



PROUDLY SERVING THE AREAS OF AND SURROUNDING HAYDEN AND RATHDRUM, IDAHO

MESSAGE from the CHIEF



Greetings and thank you for taking the time to read our spring newsletter! I hope you are enjoying the warm weather and able to spend more time outdoors in our beautiful area. The Northern Lakes Fire District proudly provides exceptional emergency medical services, structural and wild land fire protection, fire prevention and public education services with a genuine commitment to those we serve. We are dedicated to saving lives and protecting property in our community in the most cost effective way possible and I am proud to continue to lead one of the finest groups of dedicated professionals in the fire service.

At more than mid-way through our fiscal year, the District continues to maintain costs in ALL areas of our budget allowing us to purchase/replace critically needed equipment. Our goal is to make the best use of department resources to improve our services while remaining committed to community safety, firefighter safety, and financial stewardship.

The District continues to set many new records in responses, growth and demand for services. A concerning statistic is our reliance on mutual aid (other fire departments) responding into our district for calls that we were not available to respond to. This occurs when our on-duty companies are already on at least two other incidents when a 3rd call comes in. In 2017 this occurred more than 1,100 times.

From an operational standpoint, I have determined there is a serious need to open another staffed fire station in the District. A permanent override levy of \$1.2 million would provide funding for the additional Firefighter/EMTs to staff this 3rd station. In an effort to reduce the burden to our constituents we have decided to renovate an existing building rather than build a new fire station. This station is situated east of Highway 95 on Hudlow Road. We have worked hard to create a budget to purchase fire equipment and apparatus to go into the proposed fire station with no additional burden on the taxpayer.

The proposed third fire station is in a central location that will help maintain constant coverage in a fast growing area of the fire district but also provide another fire engine to respond to all other areas within the district during peak calls times. An election will be held May 15 and you are encouraged to get out and vote.

I encourage you to contact me with questions, comments and concerns you may have. And please be sure to say "hi" to your dedicated firefighting crews when you see them out working hard to protect those that we serve.

Pat Riley
Fire Chief

pwiley@northernlakesfire.com



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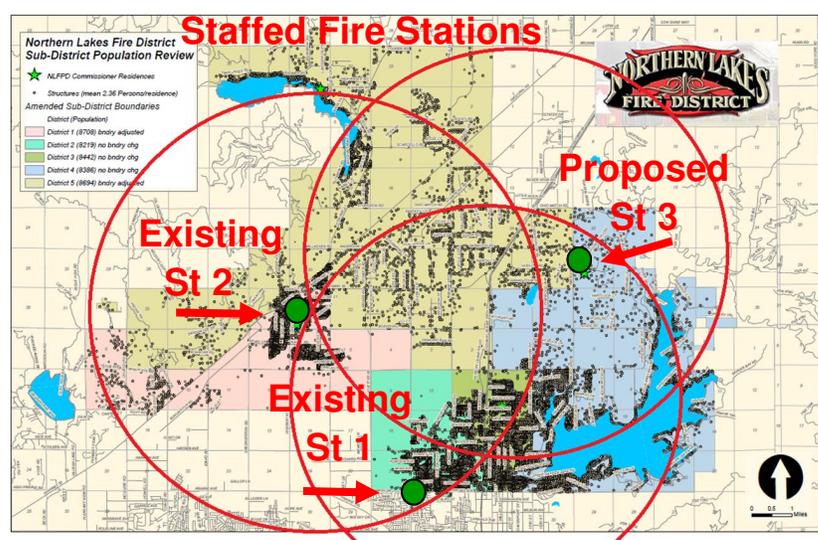
Profiles of our call volume

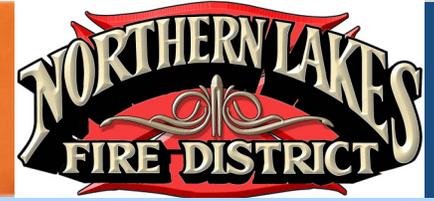
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PROUDLY SERVING THE AREAS OF AND SURROUNDING HAYDEN AND RATHDRUM, IDAHO

ABOUT US



The Northern Lakes Fire Protection District was organized in October 2000 with the consolidation of two neighboring fire districts; the Hayden Lake Fire Protection District and the Rathdrum Rural Fire Protection District.

