

# THE FIRE WIRE

THE NORTHERN LAKES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2016

## Wildland Fire Season

Wildland fire season in the western U.S. is normally at its peak in July and August. In 2015, more than 700,000 acres burned across Idaho during a five-month long fire season. A total of 63 residences and 79 other structures were lost last season due to wildfires fought by the state.

The wildland/urban interface (WUI) refers to areas where people have built homes in or near adjacent wildland areas. WUI areas often border state or federal forests where fire-based ecosystems exist with plants that depend on periodic fires to maintain their structure and function. As more people build homes in forested areas, they become part of this interface where the urban environment meets the wild.

Because wildfire is a natural part of the Inland West ecosystem, residents living in WUI areas should learn to prepare accordingly, just as residents in other parts of the country prepare for tornadoes, floods and hurricanes.

The District's Fire Prevention Bureau uses a Wildfire Home Protection Zone Evaluation Form to identify risks and recommend steps that can be taken to protect your home in a wildland fire situation. Please contact the District to request an Evaluation Form or to schedule a site visit assessment of your property by our Bureau personnel.

To reach the Bureau, call 208-772-5711 during business hours Monday through Friday or contact personnel directly:

Fire Marshal Tyler Drechsel at  
[tdrechsel@northernlakesfire.com](mailto:tdrechsel@northernlakesfire.com)

Deputy Fire Marshal Jim Lyon at  
[jlyon@northernlakesfire.com](mailto:jlyon@northernlakesfire.com)



For further information on wildfire preparedness, visit [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)

**Plan** on becoming Fire-wise by identifying the hazards around your home.

**Prepare** by creating survivable space to protect your home.

**Prevent** wildfires this summer by using caution with anything that can cause a spark.

## SUMMER CALENDAR

### JULY

#### 22-23 Hayden Days

Parade, Live Music, Food & Craft Vendors, Beer Garden & Much More

[www.cityofhaydenid.us](http://www.cityofhaydenid.us)

### AUGUST

#### 2 National Night Out

Hayden City Park 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Hosted by Kootenai County Sheriff's Office & Target

ID-A-KID Fingerprinting, DJ w/ Music, K9 Demonstration, Fire Hose Operation & Training for Kids, and Much More

#### 24-28 North Idaho State Fair

Rodeo, 4-H Events, Carnival Rides, Food & Craft Vendors, Beer Garden, Live Music & Much More

[www.northidahostatefair.com](http://www.northidahostatefair.com)

## SUMMER CONCERTS

Rathdrum-Friday Evenings through August 13

[www.rathdrum.org](http://www.rathdrum.org)

Hayden-Thursday Evenings through August 18

[www.handshakeproductions.net](http://www.handshakeproductions.net)

To receive the next edition of the Fire Wire in your inbox, email us at:

[admin@northernlakesfire.com](mailto:admin@northernlakesfire.com)



Saturday • July 23rd

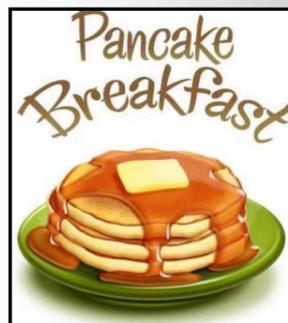
7am to 9:30 am

Fire Station 1

125 W. Hayden Ave., Hayden



MEET YOUR FIREFIGHTERS!



All You Can Eat Breakfast  
Pancakes  
Eggs  
Sausage  
Coffee, OJ and Water

Suggested donation of \$7 for adults only

All Proceeds benefit the Benevolent Fund



# Employee Spotlight

Employee of the Quarter

**David Sherman**  
**NLFPD Firefighter/EMT**

Our Employee of the 2nd Quarter 2016 has been full time with the District since 2006. David Sherman began his firefighting career in Texas where he was an active member of the Bridge City Fire Department. While there, he achieved the rank of Captain, was a member of the Dive Team, and even held the office of Fire Department Commissioner for a year. David's full time job in Texas before relocating to north Idaho was as a railcar inspector and repairman for an industrial complex for almost 13 years.



