

Inside this issue:

Chief Message **1-3**

Fire Marshal Message **16-17**

Benton County Emergency Manager Message **27**

Station 6 Lt Rose **7-8**

Station 6 - FF Posey & Crew Breakdown **12**

Extras **26**

CRFPD Message/Update **8-9**

Locke Station Generator **3-4**

OSFM Type 6 Engine **5**

July 4th Recap **10-11**

New Fire Danger Signs **6**

Chief Kissell—EMS Moment **13**

Access & Water Supply **17**

Protect Your Personal Property & Yourself **18-23**

Burning Regulations **24-25**

Rural Board Members & Misc. **28**

Volunteer Firefighter Academy **15**

Firefighters Are YOUR Friends **14**

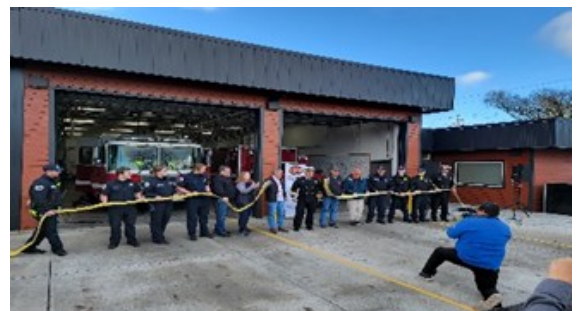
HOT TOPICS

Corvallis Fire Chief Message

Greetings,

I hope you are well and have had a fire-safe past 12 months. I can assure you the Corvallis Fire Department (CFD) and the Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District (CRFPD) are working hard to protect the lives and property of all of the residents in the CRFPD.

The last year was a historic one for CFD. We completed the remodel of Fire Station 3 on Northwest Circle Blvd. and moved back into the station in October. At the end of 2023, we broke ground on the Fire Station 2 remodel project at SW 35th Street and Washington Way. With Station 2 under construction, we are once again temporarily staffing Station 5 on NW Fair Oaks Dr. We anticipate moving back into Station 2 at the end of 2024. At that time, Station 5 will once again be closed. Though the full-time reopening of that station is captured in long-term city planning, there is no timeline for when it will reopen.



Corvallis Fire Chief Message (cont.)

Over the last year, we have hired and promoted a momentous number of personnel. We have promoted six Engineers (full-time drivers) and five Lieutenants (company officers), appointed several new members to the CFD Special Rescue and Hazmat Teams, selected six firefighters to be Field Training Paramedics, and hired 17 new Firefighter Paramedics. As you will recall from last year's letter, we were successful in adding nine additional full-time Firefighter positions with the approval of the City Council (part of the 17 that were hired). We continue to recruit volunteer firefighters in the city and to staff the CRFPD Locke Station in Lewisburg. We are exploring the feasibility of adding additional paid staff at the Locke Station with the CRFPD board.

We also placed a new Type 1 (Structure Engine) in service in 2023. We held a traditional “push-in” ceremony for the unit. This is a throwback to when fire engines were horse-drawn. As the horses could not back the engine in, firefighters would unhook the horses from the engine and then push the engine back into the bay. It took a lot of firefighters to push a modern engine, but we got it done.

CFD has been very active in pursuing grants and programs to assist in wildfire response, wildfire fuel reduction, and wildland apparatus. Last year, we were awarded Grant Funds to assist in fuel reduction in the CRFPD. As a result, you will see fuel reduction days coming in 2024. We were also awarded grant funds that will allow us to place fire danger signs on the north and south ends of the district. Those will be placed this year. Finally, we were awarded a Type 6 wildland engine by the Oregon State Fire Marshals Office through their apparatus grant program. A Type 6 engine is a 4x4 engine used for fighting wildfires. We are anticipating delivery of this unit, similar to the one below, sometime mid-year this year. The addition of this engine will greatly improve our wildland firefighting fleet by reducing the reliance on wildland engines that are 30+ years old.



Corvallis Fire Chief Message (cont.)

It has been my pleasure to be a part of the Corvallis Community for nearly 48 years and to serve you in the fire service for the last 23 years. It is humbling beyond words to be the Fire Chief of such a great organization and to serve such an amazing community. CFD is working hard to improve our service and be there for you when you need us. If you're on social media, be sure to follow Corvallis Fire on Instagram and Facebook, as it is a great way to see what we are up to.

Please be fire-safe in 2024,



Ben Janes
Fire Chief
Corvallis Fire Department
400 NW Harrison BLVD
Corvallis, OR 97330
(541)766-6931



New Generator for Locke Fire Station

The Locke Fire Station has increased its ability to withstand a long power outage by replacing the existing diesel generator with a new generator that can be powered by either natural gas or propane. The addition of a 1,000 gallon propane tank will allow for two weeks of backup power in case the natural gas supply is interrupted. This is a major improvement over the 8-hour backup supply that the old diesel generator provided. It was also a timely replacement as the existing generator had increasing maintenance requirements and was nearing the end of its life span. In addition to the dual-fuel capability, the new generator has remote indication/alarming and is more efficient and quieter than the old generator as well as emitting less greenhouse gases.

(Previous 40-year old Cummins Diesel Generator)



New Generator for Locke Fire Station (cont.)



New Generac Dual-Fuel Generator

As part of the project, both the generator enclosure and slab underneath were enlarged to allow installation of the new generator. A slab was also poured for the new propane tank; all concrete work was done with earthquake survival in mind.

A new gas supply line was run underground from the existing gas meter but the existing electrical service was re-used to help keep expenses down. Additionally, the old generator was sold to offset some of the cost of the project.

This welcome addition to Locke Station will result in greater resilience in case of natural or man-made disasters that could otherwise severely hamper maintaining service to our District members from Locke Station. Other potential future enhancements to increase resilience for the station would be the addition of solar panels with battery storage capability.



