



**COWLITZ COUNTY FIRE
DISTRICT #5**

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We Are You

We can't do this job alone



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Cowlitz 5 Lends a Hand



Brush 53 being used at the Chiwaukum Complex fire near Leavenworth

Cowlitz County Fire District #5 was able to offer resources to assist in the battle of the Chiwaukum Complex fire. Chief Leatzow and one of our brush trucks were deployed on Wednesday, July 23. That fire was sparked to life on July 15 by lighting strikes.

On July 30, the fire had expanded to 13,120 acres and was 27% contained by using:

- 1,233 people

- 10 helicopters
- 66 engines
- 10 hand crews

According to www.nwccweb.us, this fire has damaged 5 minor structures while 1,583 single residences are threatened.

As more homes are built in the wildland-urban areas, it is up to homeowners to take

special precautions to protect their lives, homes and property. Creating "defensible space" around your home reduces the threat of wildfire toward your home by reducing the amount of fuels the fire needs to grow. You can create a natural barrier between your home and other structures by clearing brush and debris away from structures. Firewood should NEVER be stored against your home.

Plan your landscaping with fire prevention in mind. "Fire-resistant" plants do not easily ignite from a flame or other ignition source but are by no means fireproof. Chances are, you may know someone who has been called out to fight a wildfire. It is a dirty, hot and dangerous job. Wildland firefighters have special training to prepare them for the exhaustive work.

We appreciate the men and women working hard to put out the many fires raging this fire season.



Chief Leatzow at the fire line

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COWLITZ COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #5

Newsletter

From the Chief

"WE ARE YOU" and without you, we would not have the opportunities we do. We would like to thank the Port of Kalama for their donation of a residential structure on Kalama River Road. Over the course of a month, our agency as well as Cowlitz Fire District #1, Cowlitz Fire District #7 and Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue obtained valuable hands on time. During the 800 plus man hours of training, agency members were able to practice and polish skills such as

hose handling, ventilation, ladders, search and rescue and pump operations. Under Washington State law, members are required to have one "Live Fire"

training a year. This opportunity allows members to fulfill that requirement and more.

THANK YOU
PORT OF KALAMA.



Regular Board Meetings are held on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Why learn CPR?

CPR is designed to manually preserve brain function until other measures can be taken to restore breathing and spontaneous blood circulation. CPR alone is not likely to restart a heart, but the

use of CPR can restore partial flow of oxygenated blood to the brain and heart.

The care given in the time between calling 911 and EMS personnel arriving, can be critical to the patients survival.

Contact us to learn about available classes 673-2222



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Calendar of Events

- August 17 - Pancake breakfast & BBQ lunch @ Station 51 during the Untouchables Car show
- October 4 - Open House @ Station 51 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- October 5 - 11 - Fire Prevention Week "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives. Test Yours Every Month"
- December 24 - Santa Cruise

WSRB (Washington Survey & Rating Bureau)



San Diego Wildfire 2014-SDSS-Sean M. Haffey _ Zuma Press

Recently the District met with a representative from the WSRB to evaluate Fire District #5. WSRB takes in many factors when determining the insurance rating of structures throughout any District. WSRB takes into account the manpower available from a fire agency,

their training records, how dispatch notifications are received, apparatus types, age and capabilities. How much of the jurisdiction is protected by hydrants, the overall water system design and delivery, as well as building code enforcement and inspections. After a daylong visit pouring over records and documentation, speaking with City and District representatives, WSRB takes the information back to Olympia and will compile their report. Though the report is not scheduled to be released until September, early indications show that the WSRB ratings for the District's jurisdiction will remain the same.

Fire District #5 strives to progressively provide our residents with the best service possible. Keeping up to date with the growing District can be challenging when the funding doesn't match the growth. Keeping that in mind, the Board of Commissioners, Staff and Volunteers of Cowlitz County Fire District #5 continue to strive for delivering a quality service through trained members utilizing current equipment at the lowest possible cost to the community.

Seasonal Burn Ban in effect July 15 - September 30

Please be aware of the potential for serious wildfire risk during the warmer and drier summer months. It doesn't take much of a spark to cause costly damage to homes and property when the conditions are just right.

Take steps to protect your home and property from fire.

- Keep your lawn trimmed
- Weeds and brush should be cleared away from any structures
- Tree limbs should not touch structures
- Gutters should be empty of leaves and debris

Brush burning is NOT allowed during the Seasonal Burn Ban. Recreational fires in an approved pit are allowed unless otherwise posted

Kalama Volunteer Firefighters Association

After many years of operating as a non-profit, we are proud to announce that we made the next step and have applied for and received non-profit, 501(c)3 status!

What does that mean for you? It means your donations to our Association are fully tax deductible.

What does that mean for us? Now

we now have access to resources that can help us help the community and continue to pursue our mission.

Donations and grants we receive directly benefit the Kalama community through our support of various local programs. Your donations also support the 1949 Mack Engine Restoration Fund so we can keep the old engine participating in community events like the parade, car shows & Santa Cruise each Christmas Eve.



The Kalama Volunteer Firefighters Association
PO Box 293
Kalama, WA 98625

Local Wildland Training

Structural training is not the only fire training needed in today's fire service. As we enjoy the sun during the summer months, Wildland fires are the predominant threat. Each year members receive their initial and annual Wildland refresher training. One requirement for Wildland training is a field day. During the field day, members train on "digging" line, hose lays, burn outs, reading weather and "mop up" operations. A big challenge is where to go to burn, dig and soak property?



This year Dennis and Dena Ott were instrumental in our ability to deliver quality hands on Wildland

training. Dennis and Deana "loaned" four acres for S-130 / S-190 training for 14 agency members from Cowlitz and Clark County. Unfortunately, the 70 plus Department of Natural Resource personnel that were to train on the property were sent to a real fire near Oakville, WA. **A big thank you to Dennis and Dena Ott** for their support of our agency and the members of all agencies providing Wildland suppression to the citizens of Southwest Washington.

Www.cowlitzfd5.org is now mobile device friendly! Check it out!

Welcome Our Newest Volunteers



Lisa Davis
Firefighter
Pursuing EMT certification
Started 2/18/14



Mitchell VanSike
Support Services
In training for Firefighter
Started 3/4/14



Shayne Mazza
Support Services
In training for Firefighter
Started 3/28/14

It is imperative to ask yourself every morning "what will I give those around me today?"

Accomplishments



Congratulations to
Volunteers Treva Abruzzini
& Jerry Barker!
Both have become Nationally Certified
Emergency Medical Technicians!
Way to go!

