

IN THIS ISSUE

PAGES 1-2
MESSAGE
FROM
THE CHIEF

PAGE 2
RESCUE
EQUIPMENT

PAGE 3
PRESCRIBED
FIRES

PAGE 4
OPERATIONS
UPDATE

PAGE 5
EMERGENCY
VEHICLES ON
THE ROAD

PAGE 6
FIRE PREVENTION
MONTH



MESSAGE
from the CHIEF

Hello from the Office of the Fire Chief! I hope that you all had a happy and safe summer season. It seems that fall is trying to make its entrance but also trying to mix with a hint of our upcoming winter season.

It's business as usual for your fire and emergency medical crews in the Northern Lakes Fire District. They are busy responding to calls, performing fire hydrant maintenance, and attending necessary trainings to maintain proficiencies and capabilities in all aspects of fire and EMS response.

It's no secret that growth in our District and all of Kootenai County continues to happen. We are still doing our very best to maintain the level of service that every one of you expects and deserves. Our administrative staff and executive team have worked hard over the summer to deliver a balanced budget to our Board of Fire Commissioners for their approval. Our new budget includes equipment needed for our crews to operate safely and to ensure that we will head off a more significant expenditure in the future.

We are actively considering asking the public to vote on a permanent tax override levy next May. This request for additional funding would staff a currently vacant building and make it a fire station that can respond 24/7 in a rapidly growing area of our District. As the Fire Chief, I have heard the voice of the voting public in our past attempts and will wait until the final ballot initiatives for the upcoming November election are counted. Voters residing in our District will be voting on several bond measures or levy increase requests from other taxing districts that provide services. The need to increase our annual budget has not gone away and is just as strong as ever.

I have had several responses to my request for volunteers to be on a citizens advisory committee and plan on getting that group together in November sometime after election day. I feel strongly about having all of the information on the impact of what we are asking of our taxpayers. In the meantime, we are slowly adding personnel to our complement of emergency responders. *(Continued Next Page)*



Fall Newsletter THE FIRE WIRE 2019



MESSAGE from the CHIEF (cont.)



One serious issue that I need to let you know about is the agency that rates every fire department in the state of Idaho changed some rules recently that directly impacted homeowners' insurance premiums dramatically. Each case is different for each homeowner, but the outcome is the same for everyone in the affected area. The addition of another staffed fire station will decrease our response times in that area and will ease some of the increase in premiums in the same area.

As I close, I want to assure each of you that we continue to train, prepare, and equip our personnel to respond as effectively and efficiently as possible. As always, I ask that when you see your crews working out on the streets doing what they do so well, please take a moment to thank them and let them know they are appreciated and valued.



You can always contact me with any questions or concerns at 208/772-5711 or via email at pw Riley@northernlakesfire.com



Pat Riley
Fire Chief



RESCUE EQUIPMENT

Thanks to a generous donation by Jerome and Elizabeth Rose, the District was able to recently purchase a much needed piece of equipment for back country rescues. The trail wheel can be attached to our existing Stokes rescue litter/stretchers, enabling our emergency responders to more easily and quickly move patients from areas inaccessible by vehicle.

Within a few weeks of purchase, crews performed a back country rescue using the trail wheel for a rider thrown from a horse while in the English Point Recreation Area. The response was safer for both the patient and our crews using the wheel versus carrying the stretcher out.

Thank you to the Rose's for their support and generosity in making an invaluable impact on others in their community!



CALENDAR

- Thu., 10/31 - Halloween
- Sun., 11/3 - Set Clocks Back
- Thu., 11/7 - Board Meeting
- Mon., 11/11 - Veterans Day
- Thu., 11/21 - Board Meeting
- Thu., 11/28 - Thanksgiving
- Thu., 12/5 - Board Meeting
- Sat., 12/7 - Hayden Lights Parade
- Sat., 12/7 - Rathdrum D'Lights Parade
- Thu., 12/19 - Board Meeting
- Wed., 12/25 - Christmas Day



WHAT IS PRESCRIBED FIRE?

THE ROLE OF CONTROLLED BURNS

- Reduces hazardous fuels which helps protect homes & property from extreme fires
- Promotes growth of trees, wildflowers & other plants
- Provides forage for game
- Minimizes the spread of pest insects & disease when trees are not overcrowded

Prescribed fires in north Idaho are controlled burns managed by the Coeur d'Alene Interagency Fire Dispatch including the Idaho Department of Lands, the USFS, the Bureau of Land Management Idaho, and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. Prescribed burning season in the Idaho Panhandle National Forests occurs in both spring and fall.