New 1,000 Gallon Propane Tank Adjacent to Generator Enclosure



OSFM Type 6 Engine

CFD was awarded a Type 6 wildland fire engine as part of a statewide engine program from the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM). This engine, according to Chief Janes, “will help increase our capabilities locally in Corvallis, particularly in our rural service area, and will give us the ability to assist other smaller agencies in Benton County and to participate in state conflagrations and still provide wildfire protection here at home.” OSFM Mariana Ruiz-Temple said “This investment in the Oregon fire service is critical as the state modernizes equipment and increases firefighting capacity to respond to incidents in our communities. Over the last three decades, more communities have been impacted by wildfire. This investment is a major step forward in carrying out our mission to protect people, property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials.”



The OSFM Type 6 engine is expected to arrive by the end of 2024. It will look very similar to the Type 6 engine Corvallis Fire purchased and has already deployed, which has the call-sign of 161 and runs out of Fire Station 1 (center picture). In 2023, 161 ran 64 calls including a mutual aid call with Harrisburg Fire (bottom picture) providing structure prep and night look out.



161 also worked the 4th of July fire off of Colorado Lake Dr (166, pictured top left, shows your rural resident volunteers working the 4th of July fire).

The CRFPD has ordered two Type 3 brush engines that are expected to arrive this year and be in service next year. The CRFPD has also ordered one Type 1 Tender which is still several years out.

*Quotes taken from Fire Apparatus & Emergency Equipment Magazine 4.19.2023



New “Peacock” Fire Danger Signs

With wildfire season fast approaching you may be happy to note several new Fire Danger Signs around the community. Corvallis Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) has been working with local community partners and an aspiring Eagle Scout to get these signs up for your safety. Unlike the slide-in sign by Station 6 (see upper right) the new signs will be of the “Peacock” design wherein an arrow will be moved to indicate the fire danger for the day. The levels will still range from low-to-extreme. The new sign locations will allow more visibility to increase awareness for locals and those passing through the city. One confirmed location is by the Comcast building on Hwy 99 and Lewisburg. Other sites are still being confirmed. Of special note, the aspiring Eagle Scout is creating a mobile Fire Danger Sign—this project included some welding and design skills. The concept behind this sign is to promote fire danger awareness in many locations.

Stay fire safe out there and please check out the other articles in the Newsletter on how to keep yourself and your property safe.





Lt. Rose—New Station 6 Lieutenant

Jacob Rose was born and raised in Oregon. He lives with his wife, Haylie, and his three boys, eldest Jackson (3) and 4-month old twins Cal and Emmett. When Lt. Rose isn't busy serving as a firefighter-EMT-I he spends nearly all his "free time" at home enjoying fatherhood. Haylie is a school counselor who is currently taking some time off to focus on the kids.

Lt. Rose started his career as a resident volunteer with Seaside Fire and Rescue in 2012 while going to school at Clatsop Community College studying fire science. Upon graduation he spent the summer working as a wildland firefighter with ODF in Astoria. While applying for firefighting positions and working full-time at Corvallis Les Schwab, Lt. Rose volunteered with Tangent Fire District and also worked part-time with Sweet Home Fire District. Lt. Rose was then hired by the Corvallis Fire Department in 2016. He worked as firefighter, with AIC/AO certifications, until he was promoted to Lieutenant in July of 2023.

Lt. Rose put in for the spot at Station 6 for several reasons. As the Lieutenant at Station 6 you have the opportunity to be most rural resident volunteer's first impression of a career firefighter and leader in the fire service. Lt. Rose also enjoys helping others become successful and wants to provide those volunteers with a positive development opportunity. Personally Lt. Rose is looking to further expand his knowledge base by spending significantly more time training and teaching, thus, making him a more well-rounded firefighter and Lieutenant.

(continues next page)





Lt. Rose—cont.

Lt. Rose is not only bringing his vast experience as a former volunteer and his years at CFD, Lt. Rose also serves as a Wildland Subject Matter Expert for the department. This knowledge will help him bring greater knowledge to Station 6 volunteers and hopefully instill upon them a passion for the wildland side of firefighting. An ideal subject matter as much of Station 6's district has a wildland interface.

Lt. Rose hopes to build upon the foundation already in place for Station 6 volunteers and look for ways to improve upon it. He feels the RRV program at Corvallis is very unique and he believes it is one of the best programs in the state if you're looking to become a career firefighter.

CRFPD Message/Update

The CRFPD is committed to your safety with the following purpose in mind-

Mission, Commitment & Vision

Our Mission is to provide fire prevention and suppression services that protect life, property and the environment in the Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District.

Our Commitment is to maintain fire prevention and suppression services, continually work to reduce response times and increase fire-fighting capabilities for our community.

Our Vision is to support the delivery of emergency response services and an ongoing partnership with the Corvallis Fire Department. To build fire service facilities, purchase fire apparatus, tenders and equipment. To maintain and expand water supply for the purpose of fire suppression in the CRFPD (e.g. cisterns, draft sites). To be fiscally responsible and financially sound.

For the past 24 years, the CRFPD has been contracting with Corvallis Fire for personnel to staff the NW Fire Station on Lewisburg Ave with student volunteers and one career Lieutenant. We recently began the process of looking deeply into the number of career firefighters supporting those volunteers and may invoke a clause in our contract that says we can add another Lieutenant by sharing the cost between the CRFPD and the CFD. This would allow us to have additional resources out of the Locke Fire Station,

CRFPD Message/Update (cont.)

which would ultimately improve service to the entire District as a result of a more efficient distribution of resources.

We are also reviewing our contributions and commitments to providing water resources throughout the District by bolstering CFD's and the CRFPD's rolling stock for fighting fires in the wildland-urban interface in the District. As you read in this newsletter last year, we made a commitment to the purchase of two new Type 3 Brush Rigs and a new water tender for the Locke Station. The lag time for procurement of these apparatuses has grown substantially post-COVID but we were able to lock in lower prices when we placed the order. We do expect delivery later this year. Our Brush Rigs are stationed throughout the City and District, dispersed around the area for a quick response.

Although we've had some successes, access to stationary water resources like draft sites and water cisterns remains a priority. CFD has provided information on areas of the District that would benefit from additional stationary water resources; the challenge will be identifying and procuring the small amount of land on which to build the cistern (s) or develop the draft site. The addition of water resources is also a topic examined in the CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan) at the County level.

