



2022

1872



EAST JEFFERSON FIRE RESCUE





Healthy people make
thriving communities.

The health of our community is fueled by the health of our people. That's why delivering excellent care drives everything we do.

With locations throughout the region, Jefferson Healthcare is your community healthcare provider. Our state-of-the-art facilities, experienced care providers and advanced medical technology give you access to the best care. *Right here at home.*

Since the birth of our nation, firefighters have been part of the fabric of America. In 1678, the first fire engine company went into service in the US. Benjamin Franklin established one of the first organized fire brigades in Philadelphia in 1736. Unfortunately, there is a corresponding list of fire related tragedies throughout our history including the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which left over 100,000 residents homeless. This tragedy inspired major fire prevention reforms for our nation, including fire sprinklers. Firefighters are symbols of our country's perseverance, resilience, innovation and dedication to service.

One year after the Great Chicago Fire, in 1872, Port Townsend employed the first firefighter in Jefferson County. Our nation's fire service has evolved considerably during this time and so has Jefferson County's fire service.

Today's East Jefferson Fire Rescue (EJFR), also known as Jefferson County Fire District 1, is the result of a series of cooperative agreements and consolidations. We have evolved to our current boundaries by encompassing the best attributes of our previous agency partners to reinvent ourselves with each consolidation. We are the largest fire and emergency medical service (EMS) provider in Jefferson County. The most recent addition to EJFR is the City of Port Townsend Fire Department, meaning our history now goes back all the way to 1872 when Port Townsend established its fire department. Today we pay homage to the very best attributes of our past...even our emergency vehicles list the names of the communities that make up EJFR. We are truly more than the sum of our parts....we are Jefferson County strong.

Firefighting is a dangerous endeavor by its very nature, which resulted in over

60,000 work related injuries nationally in 2019 (NFPA). Like fire departments across the country, East Jefferson Fire Rescue has faced significant challenges managing the COVID 19 Pandemic. Our people face enormous risks in the normal course of their duties. In the US, our industry responded to almost a million COVID 19 related incidents in 2020. Despite the risks, East Jefferson Fire Rescue continues to respond to the community's needs as we recognize the importance of adaptability and continual flexibility to meet the ever-changing needs of the community.

East Jefferson Fire Rescue's most valuable resource is our human capital, our people. We have an exceptional workforce that includes highly skilled firefighters, EMS personnel, fire officers, chief officers, and administrative staff. 38 are firefighters augmented by approximately 25 volunteers. Together, we provide high-quality emergency services to more than 22,000 residents within our 68 square-mile response area. Essential to our success is our connection to the community. Most of our people reside within the county and began their careers as volunteers. It is this connectivity to the community that enables us to provide unrivaled Fire and EMS services. Although the role of the fire service has changed over the years along with the increasing complexity, our commitment to serving our community remains resolute.

Our commitment to our vocation is often multi-generational as well. Many of our members are 2nd or even 3rd generation firefighters. We revere the culture and traditions of the fire service to honor those who came before us, some of which gave their lives in service to the community. We hope to increase the community's awareness of our storied history and fire service heritage by commemorating 150 years of service.

MESSAGE FROM CHIEF BRET BLACK



Don's Pharmacy

Congratulations &
THANK YOU
East Jefferson
Fire Rescue!

150 YEARS!

1151 Water St, Port Townsend • 360-385-0969
donspharmacyporttownsend.com

Thank you, East Jefferson Fire Rescue, for serving our community for 150 years strong.

Our team supports yours 100%

518 Logan Street
Port Townsend
360-385-0634



A unique history of usefulness and a useful vision of the future

East Jefferson Fire Rescue celebrates 150 years while eyeing many more to come

BY DEREK FIRENZE DFIRENZE@PTLEADER.COM

It should be no surprise that our unique and historic town would have a uniquely historic fire department.

Celebrating its sesquicentennial, or 150th anniversary, the firefighting service in East Jefferson can trace a lineage longer than any resident can remember.

“The year after the Great Chicago fire of 1871 is when we were born and that is a pretty momentous occasion in the fire service,” said East Jefferson Fire Chief Bret Black. “As a result of that incident, some of the sprinkler and fire codes that we have today, that’s when they were birthed. To have our legacy go back that far back in the fire service is a real special thing.”

