

CROOKED RIVER RANCH FIRE & RESCUE ANNUAL REPORT - JANUARY 2022



MISSION STATEMENT: "SERVICING THE COMMUNITY OF CROOKED RIVER RANCH BY PROVIDING SUPERIOR SERVICE THROUGH PREVENTION, EDUCATION, EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT"

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF, HARRY WARD



Welcome to Crooked River Ranch Rural Fire Protection District, also known as Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue. As the Fire Chief for this District, I am fortunate to lead a group of extremely dedicated first responders. Without a question, our District personnel are some of the best professionals I have had the privilege to serve with during my fire service career. Our career and volunteer personnel have the heart, dedication, and passion for the fire service as well as emergency medical services.

As we are a large and growing community in Central Oregon, we are constantly reaching out to the community on fire prevention and emergency preparedness. As some of you may know, we annually host an Emergency Preparedness event which is to inform, educate and learn about how you can protect your property and your family. Last year's event was done virtually with local county emergency managers, the local Field Manager for Bureau of Land Management, as well as our guest speaker who personally experienced the devastation of the Holiday Farm fire. We had a narrow escape with the Grandview Fire back in July of last year. Even though it was across the canyon from us, there could have been severe damage to our community. Therefore, I cannot stress enough that making your property fire defensible is key to severe loss of a structure on your property. Over the past few years, Jefferson County has had the Title 3 grant funds available for residents, which helps residents financially to clean up their property. Through this application process, residents can have a property inspection done by our personnel, have the work done that was recommended (or do the work themselves), and obtain a reimbursement in the amount of \$500 after the property work is completed. Many of our residents have taken advantage of this grant opportunity and we encourage everyone to apply this year, once the funds are available.

On another note, the main picture on the front of this report shows our new training facility. I am proud to say that we have completed this project and it is in full use for our personnel. This training structure was completed with grant funds from the state of Oregon Department of Public Safety Services Training division, as well as donations from various vendors in the Central Oregon area. We can now do most of our training at our facility, rather than sending our personnel to other locations for training classes. We can also host training events at our location for the surrounding fire districts in the area.

Lastly, I want to thank the residents for supporting our fire district as we work together to create a safer community here on the Ranch. As always, we are here for you and please feel free to call us anytime with questions you may have. You may also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor.

Our Vision: "Provide the Best Service and Protection for our Community"

YOUR CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS...

Crooked River Ranch fire & Rescue is an independent fire district governed by a five-member, locally elected Board of Directors. Meetings are held monthly on the third Thursday of every month, along with special meetings and workshops.



Position #1 – Brad Pahl, term expires 6/2025

Position #2 – Kay Norberg, term expires 6/2025

Position #3 – Jeff Green, term expires 6/30/2023

Position #4 – Barbara Oakley, term expires 6/30/2023

Position #5 – Mark W. Wilson, term expires 6/30/2023

***“Serving our Community with Courage, Pride, Honor,
Commitment and Integrity.”***



Meet our Staff

Fire Chief, Harry Ward
Assistant Fire Chief/Paramedic, Sean Hartley
Administrative Assistant, Dana Schulke
A Shift - Captain/Paramedic, David McDonald
B Shift - Captain/Paramedic, Tom Fast
C Shift - Captain/Paramedic, Alysha Delorto

YOUR VOLUNTEERS OF THE DISTRICT...

Brodie Blok, Firefighter/EMT
Grant Caudel, Paramedic
Kacey Davey, EMT & Safety Committee Chair
Frank Day, Lieutenant, Firefighter
Travis Delorto, Firefighter/Paramedic
Robert Edwards, Firefighter
Brooklyn Emerson, Firefighter
Greg Haner, Firefighter/EMT
Damion Hatch, Firefighter/EMT
Dan Marsh, Firefighter
Marta McGovern-Philpott, Wildland Firefighter/EMT-I
Elizabeth Ramirez, Firefighter
Jeff Scheetz, Wildland Firefighter/Rope Rescue Technician
Garrett Schweigert, Firefighter/EMT
Dennis Senko, Firefighter/EMT
Colton Steinke, Firefighter/Paramedic
Myrsideys Steinke, Firefighter/Paramedic
Kyle Ward, Firefighter
Amy Weddle, Firefighter/Paramedic
Adam Wiley, Firefighter/Paramedic
Chase Wylder, Firefighter/EMT



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT...