District residents have actively participated in past Evacuation Exercises conducted by City and County Emergency Management staff, and those in limited access neighborhoods have articulated their concerns related to safe evacuation. In response, CRFPD engaged in a creative partnership with OSU, Benton County, Senator Gelser-Blouin and the citizens of Oak Creek, by making an important contribution to the Oak Creek Evacuation route which connects the OSU Sheep Research Center and the Skyline/Ponderosa neighborhood. You can watch a YouTube video of the celebration of this accomplishment on our website: www.CorvallisRFPD.com Episode 8 - Evacuation Collaboration Improves Safety in Oak Creek Valley (youtube.com). In addition, CRFPD and CFD's Emergency Management team will be hosting a CRFPD-focused webinar on April 30 at 6:00 p.m., in preparation for this year's Evacuation Exercise. Please check our website for updates. Speaking of the website, we've been adding resources and FAQs. Let us know if there is additional information you'd like to see posted.

All of us on the Board are proud of the work we do to try and enhance the safety of our District. Please contact us if you'd like to get involved as well.

Keeping the Fire



Away from the Trees

4th of July—Colorado Lake Dr Fire

Units on Scene CFD:

- 116
- 161
- 163
- 164
- 166
- 141
- 162
- 143
- 120
- 162

Mutual Aid:

- Albany
- Philomath
- Adair
- Tangent
- Halsey
- Polk County

On July 4th, 2023, at 1610 Corvallis Dispatch received a call reporting there was 1.5 acres on fire with houses one-third of a mile away. Dispatch quickly toned out Corvallis Fire Department. Units responded code 3 to the scene. An “All County” response for a grass fire was soon underway with BC116 requesting mutual-aid units from neighboring areas. CFD units arriving to the scene could see a column of smoke from the highway. Arriving on scene units saw that approximately 3-4 acres were now on fire. The fire was fought by attacking both the east and west flanks of the fire. A change in wind direction caused some quick repositioning of resources to protect nearby houses. As units from neighboring areas began to arrive the fire finally became contained. The fire was halted prior to reaching nearby houses and was stopped from going into a neighboring field—evacuation of homes was considered and LCSO requested to advise residents to prepare. Fire efforts lasted around 2.5hrs. With mop-up and patrolling of the area lasting well into the night to make sure there would be no rekindle. Units used a thermal imaging camera to assist in identifying hot spots.

During this incident a structure fire also occurred in the City of Corvallis near Cheldelin Middle School. Several units on the Colorado Lake Dr fire were reallocated to that fire which began in one structure



4th of July—cont.

Units on Scene CFD:

116

161

163

164

166

141

162

143

120

162

and jumped to the house next door.

Both fires that day were successfully extinguished but several factors contributed to that. First, early warning from those on site of a fire—not only for noticing the fire but given proper addressing of the fire making it easier for the fire department to respond. Second, quick Dispatch and response of units. Third, proper training on how to perform wildland firefighting techniques. And fourth, the key of having mutual aid partners willing and able to respond and help when need arises. CFD not only uses mutual aid on fires but for medical calls as well. CFD runs medical calls in Monroe, Alsea, Philomath, Adair, and is at times called upon to respond to Albany or Polk County. On July 4th CFD relied on help from many of these agencies to either respond directly to the fire on Colorado Lake Dr or to staff fire stations in the city or run medical calls due to apparatus being elsewhere.

Mutual Aid:

Albany

Philomath

Adair

Tangent

Halsey

Polk County



Station 6 Crews by Shift

AO: Joshua Kruckewitt

FF: Abraham Rogers

FF: Murphy Schuster

AO: Jo Shahalami

AO: Frank Craft

FF: Tyler Boltmen

AO: Max Sisson

FF: Lucas Fernandez

FF: Max Salvetti

CL: Jacob Posey

FF: Jared LaPointe

FF: Adam Bernhard

CL = Crew Leader

AO = Apparatus Operator

FF = Firefighter

FF Posey—Station 6

Over the past four years I have been working and training at Station 6. I have learned a lot of skills that define the firefighter I am, as well as, my work ethic. Being a volunteer at this station is much different than any other volunteer program as each individual who resides here is held to a higher standard. Station 6 has a long history of producing career firefighters not just for the city of Corvallis but across the country as well. Initially you start as a firefighter, apparatus operator, then onto a crew leader. By the end of my time here I have already worked all three and been through each process. Being at Station 6 has helped fuel my desire to be a firefighter for the rest of my life. I am forever grateful for my Station 6 successors and Lieutenants to not only teach me everything they have learned in the fire service, but being life mentors as well. This helped spark my future ambitions to get hired get even brighter. Coming out to Station 6 is one of the best decisions I've made in my life personally. I strongly recommend to anyone trying to get into the fire service or gain working experiences to be a part of Locke Fire Station 6 and the great community it serves.



Chief Kissell—EMS Moment



Hello again!

After a busy 2023, the EMS Division started off the year 2024 with a bang. The ice/snow event taxed our service tremendously for over 4 days. Crews ran multiple responses simultaneously throughout this period. All while not having or suffering any accidents, injuries, or damage to personnel or equipment. A very strong effort. My thanks go out to the many employees who worked Overtime to “up-staff” our units, providing the best coverage to the area.

In 2023, many things occurred which show the resolve of our Department, District, and personnel. Record numbers of probationary employees, Resident Volunteers, and Rural Resident Volunteers were trained, certified, and evaluated on performance standards. Our Training Division, SMEs, FTPs, and Management all deserve kudos for their ability to make these things happen.



The EMS Division worked within the CRFPD District significantly this past year. CFD and CRFPD units and personnel responded to 462 incidents that were based on medical conditions. These incidents involved MVCs, Rescues, Medical Emergencies, etc. Of the 462 incidents, CFD ambulances transported 277 patients to the hospital. It was and remains our pleasure to provide the citizens of the CRFPD with excellent medical services and treatment!

