



WEST VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

"Protecting And Serving Our Community"

Issue II - 2022

FIRE - RESCUE

Paid-On-Call Members Needed: *Have you ever wanted to be a Firefighter?*

Apply Today!

If the answer is yes, and you have the desire and drive to serve others in their time of need – we are interested in meeting you! Currently the West Valley Fire Department is recruiting members to support our Mission in providing services to our 14,000 plus residents that reside in our 90 square mile Fire District. Being a public servant has many immeasurable rewards, there is no greater feeling of self-accomplishment than walking away from an incident where you helped another human in their worst possible time.



If firefighting isn't for you, we also have the need for members in our Support Services division. What is Support Services? It's a dedicated team of members that provide rehabilitation to our firefighters on longer lasting incidents. This group provides shelter, nourishment, rest, measures vitals, and fills air bottles – this group is a very valuable asset to our Department.

This hiring period we will be bringing back the Cadet program. To be eligible the minimum requirements for Cadet are: must be 16 years old by August 1st and be going into their Junior or Senior year in high school, have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA, and have a drivers license.

A little about us: The West Valley Fire Department is a Combination type fire department, what does that mean? Our Department consist of eight fulltime members (a Chief, a Finance Officer, a Secretary, a Deputy Chief, and four firefighters) which support our Paid-on-Call members who respond to our four strategically located stations within the district boundaries.

Our current application period is open now with applications due no later than May 31st with an Orientation day scheduled for August 1st. For more information, please contact Deputy Chief Johnston (509) 966-3111.

District Strategic Planning Online Survey-Your input is requested

The Fire District is in the process of updating our strategic plan. As a citizen of the District, you are a major stakeholder and your opinion regarding the future of our District matters. Our strategic plan provides guidance and direction to the District as it frames what we are, what we do and how we will accomplish our Mission. As a Fire District, to meet our Mission and achieve our goals, we must know where we are going, the environment we must operate within, and identify how we will get there.

This year we are updating the 2023-2027 plan while adding a new fifth year 2027. We have developed an online survey to gather the opinions of our constituents. Please take a few minutes to provide input to our plan through this online survey.

The strategic planning survey is available on our web site www.westvalleyfire.com on the right side of the page under "Quick Links". The survey will be available May 1st until May 31st.

*Thank You,
Chief Craig on behalf of the Board of Fire Commissioners*

Sign up to become a Safe Sitter!!

WVFD is offering a Safe Sitter babysitting class June 23rd & 24th from 9am-3pm. This **2-day** class is for 11-13 year old's and will be held at our Training Center at 10000 Zier Road. You will learn all the fundamentals for creating your "babysitting business". The cost is \$75, which includes an instruction manual and babysitting business material. Registration and class details can be found on our website at www.westvalleyfire.com or by stopping by our Administration Office.

Space is limited to the first 10 registered students. **You must attend BOTH days.** For more information (509)966-3111.



THE BEST SITTER IS A SAFE SITTER!!



American Red Cross

Blood Services

Our next Red Cross blood drive is coming up! If you would like to donate please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: WestValleyFire to schedule an appointment.

Monday, May 9th

12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

WVFD Training Center

10000 Zier Rd



Scan to schedule an appointment.

Open Burn Season

Outdoor burn season runs **March 15th-October 15th**. 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**.



Minutes Count!! Someone who is severely bleeding can bleed to death in as little as 5 minutes. That's why bleeding control – keeping the blood inside the

body – is so important. With three quick actions, you can be trained to save a life. The number 1 cause of preventable death after injury is bleeding, that's why we want to train **YOU** to STOP THE BLEED!!! Come join us for hands-on practical instructional (this is not the full course), hosted at all four of our Fire Stations!!

****Thursday May 19th - 5pm to 7pm****

- Station 51 10000 Zier Road
- Station 52 9102 Ahtanum Road
- Station 53 14901 Tieton Drive
- Station 54 11 North Fork Road

More information on **STOP THE BLEED** can be found at <https://www.stopthebleed.org/training>

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

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Safe Spring Cleaning

The longer days shine a light on—dirt in corners? Spring tends to ignite an urge to clean up and clear out. Just be sure your enthusiasm is matched with safe cleaning techniques:

- Put away household cleaning supplies out of reach of children.
- Keep hallways and exits clear of clutter, to prevent tripping and to have a clear escape path in case of fire.
- Dust or vacuum your smoke alarm and CO detector to keep them free of dust.

Parent Fire Safety Checklist

1. Install smoke detectors on every level of your home. Follow manufacture instructions for maintenance. If bedroom doors are kept closed at night, a detector should also be installed in each bedroom.
2. Prepare a home exit plan. There should be two exits from each room which means one exit could be a window. You may need to purchase chain ladders which would enable your family to exit from a second story window without injury. Such supplies are carried in local hardware and home improvement stores.
3. At least twice a year, practice a home exit drill with your family. Make sure your children know:
 - To tell a grown-up if they see smoke or flames.
 - To get out of the house when they hear the smoke detector.
 - Two ways to exit each room.
 - To go to your “family meeting place”.
 - Never to go back into a burning building.



2021 AWARDS

We would like to recognize & thank the following members for their continued dedication to our Department and Community:

10 YEAR

Andrew Pfaff
 Leif Pray

20 YEAR

Eric Biddick
 Commissioner Ken Eakin

30 YEAR

Carl Hendrickson

2021 RETIREMENT

Sharon Gillette

Special recognition goes to the following members:

2021 FF OF THE YEAR

Sharon Gillette

2021 EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

David James

CPR SAVE

D. Boisselle
 B. Hartman
 D. James

J. Nickolaus
 B. Vetsch
 B. Whitehurst

★ Congratulations! ★

IS YOUR HOME READY FOR WILDFIRE?



JOIN WILDFIRE READY NEIGHBORS: Reducing wildfire risk starts with our community. That's why we've partnered with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources to help every homeowner take action to get wildfire ready.

Every neighbor who signs up at WildfireReady.com by **June 19** will receive a **FREE** step-by-step Wildfire Ready Plan and get entered to win a **\$300 Coastal Farm and Ranch gift card**. While on the website, you can also request a free site visit from your West Valley Firefighters who will come to your house, evaluate it for wildfire risk, and provide you a plan on steps you can take to reduce the risk of your home being lost by a wildfire. Site visits will begin mid-May and end June 30th so sign up today!

Join your neighbors in reducing wildfire risk at WildfireReady.com.

Calendar of Events

May		
7	Spring Flea Market	9am
9	Blood Drive	12pm
10	Commissioner Meeting	6pm*
19	STOP THE BLEED	5pm
24	Commissioner Meeting	4pm*
30	Memorial Day (Office Closed)	
June		
14	Commissioner Meeting	6pm*
23-24	Safe Sitter Class	9am

*All Commissioner Meetings are held at 10000 Zier Road, Yakima, WA. Those wishing to attend via phone, please call 509-966-3111 to make arrangements ahead of time.

WVFD would like to send a special **THANK YOU** to Tony Padilla, at West Valley High School, for translating our Recruitment Brochure to Spanish!



Thank You!

SPRING Flea MARKET
 Sponsored by West Valley Firefighters Association
Saturday May 7th
 10000 Zier Rd. **9am-3pm**

COME FIND SOME AMAZING LAST MINUTE MOTHER'S DAY GIFTS!

Lunch Available!

75+ Vendors!