Every April the District participates in the joint recruitment process at Central Oregon Community College. Through this process students that are achieving their Associate of Applied Science degree in Structural Fire Science, Fire Administration, and Paramedicine participate with selective local fire agencies in firsthand training in fire and emergency medical skills. They are a volunteer member of our District. As a bonus, three of them get to reside at our station in the dormitories. The other three are non-residents and all of them work assigned shifts. We are fortunate to have this partnership with the college and this program.



Chase Wylder



Damion Hatch



Greg Haner



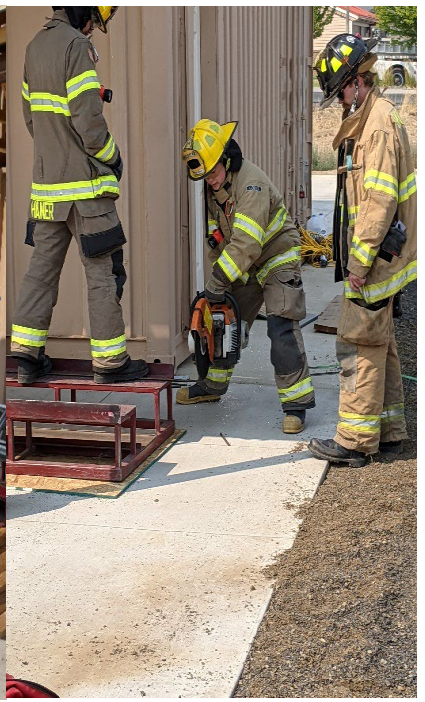
Elizabeth Ramirez



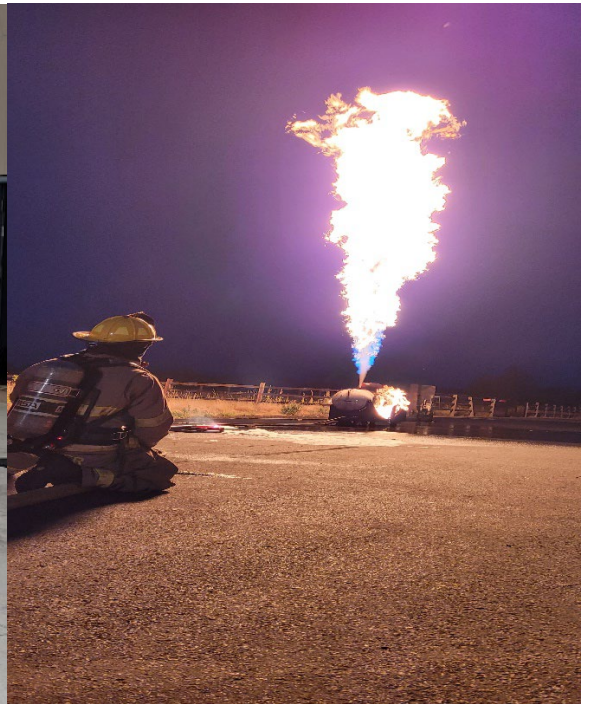
Kyle Ward

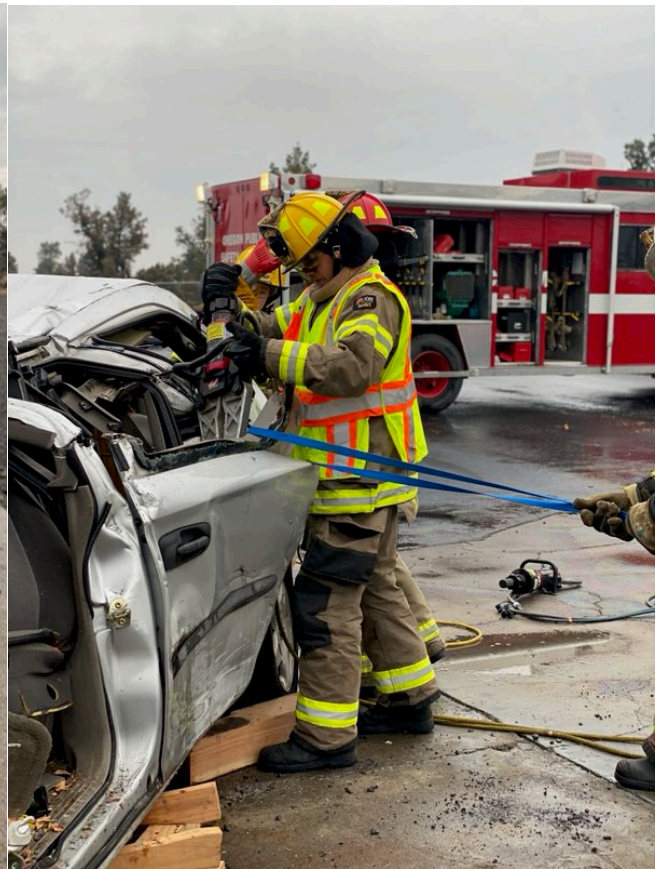


Brooklyn Emerson



Training in Progress...