Until the next episode... Be Safe and Be Well!





Firefighters are YOUR Friend

One of the common demonstrations that the Corvallis Fire Department provides to visiting youth school groups is the “Firefighter is Your Friend”. We teach this to school groups because to many children, firefighters in full gear can be scary. This is compounded for many children if their first experience with a firefighter is them coming to their home to save them from a fire. Having the opportunity to visit children in their school classrooms or them coming to visit us at the fire station allows us to hopefully take away one scary thing in the event of a fire.

The demonstration typically begins with two firefighters in front of the group. One is there to talk about what the other firefighter is doing while they get dressed. We usually get the group involved by asking “What is the firefighter doing?”. At this point the firefighter would be putting on their boots tucked into their pants. Next they would put their hood which will eventually cover the neck, head and some of the face. Then the jacket would go on. Usually we would then ask “What skin on the firefighter do you see?”. The firefighter would get their mask, air pack and finally gloves on. We then let the children know that they will hear some beeps and noises as we turn the air pack on. And finally the firefighter will click their regulator into their mask. At this point the firefighter will usually say a few words so that the children can hear what a firefighter sounds like. We like to have them yell out “Fire Department, call out!” so that children know what we will sound like when we come looking for them. We want them, and adults included, to call back. It makes our searches more focused and efficient so we can get you out of a threatening situation faster. And lastly, after you have heard what we sound like we get down on the ground and let the children touch our gear and our helmet to get an idea of what a firefighter feels like, because in a fire you likely will not be able to see. The whole thing culminates with a few fist bumps or high-fives to make the experience hopefully fun and engaging for the children.

Volunteer Firefighter Academy

Have you ever wondered what training your Station 6 volunteers do in order to start their firefighter journey? This past March 22nd-March 31st a new volunteer academy ran through a gamete of skills. We wanted to provide you with an overview and some pictures from that training.

Day 1—PPE & equipment issue; CFD orientation; firefighter safety; water supply/hoses

Day 2—respiratory protection; ladders

Day 3—communications/radios; hose deployment/movement through buildings

Day 4—fire behavior, fire streams, fire control; fire attack; skills review

Day 5—ventilation; fire attack; traditional attack; ladders; portable extinguishers

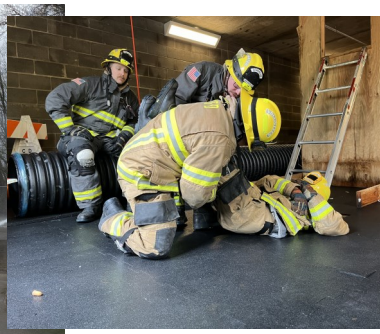
Day 6—forcible entry; skills review

Day 7—search and rescue

Day 8—building construction; skills review

Day 9—salvage and overhaul; skills evals

Day 10—live fire training; graduation



Fire Marshal Message

The Fire Marshal's Office has been working very hard for the residents and visitors of the Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District. My office is responsible for fire department access plan reviews of new construction, remodels, and renovations throughout the Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District. Our responsibility within the jurisdiction is to ensure that structures used to house life are not built in locations that Fire and EMS cannot access. Our responsibility also includes making sure the size of the new construction, remodel or renovation is supplied with enough on-site water to fight fire and prevent the spread of fire onto other properties or wildland. In some situations, we cannot get our firefighting and EMS resources to locations where the roads are too steep, too narrow, or unable to withstand our heaviest fire truck. In areas where no reliable water source is available by fire hydrant or approved sources, and where grades and elevations are in question, an Access & Water Supply (AWS) worksheet will help determine your project's needs before submitting plans to the County or City.

Your Fire Marshals can be reached at firemarshal@corvallisoregon.gov for any code questions, submitting of plans or applications, or other CRFPD area concerns. Our office is responsible for your fire investigations, fire code questions, inspections, and fire safety public education. We survey and investigate fire hazards and fire threats when it comes to ignition sources near combustible vegetation (i.e. a plugged-in extension cord running through dried grass from an outlet to a shed). The dry vegetation alone doesn't quite get us there unless there is a readily available ignition source, such as active welding nearby, vehicles parking on top of tall grass, using gas-powered equipment during Red Flag weather, etc. As with many concerns surrounding fire season, the crime of arson and reckless burning is a top priority of this office. Several fire starts are still under active investigation from last year's incidents within your fire district.

As a governmental agency, a Fire marshal's authority comes from the Oregon Fire Code and is limited to commercial structures, commercial processes, public events, and state-licensed facilities. Other than fire department access and water supply that was mentioned earlier, residential structures reside under the authority of the Building Official. Our authority cannot encroach or cross the threshold of private residential property. We cannot look under, over, or through fences (known as curtilage), or step onto personal private property without an owner/occupant consent unless by way of a search warrant. Incidents of disputes within the community should begin with communication, which is often the best solution between neighbors or businesses regarding nuisance concerns. There are many resources available to help neighborhoods and property owners in making their homes and communities safer. Visit www.oregon.gov/osfm/wildfire/pages/wildland-urban-interface.aspx for more information.





Fire Marshal Message (cont.)

Lastly, the Corvallis Fire Marshal's Office is made up of a team of hard working and dedicated staff with a variety of public safety experience working hard daily to carry out the mission of the Corvallis Fire Department and the Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District. With fire season fast approaching, our office is incredibly fortunate to have Deputy Fire Marshal Carmen Westfall who actively serves on the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Incident Management Team. DFM Westfall has been one of the state's Public Information Officers (PIO) for the last four fire seasons. During this time, she has observed firsthand how destructive wildfires can be and how defensible space around homes can make all the difference. As a PIO, she works to keep the communities that are being affected by the fire up to date on firefighting progress, evacuation updates, and fire behavior. Her training and expertise have helped this office and communities across the state during large wildland fire events. DFM Westfall makes it extremely personal by bringing the latest knowledge and lessons learned back into our community.

Please stay safe out there.

