

SUMMER 2019

SCFD8 PROUDLY SERVES

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



SIGN UP FOR FREE CLASS

Learn to stop life threatening bleeding following everyday emergencies.

Stop the Bleed Class

Aug 10, 10am – Noon
Fire Station 81
6117 S Palouse Hwy



www.scf8.org
509-926-6699



A Message from the Chief

Greetings! I wanted to take a moment and talk about the robust automatic aid program we've created over the past several years and how it benefits all of us in South Spokane County.

Not too long ago, if you called 911, you received fire or emergency medical services from the fire department or district where you lived, even if it meant a longer wait when units from a neighboring agency were available and closer. Thanks to negotiated agreements with the Spokane City and Valley Fire Departments, residents now receive the closest available unit, regardless of jurisdiction. Our crews now routinely train and interact with our neighboring fire agencies to support a seamless response system that ensures you and your family get the closest, fastest response possible in an emergency.

On major incidents, we now receive — or provide — as many crews as necessary to handle the emergency. We also benefit by receiving specialty resources like hazardous materials teams, ladder trucks, and technical rescue teams without delay and at no extra cost to taxpayers.

Because of your support, our automatic aid program has resulted in lives saved and decreased fire damage on both sides of our shared borders, but we know that we can always improve. If you have any questions 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) 370-9801.



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

Living with Wildfire: Time to Prepare

Wildfires are increasingly common in the Spokane area and as temperatures heat up, vegetation dries out, and our red-flag windy days arrive, the potential for large wildfires increases.

Now is the time to think about your home's ignition zone, create a non-combustible zone around your house, and identify and prepare your survivable space.

Create and manage a survivable zone around your home. Your first steps are to determine the size of your survivable space and to remove dead vegetation and other potential combustibles, then create separation between your trees, plants, flowers, and shrubs.

The goal is to create a 5-foot fuel-free, non-combustible zone, and a 30-foot lean-and-green zone around your home and property.

Don't overlook potential flammables around your home. Be sure to pay special attention to roofs and vents, decks, porches, siding, windows, fences and other structures that may be close to or connected to the home. Think about areas where embers could enter your home or land on flammable material on or near it.

Embers are the most common source of house ignition during wildfire. While most people envision a wave of flames hurtling toward their house, it's most often a small ember from a nearby blaze that causes a house fire.

Wind-borne embers can blow more than a mile away from a wildfire and can ignite dead vegetation on or near your house, potentially causing significant damage. Flames or radiant heat from your home can then ignite neighboring houses, making a coordinated, community approach critical to reducing fire risks around your home and property.

For more information about how to protect your home and property, visit firewise.org.



Stroke is the 6th leading cause of death in Spokane County

Sudden Stroke Symptoms: Someone who is having a stroke may have some or all of these symptoms and they could be mild or severe. *Don't wait to call 911 -- stroke is always an emergency.*

- Numbness or weakness on one side of the body
- Confusion, trouble speaking, or understanding
- Trouble seeing
- Trouble walking or loss of balance
- Severe headache with no known cause

Remember the **F.A.S.T.** mnemonic as a guide to help assessment. Do the following test if you suspect stroke symptoms in another person.

Face Drooping: Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?

Arm Weakness: Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift down or not rise?

Speech Difficulty: Ask the person to say, "The sky is blue." Is the person's speech slurred, garbled, or very slow?

Time To Call 911: Whether one symptom or many, or if these are mild or go away, call right away.

CALL 911: Minutes count! Medical care begins with 911.

Act F.A.S.T.

During a Stroke



Face **D**roops

Arm **W**eakness

Speech **S**lurred

Time to **C**all **911**

Fire Flyer

Fire 8 Flyer is a publication of
Spokane County Fire District 8

12100 E Palouse Highway | PO Box 345
Valleyford WA 99036

Tony C. Nielsen, Fire Chief
Lee C. Boling, Commissioner
Greg Hesse, Commissioner
Andy Rorie, Commissioner

Would you like to receive the Fire 8 Flyer and other correspondence via email?

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

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PERMIT #4

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Sign-up for ALERT Spokane ALERT Spokane allows emergency personnel to send time sensitive messages to Spokane County residents and businesses during high-risk situations.

Follow these simple steps to register for ALERT Spokane:

- Go to www.gsem.us and click on the ALERT Spokane logo
- If you prefer not to register on the website, you can download the CodeRed mobile app.

Users without internet may use a computer at their local library, or have a friend or relative with a computer assist.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Linke-Saltese Station 85 Open House Saturday, July 13th | 10 am to 2 pm

Spokane County Fire District 8, Station 85
3324 S. Linke Road, Greenacres WA

2019 National Night Out | Tuesday, August 6

For more info, how to sign up and to check if there is a party scheduled in your neighborhood, go to spokanecops.org/events.

Ponderosa Station 84 Open House Wednesday, Sept. 11 | 6 pm to 8 pm

Spokane County Fire District 8, Station 84
4410 S. Bates Road, Spokane Valley, WA