



West Valley Fire Department

"Protecting And Serving Our Community"



Issue 2 Summer 2020



Preparing for Wildland Season

What can you do as a Residential or Commercial customer in our jurisdiction to help you and the West Valley Fire Department? Simple.... provide a buffer around your house or building to slow the progress of Wildland fire propagation. In Wildland terms we call this a defensible space. So what is a defensible space? It is a zone that extends 30 feet or greater from your residence and outbuildings around its perimeter that is well maintained to limit radiant and convective heat as well as direct flame exposure to your home or outbuildings - this includes rockery, green lawns, limited combustible shrubbery (i.e. green leafy), etc. This alone is a very effective means of providing a passive fire protection feature to your home or building. Other preventative items would be to remove overhanging tree branches from above roofs or alongside walls, remove combustible items from under or around decks, and move firewood piles to beyond the 30-foot zone. A couple examples for areas outside the 30-foot green zone, trim down weeds and grasses to stubble less than 4 inches in height, ideally with a non-metallic cutter also provide a 6-foot clearance from the tree limbs to the ground.

If you are going to do any outdoor burns, please make sure to consider the following:

- Is there a burn ban in effect?
- Do you have a permit?
- Call our Office at 509-966-3111 between the hours of 08:00 AM thru 5:00 PM Monday-Friday to inform us so we can take steps to eliminate any potential false alarms.
- Please do not leave your fire unattended.
- Please have water readily available on hand to extinguish small fires before they become large fires.
- Please take into consideration the current and forecasted weather during your burn operation. If it's windy or expected to be windy make a change to your plans, fire behavior is very extreme when wind comes into the equation especially when the fuel moisture is low.

If you should have additional questions, or need more information please call us at 509-966-3111.

Strategic Plan Survey

Please take a moment to tell us how we are doing by completed a short 10 question Strategic Plan survey at www.westvalleyfire.com. We are continually looking to improve our services to YOU the citizens.

Mark your Calendar

September 2nd Open House
Come help us celebrate
60 years of serving our Community!!



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. If you see smoke in the distance, but can't determine what is on fire, odds are it is an outside burn, please verify before calling 911. Please give us a courtesy call on the days you are burning to help prevent false alarms.

509-966-3111



DO THE FIVE

HELP STOP COVID19

- 1) HANDS Wash them often
- 2) ELBOW Cough into it
- 3) FACE Don't touch it
- 4) FEET Stay more than 6ft apart
- 5) FEEL sick? Stay home



NATIONAL 18-24 MAY 2020
VOLUNTEER WEEK
CHANGING COMMUNITIES.
CHANGING LIVES.

National Volunteer Week is during the last week of May. This may be over but it is still a great time to thank our volunteers across the country who keep many organizations running, communities safe, and provide the services that otherwise would not exist without volunteers. We'd like to recognize our volunteer members who dedicate countless hours.

Thank You!

Calendar

May
29th Commissioner's Meeting 10AM

June
9th Commissioner's Meeting 7PM
23rd Strategic Planning Meeting 5PM

July
3rd July 4th-Office Closed
4th Independence Day
14th Strategic Planning Meeting 5PM
14th Commissioner's Meeting 7PM

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

PRSR STD
 ECRWSS
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 EDDM Retail

Local
 Postal Customer

2019 Service Awards



**2019 EMS Provider
 of the Year**
Dan Boisselle

Station: 52
 Years on Department: 12

LT. Dan Boisselle was nominated for the excellent patient care that he performs, his bedside manner, his ability to put the patients needs before anything else as well as his overall compassion that is displayed on a regular basis. Dan joined the Department in August 2007 and has developed over the years as one of our top responding Officers.



**2019 Firefighter
 of the Year**
Jason Wood

Station: 54
 Years on Department: 3

Firefighter Jason Wood joined our Department in 2016. This past year Jason has been active in training, response and events. His willingness to help has earned him the respect of his peers and the appreciation of his supervisors. Jason frequently assists with training and can usually be found taking difficult challenges head-on all with a smile on his face. In Jason's nomination he is noted as a member of great trust who through his daily actions demonstrates our PRIDE motto on and off duty, regardless of the task.

Anniversary Awards

5 Year

Matt Ball Wendy Stover
 Jessica Carter Mark Swanson
 Nick Dart Tim Wilsey
 Cindy Davis
 RJ Figueroa
 Brittany Hearron
 Mary Lou Shean

10 Year

Jay Deloza
 Sharon Gillette
 Kathy McCay
 Blake Scully

15 Year

Chris Blanchard

25 Year

Nathan Craig

40 Year

Wayne Haubrich

Bulldog

Cindy Davis

CPR Code Save

Angela Boyd Shauna Hubbard
 Leif Pray Kaimana Makalii
 Josie Gohl Chris Payne
 Blake Scully
 Mike Gohl
 Aaron Sutton
 Jake Hanses
 Carl Valmonte



COPING WITH STRESS DURING A TIME OF CRISIS

Unplug

Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including social media. Hearing about the pandemic repeatedly can be overwhelming.

Take Care of Your Body

Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals, exercise regularly, get plenty of sleep, and avoid alcohol and drugs.

Unwind

Try to do some activities you enjoy. It is very important to fit in that extra time for just yourself. Whether it's reading, walking, or doing crafts - fitting in at least 30 minutes to escape will be well worth it.

Pick up the Phone

Connect with others, and talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling. Take full advantage of technology like FaceTime, Skype, and other forms of video and voice communication!

Stick to the Facts

Understanding the actual risk to yourself and people you care about can make an outbreak less stressful. stick to one news source or just the CDC website for information.

