



SPRING 2025

**FIRE DISTRICT 8
proudly serves the
communities of:**

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

Fire Chief's Message

Greetings! I'm pleased to share with you that this Spring you will have the opportunity to choose to maintain and enhance the emergency services we provide you and your family, as the Board of Fire Commissioners has placed a ballot to restore the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) levy before you in April. The last time this levy was restored was in 2000, almost twenty-five years ago. The levy will maintain services to you by ensuring that every fire station is staffed with a paramedic and that a sufficient number of firefighters arrive within the initial minutes of your emergency to allow for immediate action without having to wait for additional firefighters to arrive.

The last time this levy was restored was in 2000, almost twenty-five years ago. Paramedics have extensive training in emergency medicine, essentially bringing the services of an intensive care unit to your living room within minutes. The EMS Levy will help to provide a paramedic at your neighborhood fire station twenty-four hours a day.

In addition to their medical training, your paramedics are cross-trained as firefighters to ensure enough personnel arrive on scene to take immediate action. Because of the complexity of fires and the recent size and intensity of wildland fires we sometimes have a limited ability take initial actions until a firefighting force of at least four firefighters is assembled. The EMS levy helps to ensure there are enough firefighters to go to work right away when lives and property are at risk. And when those paramedic firefighters are engaged in structure or wildland fires, that we have enough funding to call back paramedic firefighters to respond to your medical emergencies.

The current EMS levy is at \$0.29 per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation. The district is asking you to consider restoring the levy to \$.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation.

We encourage you to visit the Spokane County Assessor's Office website, under Tax Transparency to estimate the true cost to you and your family. Also, visit www.scf8.org for more information.



Lonnie Rash, Fire Chief, SCFD8

As always, if you have any questions about our service, or suggestions about how we can serve you better, please feel free to e-mail me at lrash@scfd8.org, or give me a call on my cell phone at 509-370-9801.



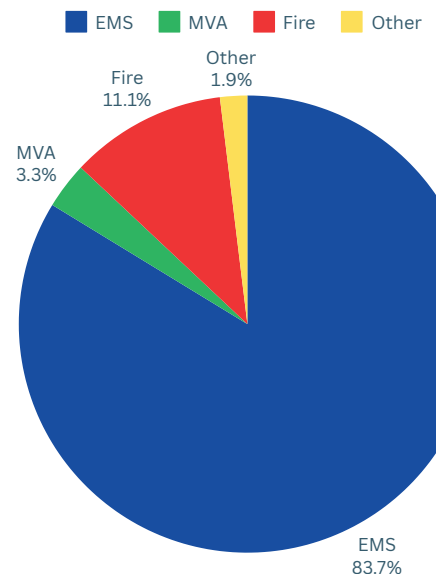
Engine 82 proudly serving Valleyford.

REVIEW OF 2024

2024 was a busy year for Fire District 8. We responded to 4,209 calls for service. Of those, 3,525 were calls for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) followed by 466 calls for Fires or Fire related events, 138 calls for Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA) and 81 calls for Other or Unclassified.

**4,209
TOTAL
SERVICE CALLS**

3,525 EMS CALLS
466 FIRE CALLS
138 MVA CALLS
81 OTHER CALLS



www.scf8.org
509-926-6699



STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO IMPROVE YOUR HOME'S WILDFIRE READINESS



Your home and the area from zero to five feet from the furthest attached exterior point of the home is defined as the non-combustible area. Science tells us this is the most important zone to take immediate action on, as it is the most vulnerable to embers.

Start with the house itself then move into the landscaping section of the zone. **Clean roofs and gutters** of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers. **Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles** or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.

Embers are burning pieces of airborne wood and/or vegetation that can be carried more than a mile through the wind. They can cause spot fires and ignite homes, debris and other objects. It is possible for embers to penetrate and smolder in woodpiles, patio/deck items, vents, roofs and debris filled gutters.

Regardless of wildfire intensity and the distance of embers, research shows home ignitions are determined by the home and its immediate surroundings. It's not where the home is located that necessarily determines risk; it's how ignitable the home is.

TO LEARN MORE: Visit [Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org) or call SCFD8 at 926-6699 for additional information. Visit [WildfireReady.dnr.wa.gov](https://www.wildfireready.dnr.wa.gov) to sign up for your free property assessment.

Fire Flyer

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

12100 E Palouse Highway | PO Box 345
Valleyford WA 99036

Lonnie Rash, Fire Chief
Lee C. Boling, Commissioner
Jeff Larsen, Commissioner
Andy Rorie, Commissioner

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

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

Yard and Garden Debris Collection Day March 29, 2025 | 10 AM-1 PM

SCFD Station #82 | 12100 E Palouse Hwy, Valleyford

Springtime is just around the corner. Time to clean up those yards and create a defensible space. Drop off your residential yard and garden (natural) debris for FREE! Unable to accept branches over 3" diameter and/or 6' long, root balls, soil, lumber, trash, or commercial loads. The event will end at 1:00 or earlier if containers reach capacity.

Open House at Station #81

May 10, 2025 | 10 AM-1 PM

SCFD Station #81 | 6117 S Palouse Hwy, Spokane

Come bring the whole family to Fire Station 81's Open House! There will be many fun family activities and photo opportunities. As well as a Fire Engine and Helicopter! Stop by to visit with our firefighters as well as community partners. Enjoy some food and the community we live in.

For more information about Spokane County Fire District 8 events, please call us (509)926-6699 or visit [scfd8.org](https://www.scfd8.org)