Access and Water Supply—New Construction

Access to a sufficient and stable water supply is crucial for firefighters to fight fire in any area. Within the City this is provided for by fire hydrants but in the rural district sometimes this is not possible. Instead firefighters have to bring their own water using Tenders. However, sometimes this water is not sufficient and therefore alternative requirements are in place to ensure that firefighters have the water resources available on scene. This means residents in rural areas not protected by hydrants need to have adequate water supplies on hand for the fire department to use. This is for NEW construction. To obtain an Access and Water Supply permit you will need to reach out to Benton County via email at: permitcheck@bentoncountyor.gov or phone 541-766-6297. They can help supply you will the application and answer any additional questions you may have. This permit only calculates the necessary water needed on site.

Permit fee for Access and Water Supply is \$100 for residential and \$150 for commercial.

Protect Your Personal Property & Yourself

Helpful Links

*Preparing Homes
for Wildfire
(What is the
Home Ignition
Zone—[link](#))*

*Defensible Space
Technical Guide
([link](#))*

*How to Get an
Assessment of
Your Property
([link](#))*

*Preparing for a
Wildfire (6 P's for
Evacuation—
[link](#))*

*Evacuation
(general info—
[link](#))*

*OSU Extensions
([link](#)—before,
after a wildfire)*

*Fire-Resistant
Plants ([link](#))*

*Wildfire
Community
Preparedness
Day ([link](#))*

Protecting your property and yourself/your family is a primary concern for everyone. In this section we hope to provide you with some information you can use to do just that. The Corvallis Fire Department understands that there are many factors that impact your ability to protect yourself at any given time, whether it be from climate change and the environment or mentally and physically to a myriad of ways. However, there are some constants that we can do and we will break them down into two categories: Protection of Self (including family) and Protection of Property.

Protection of Self can be broken down to be understood as how can I as an individual protect “me”. What do I need to survive? What are my bare necessities? What do I need to safely evacuate in case of a wildfire? Do I have a to-go kit? What’s in this kit? Do I have a pet or kids or a spouse to account for? What about an elderly parent? Does anyone have a handicap or a disability that I need to account for (e.g. in-home oxygen, wheelchair)? Do I have food and water for everyone? Do I have a place to evacuate to? Do I have a way to get there? Not just a vehicle, but do I know the way out? This is a survival mindset.

Protection of Property is more to be understood as what can I do right now to make sure my home, my car, my boat, etc. is safe. How far should nearby trees or foliage be from my home to reduce ember hazards? Should I leave debris around? What should I do with combustible materials? Should I be burning yard waste at this time? Where should my firewood pile be? Should I have any combustible materials around my house including shrubbery?

Sure...a lot of this sounds scary but imagine it’s 0200 in the morning. You wake up to a cop at your door telling you you have evacuate now, there’s a fire. Are you ready to go? What do you grab? What’s your plan to get somewhere else safe.?. For our friends off of Colorado Lake Dr this was very nearly a reality for them on July 4th. Let’s all be ready and take the time now to plan ahead to make ourselves and our property safe.

In the next five pages, and the sidebar to the left, are information sheets addressing many and more of the questions above to help you get prepared.



HOW TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WILDFIRES

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION STEPS THAT CAN MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER DURING A WILDFIRE



■ VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

1. HOME IGNITION ZONES

To increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire, choose fire-resistant building materials and limit the amount of flammable vegetation in the three home ignition zones. The zones include the **Immediate Zone**: (0 to 5 feet around the house), the **Intermediate Zone** (5 to 30 feet), and the **Extended Zone** (30 to 100 feet).

2. LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE

To reduce ember ignitions and fire spread, trim branches that overhang the home, porch, and deck and prune branches of large trees up to 6 to 10 feet (depending on their height) from the ground. Remove plants containing resins, oils, and waxes. Use crushed stone or gravel instead of flammable mulches in the **Immediate Zone** (0 to 5 feet around the house). Keep your landscape in good condition.

■ FIRE RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION

3. ROOFING AND VENTS

Class A fire-rated roofing products, such as composite shingles, metal, concrete, and clay tiles, offer the best protection. Inspect shingles or roof tiles and replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration. Box in eaves, but provide ventilation to prevent condensation and mildew. Roof and attic vents should be screened to prevent ember entry.

4. DECKS AND PORCHES

Never store flammable materials underneath decks or porches. Remove dead vegetation and debris from under decks and porches and between deck board joints.

5. SIDING AND WINDOWS

Embers can collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials; radiant heat from flames can crack windows. Use fire-resistant siding such as brick, fiber-cement, plaster, or stucco, and use dual-pane tempered glass windows.

■ BE PREPARED

6. EMERGENCY RESPONDER ACCESS

Ensure your home and neighborhood have legible and clearly marked street names and numbers. Driveways should be at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet for emergency vehicle access.

- Develop, discuss, and practice an emergency action plan with everyone in your home. Include details for handling pets, large animals, and livestock.
- Know two ways out of your neighborhood and have a predesignated meeting place.
- Always evacuate if you feel it's unsafe to stay—don't wait to receive an emergency notification if you feel threatened from the fire.
- Conduct an annual insurance policy checkup to adjust for local building costs, codes, and new renovations.
- Create or update a home inventory to help settle claims faster.



**TALK TO YOUR LOCAL FORESTRY AGENCY
OR FIRE DEPARTMENT TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE SPECIFIC WILDFIRE RISK
WHERE YOU LIVE.**



VISIT [FIREWISE.ORG](https://www.firewise.org) FOR MORE DETAILS

Firewise® is a program of the National Fire Protection Association. This publication was produced in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, US Department of the Interior, and the National Association of State Foresters. NFPA is an equal opportunity provider. Firewise® and Firewise USA® are registered trademarks of the National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA 02189.

