# WEST VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT



**Issue IV - 2026**

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors – Be Part of Something Bigger

Did you know the West Valley Fire Department is made up largely of Paid-on-Call members? Our members come from all walks of life—students, tradespeople, medical professionals, business owners, retirees, and more. What brings us together is simple: a desire to help our neighbors when they need it most. When an emergency happens, every minute matters. You could be the person who gets there first. If you have the desire, dedication, and drive to serve your community, we want to meet you. Firefighting isn't your thing? There's still a place for you! Our Support Services Division helps provide critical firefighter rehabilitation during longer incidents. Every role makes a difference!

**WHO WE ARE**

West Valley Fire Department is a combination fire department serving more than 15,000 residents across 90 square miles. Our Department operates out of 4 stations and is supported by 3 Commissioners, 8 full-time members, and more than 80 Paid-on-Call members.




**READY TO GET INVOLVED?**

Applications are available at 10000 Zier Road or online at westvalleyfire.com. Email completed applications to cboisselle@ycfd12.org. Applications Due: November 30th by 5pm. Questions? 509-966-3111

**YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU. WILL YOU ANSWER THE CALL?**

## STATE FUNDING SUPPORTS IMPROVEMENTS AT STATIONS 52 AND 54

STATE CAPITAL BUDGET LOCAL AND COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDS ARE HELPING WEST VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT IMPROVE ITS FACILITIES AND SUPPORT EMERGENCY READINESS.

FUNDING RECEIVED IN 2025 WAS USED TO INSTALL GENERATORS AT STATIONS 52 AND 54. THESE GENERATORS PROVIDE BACKUP POWER WHEN UTILITY SERVICE IS INTERRUPTED, HELPING THE STATIONS REMAIN AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT RESPONSE OPERATIONS.

IN 2026, THE DISTRICT USED THE SAME TYPE OF FUNDING TO REPLACE THE AGING PARKING LOT AT STATION 52. THE OLD CONCRETE HAD BECOME CRACKED AND UNEVEN, CREATING A SAFETY CONCERN. THE REPLACEMENT PROVIDES A SAFER, MORE DURABLE SURFACE FOR MEMBERS AND VISITORS.

WE APPRECIATE THE STATE LEGISLATORS WHO SUPPORTED THESE LOCAL PROJECTS AND HELPED BRING THESE IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR COMMUNITY.



## Investing in Firefighter Safety: WVFD Awarded FEMA Grant for New SCBAs




West Valley Fire Department has received a $596,000 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant to replace aging self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), the equipment firefighters wear to breathe safely in smoke-filled or otherwise hazardous environments.

The District's required match is $28,404. The grant will fund 55 SCBA units with cylinders, 55 spare cylinders, 76 masks, and 6 rapid intervention team (RIT) kits.

The District's current SCBAs were purchased in 2012, and their cylinders will reach the end of their service life in 2027. This award will help ensure firefighters have dependable breathing equipment for emergency response and training.

We are grateful for this federal investment in the safety of our members and the community we serve.

## 2027 Budget Update




The District is preparing our 2027 budget with a focus on maintaining reliable emergency response while managing taxpayer resources responsibly.

The proposed assessed value of property in the District is $2,544,812,788.

With new construction and a 1% increase in the levy, the District projects collecting $2,576,154 in property taxes for fire services in 2027. The estimated fire levy rate is $0.99 per $1,000 of assessed value, down from approximately $1.00 in 2026.

The budget supports the people, equipment, facilities, and training needed to serve our community. It also continues the District's practice of planning ahead for major equipment and facility needs while maintaining careful oversight of public funds.

We appreciate our community's continued support of the West Valley Fire Department!

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# "Protecting and Serving Our Community"

## Deck the Halls Safely This Christmas

The holiday season is around the corner, which means time for decorating, celebrating, and making memories with family–but don't let a decorating accident put a damper on your Christmas! Falls are among the most common injuries associated with holiday decorating, especially when hanging lights and decorations from ladders, roofs, or furniture.

Before you start decorating, take a few extra minutes to make safety part of your plan. Use a sturdy ladder or step stool on level ground–never a chair or other furniture. Keep both hands free when climbing, maintain three points of contact, and reposition the ladder rather than reaching or leaning too far. When decorating outdoors, avoid ladders in wet, icy, or windy conditions.

And don't forget fire safety! Check holiday lights for frayed cords or broken connections, use lights only as intended for indoor or outdoor use, keep decorations away from heat sources, and turn off lights before leaving home or going to bed.

A little extra caution can help keep your holiday bright, festive, and injury-free. From our WV Fire family to yours, have a safe and happy holiday season!

# CALENDAR

## NOVEMBER



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1st | Daylight Savings | |
| 9th | Blood Drive at St. 51 | 1pm to 6pm |
| 10th | Commissioner Meeting | 4pm* |
| 11th | Veterans Day | Office Closed |
| 14th | Fall Bazaar | 9am to 3pm |
| 26th | Happy Thanksgiving | Office Closed |

## DECEMBER



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|---|---|---|
| 8th | Commissoner Meeting | 4pm* |
| 21st | Winter Begins | |
| 25th | Merry Christmas | Office Closed |

## JANUARY 2027




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|---|---|---|
| 1st | Happy New Year | Office Closed |
| 11th | Blood Drive at St. 51 | 1pm to 6pm |
| 12th | Commissoner Meeting | 4pm* |
| 18th | MLK Day | Office Closed |

*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.

## Get Your Chimney Ready for Winter

Before lighting your first fire this season, have your chimney professionally inspected and cleaned by a qualified chimney sweep. A thorough inspection can identify potential hazards, while cleaning removes dangerous creosote buildup that can ignite and cause a chimney fire.

Be sure your chimney cap is secure and free of debris, leaves and animal nests. Taking these simple precautions can help keep your home and family safe throughout the colder months.

If you suspect a chimney fire, get everyone outside and call 911. Never attempt to put out a chimney fire yourself.




Fire Prevention Week was October 4th - 10th and this year's theme, "Safe Charging Is a Superpower," reminds us that simple everyday choices can help protect our families, homes, and community from preventable fires.

With cell phones, tablets, laptops, e-bikes, and other rechargeable devices largely becoming part of our everyday lives, lithium-ion battery safety is more important than ever. Always use manufacturer-approved chargers and charge devices on hard, flat surfaces away from flammable materials. Never charge under pillows or blankets, or use damaged or swollen batteries.

If a device becomes unusually hot, stop using it and unplug it if safe to do so. If there is no imminent danger and it is safe to handle, move it outside, away from flammable materials. Never handle a battery that is smoking or showing signs of failure.

Keep your home and family safe! Never throw rechargeable batteries in the trash. Visit batterynetwork.org/locator to find a battery recycling location near you.










**As you turn your clocks back for Daylight Saving Time, take a moment to check your smoke alarms! Remember to test your smoke alarms every month to ensure they're working properly. Need a new smoke alarm? Give us a call at 509-966-3111 or stop by our Administrative Office at 10000 Zier Road. Your safety is our priority!**