Today the District serves five communities with more than 42,000 residents in approximately 106 square miles out of two staffed stations; in Hayden and in Rathdrum. We also provide automatic and mutual aide to more than ten other fire agencies in north Idaho.

Northern Lakes Fire is a political subdivision of the state of Idaho and not a department of any city or county. The five-member board of fire commissioners are elected by the public at large to four-year terms, representing the five sub-districts within our boundaries. As the governing body, the board manages and conducts the business and affairs of the District.

The District employs 36 full-time career firefighters that are all certified as either emergency medical technicians (EMT) or paramedics. The District's three fire/rescue battalions staff a minimum two-person Engine Company and two-person ambulance crew at both the Hayden and Rathdrum fire stations on a 24 hour basis. Each battalion includes a Battalion Chief, 2 Captains, 2 Engineers and 8 Firefighter/EMTs. The three battalions work 48 hour on and 96 hour off shift schedules.



Northern Lakes Fire is part of a fire-based EMS system in Kootenai County (KCEMSS), providing basic life support (BLS), advanced life support (ALS), and transport to our communities. The District staffs two ALS ambulances 24/7 with a minimum 2-person crew each, including a Paramedic.

The Fire Chief is tasked with managing the daily operations of the district under the direction of the Board of Fire Commissioners. A full-time Training Chief & EMS Chief help ensure proper training and education to maintain our high level of proficient and competent service to the public. Unlike the emergency response personnel, Administration Chiefs work normal business hours at our Administrative Offices in Hayden but are on-call 24 hours a day to respond to emergency calls when needed.

In addition to standing ready to respond to a wide range of emergency situations, the District also staffs a Fire Prevention Bureau with a Fire Marshal and Deputy Fire Marshal. The Bureau works with our communities to promote health and safety; these activities include construction project reviews, fire inspections, alarm testing, fire drills, and enforcement of fire code.

DID YOU KNOW?

As a fire protection district, Northern Lakes Fire is not a department of any city or county government

We are governed by five fire commissioners elected by the public to four-year terms

In 2000, the District responded to an average of 2 calls per day out of two staffed stations; in 2017 daily calls averaged 14 out of the same two stations

The Bureau also coordinates the District's Public Education Programs throughout our communities in such places as schools, public events, and community organizations. Many different programs are conducted throughout the year including CPR & first aid classes, school programs, station tours, fire extinguisher training, child car seat inspections, just to name a few.

As a fire protection district operating independently of all other local government agencies, Northern Lakes Fire has its own administrative office staff which provides support to the District. Currently the front office staff consists of an Executive Assistant and two Administrative Assistants; they are responsible for finance, payroll, accounts receivable and payable, records management, HR functions, and a wide array of customer service. The District Administrative Offices are located at 125 W. Hayden Ave. in Hayden and are open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Spring is the time of year when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade - Charles Dickens

PROUDLY SERVING THE AREAS OF AND SURROUNDING HAYDEN AND RATHDRUM, IDAHO

EMPLOYEE of the Quarter

Our Employee of the Quarter for Spring 2018 can't be any more local and is a true representative of what living in North Idaho is all about. Firefighter Ryan Alltus truly defines what an outdoor enthusiast looks like and the type of person that makes our fire district special. Everyone at Northern Lakes Fire has become accustomed to looking at the tremendous outdoor photos Ryan has taken each year, usually with him smiling in front of a trophy elk or deer.



