

NEIGHBORS *helping* NEIGHBORS

Mission Statement

The West Valley Fire Department is dedicated to the preservation and protection of life then property through education, prevention, emergency services and disaster preparedness.



For more information
contact us at 509-966-3111
10000 Zier Road
Yakima, WA 98908

Or look us up at
www.westvalleyfire.com

Our Culture

Unique individuals that form a family working hard to preserve and protect life then property for our neighbors. We have fun yet hold members safety in the highest regard by maintaining our abilities through realistic relevant training and quality equipment. Our family traditions include SERVICE, GIVING BACK to and CARING for our COMMUNITY, RESPECT, PATIENCE, VOLUNTEERISM, INCLUSIVENESS and SHARING IN THE PRIDE of our Department.

Share in the **PRIDE**

P Professionalism—attitude, training, no excuses, we do our best.

R Respect—the job, each other and those we serve.

I Integrity—trustworthy, hold each other to higher standards.

D Dedication—be there, be trained and help out.

E Empowered—if it's legal, ethical and the right thing to do, we do it!!

We strive to promote a culture of belonging through esteem in **PRIDE**. We motivate each other to live the culture of Mission first. To truly be a brother/sisterhood where members all work together for the common good.

Let's talk about you.....

If you choose to join our team, here are some things you can expect from us:

- ⇒ Coaching, Guidance and Mentoring
- ⇒ Safety
- ⇒ Excellent Training
- ⇒ Quality Equipment
- ⇒ Compassion
- ⇒ Opportunities and Experience
- ⇒ Personal Challenges, Rewards and Growth
- ⇒ Comradery / Family
- ⇒ Empowerment
- ⇒ Feeling of Accomplishment and Satisfaction
- ⇒ Hourly Pay and Benefits
- ⇒ Knowing you are helping your neighbor and Community!!!



Here is what we expect from you:

- ⇒ Positive Attitude
- ⇒ Loyalty and Dedication
- ⇒ Honesty and Trustworthiness
- ⇒ Willingness to Learn and Grow
- ⇒ Professionalism and Desire to Work Hard
- ⇒ Commitment to Continually Improve
- ⇒ Hands-On Approach
- ⇒ The need to give back to your Community
- ⇒ The ability to ask questions and communicate

Why Volunteer?

Why not?

Ask any volunteer member why they accepted the challenge. What was the cornerstone of their decision to become a volunteer? Each one will tell you in his/her own words that being a volunteer member satisfies the need to contribute to a worthwhile endeavor while helping others.

We all have a need to feel important. We want to accomplish certain goals and grow as a person. We need challenge in our lives, excitement in the midst of the daily routine, and a chance to form new and lasting friendships with people who share a common goal.

Volunteering provides many opportunities. You will enjoy a sense of achievement, increased self-respect, community and personal recognition. The rewards that come from helping others and the opportunity to perfect some skills and learn new ones.

The rewards are many—but volunteering still requires hard work. It is very demanding, mentally and physically. There are countless hours of training involved, requirements to be met, standards and professionalism to be upheld. Members are not highly compensated in the traditional way for their efforts.

There is, however, a payoff. The “payoff” comes from the PRIDE you will have in yourself and in our Department. It comes from the feelings of friendship and teamwork. It is the hardy hand shake of a grateful homeowner, a mother’s tears of gratitude, children’s awe as they see the inside of a fire truck and talk to real firefighters and the thankful smile of a neighbor in the community.

Why volunteer? Look inside yourself.....**YOU** will find the answer.



Who is a Volunteer?

The Volunteer Member is.....

A teacher, student, farmer, businessman/woman, nurse, contractor, office worker, and the list goes on and on.....

- ⇒ Someone who makes a personal sacrifice of time.
- ⇒ Someone performing in a volunteer capacity not for any monetary reward but purely for the satisfaction of helping their neighbor.
- ⇒ Someone who performs well under pressure and finds difficult situations challenging.
- ⇒ Someone who wants to make a contribution to their community.
- ⇒ Someone who is gratified by the simple words “Thank You”.
- ⇒ Someone who finds social satisfaction in being a part of a group of people bound together as a team.
- ⇒ Someone who is willing to roll out in the middle of the coldest night when a home or life is threatened.
- ⇒ Someone whom a child can look up to as an educator and friend.
- ⇒ Someone who inspires others with dedication selflessness and dependability.
- ⇒ Someone who goes beyond normal daily activities to the realm of serving whenever needed.

THAT SOMEONE COULD BE YOU!!!



Volunteer positions available.....

