



# WEST VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE - RESCUE

ISSUE II - 2023

Spring Calendar of Events

## April

8	Easter Egg Hunt	10am
9	Easter	
11	Commissioner Meeting	5pm*
25	Commissioner Meeting	4pm*
25/26	EDITH House	

## May

8	Blood Drive	1pm
9	Commissioner Meeting	5pm*
14	Mother's Day	
18	WVFFA Farm Day	
23	Commissioner Meeting	4pm*
29	Memorial Day (Office Closed)	
31	Applications Due	

## June

10	Summer Flea Market	9am
13	Commissioner Meeting	5pm*
15/16	SafeSitter	9am
18	Father's Day	

## July

4	Independence Day (Office Closed)	
10	Blood Drive	1pm
11	Commissioner Meeting	5pm*

\*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.



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 8th & July 10th  
1:00pm to 6:00pm  
WVFD Training Center  
10000 Zier Rd

## Preparing for Wildland Season

What can you do as a Residential or Commercial customer in our Fire District 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, in wildland terms we call this a defensible space. What is a defensible space? It is a zone that extends 30 feet or greater from your home and / or outbuildings around its perimeter that is well maintained to limit radiant and convective heat as well as direct flame exposure. This can include 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. Examples of preventative ideas would be to remove overhanging tree branches from above roofs or alongside the walls, remove combustible items from under or around decks, and move firewood piles to beyond the 30-foot zone. 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 tree limbs to the ground.

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

- **Is there a burn ban in effect? Check <https://www.yakimacleanair.org/> for status.**
- **Do you have a permit? Permits can be obtained at locations listed on this link. <https://www.yakimacleanair.org/img/pdf/69.pdf>**
- **Call our Office at (509) 966-3111 between the hours of 0800 thru 1700 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.**
- **Do not burn after the sun goes down.**

If you should have any question's; please feel free to contact us for additional information.  
**(509) 966-3111.**

## ★2022 AWARDS★

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

### 5 YEAR SERVICE

David Goss	Leah Taylor
Jake Hanses	Jason Tupy
Kai Makalii	Carl Valmonte
Edward Smith	

### 10 YEAR SERVICE

Michael Parrish

### 15 YEAR SERVICE

Dan Boisselle

### 20 YEAR SERVICE

Randy Gohl

### 25 YEAR SERVICE

Brian Vetsch

### 45 YEAR SERVICE

Frank Woodin

### 2022 RETIREMENT

Scott Murphy

*Special recognition goes to the following members:*

### 2022 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Travis Schlaman

### 2022 EMS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

Jessica Pfaff

### 2022 BULLDOG AWARD

Chris Pedersen

### CPR SAVE

Jackson Abrams	Amie Gohl
Randy Gohl	Ben Hartmann
David James	Jim Johnston
Jim Mickelson	Edward Smith
Justine Vetsch	Jake Williams



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

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

\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*  
Postal Customer

*"Protecting And Serving Our Community"*

WEST VALLEY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION  
**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
Saturday, April 8th  
10:00am  
10000 Zier Road  
4 age groups ranging from 2-10 years old



**TAKE THE SURVEY**  
**Online Survey**  
The Fire District is in the process of updating our Strategic Plan. As a Citizen of our 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. The Strategic Planning survey is available on our web site [www.westvalleyfire.com](http://www.westvalleyfire.com) on the right side of the page under "Quick Links" the survey will be available on our site until May 15th.

**Summer Flea Market**  
Sponsored by West Valley Fire Fighters Association  
June 10th 2023 10000 Zier Road  
9am-3pm



**Sign up to become a Safe Sitter!!**  
WVFD is offering a Safe Sitter babysitting class June 15th & 16th 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 materials. Registration and class details can be found on our website at [www.westvalleyfire.com](http://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.



**KIDS CAMP**  
Aug 18th 9am-3pm  
Bike Rodeo  
Helmet Giveaway  
Mini Combat Challenge  
Spray Down Finale





**TAMPICO**  
**Paid-On-Call Members Needed:**  
**Apply Today!**  
*Have you ever wanted to be a Firefighter?*  
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 15,000 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 person when they needed it. The **Tampico** area is our main focus for recruitment. Currently this station is understaffed, quite frequently the help that is coming is from one of our other stations which can compound an emergency due to critical time delays. So, if you live in that area and are interested please come see us. We are also considering bringing instruction and training to the Tampico area Station 54, to facilitate efficient use of your time.

We also have a Cadet program. To be eligible, the minimum requirements for Cadet are: must be 16 years old by August 1<sup>st</sup>, be going into their Junior or Senior year in high school, have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA, and have a drivers license & auto insurance. Please note that this is limited program, so it's possible not everyone interested in being a Cadet will be brought on.


A little about us: The West Valley Fire Department is a combination fire department, what does that mean? Our Department consist of eight fulltime Members (a Chief, Finance Officer, Secretary, Deputy Chief, and four firefighters) which support our 85 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 31<sup>st</sup> with an Orientation day scheduled for August 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information, please contact Deputy Chief Johnston (509) 966-3111. Applications available online.



**Open Burn Season**  
Outdoor burn season runs **March 15th-October 15th**. Burn permits are **REQUIRED** by Clean Air (who regulate burning) 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.**

**WILDFIRE READY NEIGHBORS**  
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 30<sup>th</sup> so sign up today! Join your neighbors in reducing wildfire



**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK MAY 15-21 2023**