Order a Reducing Wildfire Risks in the Home Ignition Zone checklist/poster at [Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org)

CÓMO PREPARAR SU CASA

PARA INCENDIOS FORESTALES

PASOS PARA LA REDUCCIÓN DEL RIESGO ANTE INCENDIOS FORESTALES PARA QUE SU CASA ESTÉ MÁS SEGURA DURANTE UN INCENDIO



MANEJO DE VEGETACIÓN

1 ZONAS DE IGNICIÓN DE UNA CASA

Para aumentar las posibilidades de que su casa sobreviva a un incendio forestal, elija materiales de construcción resistentes al fuego y limite la cantidad de vegetación inflamable en las tres zonas de ignición de una casa. Las zonas incluyen la **Zona Inmediata** (0 a 5 pies alrededor de la casa), la **Zona Intermedia** (5 a 30 pies), y la **Zona Extendida** (30 a 100 pies).

2 PAISAJISMO Y MANTENIMIENTO

Para reducir las igniciones de brasas y la propagación del fuego, pódese las ramas que sobresalgan por encima de la casa, el pórtico y la terraza, y las ramas de árboles grandes hasta 6 a 10 pies (según su altura) desde del suelo. Quite las plantas que contengan resinas, aceites, y ceras. Use piedra molida y grava en vez de mantillos inflamables en la **Zona Inmediata** (0 a 5 pies alrededor de la casa). Mantenga su paisaje en buenas condiciones.

CONSTRUCCIÓN RESISTENTE AL FUEGO

3 TECHOS Y CONDUCTOS DE VENTILACIÓN

Los productos contra incendios de clase A para techos, tales como tejas compuestas, de metal, de hormigón y de arcilla, ofrecen la mejor protección. Inspeccione las tejas y reemplace o repare las que estén flojas o las que falten para prevenir la penetración de brasas. Tape los aleros, pero proporcione ventilación para prevenir la condensación y el moho. Proteja con rejilla los conductos de ventilación del techo y del ático para prevenir la entrada de brasas.

4 TERRAZAS Y PÓRTICOS

Nunca guarde materiales inflamables debajo de las terrazas o los pórticos. Quite la vegetación seca y los escombros que se encuentren debajo de terrazas y pórticos y entre las juntas de los tablonces de las terrazas.

6 REVESTIMIENTOS Y VENTANAS

Las brasas pueden acumularse en pequeños rincones y ranuras e incendiar materiales inflamables; el calor radiante de las llamas puede agrietar las ventanas. Utilice revestimientos resistentes al fuego como ladrillos, fibrocemento, yeso o estuco y ventanas de vidrio templado de doble cristal.

ESTÉ PREPARADO

6 ACCESO PARA SOCORRISTAS

Asegúrese de que los números y los nombres de las calles de su casa y su barrio sean legibles y estén marcados con claridad. Las entradas deberían tener al menos 12 pies de ancho con un margen vertical de 15 pies para el acceso de los vehículos de emergencia.

- Elabore, analice y practique un plan de medidas de emergencia con todas las personas que viven en su casa. Incluya detalles para mascotas, animales grandes y ganado.
- Conozca dos salidas de su vecindario y establezca un lugar de encuentro previamente designado.
- Siempre evacúe si cree que no es seguro quedarse: no espere a recibir una notificación de emergencia si se siente amenazado por el fuego.
- Realice una revisión anual de su póliza de seguro para ajustarse a los costos, códigos y las nuevas reformas de construcción locales.
- Cree o actualice un inventario de la casa para ayudarle a establecer los reclamos más rápido.



HABLE CON SU AGENCIA FORESTAL O CUERPO DE BOMBEROS LOCAL PARA APRENDER MÁS SOBRE EL RIESGO DE INCENDIOS FORESTALES ESPECÍFICO EN DONDE VIVE.



FIREWISE USA®

VISITE FIREWISE.ORG Y OBTENGA MÁS DETALLES

Firewise® es un programa de la National Fire Protection Association. Esta publicación se realizó en cooperación con el Servicio Forestal del Departamento de Agricultura de los EEUU, el Departamento del Interior de los EEUU y la Asociación Nacional de Guardabosques Estatales. NFPA es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades. Firewise® y Firewise USA® son marcas registradas de la National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA 02169.

Pida su lista de control/afiche Reduciendo el Riesgo de Incendios Forestales en la Zona de Ignición de Una Casa en Firewise.org



WHAT TO DO DURING EVACUATION

- Stay informed.** Check city, county and emergency service websites, and social media. Check local news, TV and radio for updates.
- Opt-in to receive emergency alerts** from your county at ORAlert.gov.
- Enable Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)** on your cell phone. Visit Ready.gov/alerts to learn more.
- Keep your cell phone charged.**
- Have an emergency plan and go-kit** ready with supplies for health, safety and identification.
- Inform loved ones of your plans.** Designate a safe meeting place and out-of-area contact person for family members.
- Gather important items** such as documents, eyeglasses, medications, medical devices, food and plenty of water.
- Act early** if you are older or have children, disabilities or limited access to transportation.
- Plan for animals.** Locate your pets and keep them with you. Consider evacuating livestock early.
- Plan possible evacuation routes.** Use TripCheck.com or call 511 for road closure information. If you do not drive, make other arrangements for transportation in advance.
- Plan for emergency shelter.** Call the American Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCross.org. Call 211 or 1-866-698-6155 or visit 211info.org for local resources.
- Check with your neighbors** if you have time and can do so safely. Exchange information. Ask for help if you need it and offer help if you can give it.
- Don't wait to evacuate** if you need extra time to leave or if you feel unsafe. Conditions can change rapidly. Make the best decision for your safety.
- Relocate to a safe place** outside of the affected area. Drive carefully. Turn on your headlights. Follow traffic safety warnings and instructions from local authorities.
- Remain as calm as possible.** Take slow, deep breaths. This will help you think clearly and make good decisions. If you have children or pets, they will benefit from your calm behavior during this stressful time.