We are currently taking applications for the following positions:

- ⇒ Probationary Volunteer Firefighter
- ⇒ Rehab / Support (Non-Combat)
- ⇒ Cadet Firefighter

How it all began.....

Yakima County Fire Protection District 12 (West Valley Fire-Rescue) was organized in 1959 with three elected Fire Commissioners. The Fire District started with two rented buildings the first year to house a fire engine in each. In 1962 a third station was constructed on donated land and in 1964 a fourth station was built. The Fire District encompassed 60 square miles of land at that time and the assessed valuation was approximately 8 million dollars. In the first year of service the District responded to 60 alarms. The Fire District has always employed a career fire chief. In that initial year, he led 24 volunteer members.



Where we are today.....

Today the District employs four career staff, two full-time firefighters, 4 volunteer captains, 14 volunteer lieutenants and 90 professional volunteer members that respond to over 800 alarms a year. Three of the original stations have been replaced and the fourth expanded and remodeled. The annual budget is over 1.7 million dollars with 90 square miles serving over 14,000 customers. The District provides basic life-support emergency medical care services and is transport capable. All paramedic transports are provided by two private ambulance services based in the City of Yakima. EMS calls represent 60% of our call volume.

The District, in conjunction with the West Valley High School, teaches a Futures Fire Science class. Those successfully completing the class can apply for our Fire Cadet program. Three elementary grade schools in the District participate in various fire prevention programs.

The District has five command vehicles, five engines, three water tenders, one rescue/transport vehicle, five brush/rescue engines, one air unit and one rehab unit housed at the four stations.

The District works closely with neighboring departments and agencies such as Yakama BIA, Department of Natural Resources, City of Yakima Fire Department, Highland Fire Department and Yakima County Sheriff's Office.

How to apply.....

Applications can be obtained at the Administrative Office at 10000 Zier Road or on the website at www.westvalleyfire.com. Applications must be returned by March 31st.

Applicants for the position of volunteer firefighter and Rehab must be at least 18 years of age. Cadet Firefighters must be at least 16 years of age and completed the WVHS Fire Science Futures class. All applicants must live within the District's geographical boundaries, possess a valid Washington State driver's license and show proof of vehicle liability insurance. Full job descriptions for each position can be found on our website at www.westvalleyfire.com

Here are the benefits.....

The District's primary mission is to provide services to our Community, however as a member you will also receive the following benefits:

- ⇒ Hourly wage based upon rank.
- ⇒ Up-to-date protective clothing and equipment. The total cost of outfitting a member is more than \$5,000.
- ⇒ Workman's Compensation insurance through Board for Volunteers, along with a supplemental insurance policy.
- ⇒ Enrollment in the Board for Volunteers Pension Program.
- ⇒ Length of Service Incentive Program.
- ⇒ Ongoing Training.

How will you be trained.....

No experience necessary.....we will provide you with all the training you need!! Be prepared, training takes a lot of time and commitment, especially your probationary year. The Recruit Academy begins on your first day and runs through December. Schedules available upon request. Training is ongoing. Serving your community is a life long commitment to continuing education in order to stay proficient and safe!

➔ WHATS THE NEXT STEP ➔

FILL OUT AN APPLICATION AND RETURN BY MARCH 31ST

Applications are available online at www.westvalleyfire.com or at our Administrative Office located at 10000 Zier Road—Yakima.

ATTEND TRAINING—APRIL 7TH

You are encouraged to attend training at your prospective station at 7pm. This is your chance to meet the team, see the equipment and obtain first hand knowledge of how we operate.

WORK ABILITY TESTING / INTERVIEWS & TESTING

APRIL 17TH

The Work Ability Test starts at 9am and “tests” the physical aspects of the position.

After successful completion of the Work Ability Test, you will proceed to the interview and personal testing phase. This one-hour process is broken up in two parts, oral interview and personal aptitude testing. References are also checked at this step.

NOTIFICATION LETTERS

After the interview and testing process you will receive a letter within a week notifying you of your testing results.

MEDICAL PHYSICAL & DRUG TESTING

If you received a conditional offer of employment, you will also receive the necessary paperwork for a medical physical and drug test to be conducted by the District physician at the Districts expense. This must be completed by May 25th. Criminal background checks are also done at this step.

RECRUIT ACADEMY BEGINS—ON OR ABOUT JUNE 1ST

Recruit Academy begins with Recruit Orientation. Orientation is an opportunity for us to review relevant policies and procedures with you as well as fill out employment paperwork. Full Recruit Academy schedules are available upon request.