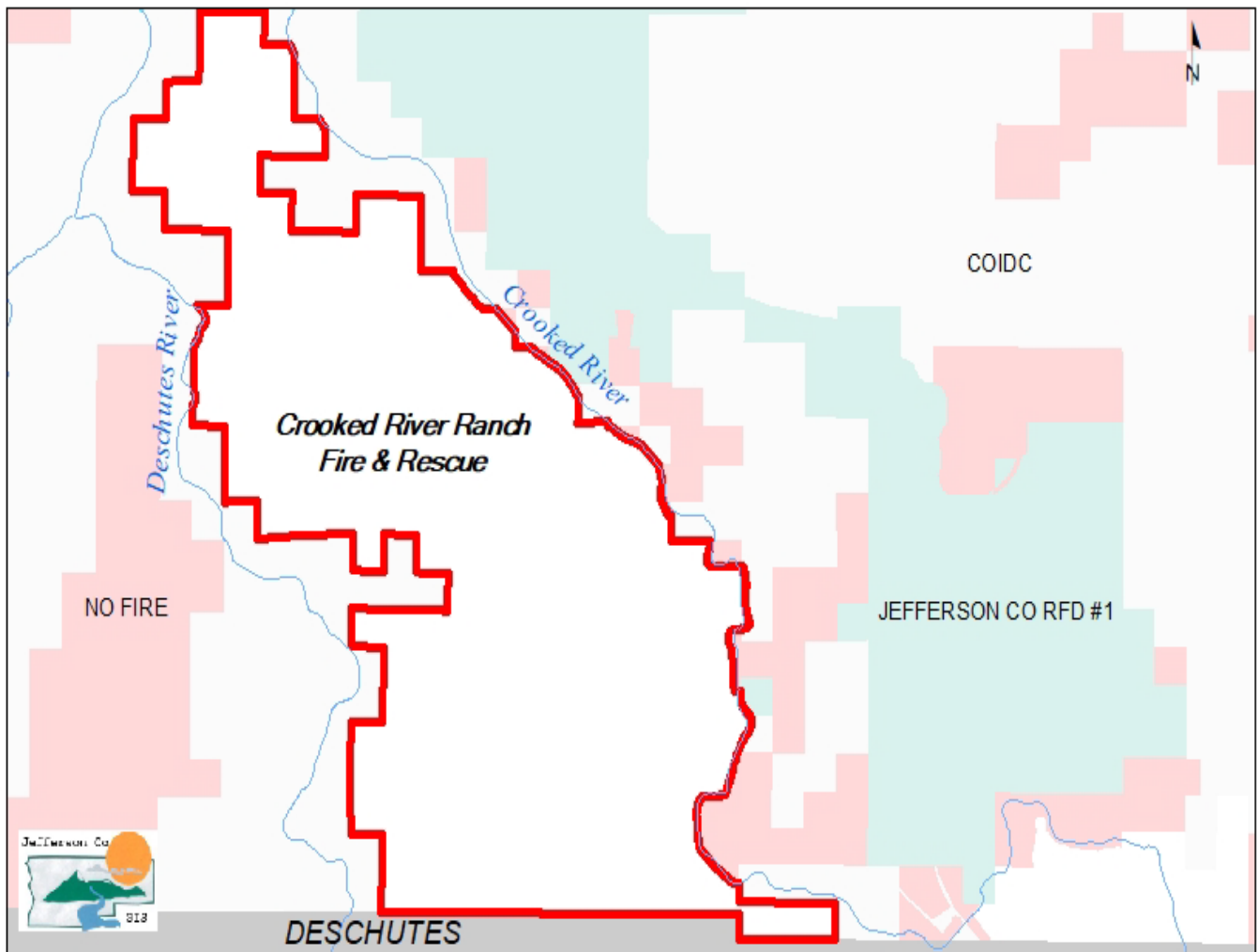


Every Monday night is our drill night, which consist of various techniques and procedures in EMS trauma scenarios, vehicle stabilization, extrication, Life Flight landing zone training, ladder training, rope rescue techniques and many other components to fire science and paramedicine.

INSURANCE INFORMATION...

Insurance Protection Class Ratings may provide savings on your property insurance depending on your property and your insurance company. The District was last evaluated by the Insurance Services Offices (ISO) in the fall of 2016. ISO is a private company that provides information to the insurance industry that includes rating fire protection capabilities of fire service agencies throughout the United States.

ISO uses a Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) to give communities points in three areas. Emergency communications, such as the 911 system (10 percent), fire department procedures (50 percent) and water supply (40 percent). The results are analyzed by ISO and by insurance companies. Informing your insurance agent that our district is an ISO-4 may save you money.



CALL VOLUMN STATISTICS...

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | Description |
|---|------------|------------|------------|---|
| Vegetation/Structure/Vehicle Fires | 19 | 37 | 22 | Wildland or Structure Fires, Vehicle Fires |
| Overpressure Rapture/Explosion/Overheat (No Fire) | 0 | 0 | 0 | Explosion, Overheats and Ruptures |
| Rescue & Emergency Medical Service | 397 | 406 | 468 | Rescues and Emergency Medical Assistance, Traffic Accidents/Crashes |
| Hazardous Condition (No Fire) | 5 | 5 | 7 | Down Power Lines, etc. |
| Service Call | 69 | 84 | 62 | Illegal Burning, Lift Assist |
| Good Intent | 68 | 62 | 64 | Medical Call, No Patient Transport, or Canceled Call |
| False Alarm/False Calls | 20 | 14 | 4 | Commercial/Residential Fire Alarms |
| Severe Weather & Natural Disaster | 0 | 1 | 0 | Ice Storm, Snowstorm, Wildfire, etc. |
| Special Incident | 0 | 2 | 0 | Event Standby Requests |