In the century and a half since its founding, the local department has grown by leaps and bounds, ever expanding in order to protect and serve to the best of its ability.

“It’s pretty unique for a fire department to have that legacy. All of our people carry that tribute on our shoulders. Some of us are multi-generational firefighters from this area,” Black said.

Key City Hose Company No. 1 began in a wooden



These early pull boxes, now on display at the fire station on the corner of Lawrence and Harrison, were once on various blocks throughout the town to be activated in case of a fire.

Leader photo by Derek Firenze

station house in the back of a downtown brewery between Madison and Monroe Streets. D. H. Hill was the first fire chief who, with his volunteer firefighters, responded to fires with a horse-drawn Silsby hose cart. Key City Hose Company No. 2 was established in 1892 and operated from an “uptown” residence at the corner of Garfield and Harrison Streets. A new City Hall was dedicated on July 4, 1892. Included as a part of the structure was a new fire station, complete with the traditional brass pole.

In 1916, the department consisted of 25 volunteers, while today East Jefferson employs more than 50 paid staff, 34 volunteers, and five resident volunteers.

In 1945, a new fire station was dedicated at the Lawrence and Harrison Streets location, not far from the original Hose Company No. 2 station. The new station was staffed by three paid, full-time firefighters until 1971, when a full-time chief and later a full-time assistant chief were hired from the ranks of the volunteer firefighter membership.

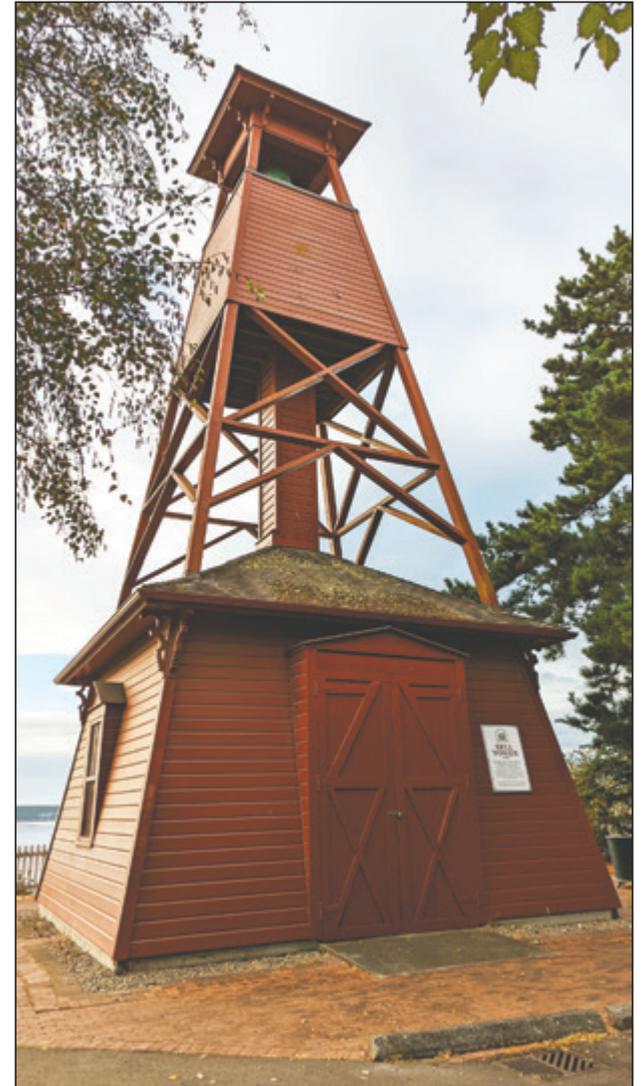
On March 3, 1948, the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners signed Resolution No. C-42 to form the first Jefferson County Fire Protection District 1, enabling property tax monies to be levied and collected to support fire district operations. The area originally protected was in the immediate Port Hadlock and Chimacum vicinities, with the annexations of Adelma Beach, North Sandy Shore, Marrowstone Island and a portion of the Eaglemount area south of Anderson Lake Road following through the years. The city of Port Townsend consolidated with both districts in January 2006 to bring the three formerly separate districts together as East Jefferson Fire Rescue.

