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EAST VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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2014 STATISTICS THUS FAR:

STRUCTURE FIRES: 41

BRUSH FIRES: 39

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:
14

EMS INCLUDING VEHICLE
ACCIDENTS: 515

PUBLIC SERVICE CALLS: 41

FALSE CALLS: 107

TECHNICAL RESCUE: 4

MISC: 10

TOTAL: 771

**SMOKE DETECTORS
SAVE LIVES!**

WE WILL ALL BE

CHANGE YOUR CLOCK



CHANGE YOUR BATTERY

CHANGING OUR
CLOCKS ON 11/2/14,
ARE THOSE SMOKE
DETECTOR
BATTERIES BEING
CHANGED?



Fire Chief Mike Riel

A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Fall is here after a long hot dry summer. The department has remained extremely busy with the ever increasing call volume. When personnel aren't responding to an emergency they are engaged in the many activities for preparation for when the next emergency comes. With the advent of 24 hour coverage 7 days a week and reinforcement by our Paid on Call Firefighters and EMS / Support personnel we significantly improved our response readiness when you have an emergency. All of our personnel dedicate many hours of training in order to provide you the highest quality of services that you expect and deserve. With the large diversified area that we serve we strive to be proactive in our prevention programs. Lieutenant Keith Shrank, along with shift crews have developed school prevention programs that we take exceptional pride in.

Our positive interface with the kids is evident in their smiles and waves that we are greeted with at the schools. Our prevention program includes many station tours that include fire awareness and prevention for preschool groups. With our current staffing we have also been able to assign our Day Shift Firefighter, Eric Love, on a focus project of adding and updating the Urban Interface Pre-fires in the district. Urban Interface is area where a residence or structure could be threatened by a potential brush or grass fire reaching that property. FF Love has also done a remarkable job in addressing the Urban Interface needs of the residents that border the East and North edges of the 57th Street Urban Interface areas with informational packets for more situational awareness and what

to do in the event of a wild fire. As you have seen across the nation fires that can occur in these environments can have the best defense when property owners prepare.

Now with winter months approaching, it's time to look at your heating systems. If you heat with wood it's time to service your chimney to evaluate its integrity and its cleaning needs. If you heat with gas, when was the last time your system was serviced or checked? Also do you have a functional carbon monoxide detector? How about those smoke detectors? Have you tested them and are you changing the batteries out annually? Preventive measures you do today could prevent a fire in the future. Stay Safe and call 911 when your emergency occurs. Your fire department is ready to serve.

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER



Chairman Joe Geidron Commissioner Dan McNulty Commissioner Les Riel

A new year welcomes new faces. The Board would like to welcome new Part time personnel to the department. Serving you in the role of firefighters are, Mauro Gonzalez and Joseph Schwartz.

Serving you in the roles of EMS/Support are, Shawn Marquis, Shauna Rosacrans and Jerry Simons. We look forward to working together and providing our citizens the best service possible.

We thank you all for your continued support of this Fire District. The Yakima County Fire District #4 Commissioners look forward to serving you in 2015

Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives

Test Yours Every Month!

Fire Prevention Week • October 5-11, 2014 • Go to FPW.org

PREVENTION DIVISION

Here at Yakima Yakima County Fire District #4 we aim to put fire prevention at the top of our list. We strive to be proactive in keeping our citizens educated in risks involving fire, EMS, and special hazards.

As the summer comes to a close, we find colder months coming into view. During Fall and Winter, your Fire Department is a very busy one. Below are some helpful tips you can use in your home to help alleviate unwanted risks and keep you and your family safe.

FURNACE HEATING

- It's important that you have your furnace inspected to ensure that it is in good working condition.
- Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shutoffs are in proper working condition.
- Leave furnace repairs to qualified specialists. Do not attempt repairs yourself unless you are qualified.
- Inspect the walls and ceiling near the furnace and along the chimney line. If the wall is hot or discolored, additional pipe insulation or clearance may be required.
- Check the flue pipe and pipe seams. Are they well supported, free of holes, and cracks? Soot along or around seams may be an indicator of a leak.
- Is the chimney solid? Does it have cracks or loose bricks? All unused flue openings should be sealed with solid masonry.
- Keep trash and other combustibles away from the heating system.

SAFETY TIPS

- Never discard hot ashes inside or near the home. Place them in a metal container outside and away from the house.
- Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device. Not only is it a safety hazard, it can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.

- If you use an electric heater, be sure not to overload the circuit. Extension cords are not recommended.
- Avoid using electrical space heaters in bathrooms, or other areas where they may come in contact with water.
- Frozen water pipes? Never try to thaw them with a blow torch or other open flame, (otherwise the pipe could conduct the heat and ignite the wall structure inside the wall space). Use hot water or a UL labeled device such as a hand held dryer for thawing.
- If windows are used as emergency exits in your home, practice using them in the event fire should strike. Be sure that all the windows open easily. Home escape ladders are recommended for second stories.
- If there is a fire hydrant near your home you can assist the fire department by keeping the hydrant clear of snow so in the event it is needed, it can be located.
- Be sure every level of your home has a working smoke alarm, and be sure to check and clean it on a monthly basis.
- Plan and practice a home escape plan with your family.
- Feel free to contact your East Valley Fire Department for advice if you have a question on Home Fire Safety.

CARBON MONOXIDE AWARENESS

- CO alarms should be installed outside each sleeping area. Install alarms on every level of the home.
- Test CO alarms at least once a month.
- Replace CO alarms according to the instructions on the package.
- Know the sounds the CO alarm makes. It will sound if CO is detected. It will make a different sound if the battery is low or if it is time to get a new CO alarm.
- If the CO alarm sounds, you must get fresh air. Move outdoors, by an open window or near an open door. Make sure everyone in the home gets to fresh air. Call the fire department from a fresh air location.

PREVENT CO POISONING

- When warming a vehicle, move it out of the garage. Do not run a fueled engine indoors, even if garage doors are open.
- During and after a snowstorm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow build-up.
- Clear all debris from dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace vents.
- A generator should only be used outdoors.
- Gas or charcoal grills can produce CO. Only use them outside.
- Open the damper when using a fireplace for adequate ventilation.
- Never use your oven or stove to heat your home.

RECRUITMENT DRIVE

Yakima County Fire District #4 is looking for highly motivated individuals to join our team in serving the needs of our citizens. The East Valley Fire Department prides itself on the training of newly hired Firefighters. We educate our personnel in the roles of Firefighter and Emergency Medical Service members. The fire service is a rewarding occupation, whether you are looking at making it a career or looking to help your local community.



Applications can be picked up at EVFD Headquarters located at 2003 Beaudry Rd. Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Thank all of our personnel, their families, fire commissioners' and tax payers who make our service possible.

Please visit our web site @ www.ycfd4.org