| Total: | 578 | 611 | 627 | *Includes EMS canceled in route and no patient calls. |

Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue responds to emergencies twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Our Firefighters are also trained as emergency medical professions and are equipped to respond to any emergency. That is why you may see both a fire engine and ambulances responding to incidents.

We are honored to serve our residents in many other capacities besides firefighting and medical emergencies. We respond to hazardous materials incidents, high angle rescues, down power line situations, etc. Community Risk Reduction is also a priority for us as well. We prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and strategic investment of resources to reduce their occurrence and impact. We are constantly helping the community prepare for emergencies that include inspections, public life and safety education and community outreach.



MUTUAL AID PARTNERS...

Within the Fire Service, the notion of mutual aid is one in which formal agreements are made that allow emergency services to lend assistance across jurisdictional boundaries. This is often the case when the needs of an emergency incident exceed the capability of local resources, such as a multiple-alarm fire or large-scale disaster. Mutual aid may be requested when an emergency occurs, or it may be a standing automatic agreement. The following agencies assist Crooked River Ranch Rural Fire Protection District: Redmond Fire & Rescue, Cloverdale Rural Fire Protection District, Jefferson County Fire District #1, Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District, Crook County Fire & Rescue, Black Butte Ranch Rural Fire Protection District, La Pine Rural Fire Protection District, Sunriver Fire Service District and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Fire & Safety. In turn, our District assist these agencies with any large incidents that may occur in their jurisdictions.



Conflagrations...

Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue responds to conflagrations, or wildfires, when requested by the State. Under the provisions of an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (or EMAC), deployments are typically to Oregon and California and are managed by the Oregon State Fire Marshal's office (OSFM). Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue is reimbursed for the costs of all personnel sent and those staying behind to cover them, in addition to paying for the use of any equipment. Deployments can last as long as 14 days.

This past year, some of our personnel went to the Patton Meadow fire, which was west of Lakeview, OR.





CHAPLAIN/EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

With elevated levels of stress and everyday traumatic occurrences associated with firefighting and EMS, having someone to speak with in confidence really helps our personnel stay healthy and better able to cope with life and the job.

We are in a partnership with the Central Oregon Public Safety Chaplaincy who do an amazing job in checking up on our career staff and volunteers after any traumatic incident. They come by the station on a regular basis to follow up with us and make sure that everyone is doing ok.

The District also offers an Employee Assistance Program through Special Districts Association of Oregon. With this program, our personnel can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to ask for any type of assistance with personal matters of any kind.

OUR BIGGEST CONTINUED CHALLENGES ...

1. Recruiting and retaining volunteer firefighters and EMT's for the District.
2. Proper funding to replace aging fleet of emergency vehicles.
3. Rising costs of retirement benefits/PERS, health care and personnel costs.
4. State and Federal requirements/mandates for COVID-19.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY...

| General Fund | Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Actual Expenditures | Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Actual Expenditures | Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Proposed & Adopted Expenditures/Supplemental Budget |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Personnel Services | 796,269. | 802,354. | 970,969. |
| Materials & Services | 343,559. | 418,950. | 592,333. |
| Capital Outlay | 127,010. | 10,502. | -0- |
| Debt Services | -0- | 27,046. | 27,046. |
| Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund | 13,909. | 148,149. | 50,000. |
| Operating Contingency | 5,000. | 35,696. | 61,297. |
| Unappropriated Ending | 434,010 | 595,745. | 250,000. |
| Total | \$1,719,757. | 2,038,441 | 1,951,645. |

The District's financial functions include accounting and budgeting, accounts payable/receivable, payroll, grant management, annual reporting and auditing, cash flow projections and various other financial tasks. Our fiscal year is from July 1st through June 30th.

Most of the Fire District's funding comes from the property taxes paid by our residents, who own property within the boundaries of the Crooked River Ranch Rural Fire Protection District. Additional revenue for the fire district is generated by the fees charged when patients are transported by ambulance to the hospital. Miscellaneous income is generally from donations, refunds, and insurance credits. Occasionally, the District also participates in State Fire Mobilizations through the summer months resulting in additional reimbursement revenue, which is only incorporated into our operating budget when an actual conflagration occurs. We do go through an annual auditing process, and the finalized reports are submitted to the District and our Board of Directors.



GRANT OPPORTUNITIES IN 2021...

| Agency | Description of Request | Amount Awarded | CRRF&R Portion | Status |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|---------|
| State of Oregon - DPSST | Funds to complete our training building behind the Station | \$35,000. | \$-0- | Awarded |
| Oregon Dept. of Forestry-Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant (VFA) | To purchase supply hose, wildland hose | \$10,000. | \$-0- (In-Kind Match for Volunteer Time) | Awarded |
| Staffing for Adequate Fire, Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant | Provides financial assistance to help fire districts increase/retain staffing/volunteers | \$313,400. (Spread out over 4 years) | \$-0- | Awarded |

State of Oregon, Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) – Through the generosity of DPSST we have been able to receive funds to complete our training center behind the Station.

Oregon Department of Forestry-Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants (VFA). These grants help fire agencies meet their firefighter and emergency response needs. The objective of the VFA grant program is to improve the capacity and capability of rural and volunteer fire protection districts.

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant (SAFER) – this was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organization to help increase or maintain the number of trained, “front line” firefighters available in their communities. These funds will be spread out over a four-year period from December 2021 – December 2025.

One of the most well-known grant programs is the Assistance to Firefighters Grant or AFG. This program provides federal grants directly to local fire departments and unaffiliated Emergency Medical Service organizations to help address a variety of equipment, training and other firefighter health and safety research and development through the Firefighter Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grant program.