With his faithful dog, Maggie, David can be found off duty hunting, fishing, target shooting and cycling.

We are thankful that after a year of hard work and therapy, David returned full time to the line last December after recovering from a fall from a tree while hunting.

When you see David, please give him a pat on the back and a "welcome back" to making our community a better and safer place to live!

*by Jim Lyan, Deputy Fire Marshal/PIO*

After 36 years in Texas, David moved to north Idaho and began volunteering for Timberlake Fire and was a member of their resident program. In 2005, David was hired as a temporary firefighter/EMT with Northern Lakes which turned into a full time job in 2006. Currently holding the position of Firefighter/EMT, David is working on his training to become a Working Out of Class Engineer.



Photo by Chris Chaffe



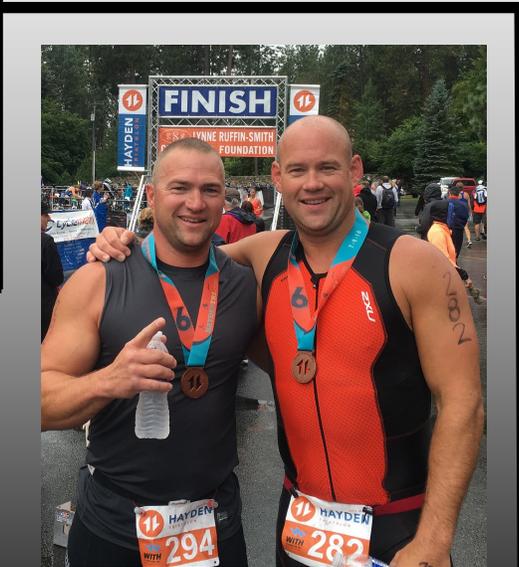
**Justin Brodin**  
**Ironman 70.3 CDA**

Justin has been a Firefighter/EMT with Northern Lakes Fire District since January 2015.

- ⇒ Ironman 70.3 in 2015  
FINISH 6 hours, 57 minutes
- ⇒ Ironman 70.3 in 2016  
FINISH 6 hours, 35 minutes

Justin says he improved his overall time by 22 minutes by focusing on weight and cross training over the last year.

Congratulations Justin!



## Hayden Triathlon 2016

Left—Right Firefighter Eric Sorenson won 2nd Place and Firefighter Justin Brodin 1st Place in their age group at this year's event involving a 1/2 mile swim, 12 mile bike ride and 3.1 mile run.



# Training News



Photo by Jessica Monroe

Two fire engines form a corridor for "contaminated" students to walk through

## Mass Decon Drill

A mass decontamination drill took place on May 17th with the participation of about 50 students at Lakeland High School. With the schools close to railroad tracks in our District, it's important to train our crews in the event of a hazardous spill or contamination as the first responders before the Idaho State Region 1 Hazardous Materials Response Team arrives.



"Contaminated" students are sprayed with fire hoses while turning 360 degrees to wash the contaminants off

## Mock DUI Crash

The 6th Annual Mock Crash was held June 3rd at Lakeland High School. Started in 2011 at the request of ISP Chaplain Anita Kronvall, this event is designed to send a realistic message to graduating seniors in our District, including an assembly, death notification and mock crash scene. The fatal crash scenario is designed to mimic as close as possible what a real crash scene looks like. The hope is that the impact will stay with the students when facing a future decision to drive while under the influence.

The event only happens with the participation of Lakeland High School students, parents and staff; the Kootenai County Substance Abuse Council; Kootenai County Central Dispatch, Kootenai County Sheriff's Dept.; Idaho State Police; Life Flight Network; Schaffer's Towing; Bell Tower Funeral Home; and the Rathdrum Police Department.



## Extrication Training

Northern Lakes Fire District responded to more than 120 motor vehicle injury accidents between June 2015 and June 2016. Depending on the accident, some victims cannot safely be taken out of the vehicle and require the vehicle to be removed from around them. Our first responders are trained in the use of specialized extrication tools.