BYGONE TIMES

More than just numbers, the history is on display throughout the town for all to see.

Most obvious of all is the bell tower sitting firmly prim and proper 75-feet tall. Although lacking in the arabesque Victorian elegance of the surrounding homes, what the structure lacks in ornamentation, it makes up for in functionality. Since 1890, the wooden tower has weathered countless storms. So well braced is its pyramidal composition that it is the only bell tower of its kind left standing in the United States today. While it has long been out of service, it does indeed remain functional and is used in two annual tribute ceremonies to this day.

The early days of the fire department also included some high tech solutions to their problems. Prior to the invention of the electric motor, electric light, telephone, and even radio, the Port Townsend Fire Department had a series of boxes spread across the town connected to the fire house that members of the public could activate in the event of a fire. After pulling a lever, the



Port Townsend’s Fire Bell Tower is a 75-foot wooden structure built in 1890 to hold a 1,500 pound brass bell, and a fire engine inside the door. The ringing bell rallied the community to fight fires, providing a coded signal as to the location and severity of the blaze. *Photo by Erin Channis*

device would send a Morse code signal unique to its location to transmit where the fire was taking place.

CURRENT COMMAND

Another extremely functional member of the fire department, though not nearly as ancient, is Fire Chief Bret Black. He’s only been in the community for a few short years, but he brings a life of service to the job.

“I started in my 20s as a volunteer firefighter and really decided that was the vocation for me,” he said. “I liked that it’s a hands-on job that also requires you to critically think about what you’re doing and how you can impact a crisis.”

There have been many crises in his short time that he’s been able to solve, especially now that he is managing both East Jefferson and Port Ludlow Fire & Rescue.

The latest of these is how to maintain the legacy he’s been entrusted with while navigating the current economic difficulties.

“I think one of the things that we all enjoy is a really safe community statistically and practically, but the emergency services here are pretty strained,” Black said.

“Both agencies have done more with less for a long long time. It’s come to a crescendo where for both agencies we need to start looking at what we need to do to maintain the level of service we provide with the hope that we can actually increase the level of service we provide to the community.”

HOPE UNFOLDS

Looking toward that future, Black keeps a keen eye on fire service developments both near and far.

“There’s some really exciting things on the horizon that the fire service in general is looking at,” he said. “Programs like the CARES [Community Assistance, Referral, and Education Service] program in Poulsbo where the fire service has a co-responder outside of the fire engine type model and they’re solving some of the low acuity emergencies in the right size manner.”

Those low acuity emergencies could be anything from someone running out of a medication, charging their EBT card, or in need of help to build a wheelchair ramp.

“Somebody needs to go and contact a person because of some lower level emergency, but it doesn’t need to be a fire engine and an ambulance,” Black said.

In Poulsbo, they have even gone so far as to integrate a phone line into their CARES program with the aim of aiding the mental health of those suffering from loneliness as research has shown that friendly, empathetic phone calls reduce loneliness, depression, and anxiety, and improves general mental health.

“Right now we’re taking a 30,000-pound fire engine and two firefighters and committing them to that call and in some of the new models that we’re seeing you’re taking a co-responder unit in an SUV and going and solving that issue and then preventing it from happening again,” Black said.

And while saving on all that man power is good for the bottom line, it’s even better for community safety.

“Most importantly we’re keeping the fire engines and the ambulances available for the really high acuity calls, the CPR calls, the structure fires, the car crashes,” Black said.

These kinds of forward thinking ideas that Black has continued to stay apprised of are part of what makes him such a good fit in his current position, especially in this area full of artists and free thinkers so open to new ideas.

“I think its practical, I think we can do it, and I think most importantly our community is going to be really receptive to trying to be innovative with our resources,” Black said.

With 150 years under its belt and such a strong vision for what comes next, it’s easy to imagine East Jefferson Fire Rescue sticking around for at least another 150 years.



This magnificently carved alarm bell would translate Morse code messages from the pull boxes to indicate where firefighters needed to go. *Leader photo by Derek Firenze*

Congratulations to East Jefferson Fire!

•Keeping Our Community Safe for 150 Years•



We're here for your banking needs!

