



THE FIRE WIRE

SUMMER 2017

NORTHERN LAKES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Administrative Offices
125 W. HAYDEN AVE.
HAYDEN ID 83835

JOIN US AT THESE UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS



Hayden Days—July 28-29

Parade, Children's Games, Live Music, Food & Craft Vendors, Wine & Beer Garden

www.cityofhaydenid.us



National Night Out—August 1

4:00-8:00 p.m. McIntire Park, Hayden

Entertainment, food, drinks, giveaways for children, crime prevention/personal safety information



North Idaho State Fair—August 23-27

Rodeo, 4-H events, live music, carnival rides, food & craft vendors, beer garden & more

www.northidahostatefair.com



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Northern Lakes Fire Fighter Annual Pancake Breakfast



7:00-9:30 a.m. Hayden Fire Station

Serving Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Coffee, OJ & Water

MEET THE EMERGENCY RESPONDERS WHO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY!

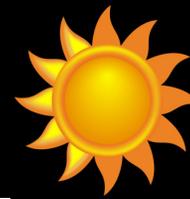
\$7
suggested donation for adults

All proceeds benefit the Benevolent Fund

Your input is valuable to us!
Please submit any ideas or requests for items to include in future editions of *The Fire Wire* to:

admin@northernlakesfire.com

TO RECEIVE THE NEXT EDITION OF *The Fire Wire* IN YOUR INBOX, PLEASE EMAIL US AT admin@northernlakesfire.com



**MESSAGE FROM
THE CHIEF**



I hope this message finds everyone healthy, happy and safe, and enjoying the summer weather! On behalf of everyone here at the Northern Lakes Fire District, it is truly an honor to provide fire and emergency medical services to such a fantastic community.



As your fire chief, I am committed to assuring that your fire district is ready, able and staffed in order to respond to any call for service that we receive. And I am proud to say that your elected board of fire commissioners, firefighters and administrative staff are dedicated to

providing the highest level of service in the most efficient and professional manner possible.

**Calls for service
up 40% over last
5 years**

So far in 2017, fire crews have seen a tremendous increase in the demand for emergency services as our population continues to grow. All our firefighters are also EMTs, providing specialized skills to increase positive outcomes of our responses.

**Crews respond
to an average
15 incidents
per day**

These skills require more and more training and recertification each year.

Our community is also seeing a steady increase in both residential and commercial developments. Fire crews are busier than ever providing fire safety inspections at local businesses and testing every fire hydrant annually.

In addition to emergency response, inspections and training, our firefighters participate in public education throughout the year, including Fire Prevention Month presentations at ten elementary schools in our District; providing fire safety education to more than 1,700 students in 2016.

**8 to 11 hours
per shift are
spent on calls
for service**

With the increase in call volume, population, and training requirements, we have taken steps to increase our staffing. Being fiscally responsible, the District was able to add one more on-duty firefighter each day for a total of three new members. Not only does the additional staffing increase safety for all of our responders, it also ensures the prompt and proficient service we provide to the public we serve.

**Respond from
two stations with an
engine company &
ambulance crew at
each location**

With the number of calls for service growing, we are averaging more than 25% of the day with all our units busy on incidents at the same time. This results in neighboring agencies responding to any new call during those times in our District; this is known as mutual aid. It has become apparent that our call volume justifies adding a third fully staffed fire station in our District.

We are actively seeking land and structuring our operational budget to build this new station in a location that will optimize response times. In addition, we have explored several funding possibilities and options for staffing another fire station.

Your continued support is beneficial as the Northern Lakes Fire District strives to maintain our level of customer service. In the coming months, I will be presenting a plan that will require voter approval to make a third fire station a reality. In the meantime, I am always open to suggestions, and ready to answer any questions or concerns you have.



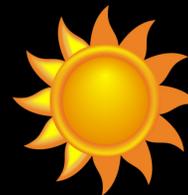
When you see your firefighters out in the community working hard to protect the public, be sure to say 'hi' and thank them for their service!

*Sincerely,
Pat Riley
Fire Chief*



208/772-5711

PRiley@northernlakesfire.com



RESPONSE DATA

3rd Quarter 2017



APRIL-JUNE

22

Fire Calls

818

EMS Calls

340

Other

↑ 3.2%

Calls
over
last
quarter

1,180 Total Calls

TOOL BOX

Our firefighters use hydraulic rescue tools, or extrication equipment, to assist with vehicle extrication of crash victims. These rescue tools include spreaders, cutters, rams and combination tools.

In addition to the extrication tool sets kept on the fire engines, the District keeps portable extrication tools on the ambulances as well.



Hydraulic rescue tools were first patented in 1961 by George Hurst after he watched rescue crews use circular saws for over an hour to cut open a car frame to extricate an injured stock car driver. Today's hydraulic tools can remove a car roof in roughly two minutes.

These important tools in the firefighter's "tool box" are used to allow better access to our patients, as well as to quickly and safely extricate victims by minimizing secondary injuries.



EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

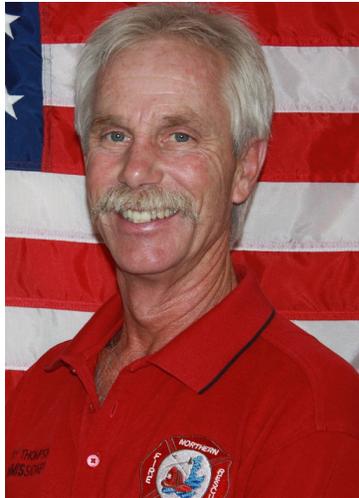
Terry Thompson

The Northern Lakes Fire District has five elected commissioners, each representing a sub-district within the boundaries of the entire District. Fire Commissioner Terry Thompson represents Sub District 5 covering the Twin Lakes and west Garwood areas.

