



WINTER 2018

SCFD8 PROUDLY SERVES

- Moran Prairie
- Glenrose
- Hangman Hills
- Valleyford
- Bella Vista
- Mica
- Painted Hills
- Ponderosa
- Saltese



DID YOU KNOW?

SCFD8 fire stations have community rooms that you can use for your neighborhood association meetings or public education events. Some rooms are equipped with media presentation equipment, tables and chairs. Bathroom and kitchen facilities are available, too. For details, please contact us via email at admin@scfd8.org.

www.scfd8.org
509-926-6699



A Message from the Chief

Greetings! This winter you will have the opportunity to vote on Proposition 1—a Maintenance and Operations (M&O) replacement levy that will appear on your February ballot. The levy will continue funding to help maintain current operations as well as provide funding to improve future fire and emergency medical services (EMS). This is not a new tax. The levy is a replacement for the current M&O levy expiring next year. The estimated annual levy rate will remain at \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value, or \$125 on a \$250,000 home. Senior and disabled citizens who qualify for property tax relief are exempt from this levy.

The replacement levy will allow us to:

- Keep each fire station staffed 24 hours a day/365 days a year.
- Continue staffing each fire station with a paramedic/firefighter with advanced lifesaving skills that go beyond the emergency medical training that every firefighter has.
- Keep our promise of increased response reliability. State and federal laws restrict us from taking certain firefighting steps until at least four firefighters are on scene. The levy funds enough firefighters to meet those legal requirements and provide more reliable responses.
- Maintain our fire insurance rating that has saved citizens hundreds of dollars per year.
- Maintain volunteer programs.

If you have any questions about the levy, or suggestions about how we can serve you better, please feel free to e-mail me at tnielsen@scfd8.org, or give me a call either at the office 509-926-6699 or at home 509-535-7740.



Tony C. Nielsen, MA, EFO, CFO,
Fire Chief, SCFD8

PUT A FREEZE ON WINTER FIRES

Home fires occur more often in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter, be sure to BE FIRE SMART! Half of all home heating fires occur in the months of December, January, and February.

COOKING:

- Cooking is still the number one cause of home fires. Keep anything that will burn at least 3 feet away from the stove.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Make sure children stay at least three feet away from the stove and other areas where hot food or drinks are being prepared.

CANDLES:

- Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Keep candles at least 1 foot away from anything that can burn.
- Think about using flameless candles in your home. They look and smell like real candles.

CARBON MONOXIDE:

- Test your carbon monoxide alarms and make sure they are working. (Carbon monoxide alarms should be located outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.)

WINTER STORMS:

- Stay alert to the weather forecast and monitor social media, tv or radio for winter storm updates.
- Develop a 72-hour disaster preparedness kit. Include food, water, medication and flashlights.

GENERATORS:

- Keep a portable generator outside, away from windows, and as far away as possible from your home.
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.

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PUT A FREEZE ON WINTER FIRES Continued from other side

ELECTRICAL:

- Plug in no more than one heat producing appliance, such as a space heater, into an electrical outlet at a time.

OTHER FIRE SAFETY TIPS:

- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year.
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings.
- Heating equipment is the second cause of home fires, but is responsible for the highest number of in-home fire deaths. Heating equipment is involved in 1 in every 7 reported home fires and 1 in every 5 home fire deaths.

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit usfa.fema.gov/winter and nfpa.org/winter.



Fire Flyer

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Spokane County Fire District 8

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Send your name and email address to admin@scfd8.org to join our mailing list.

KEEP YOUR HYDRANT CLEAR THIS WINTER



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

Santa and your firefighters could be coming through your neighborhood December 11-22!

Santa Claus is coming to town and he's temporarily trading in his sleigh for a big red fire engine! Listen and watch for the Jolly Old Elf as he rides through your neighborhood along with your District 8 firefighters. He'll be passing out candy canes and greeting children young and old. For a complete schedule of Santa's visits, go to scfd8.org or find us on Glympse.