OPEN A NEW 1ST GOLD OR 1ST PLATINUM CHECKING ACCOUNT AT ONE OF OUR JEFFERSON COUNTY BRANCHES AND ENJOY:

1ST REWARDS, the free app powered by BaZing

SPECIAL RATES on CDs and Money Market accounts

FREE personalized image debit card, 1st Debit Design®



Candice Cotterill
Personal Banker, Port Townsend
Chamber Board Treasurer
(360) 302-3332



Wendy Duede
Port Townsend Branch Manager
Peninsula Market Manager
(360) 385-1885

1ST SECURITY BANK

Member
FDIC

fsbwa.com

East Jefferson Fire Rescue 150th Anniversary Celebration

October 8, 2022 9 am – 5 pm
Port Townsend City Hall



EVENT DAY



Saturday Oct. 8th

- 9 am Opening ceremony
- 10 am Bucket brigade
- 11 am Back boarding competition
- 12 noon Make and break competition
- 1 pm Ladder truck/rope demonstration
- 2 pm Auto extrication
- 3 pm Marine demonstration
- 4 pm Water ball



Come celebrate with us as we honor the past, present and future of our district and our industry!

Competitions & Demonstrations to Watch!

See the schedule to the left.



Displays & Activities

Antique and specialty apparatus tours as well as kids activities and commemorative items to purchase!

A bit of flower power may have helped spark a lifetime in firefighting.

Battalion chief has long history in local firefighting

By TAYLOR AUSTIN

Back in 1987 at age 7, Justin W. Clouse won a coloring contest held by East Jefferson Fire Rescue, where he colored in a drawing of a fire truck by the Bell Tower in Port Townsend.

"I added rhododendrons, which might have helped me win," Clouse said.

The prize included being picked up from school at the then-named Grant Street Elementary by a fire truck, dinner and a sleepover at the station with firefighters, and being dropped off at school the next morning in the fire truck.

"It was a really big experience for me at that age. Especially being able to see what the station was like and what the firefighters did there. After that I was pretty much hooked," Clouse laughed.

Around age 17 and while still attending classes at Port Townsend High School, Clouse began volunteering with East Jefferson Fire Rescue with the now-retired Lieutenant John Franklin as his mentor.

At 19, Clouse was hired by the department as an entry level firefighter. After firefighting for several years, he became a lieutenant, supervising a shift at a station, and attended paramedic school in Seattle, becoming certified.

Currently, Clouse is a battalion chief, managing

operations at two Port Ludlow stations, three Port Townsend stations, and supervising staffing and day-to-day operations from a mobile office.

Proud of his department, Clouse said: "We are the first in the United States to carry a kit of medicines that can save lives of people experiencing STEMI, which is short for ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction, a very common type of heart attack."

"We are very resourceful, despite being manpower-limited in comparison to bigger departments," Clouse said of East Jefferson Fire Rescue. "I think it comes down to training, we focus on how to do more



with less." He said he appreciates how the same tools of the trade have been used for decades, but that every job is different.

"Every call is unique and interesting," Clouse said.

Clouse has an appreciation for the long history that East Jefferson Fire Rescue has in the community.

"We still have all the original controls to the Bell Tower," Clouse noted.

Clouse also now owns the fire engine, a 1975 Kenworth L.N. Curtis, known as Port Townsend Engine 7, that picked him up from school back in 1987. The fire engine is part of a string of firsts for him.

"That was the first fire truck I rode in, first truck I volunteered on, first truck I drove, and first truck I was on while responding to my first call as a firefighter," Clouse said.



Thank You
EAST JEFFERSON
FIRE RESCUE
For Serving
and Protecting
Our Community
for 150 Years!