AFG grants are not guaranteed to every station/district, and many grants are denied. Award decisions are made by the Criteria Development Panel based on the merits of the application and the needs of the community that the said station/district serves. Congress must approve the budget for AFG on an annual basis. After grants have been distributed, there is a specific and set list of purposes for which fire grant money can be used, such as training firefighting personnel, acquiring firefighting vehicles, modifying fire stations, education the public about arson prevention and more activities.

CROOKED RIVER RANCH VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION...

The Crooked River Ranch Volunteer Fire Association is the social, civic, and charitable group of career and non-career District members. The main goal of the association is to enhance the district with extra members, as well as support the district through community events, education programs and activities.

Some of the Volunteer Association events include our annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Dick Chandler Baseball Field, Labor Day Pancake Breakfast, and the Holiday Giving Tree and donation of food boxes.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT...

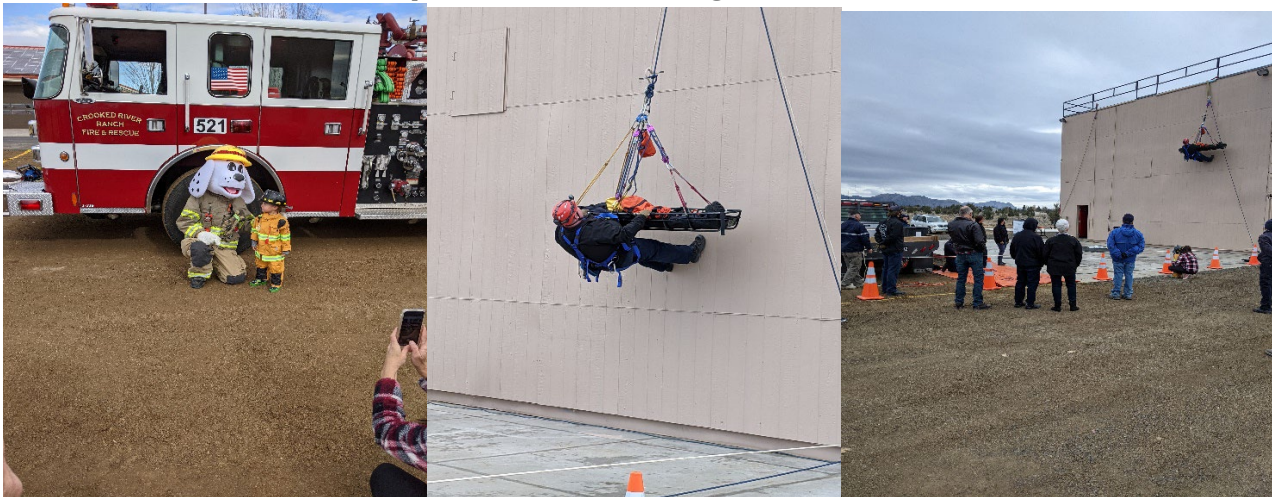




Trunk or Treat



Open House/Training Center Dedication





Shop with a Firefighter / Holiday Giving Tree / Food Boxes



Community Service Volunteers – WE NEED YOU!

The District is always looking for residents of Crooked River Ranch who would be interested in serving their community. We are looking for residents who have a heart for the fire service, as well as assist us in community programs, fire prevention and events. Feel free to contact us at admin@crrfire.org or 541-923-6776.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS WE RECEIVE FROM OUR RESIDENTS...