WHAT TO PACK IF YOU HAVE TIME

- Critical:** Prescription medications, medical devices, eyeglasses, food and plenty of water.
- Safety:** Sanitation items, first-aid kit, flashlight with extra batteries, gloves, eye protection, and face coverings or N95 masks that protect against fine smoke particles. Wear long sleeves, long pants, sturdy shoes and a hat to keep embers out of your hair.
- Communication:** Phones, tablets, laptops, charging cords, hard drives or backup disks, maps and AM/FM radio. Consider making an emergency plan with important phone numbers before an emergency.
- Documentation:** Photo identification, driver's license, birth certificate, social security card, passport, visa, insurance policy, mortgage deed or rental agreement, medical records, banking or financial records, etc.
- Personal:** ATM debit and credit cards, cash, clothing, hygiene items, family photos and other small irreplaceable belongings.
- Animals:** Extra water, food, leashes, cages or carriers, medication, identification, bedding, and vaccination or medical records. Prepare large animals for transport and consider moving them to a safe location early.
- Visit Ready.gov** for more information about being prepared for an emergency, including a full list of emergency supplies.

BE READY. BE SET. GO NOW!

Know evacuation levels and follow the advice of emergency officials. Make the best decision for your safety. Don't wait to evacuate if you feel unsafe.

LEVEL 1

LEVEL 1 - BE READY to evacuate.

Prepare to evacuate:

- Be aware of danger in the area and stay informed. Sign up for local emergency alerts with your county at ORAlert.gov.
- Check for updates through local city, county and emergency service websites, social media, TV and radio.
- Have your emergency plan and go-kit ready with supplies for health, safety and identification.
- Act early if you are older or have children, disabilities or limited access to transportation.
- Consider moving pets and livestock early.
- Plan possible evacuation routes. Use TripCheck.com or call 511 for road closure information.
- Plan for emergency shelter. Call the American Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCross.org.
- If you can do so safely, check with your neighbors and share information.
- Don't wait to evacuate if you need extra time to leave or if you feel unsafe.



LEVEL 2

LEVEL 2 - BE SET to evacuate.

Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice:

- There is significant danger in the area. Stay informed and be alert. Continue to check for updates through local city, county and emergency service websites, social media, TV and radio.
- Time to act - follow your emergency plan and grab your go-kit of supplies.
- If you have livestock, put your animal evacuation plan into action.
- Inform loved ones of your evacuation plans.
- Conditions can change rapidly. You do not need to wait for another evacuation notice.
- Leave if you feel unsafe.



LEVEL 3

LEVEL 3 - GO NOW!

Evacuate immediately:

- There is extreme danger in the area. Leave without delay. It is unsafe to stay and threatens the safety of you, your family and emergency responders.
- Emergency responders may not be available to help if you choose to stay.
- Do not stop to gather belongings or protect your home.
- Follow your emergency plan and grab your go-kit.
- Leave as fast as safely possible. Drive carefully. Turn on your headlights. Follow traffic safety warnings and instructions from local authorities.
- Once you are safe, check with friends and family.
- Do not return until public safety officials announce the area is safe.



RESOURCES:

Local emergency alerts: ORAlert.gov

Oregon Wildfire Resources: Wildfire.Oregon.gov

Current incidents in Oregon: [OEM RAPTOR Map](http://OEM.RAPTOR.Map)

American Red Cross disaster assistance: RedCross.org

Local resources: Call 211 or 1-866-698-6155 or visit 211info.org.



ESTE PREPARADO ESTE LISTO ¡VAYASE AHORA!

Conozca los niveles de evacuación y siga los consejos de los oficiales de emergencia. Tome la mejor decisión para su seguridad. No espere a evacuar si se siente inseguro.

NIVEL 1

NIVEL 1 - ESTÉ PREPARADO para evacuar.

Prepárese para evacuar:

- Sea consciente del peligro en la zona y manténgase informado. Inscribese en las alertas de emergencia locales con su condado en ORAlert.gov.
- Compruebe las actualizaciones a través de los sitios web locales de la ciudad, el condado y los servicios de emergencia, las redes sociales, la televisión y la radio.
- Tenga listo su plan de emergencia y su kit de emergencias con suministros para la salud, la seguridad y su identificación.
- Actúe pronto si es mayor o tiene hijos, discapacidades o acceso limitado al transporte.
- Considere la posibilidad de trasladar los animales domésticos y el ganado con anticipación.
- Planifique las posibles rutas de evacuación. Utilice TripCheck.com o llame al 511 para obtener información sobre el cierre de carreteras.
- Planifique un refugio de emergencia. Llame a la Cruz Roja Americana al 1-800-733-2767 o visite RedCross.org.
- Si puede hacerlo con seguridad, consulte a sus vecinos y comparta la información.
- No espere a evacuar si necesita más tiempo para salir o si se siente inseguro.



NIVEL 2

NIVEL 2 - ESTÉ LISTO para evacuar.

Esté preparado para evacuar en cualquier momento:

- Hay un peligro importante en la zona. Manténgase informado y alerta. Siga comprobando las actualizaciones a través de los sitios web locales de la ciudad, el condado y los servicios de emergencia, las redes sociales, la televisión y la radio.
- Es hora de actuar: siga su plan de emergencia y tome su kit de suministros.
- Si tiene ganado, ponga en marcha su plan de evacuación de animales.
- Informe a sus seres queridos de sus planes de evacuación.
- Las condiciones pueden cambiar rápidamente. No es necesario esperar a otro aviso de evacuación.
- Salga de inmediato si se siente inseguro.



NIVEL 3

NIVEL 3 - ¡VAYASE AHORA!

Evacuar inmediatamente:

- Hay un peligro extremo en la zona. Váyase sin demora. No es seguro quedarse y amenaza su seguridad, la de su familia y la del personal de emergencia.
- Es posible que los servicios de emergencia no estén disponibles para ayudarlo si decide quedarse.
- No se detenga para recoger sus pertenencias o proteger su casa.
- Siga su plan de emergencia y agarre su kit de emergencia.
- Salga lo más rápido posible con seguridad. Conduzca con cuidado. Encienda las luces. Siga las advertencias de seguridad vial y las instrucciones de las autoridades locales.
- Una vez que esté a salvo, consulte a sus amigos y familiares.
- No regrese hasta que oficiales de seguridad pública anuncien que la zona es segura.