Here's to the next 150!
From your friends at



San Juan Baptist Church
1704 Discovery Road, Port Townsend
360-385-2545 • www.sanjuanbaptist.com



*An independent, non-profit resource
for Children, Adolescents,
Adults & Seniors*

*Now providing Substance use
disorder services and medicated
assisted treatment as part of our
Safe Harbor Treatment Program.*



OTHER SERVICES:

- R.E.A.L. Team
- Mobile Crisis Services
- Medication Management
- Adult outpatient treatment
- Child, youth and family services

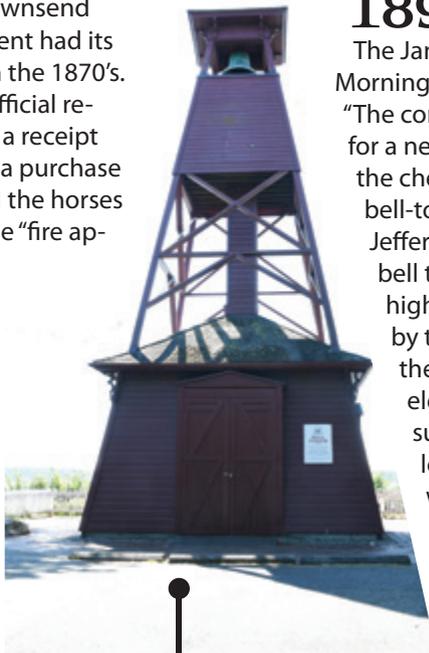
East Jefferson Fire Rescue, Congratulations & Thank You!

686 Lake Street / 884 West Park Avenue, Port Townsend, WA 98368
(360) 385-0321

Protecting our Community

1872

The Port Townsend Fire Department had its beginnings in the 1870's. The earliest official record on file is a receipt from 1872 — a purchase of hay to feed the horses that pulled the "fire apparatus."



1890

The January 1st issue of The Morning Leader reported: "The contract has been let for a new engine house for the chemical engine and bell-tower on Tyler and Jefferson Streets. The bell tower will be 50 feet high, and it is presumed by the thinking part of the community that an electric light will be suspended from the lofty superstructure which being on the hill will shine to splendid advantage."



1900

On June 17th, an area spanning more than a block was leveled by fire in Uptown Port Townsend. The man who first discovered the fire couldn't use the nearest alarm box to report the blaze because the boxes were locked — perhaps in an effort to reduce the number of false alarms — and although there was a key hidden in nearby Aldrich's, the man didn't know where. He had to run to the bell tower to sound the alarm that summoned firefighters, resulting in a significant delay and much greater devastation.

At their next meeting, the city council voted to put alarm keys in boxes with glass doors to prevent another disastrous delay in firefighters' response.



1917 Port Townsend Fire Department at the Annual Flag Day Parade



1930s

Fire Apparatus in front of Port Townsend Fire Department headquarters — this 1928 open-cab Mack truck was purchased in the mid 1930's.

The architecture of our current station on Lawrence Street mimics the arched and narrow window design above. The current station was completed in October of 2005.

Honoring our Past • Valuing our Present

1982

On July 12, 1982, the third floor of the N. D. Hill building in Port Townsend caught fire. The beloved structure was home to several tenants as well as the Town Tavern on the first floor. Firefighters worked tirelessly to save the rest of the building and ultimately the town came together to help rebuild. Today, the N. D. Hill building remains a fixture in Port Townsend's downtown district. Beyond the initial story, the Leader continued to document the recovery across multiple editions of the paper.



1975

According to Margaret Franzen, a member of the District Auxiliary and eventually District Secretary of Fire District #6, Ed Wainwright was the person who initiated formation of a local fire protection district. An article from the first Cape George newsletter in the fall of 1968 mentioned his hard work in trying to form a fire district from Chevy Chase to the Port Townsend city limits. Petitions were circulated and delivered, but apparently frustrations began to mount as the petitions were allegedly mislaid and not located.

Years passed and in 1974, a new petition drive began. On April 7, 1975, the Jefferson County Fire Protection District No. 6 was established by popular vote—171-11. At that time, the first three fire commissioners were also elected: Ed Wainwright, Lee Stark and John Kanaar. At the first meeting on May 8, 1975, Virgil See was appointed Fire Chief and Margaret Franzen was appointed District Secretary. They both served without pay for five years.

In 1975, the Cape George Colony Club leased a heavily wooded lot on County Road 40 to the new fire district for a period of fifty years at an annual rental of \$1.



Engine 61 at the Cape George Fire Station. This 1980 Ford/FMC was used at District 6, then by the Port Townsend Paper Mill's Fire Brigade and eventually donated to the Jefferson County Fair Board.