Prescribed fire is used to improve forest health and reduce the risk of high-intensity wildfire. Because so many people now live in or near our forests and rangelands, fires must be burned in a more controlled way versus when they are caused by naturally occurring events such as lightning strikes.

Without periodic fire, our forests become stressed by overcrowding trees with flammable fuel build-up becoming hazardous and increasing the risk of an extreme wildfire. Prescribed fire, or controlled burns, reduce these risks.

By design, many prescribed burns take place along the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), intended to lower the wildfire risk to communities along the public land boundary. Burn plans will identify (or prescribe) the best conditions for the

prescribed fire using temperature, humidity, wind, moisture content in vegetation, as well as conditions conducive to good smoke dispersion. While some short-term, localized impacts are expected, every effort is made to mitigate and avoid sustained impacts. For more information on prescribed burning, please visit www.fs.usda.gov.



RESIDENTIAL BURNING

Residential outdoor burning is a form of open burning and is allowed within the Northern Lakes Fire District under specified conditions. During high fire danger conditions, normally in July through September each year, open burning is closed. All open burning except for small recreational/cooking fires requires a burn permit year round in the District. 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. In addition to the 10-day permit, a copy of the District's burning regulations must be on-site when burning. These regulations can be found at www.northernlakesfire.com.

ALLOWED BURNING

- Yard waste including dry pine needles, dry lawn clippings, dry garden waste, leaves & small tree limbs
- Paper, cardboard & untreated wood products

PROHIBITED BURNING

- Trash, plastic, tires, garbage, pallets, animal waste & other hazardous materials
- Construction debris by contractors and commercial trade waste
- Hauling of debris from one property to another

