Three Rivers Rural Fire Protection District
5055 SW Lake View Dr
Culver, OR 97734

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In May of 2008, voters formed the Three Rivers Rural Fire Protection District. As a fire district, the fire department became eligible to receive grants, donations and surplus equipment. Since that time, the fire department has received nearly $80,000 in grants. We received grants for new Wildland water supply equipment including new hoses, pump and portable tanks. We have received surplus equipment including of 2 heavy 6x6 brush engines, a water rescue boat, a Basic Life Support – Support staff vehicle and over $150,000.00 in donations. These grants and equipment has made it possible to increase our level of fire protection as well as the emergency services which the fire department provides to our community.

In 2009 the call volume was double that of previous years. Our medical response times averaged just 8 minutes. All Wildland fire starts were held to less than 1 acre.

Our training levels have increased overall. Our volunteers have spent hundreds of hours in training both fire, rescue, and emergency medical training. This summer we will have five EMT’s volunteering on shifts both during the week and on weekends. Our firefighters will continue to track and monitor lightning strikes in order to continue to catch them small.

The fire district is off to a great start and we have begun to plan for the future. With this growth, the anticipated future growth and the desire to continually improve our service level to the community, the district has begun the planning process of building a new fire station. The new station would be built utilizing federal dollars, various grants and private donations. The process has begun with the land owners of Three Rivers Landowners association voting to grant the Fire District 3.23 acres on Graham Rd. Now that the district has the land, we can begin to look for funding.

A Message from the Fire Chief
Don Colfels, Fire Chief

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Proudly serving Lake Billy Chinook and the Grandview Area
www.threeriversfire.org

Volume 1
Burning Info 541-410-5077
Spring/Summer 2010

Three Rivers Fire District is Granted Land for a New Fire Station
Earlier this Spring, the fire district approached the land owners in the Three Rivers association asking them to become “Grant Partners” in the Fire Station Construction Project and grant the RFPD a parcel of land. The fire district would like to construct a new station on a 3.23 acres parcel located west of the front gate and the office of Three Rivers. Ballots were sent to all Three Rivers property owners. A total of 1002 ballots were counted, which constitutes 81.3% of the ballots sent out. The totals were: Yes, 921 No, 81, a total of 87.9% in favor.

Preliminary plans have begun for the new station. This is essential to identify all cost involved and to attract additional grant partners for various stages for construction. The new station would be built utilizing federal dollars, various grants and private donations.

The new location is more central to the entire district. Grandview area citizens will benefit from this new station for decades to come.

Is Your Address Clearly Visible?
When you call for help, emergency responders need to locate your residence quickly. Are your house numbers visible from the street? Is your house address posted on a mailbox that is located in a cluster of mailboxes? In an emergency, every second counts. The Three Rivers Fire District has address signs available for $25.00 which includes installation. Mail your completed order form and fee to the Three Rivers Fire District, 5055 SW Lake View Dr. Culver, OR 97734. Applications are also available on-line.

Name: ____________ Phone: ____________
Address: ____________

Special Instructions

Three Rivers Landowners association voting to grant the Fire District 3.23 acres on Graham Rd. Now that the district has the land, we can begin to look for funding.

This overall process may take some time depending upon the amount of grant dollars and private donations we can attract.

Join the Team!
Interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter? A regional fire training academy begins in late September. Hosted by 13 different fire districts, the academy trains both men and women to national firefighter standards. Topics include firefighter safety, PPE (personal protective equipment), fire behavior and fire suppression.

Training classes are held on Saturdays. It’s never been easier to become a motivated, highly skilled volunteer firefighter. Volunteers are needed at the Three Rivers station within the Three Rivers Fire District. Please call Chief Don Colfels at 541-550-7673 or visit us on the web www.threeriversfire.org/about/volunteer.html for all of the details and an application.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE
VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Labor Day Breakfast
Sunday Sept. 5th—7:00 a.m.—Noon
Three Rivers Rec Hall
Adults $5, Children 6 and up —$4
Sponsored by the Three Rivers Fire District Volunteers

Test your smoke alarm today!
Women and Heart Attacks

If you're a woman, you may not believe you're as vulnerable to a heart attack as men—but you are. Women account for nearly half of all heart attack deaths. Heart disease is the number one killer of both women and men.

There are differences in how women and men respond to a heart attack. Women are less likely than men to believe they're having a heart attack and more likely to delay in seeking emergency treatment. Furthermore, women tend to be about 10 years older than men when they have a heart attack. They are more likely to have other conditions, such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and congestive heart failure—making it all the more vital that they get proper treatment fast. Women should learn the heart attack warning signs. These are:

- Pain or discomfort in the center of the chest.
- Pain or discomfort in other areas of the upper body, including the arms, back, neck, jaw, or stomach.
- Other symptoms, such as a shortness of breath, breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea, or light-headedness.

As with men, women's most common heart attack symptom is chest pain or discomfort. But women are somewhat more likely than men to experience some of the other common symptoms, particularly shortness of breath, nausea/vomiting, and back or jaw pain. If you feel heart attack symptoms, do not delay. Remember, minutes matter! Do not wait for more than a few minutes – 5 minutes at most—to call 9-1-1. Your family will benefit most if you seek fast treatment.

Lake Billy Chinook Boater Safety Tips

Members of the Three River Fire District Water Rescue Team would like to remind boaters and swimmers to be safe on Lake Billy Chinook this summer. Adults as well as children should wear life vests when boating or fishing. Be alert for snags and rocks both at the waters’ surface and below. Carry a cell phone with you. Protect yourself from the sun; wear a hat and sun screen lotion. If fishing alone, let others know of your plans; where you are heading, and when you are to be expected home. Take drinking water and a snack with you. And remember, even on the hottest of days, the lake’s temperature remains cold, especially near the headwaters. Do not hesitate to call 911 during an emergency.