Paramedics: Funding elusive for countywide coverage



Continued from Front Page
 help the department reach 100 percent coverage, he said. Scott did not ask for a paramedic this year because the city administrator has asked him to keep budget close as last year.
 The county does, however, have an excellent EMT system, said Port Ludlow Fire Lieutenant Ben Andrews. A basic EMT receives 130 hours of training to basic life support (BLS). With additional training, an EMT may earn specialized status as an IV technician and Airway Technician or a Distributor Technician, said Andrews.
 "This county has the best BLS ambulance service I've ever seen," said Andrews. "But there are a lot more advanced skills that EMTs just aren't trained to do."
 A paramedic receives more than 1,500 hours of training, including diagnostics and treatments EMTs can't do, said Schumann. A paramedic acts "as an extension of the emergency room physician," said Schumann. For example, a paramedic may give medications, monitor EKGs and place tubes in airways, he said.
 "We start their treatment a half an hour to an hour before they even reach the hospital," said Schumann. "In the long run it can mean a patient ends up with less damage."
 About 50 percent of calls received could be handled by basic EMTs, said Schumann. Another 25 percent require IV skills and an additional 25 percent need a paramedic. If an IV technician is available, a paramedic is needed in half the emergency medical calls.
 About 80 percent of emergency calls in PTFD are for emergency medical services, said Schumann. He estimates PTFD responds to more than 600 emergency medical calls this year, and half of those require paramedical services. The county pays on an additional \$60 each call, he said.
Improving services
 The EMS Council long-range planning subcommittee has been considering several ways to put a paramedic out in the county for the next two or three years, said

Port Townsend. This option has gotten a lot of negative feedback because of the levy.
 • Contracting with a commercial ambulance service to provide a paramedic. The paramedic would likely be located at the junction of Highway 124 and Center Road, although a more likely location is the Port Ludlow fire department because it already has the space, said Schumann.
 • Expanding paramedic services from PTFD. If PTFD hires more paramedics, the department could administer a satellite station out in the county and bill other fire departments for services. PTFD currently charges \$400 an incident to send a paramedic to another district. The EMS Council will research this option further if contracting with a private ambulance service doesn't pan out.
 • County government could administer and fund a paramedic. "If the end of the county really see this as a priority, which we feel it really might be, the county should be able to administer and fund the program," said Andrews.
 Another way to improve services is to have commercial dispatching, said Clyde. The county currently sends an EMT to an accident first, and then the EMT calls for paramedic help if needed. Their method adds critical minutes to response time, although PTFD has managed to cut that time by sending a paramedic to meet an ambulance part way, followed to the hospital, in some cases, said Schumann.
 With the new county Enhanced 911 (E-911) system, dispatchers are trained to evaluate whether the situation requires an EMT or

a paramedic and automatically dispatch a paramedic if needed, saving a lot of time, said Andrews. But this new method won't always work because a paramedic isn't always available for aid.
 "The technology is there. And we're working with the sheriff to get the training," said Andrews. "But there's just no paramedic to be sending."
Funding
 The problem is money, Schumann estimates the following costs for a full-time countywide paramedic service:
 • \$22,000 a year wages plus overtime and benefits
 • \$5,000 a year to lease a vehicle
 • \$100 a month to lease or \$14,000 total to purchase a drug kit, trauma kit and life pack
 Additional costs would include an unknown amount of insurance and \$3,000 a month to lease a paramedic, although Port Ludlow Fire District would possibly contribute housing.
 "It's difficult to get agreement from the fire districts on funding such a system," said Clyde.
 Tax bases and call volumes are too small to support hiring a paramedic in each district, she said, so agreement is needed to get a new system.
 "We have agreements as to the land," said Clyde. "We don't have agreement as to the funding."
 And no solutions are expected anytime soon.
 "We are moving forward as a small pain, but we are trying to move forward," said Schumann.

1994

Not all things have changed according to this 1994 article. Advanced life support, provided by paramedics, has long-been a need in our area. Funding and the availability of trained paramedics continue to be issues that we struggle with today. In the 1990s the Port Townsend Fire Department provided ALS care to PT and the surrounding Districts through mutual aid agreements. PM Schumann, pictured left, is still a paramedic with EJFR nearly 30 years after this article was written.