RECURSOS:

Alertas de emergencia locales: ORAlert.gov

Recursos para incendios forestales en Oregon: Wildfire.Oregon.gov

Mapa de los incidentes actuales en Oregon: OEM.RAPTOR.Map

Asistencia a la catástrofe de la Cruz Roja Americana: RedCross.org

Recursos locales: Llame al 211 o al 1-866-698-6155 o visite 211info.org



Burning Regulations

The City of Corvallis, including the Rural District, has a set of Burning Regulations. Burning regulations are broken down into two categories: Open (Backyard) Burning and Recreational Burning—see below for some of general requirements AND links for all requirements including a burn permit.

Open (Backyard) Burning:

Encompasses any burning done in the yard, front, back or side, that is for the burning of yard waste created during the normal maintenance of your yard.

It does not include burning painted wood, automotive parts, dead animals, garbage, plastics/rubber, food waste, items that create a noxious odor, and any industrial, construction or demolition waste.

A water hose or extinguishing source must be readily available. The fire must be continually monitored.

Permits are required for burning.

Recreational Burning:

Applies to cooking, warming and ceremonial fires. This includes BBQs, commercial produced outdoor fire pit, chimeneas, SOLO stoves, etc.

You may only use dry wood or wood products (this does not include leaves or yard waste other than logs/bare branches).

The fire must be 15 feet from any structure, fence line or vegetation. The fire may only be 3 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height. You must have a water hose near by and attend the fire until completely out.

Additional Burning Regulation Information/Helpful Links

- City of Corvallis Burning Regulations webpage ([link](#))
- Willamette Valley Open Burning Announcement (click the “Can I Burn?” bubble)
- ODF Smoke Forecast ([link](#))
- Oregon Air Quality ([link](#))
- Oregon Smoke Info ([link](#))
- Outdoor Burning Permit Application ([link](#))

For the Daily Burning Advisory please call: 541-766-6971



Burning Regulations (CONT.)

Can I BURN?

Rural residents are required to follow Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) guidelines for burning and the guidelines stipulated in the burn permit that is filled out the day of the burn—you cannot forecast a burn as weather conditions (smoke, air quality, etc.) may change, therefore, changing the ability to burn any given day. DEQ updates their webpage daily for each area. The webpage for CRFPD members is the Willamette Valley Open Burning Announcement (link is the “Can I Burn?” bubble below). This information is what informs the Daily Burning Advisory.



Please also note: [Oregon Fire Code applies to EVERYONE across the entire state.](#)

Who to Contact with a Smoke Complaint and How/Where to File

Oregon DEQ—877-476-0583

Filing a complaint online
click the picture to the right





RURAL SIGN PROGRAM

Addressing is a crucial part of any emergency response. If we can't find your address we can't find you. Help us help you by putting up visible address signage.

(<https://www.corvallisrfd.com/rural-sign-program>)

Corvallis FireMed Membership

FireMed is an ambulance membership program administered by the City of Corvallis Fire Department. For an annual membership fee of \$65.00, members are able to defray or lessen the impacts of charges, co-pays, and/or deductibles associated with medically necessary emergency and non-emergency ambulance transports.

FireMed is not a medical or ambulance insurance policy. As a result, there may be some limited situations where a portion of the expenses remain. Please refer to your membership agreement and/or contact the FireMed office with specific questions about your situation.

FIREMED LINK

<https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/fire/page/firemed-membership>





Benton County Emergency Managers Message

Did you know that Benton County has its own Emergency Management office. The Emergency Manager is Bryan Lee and Chelsea Chytka is the Coordinator. They provide a range of functions and support for Benton County residents, many of which apply directly to the Rural District. Below is a list of some of those things and two ways to contact their office.

Phone: 541-766-6864

Email: emergencymanagement@bentoncounty.gov

Benton County Emergency Managers activate the Benton Operation Area IMT EOC to assist during wildfire or HAZMAT emergencies:

- Provide evacuation notices through Linn-Benton Alert ([sign-up](#))
- Help find/provide shelter for community members, livestock, and pets so fire agencies can focus on the incident
- Activate a Call Center to address community concerns
- Coordinate and address volunteers and needed donations

After an incident they coordinate the damage assessment and recovery process

During Blue-skies (times outside of an emergency, day-to-day activities), the Emergency Management Team focuses on:

- Disaster Planning—Coordinate and write county-wide plans such as the Community Wildfire Protection Plan ([link to learn more](#)), the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan, etc.
- Build and Maintain Community Partnerships—Work with community partners to apply for grants and connect them to resources that will enhance their resiliency against disasters
- Training and Education; presents emergency preparedness topics to community partner organizations and neighborhoods, disseminate educational materials, and host an Emergency Services & Preparedness Fair; provides Emergency Operations Center training on a monthly basis to keep the Incident Management Team (IMT) in a ready state
- Host and instruct ICS courses for local jurisdictions

Has a Benton County Emergency Response Team (BCERT—If you [want to join](#)) that offers disaster preparedness training on a regular basis and provides trained volunteers for preparedness presentations, call-center activations, community event support, and much more

Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District Board & Misc. Topics



Board Members

Chairman—Bob Conder (Bob.Conder@corvallisrfd.com)

Vice Chair—Heidi Hagler (Heidi.Hagler@corvallisrfd.com)

Secretary—Alex Polikoff (Alex.Polikoff@corvallisrfd.com)

Treasurer—Tony O'Donahue (Tony.ODonahue@corvallisrfd.com)

John Taylor (John.Taylor@corvallisrfd.com)

Upcoming Events:

April 27th—Station 6 Open House 10-1

April 29th—Webinar (see CFRPD webpage for more)

PREVIOUS HOT TOPICS

Have you ever wondered what previous informational topics have come out? Look no further and connect.

[Link to Previous Hot Topics](#)

Station 6 (Locke Station)

544 NW Lewisburg Ave

Corvallis, OR 97330

541-766-6476

When the Rural Board Meets

Date—Last Wednesday of the Month

Time—6PM

Location—Station 6 (Locke Station) or Zoom