| |
|--|
| <p>Q: How often do I have to renew my burn permit?</p> <p>A: As of 10/2020 we no longer issue burn permits. You will need to come by the station and pick up our brochure on the burning regulations, and the brochure will be considered your permit. This brochure must be on site or on your phone electronically for you to reference. You must call the Burn Line at 541-923-4633 daily, for any type of fire day or night. This includes campfires or a warming fire. The recorded line will state if you are allowed to burn for that day. The brochure of the burning regulations may also be found on our website: www.crrfire/firesafety/ourdoorburning.</p> |
| <p>Q: How often does your Board of Directors have their meetings?</p> <p>A: Our Board meets on the third Thursday of every month, usually at 6:30 pm. Due to the last couple of years and COVID-19, we have held our meetings virtually. You may access the meeting through the Zoom link, which is posted on our website.</p> |
| <p>Q: Does the empty lot on the corner of Shad and Quail (where the school bus stop is) belong to the District?</p> <p>A: Yes, this property is owned by the District. This property is utilized for the school bus to pick up and unload students only. There is no overnight parking allowed, nor can you park any cars that are up for sale.</p> |
| <p>Q: Can someone from the Fire District come and help me get a dead deer off my property?</p> <p>A: Unfortunately, we cannot. As much as we would like to assist our residence when it comes to removing deer off their property, we must be available for medical calls at a moment's notice. The CRR Road Department can assist with removing the deer once you can get it to the side of road, or end of your driveway. You may call 541-548-8939 and they will let the Road Department know to come pick up the deer.</p> |
| <p>Q: Do I have to drive into Redmond to dump my Juniper limbs that I have cut down?</p> <p>A: No, the Lions Club has the Limb Dump available, which is located on Sand Ridge Rd., here on the Ranch. They are open at various times throughout the year and charge a small fee depending on the size of your load.</p> |
| <p>Q: Can anyone be a volunteer with the fire district?</p> <p>A: As we would like to have many volunteers for our fire district, we ask that you have some background in Wildfire experience, structure fire protection and Emergency Medical Services to be a response volunteer. Certifications in these areas are preferred. The District does have support volunteers/community service volunteers that assist the District in events, certain projects, and programs. We are always in need of types of volunteers and an application is available at the fire station to complete if you are interested. As with any personnel of the district, a background check will be done on the individual.</p> |
| <p>Q: How many smoke alarms do I need in my home?</p> <p>A: One smoke alarm is not enough for the average home. You should have at least one smoke alarm in every bedroom, and in the hallway outside each bedroom. A typical 3-bedroom home would need at least four installed smoke alarms to provide a reasonable amount of protection for your family. If you hear three bleeps or recurring bleeps you may need to replace your smoke alarms as they are only good for 10 years.</p> |
| <p>Q: What do you do with all your fire hose that is no longer in use?</p> <p>A: We put the hose aside and anyone who would like to use them for other reasons may come by and pick them up. We have donated our old hoses to school districts and residents for their own projects. Our hoses last anywhere from 10-20 years, depending on the use of the hose.</p> |
| <p>Q: When can I have someone from the fire district come and inspect my property for fire defensible space?</p> <p>A: Anytime is fine with us, although the springtime is an excellent time for property inspections. That way you can get your yard in shape before fire season is upon us, which is usually between April through October. Just call our main line at 541-923-6776 and give us your name, address, and phone number so we can have one of our volunteers call you to set up the appointment for the inspection.</p> |
| <p>Q: What do I do when I have fallen and need assistance getting up?</p> <p>A: You may call 9-1-1 and ask the Dispatch Operator for a "lift assist". Our crew will then get toned out by Dispatch and we can come and help you. If we do not have to transport, there is no fee.</p> |
| <p>Q: Should I come to the fire station to have my spouse checked out?</p> <p>A: No. We ask that you please call 9-1-1 and let the Dispatch operator know their symptoms and they will tone us out (with, or without sirens), depending on the situation at hand.</p> |
| <p>Q: Can the firefighters come and fill up my pool with water from their trucks?</p> <p>A: Our District does not offer this service to our residents. Their labor and equipment are required to fight fires and save lives.</p> |
| <p>Q: Is there anyone at the fire district that would like to earn some extra money and help me move?</p> <p>A: Most of our staff and volunteers work all week long and value their time with their families. Our student volunteers from Central Oregon Community College are usually working part-time jobs, along with spending their time studying for their classes.</p> |





Our core values have been delineated as an integral part of our District's commitment, both to an exemplary level of service and a moral standard of conduct above and beyond reproach.



Service – Dedication to our Community

Professionalism – Honoring the Firefighter Oath

Integrity – Upholding moral and ethical conduct at all times

Respect – Embracing diversity and recognizing individual worth

Innovation – Taking creative risks to adapt and improve

Trust – Reliance on the integrity, strength, and ability of our members

Bravery – Courage is the foundation of our character

Caring – be safe, do no harm and be nice

Fiscal Responsibility – Protect the public trust by being fiscally accountable to our constituents