Firefighter Ryan Alltus

Born and raised in the Coeur d'Alene area, Ryan has held jobs in several local businesses. He began his employment as a busser and dishwasher at different restaurants then moved "up" to being a lot boy at a car dealership for two years during his senior year of high school. After graduating, Ryan became a bell hop and valet at the Coeur d'Alene Resort for three years before going into construction work. While there, he and a friend took an EMT class and began volunteering with Northern Lakes Fire District. Doing both jobs to make ends meet, Ryan was offered a temporary job with Northern Lakes in the spring of 2012 which eventually turned into a full-time position in December of the same year. He has been a hard



charger ever since and is a member of the rope rescue team, assists with the management of the crews' turnouts, and even helps with annual fitness testing of his fellow firefighters.

Some of the outdoor activities you can find Ryan involved with include hunting (you really need to see some of his pictures), fishing, hiking, skydiving, camping, dirt biking, boating, exercising...is it even a question that you can rarely find Ryan indoors, no matter what the weather is? Ryan met the love of his life, Whitney, and they were married this past year. Backpacking in search of mountain lakes and huckleberries awaits them both this summer.



Even with his busy life at home, work and the out-of-doors, Ryan continues to fill up any gaps of his time by splitting and delivering firewood in the summer to doing taxidermy work for friends and family in the colder months. To say he has energy is truly an understatement! Ryan is strongly considering taking on the demanding



pursuit of becoming a paramedic which only makes sense after realizing he is a man not happy sitting down much. He is also heavily involved in his church and loves working with youth whenever he can.

Northern Lakes Fire District is so fortunate to attract such hard working and dedicated firefighters like Ryan to serve our community. When you get the chance, please thank Ryan for all his hard work and for goodness' sake, ask to see some of his outdoor pictures....you'll be amazed!

By Jim Lyon, Deputy Fire Marshal/PIO



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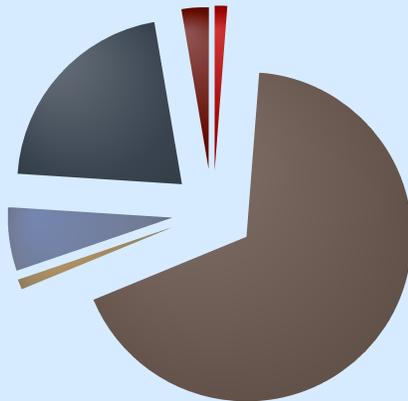
OPERATIONS

Call Volume Y-T-D

January 461
 February 341
 March 416
 April 414



- Fire
- Rescue/EMS
- Hazardous Condition
- Service Call
- Good Intent Call
- False Alarm



IN COMPARISON (Jan - Apr)

2017	2018 (+7.2%)
TOTAL: 1,523	TOTAL: 1,632
Fire 33	Fire 26
Rescue/EMS 1,077	Rescue/EMS 1,112
Other 413	Other 494

Calls for Service in 2018 YTD (Jan - Apr)

Incident Type	Number
Structure Fire	17
Wildland, Grass Fire	1
Vehicle Fire	3
Illegal Burn	5
Rescue/EMS Incident	907
Motor Vehicle Accident	61
Medical Assist	2
EMS Transport (Non Emergency)	110
EMS Transport (Critical Care)	31
Water/Ice Rescue	1
Flammable Liquid Spill	1
Hydraulic Fluid Spill	1
Gas Leak	4
Electrical Wiring/Equip Problem	8
Power Line Down	1
Vehicle Accident Clean Up	1
Open Burning Extinguishment	2
Service Call	47
Person in Distress	8
Animal Rescue	3
Assist Law Enforcement, Other	1
Assist Invalid	42
Good Intent Call	321
Authorized Burning Check	10
Smoke Scare, Odor	3
Hazmat Investigation, Cleared	1
False Alarm, Call	40



PROUDLY SERVING THE AREAS OF AND SURROUNDING HAYDEN AND RATHDRUM, IDAHO

SAFETY & PREVENTION

Carbon Monoxide Danger

In February, investigators believe two Coulee City, WA residents were killed in their home by carbon monoxide poisoning from either a propane appliance or propane heater. Then in March, a Coeur d'Alene couple was overcome by carbon monoxide in their home, tragically killing one of them.