Thanks to the support and generosity of Superior Towing in Hayden, thirteen vehicles were donated for all three of our fire battalions to participate in Extrication Training this June.





# Facts & Figures



Structural firefighters' protective clothing, or turnout gear, is designed to protect them from the thermal environments experienced during fire fighting and must meet national safety standards

**Turnout Coat \$1,075**

**Turnout Pants \$735**

**Nomex Hood \$36**

**Suspenders \$31**

**Composite Helmet \$325**

**Eye Shield \$49**

**Kevlar Gloves \$75**

**Pelican Flashlight \$89**

**Leather Bunker Boots \$265**

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) allows firefighters to breathe safely in hazardous environments. They are equipped with a remote gauge and low air alarm which alerts the firefighter when the air supply drops to 25%

Turnouts consist of an outer shell, a moisture barrier and a thermal layer. The outer layer consists of fire retardant material; the moisture barrier protects against getting soaked during firefighting operations which could cause problems such as steam burns; and the thermal layer helps insulate against intense heat

**Portable 2-Way Radio \$2,000**

**SCBA and face piece with spare air bottle \$6,000**

**It can cost upwards of \$10,000 to properly outfit a firefighter**

## 2016 Response Data

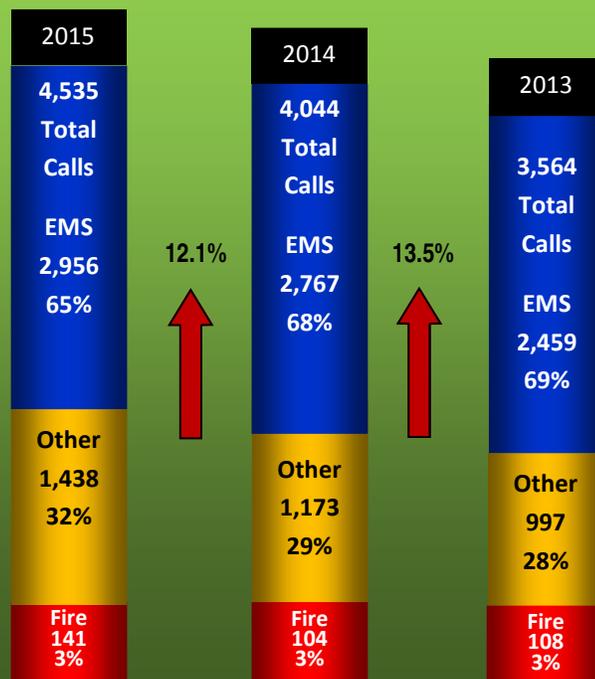
January through June

EMS Calls	1,598
Fire Calls	42
Other	630
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,270</b>

Total Calls by Month

January 393	February 334	March 369
April 376	May 372	June 426

## Historical Call Volume Last 3 Years





## Structure Fire Response



Just before 1:00 a.m. on July 5th, the District responded to a call for a structure fire on Hayden Haven Road with mutual aid provided by the Coeur d'Alene Fire Dept. Upon arrival, first responders found a small garage fully involved with the residence next to it more than 80% involved. All of the home's occupants had safely self-evacuated. A subsequent fire investigation was unable to determine the cause of the fire.



## Fire Boat 590

The District's 1999 Sea Ark was purchased in 2002 and refurbished in 2015. The Hayden Lake Country Club generously allows the fire boat to be moored at their docks when not in use. Fire Boat 590 responds to medical calls, wildland fires, as well as structure fires including the recent fire on Hayden Haven Road above.



## THE FIRE WIRE

*A quarterly newsletter by the Northern Lakes Fire Protection District*

**ON THE WEB:** [www.northernlakesfire.com](http://www.northernlakesfire.com)



[Facebook.com/nlfpd](https://www.facebook.com/nlfpd)

*Your input is valuable!*

*Please submit any ideas or requests for items to include in future editions of The Fire Wire to:*

[admin@northernlakesfire.com](mailto:admin@northernlakesfire.com)