SOURCE AMBULANCE PROVIDER

Yakima County has accepted proposals for a sole source 911 ambulance provider. Stakeholders including Fire Departments developed the standards for the proposals over the past eight months. The new contract is designed to:

- Provide an even distribution of ambulances around the service area to meet performance-based response time requirements.
- Require ambulance type, age, mileage and what equipment/medications are carried and staff is trained to use.
- Increase the number of available 911 ambulances in service to handle expected call volume.
- Prevent circumstances where there are no available ambulances, or extended response times due to reduced staffing of ambulances.
- Reduce the wait time for an ambulance to calls for service.
- Ensure out of town inter-facility transports do not affect the 911 ambulance system.

We believe a sole source 911 ambulance contract will improve our ability to meet our Mission of preserving and protecting life then property through a partnership with the selected provider. If you have any questions regarding how this contract affects our West Valley Community please contact Chief Craig at 509-966-3111.

Reminder to Ahtanum State Forest Recreationalists

Our EMS response boundary in the Ahtanum area ends at the pavement. Yakima County Search and Rescue provides EMS services out into the forest along with private transport helicopters. If you are injured in the woods, as far as we can make it to you especially in the winter is to the Sno-Park. Please be prepared when recreating in the Ahtanum State Forest with communications, first aid supplies and GPS.

Keeping Your Community Safe and Warm

Portable electric space heaters can be a convenient source of supplemental heat for your home in cold weather, but they also increase the risk of fire and electric shock if not used properly. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), half of all home heating fires occur in December, January and February.

Here are some practical pointers for the safe use of space heaters in the home:

- Make sure your space heater has the label showing that it is listed by a recognized testing laboratory.
- Before using any space heater, read the manufacturer's instructions and warning labels carefully.
- Inspect heaters for cracked or broken plugs or loose connections before each use. If frayed, worn or damaged, do not use the heater.
 - Never leave a space heater unattended. Turn it off when you're leaving a room or going to sleep, and don't let pets or children play too close to a space heater.
 - Space heaters are only meant to provide supplemental heat and should never be used to warm bedding, cook food, dry clothing or thaw pipes.
 - UL listed-plugged directly to outlet, no extension cords.



Open Burn Season

Outdoor burn season runs from March 15-October 15. Burn permits are **REQUIRED** for the season and can be purchased at Stein's Ace Hardware or the Clean Air Agency. Please give us a courtesy call on the days you are burning to help prevent false alarms. 509-966-3111