The Centers for Disease Control reports that approximately 20,000 Americans visit the emergency room each year due to accidental CO poisoning not linked to fires and at least 400 people die. While most poisonings happen in the winter when indoor heating sources are most frequently used, CO poisoning can happen at any time of the year.

Carbon monoxide is found in fumes any time you burn fuel in vehicles or boats, small gasoline powered equipment like chain-saws & weed trimmers, lanterns, grills (gas, charcoal or wood), fireplaces, gas ranges, or furnaces. CO can build up indoors and poison people and animals who breathe it.

Anyone who suspects carbon monoxide poisoning should get to fresh air immediately and call 911 from a safe place




Install and test carbon monoxide (CO) alarms at least once a month.

CO is called the "invisible killer" because it's a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. Breathing in CO at high levels can be fatal.

U.S. Fire Administration | FEMA

Symptoms of CO Poisoning

- Headache
- Dizziness
- Weakness
- Upset Stomach
- Vomiting
- Chest Pain
- Confusion
- "Flu Like" Symptoms

Preventing CO Poisoning

- Install CO detectors on each level of your home, in the hallway near each sleeping area
- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, or garage, or less than 20 feet from any window, door or vent
- Never use a portable gas camp stove indoors
- Never use a gas range or oven for heating
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned every year
- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil or coal burning appliances serviced every year
- Make sure gas appliances are vented properly and never patch a vent pipe with tape, gum, etc.

Open Burning Rules

It is that time of year when many of your neighbors are busy cleaning up dead-fall from the winter and burning their piles. All burning in the Northern Lakes Fire District, except for small recreational fires, require a burn permit **year round**. Burn permits can be obtained at no cost by going to the Idaho Dept. of Lands (IDL) website at www.burnpermits.idaho.gov and are good for ten days; permits can also be renewed on the IDL burn permit website.

The District receives many calls during open burning season reporting nuisance smoke from burning of yard waste. If you are burning please be considerate of your neighbors.

If one of your neighbors is burning and you are concerned with the smoke emissions from their fire, please remember that as long as the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has approved the day as a **green** burning day, the Fire District has no control over smoke emissions; we cannot put out a fire because of smoke.

As always if a fire is a danger because of weather conditions, items being burned illegally, or during a burn ban please call 911.

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL BURN

Check weather forecast, air quality & fire danger level before burning

Keep burn pile free of dirt to allow for a complete burn

Start fire small and feed it as it burns down

Follow all open burning rules

Remember burn smart, burn safe and be considerate of your neighbors!

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IN REMEMBRANCE

Anson Gable 1943-2018

For 25 years, Anson Gable called the fire station on Hayden Avenue his second home. He started in 1978 as the Station Attendant for the Hayden Lake Fire District, eventually becoming the department's first paid employee. By the late 80's, Anson had become qualified to hold the position of Fire Marshal, as well as a Special Deputy Arson Investigator for the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department. Anson retired from the fire district in 2003, but continued to serve on the Hayden city council from 2001 to 2009. His dedication to public service and contributions to our community will not soon be forgotten.



Anson passed away following a short illness in March, and we will always be grateful that he and his wonderful wife, Connie, were able to attend our Annual Awards Banquet in February. He is survived by Connie, their three sons, twelve grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. The District's fire boat on Hayden Lake was christened the 'Anson Gable' in honor of his 25 years of dedicated service.

L-R Fire Marshal Anson Gable (ret.), Fire Marshal Dean Marcus (ret.), & current Fire Marshal Tyler Drechsel



Visit us on the Web at www.northernlakesfire.com

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Please email us to be included on our mailing list

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Board Meetings
2nd & 4th Thursdays
10:00 a.m.
125 W. Hayden Ave.
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Larry R. Clark
David P. Halpin
Terry J. Thompson
James C. Washko

Fire Chief
Patrick W. Riley