Commissioner Thompson also serves as the current Board Chairman. It goes without saying that Terry has done an outstanding job helping guide our fire district to where we are today.

Starting as a commissioner with the Rathdrum Rural Fire District back in the 1990's, he served on the board during the consolidation with the Hayden Lake Fire District into one district, Northern Lakes Fire, to better serve the communities of and surrounding Rathdrum and Hayden. Terry then won election in 2006 to serve on the Northern Lakes Fire District board and has been serving ever since.

Terry brings decades of fire experience to our community from his 35 year career with the Spokane Valley Fire Department, retiring as an Assistant Fire Marshal in 2014. During his tenure with the Fire Prevention Bureau, Terry also served as a secondary handler of the SVFD arson dog K-9 Mako.



Terry Thompson, Fire Commissioner

Since retirement, Terry enjoys life with his family on Twin Lakes. When not working in his yard or attending commissioner meetings in the summer, you can find Terry riding around on his Harley Davidson motorcycle, water skiing or heading to the golf course for eighteen holes. The colder months allow Terry to head to the mountains for snowmobiling or snow skiing.

A local boy all his life, Terry was born in Spokane in 1958. He married his high school sweetheart, Kelli, and they have two daughters, five grandsons and one granddaughter.

If you see Terry out on the lake or golf course, make sure you thank him for his years of dedicated fire service. Better yet, attend a board meeting on a second or fourth Tuesday of the month and see him in action!

By Jim Lyon, Deputy Fire Marshal/PIO

Firefighter Jarrod Pitts was awarded the 2017 EMT of the Year by the Kootenai County Emergency Medical Services System (KCEMSS) in May. Recipients for this annual award are nominated by their peers to recognize excellence in the performance of their duties as emergency medical services providers. Jarrod was previously awarded as the 2015 Northern Lakes Fire District Firefighter of the Year.

In addition to his outstanding job performance as a Firefighter and EMT, Jarrod spearheaded and annually coordinates the District's hands-only CPR classes at Timberlake and Lakeland High Schools,

EMT OF THE YEAR

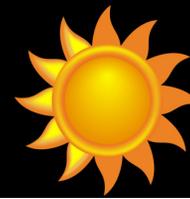
organizes the District's annual hose testing and is a member of the District's Honor Guard. Jarrod volunteers his time in our community for the annual Fill-the-Boot fundraiser for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and the MDA Summer Camp held at Camp Twinlow each year.

The District is proud to have Jarrod as an invaluable member of its team of dedicated employees. His dedication, committed work ethic, and positive attitude set the standard at Northern Lakes Fire.



L-R KCEMSS Chief Chris Way, Firefighter Jarrod Pitts





What is Electric Shock Drowning (ESD)?

Electric shock drowning happens when electricity from a dock, marina, pool, hot tub, or boats connected to the marina or dock power supply, seeps into the water and electrifies it. As swimmers enter the water the low level AC electricity paralyzes their muscles, causing them to drown. What's more, trying to rescue someone experiencing electric shock drowning remains difficult because anyone entering the water receives a disabling stun as well.

Although ESD can happen in any location where electricity is located near water, the majority of deaths have occurred near public and private docks and marinas; the typical victim is a child swimming in or around a dock or marina where electricity is present. There is no visual warning that water may be electrified and it doesn't take much electricity to cause drowning; as little as 1/50 the current in a 60-watt light bulb can be fatal to a swimmer. **If you start to feel a tingle in the water, immediately swim away from the dock, boat, or source of electricity.**

Summer Safety

- Stay at least 50 yards away from a marina when swimming and 100 yards away from docks. (A football field is 100 yards)
- Use a plastic ladder, rather than a metal one, so it won't help transfer electricity into the water.
- Have your dock, boat, or hot tub tested annually by a certified electrician, including the ground fault circuit breaker.

For more information on ESD, visit

<http://www.electricshockdrowning.org/>

Public Education

The Northern Lakes Fire District provides an array of public education programs and presentations in our community.

In addition to visiting all elementary schools during Fire Prevention Month each October, the District schedules fire prevention presentations at pre-schools and daycares. Pre-school aged children are twice as likely to become fatalities in a home fire as other ages.

In addition to presenting fire prevention messages, the District's Prevention Bureau is qualified to provide fire extinguisher training, car seat inspections, and juvenile fire setter intervention.

To learn more about our public education programs, please contact the Bureau during business hours, Monday through Friday, at 208/772-5711.



FYI—10 Digit Dialing

August 5th

Starting August 5th, a second Idaho area code is being added and callers will need to dial the 208 when calling even a local Idaho number.

If you have a 208 area code, you won't have to change your phone number, but you will need to update speed dialers and voicemail settings.

986 Area Code

September 5th, any new phone numbers in the state could be assigned the new area code.

An area code will NOT be necessary when calling 9-1-1

The new 10-digit dialing can also affect medical alert devices and security systems. Be sure to contact your provider to make sure the devices are updated immediately.

For more information: <http://www.puc.idaho.gov/>