



The East Side Flyer

www.eastsidefire.com

October 2020

Jo Moncrief, ESFD Community Relations Officer



October 4 - 10



The devastating wildfires raging in California, Oregon and Washington make us all think about "what if."

What if a wildfire struck our area? It's imperative that each of us living rurally have a plan for evacuation. Orders to evacuate may allow you 3 hours or more to get ready, or you may have only 15 minutes. Knowing what you are going to take and your mode of transportation are things you should know ahead of time. Those with livestock should have a plan for not only where to take animals, but how to transport them. If you have an RV you might choose to pack it in the event you need to evacuate. Where will you meet family members if you aren't all together when an order to evacuate is issued.

The Kootenai County Sheriff's website offers helpful disaster preparedness tools. Go to www.kcsheriff.com.



Hover over Emergency Management, then click Be Prepared. Choose your area of interest from the menu on the left. **A checklist of items to bring if you ever need to evacuate is included on page 3.**

Check out Sparky's important tips included in this flyer!

The time to prepare is now!

THIS WEEKEND October 2, 3 & 4

East Side Fire District Volunteers will be collecting trash on Highway 97 from I-90 to Harrison, as well as the entire length of Burma Road this weekend. Please drive carefully to protect the safety of our volunteers. Let's all do our part to make our springtime cleanup easier.



PLEASE DON'T LITTER

FIRE DANGER - HIGH

The July 29th open burning ban is still in effect and burn permits are not being issued. At this time, open burning without a permit will go into effect on October 20. When burning, please check air quality online at www.airquality.deq.idaho.gov or call at (208) 373-0502.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO WATCH FOR THE FIRE DANGER STATUS POSTED ON THE SIGNS ALONG HIGHWAY 97 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

WWW.EASTSIDEFIRE.COM

CHIEF'S CORNER



Hello Eastside Community,

I have just completed my first month in my new role as Fire Chief and what a month it has been! We have had one of the busiest Septembers on record, with a total of 31 calls. By far the busiest September in my history with the department. Of all the different calls we had, two that stand out were dog rescues and reuniting them with their owners. Cody, the 130 pound Labrador, wandered off the road and due to health, age and the terrain, got stuck, laid down and said no more. We climbed about 100 yards up a steep hillside and packed Cody down the hill on one of our backboards. The other incident was Roco, a shepherd mix who was showing his age, ended up at Camp Easton wandering around on Hwy 97. We were able to secure him with a piece of turkey and a leash. A call to his owners who lived in Spokane was met with elation as they learned he was still alive. Apparently he had fallen off their boat on the previous Saturday somewhere north of Arrow Point. After hours of searching, they had given up, assuming the worst. His owners had tears and hugs when they came out to pick him up and a kind donation to the fire district!

It's chimney season! Going back over my 6 years here, I believe we have responded to at least one chimney fire every year. It is good practice to clean your chimney at least once a year and have it inspected if you feel there is an integrity issue. If you bank your fire at night, the probability of creosote building up is much greater. Some good words to live by: 'When in doubt, clean it out'! It's always a good idea to have a fire extinguisher handy just in case. We carry 'Chimfex' on our trucks which is an aid to extinguishing a chimney fire. It is a product that looks like a flare and if used properly, can help extinguish a chimney fire by removing the oxygen out of the chimney. We have Chimfex available for members at the Arrow Point station for a small donation. **If you suspect you have a chimney fire, dial 911 immediately to get us on the road.**

Safe burning! Jerry

FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL DAY OCTOBER 4, 2020



In honor of our nation's fallen heroes our flags will be lowered to half mast.

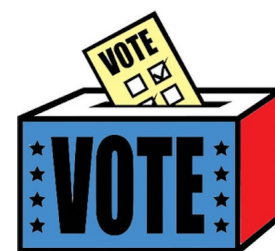
DON'T FORGET!



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 @ 2:00 AM

NOVEMBER 3 VOTING UPDATE

Precincts 67 and 70, which serve the east side of the lake will be open for in-person voting from 8:00AM - 8:00PM. Masks will be required and social distancing will be maintained. Hand sanitizer will be available. For more information, call the Kootenai County Elections Office at (208) 446-1030.



EMERGENCY EVACUATION GRAB & GO LIST

Use this list to prepare grab & go bags in case of evacuations in your area

LEVEL 3 (~5 MINUTE EVACUATION)

- ☐ Wallet or Purse
- ☐ Keys (Car, House, RV...)
- ☐ Cell Phone, Charger, Extra Battery Pack
- ☐ Medications
- ☐ Medical Devices (CPAP, Cane...)
- ☐ Glasses
- ☐ Laptop & Charger
- ☐ Emergency Folder (Passport, Birth Certificates, Insurance...)
- ☐ Shoes and Weather Appropriate Clothes
- ☐ Pet Supplies

LEVEL 2 (~15-30 MINUTE EVACUATION)

- ☐ All the above items and:
- ☐ Radio
- ☐ Flashlight & Batteries
- ☐ First Aid Kit
- ☐ Camping Equipment (Sleeping Bag, Tent...)
- ☐ Food
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Extra Clothing
- ☐ Blanket
- ☐ Portable Toilet & Toilet Paper
- ☐ Important Memorabilia (Family photos, Journals...)

LEVEL 1 (~1 HOUR EVACUATION)

- ☐ All the above items and:
- ☐ Already prepared multi-day to 2-week emergency kit
- ☐ Comfort Items (Books, Games, Toys...)



KITCHEN SAFETY TIPS

STAY

focused on the food



Unattended cooking is the leading cause of fires in the kitchen.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. Turn off the burner if you leave the kitchen—even for a short period of time.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly and **stay in the home**.
- Use a timer to remind you that you are cooking, or carry around a wooden spoon as a reminder.
- If you are sleepy, have consumed alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy, don't cook. Place a delivery order!

PUT

a lid on it

You can take simple steps to keep a small kitchen fire from getting out of control.

- Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it's cool.
- Never discharge a portable fire extinguisher into a grease fire because it will spread the fire.
- In case of an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed until the oven is cool. After the fire, have the oven serviced before using it again.
- If you have a microwave oven fire, turn the appliance off immediately and keep the oven door closed. Have the microwave oven serviced before using it again.

KEEP

cooking areas clear

Clear away clutter and give cooking appliances space to lessen the chance of a kitchen fire.

- Keep anything that can catch fire—oven mitts, wooden utensils, food wrappers, towels, curtains—away from the stovetop.
- Loose clothing can hang down onto stove burners and catch fire. Wear short, close-fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking.
- Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.
- Keep pets off cooking surfaces and nearby countertops.
- Clean up food and grease from burners and the stovetop.

PREVENT

scalds and burns



Hot liquids and steam from the stove or oven can cause devastating injuries.

- Turn pot handles away from the stove's edge.
- Keep hot foods and liquids away from table and counter edges.
- Keep your face away from the oven door when checking or removing food so that the heat or steam does not cause burns.
- Open microwaved food slowly, away from your face. Let food cool before eating.
- Keep appliance cords coiled and away from counter edges.