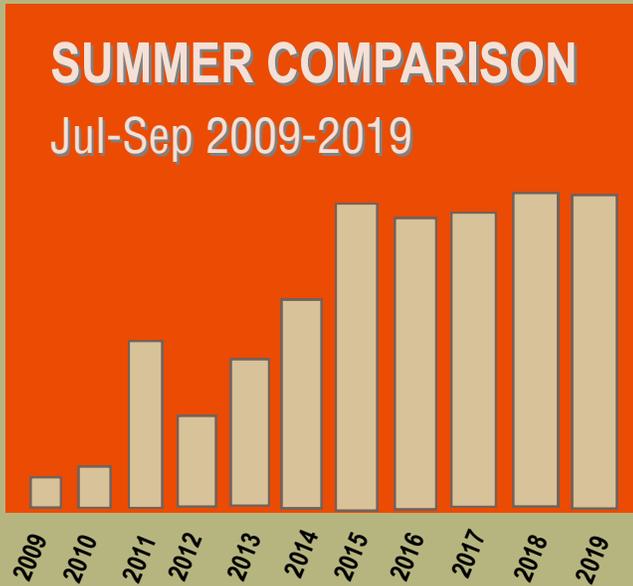
Fall Newsletter

THE FIRE WIRE 2019

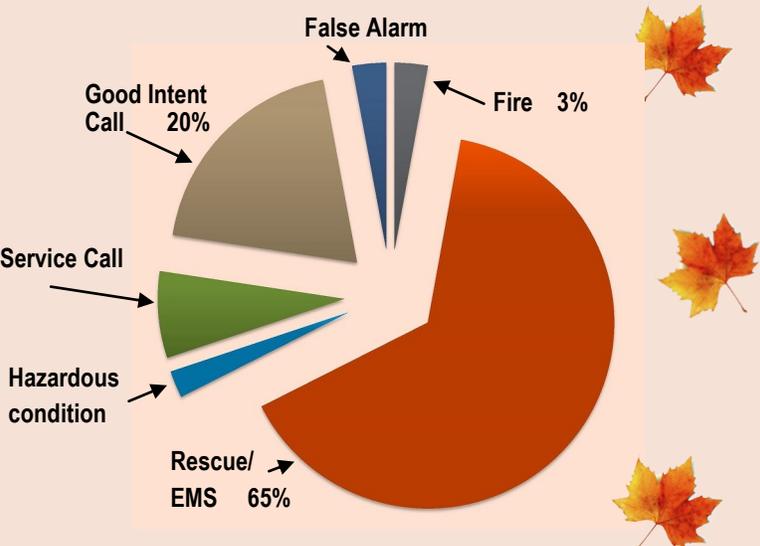


OPERATIONS

Call Volume Statistics



Calls for Service in 2019 (Jul - Sep)	
Incident Type	Number
Structure Fire	6
Wildland, Grass Fire	13
Vehicle Fire	3
Illegal Burn	14
Rupture/Overheat (No Fire)	2
Rescue/EMS Incident	693
Motor Vehicle Accident	71
Medical Assist	3
EMS Transport (Non Emergency)	82
EMS Transport (Critical Care)	12
Hazardous/Toxic Condition	10
Leak-Combustible/Flammable	3
Leak-Natural Gas or LPG	6
Electrical Wiring/Equip Problem	7
Power Line Down	5
Service Call	31
Person in Distress	26
Assist Law Enforcement	2
Assist Invalid	22
Unauthorized Burning Check	15
Lock-Out	1
Water Problems, Other	3
Good Intent Call	244
Smoke Scare, Odor, Other	9
Authorized Burning Check	9
False Alarm, Call	37
Windstorm Assessment	2



EMERGENCY VEHICLES ON THE ROAD

Yield the Right-of-Way

At the approach of an emergency vehicle:

Do:

- Remain calm and don't panic.
- Move your vehicle to the right, if at all possible.
- Come to a complete stop, and wait.
- Stay put at an intersection stop sign or traffic light, if you cannot pull to the right. *Don't try to go through the intersection.*
- Pull over to the nearest side of the road if you are on a one-way road or divided highway - but before you do, make sure the shoulder is safe.
- Before re-entering the road, look in every direction to make sure another emergency vehicle isn't coming along after the first one.
- Use caution and proper signals to merge back into traffic when safe.



Don't:

- Ignore the emergency vehicle and keep traveling
- Stop in the middle of an intersection. Proceed through it, then pull over to the right
- Stop in the middle of a lane when there is room to pull to the right
- Pull to the left in the center yellow lane or left turn lane
- Race ahead to get through a green light or turn before emergency vehicle gets there
- Speed up after an emergency vehicle to get through a traffic light
- Make a left turn quickly into a driveway or side street to avoid pulling over



All drivers must slow down and/or move over for Stationary Incident-Response Vehicles and Tow Trucks displaying flashing lights on Idaho highways beginning July 1, 2019.



Idaho "Move Over" Law

The "Move Over" law in Idaho took effect in 2006 and required drivers to slow down and move over a lane for stationary law enforcement vehicles with flashing lights. In July 2019, the law was amended to require drivers to slow down and move over a lane for ALL emergency responders with flashing lights in a stationary position, including tow trucks and workers with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD). To read the law, visit www.legislature.idaho.gov



FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

The month of October is Fire Prevention Month for the Northern Lakes Fire District and each year our fire crews along with Deputy Fire Marshal Larson visit with elementary school children to speak about fire safety.

This year's theme is "Plan and Practice your Escape Plan!" The emphasis is on exiting safely during a fire within two minutes and every person in your house knowing two ways out from each room. Fifth grade students are also receiving information on dealing with peer pressure related to fire setting.



Working SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES
Change Your Cords, Change Your Battery
"Dedicated to Life Safety"



FIRE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

PLAN and PRACTICE your ESCAPE!

FALL 2019

Dear Parents,

Did you know? In a typical home fire you have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. **Escape planning and practice can help you make the most of the time you have, giving everyone enough time to get out. Working smoke alarms save lives.** Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement. Have a fire escape plan for your family. Have two ways out of every room and make sure to have a safe meeting place. Practice with your family. Seconds count in an emergency. When faced with a fire **"GET OUT!—STAY OUT!"** Call 911 in an emergency. Make sure your child can give the operator their name and address.

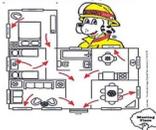
READY, SET, GO!

- READY.** Remember parents we live in a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) area. Fire can move fast. Be sure to have an escape plan, not only for your home but also when visiting the woods. Create a defensible space by clearing brush away from your home. Have situational awareness.
- SET.** Pack emergency items. Stay aware of latest news and information on the fire from local news and fire departments.
- GO!** Act early. When evacuations are issued **"GET OUT!—STAY OUT!"** Follow your plan and stay safe.



How to Make a Home Fire Escape Plan

- Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and window.
- Visit each room. Find two ways out. All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
- Talk about your plan with everyone in your home
- Learn the emergency phone for your fire department
- Practice your home escape drill!
- Make your own home escape plan on the back of this paper.



www.northernlakesfire.com

Proudly Serving the Areas of and Surrounding Hayden and Rathdrum, Idaho

(208) 772-5111



DON'T FORGET TO
FALL BACK

Sunday, November 3

at 2:00 a.m.



And DON'T
Forget to
CHANGE YOUR
Smoke Detector
BATTERIES



Visit us on the Web at
www.northernlakesfire.com

Follow us on facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/nlfpd>