2003

Aldrich's Market was destroyed by fire for the second time. The store first burned when a June 17, 1900 fire razed an entire block in Port Townsend's Uptown District.

According to an August 5, 2003, Seattle Times article, the store subsequently operated in several locations before settling into the 1889 structure on the corner of Lawrence and Tyler Streets. The 2003 fire was reported at 2:41 am but the building couldn't be saved as flames raced rapidly through the old structure. It took nearly 50 firefighters to keep the fire from spreading, but they managed to protect all of the adjacent properties. The store was rebuilt in the same location but, this time, it was outfitted with a fire sprinkler system. When Aldrich's caught fire in 2011, the sprinkler system kept the fire from destroying the building for a third time.



1997

On July 28th, Medic 13 began providing paramedic-level care to patients in Port Ludlow, Chimacum and points in between. A cooperative effort between Jefferson County Fire District #1 and Jefferson County Fire District #3, Medic 13 was the first full-time advanced life support (ALS) unit in Jefferson County outside of the city of Port Townsend.

Voters in the two districts approved an increase in their emergency medical services levy to fund the improved services. The skills of ALS providers help ensure good patient outcomes in the most serious situations such as cardiac arrest, heart attack, severe allergic reactions and critical injuries. Today, Fire District #1 is a part of East Jefferson Fire Rescue, and there are at least two paramedic units on duty every day.

2000

Marrowstone EMS (MEMS) transferred its mission and station on Flagler Road to East Jefferson Fire Rescue. Prior to 2000, Marrowstone Island was serviced by their own local EMS organization and did not belong to a fire district.

Money raised by MEMS was used to endow and establish the Marrowstone Island Foundation. The Foundation continues in the tradition of the original island medical service by promoting community health and safety issues and by acting as a financial catalyst for community institutions through judicious stewardship of the Marrowstone Island Foundation endowment.

The background of the following panel shows a map of the current area that is a part of Jefferson County Fire Protection District # 1, including Marrowstone Island. 102-year-old Pat Burns, who served as an EMT with MEMS is third from the right in the ground-breaking photo.

2003 - 2006

In the early 2000s officials with District 1, District 6 and Port Townsend began moving towards consolidation efforts. District 1 and Port Townsend Fire Departments had paid staff while District 6 remained a volunteer organization. An agreement with Port Townsend allowed for 24-hour paid staffing at station 62 (now station 15) with one Port Townsend paramedic and one firefighter. Firefighters Clouse and MacDonald were hired by District 6 in 2003, and in December 2004 Firefighter Chambers was hired to fulfill the staffing agreement. During that time the firefighters lived in a travel trailer while living quarters were constructed. Today Clouse and MacDonald are EJFR Battalion Chiefs and Chambers is a Lieutenant.

In 2005, District 1 and District 6 legally consolidated - taking the name Fire Protection District #1, dba East Jefferson Fire Rescue. During this time, Port Townsend dissolved their Fire Department and through an interlocal agreement paid for services from East Jefferson Fire Rescue - employees of Port Townsend Fire became employees of EJFR.

2019

The agreed upon relationship with the City of Port Townsend continued until 2019 when the City was officially annexed to Fire District #1. From 2006 to 2019 three City council members served on the Board of Fire Commissioners as oversight members.



2021

2021 was a huge year of growth for EJFR, Chief Bret Black joined the team in December 2020 and quickly facilitated the hire of EJFR's first Medical Services Officer (MSO), Tammy Ridgway, and promotion of three Lieutenants to the rank of Battalion Chief — Paramedics MacDonald, Clouse and EMT Fletcher.

MSO Ridgway, pictured above, was originally a volunteer with Port Townsend Fire. EJFR is proud to experience a rich tradition of employee longevity. A large portion of our members enjoy working in the community that they live, and for a good percentage — it's their home town.

2022

EJFR employs 48 paid operational staff, six admin staff, 30 volunteers and three intern volunteers. The District is equipped with six engines, one ladder truck, two water tenders, seven ambulances, one inter-facility transport ambulance, two utility vehicles, two brush trucks, two marine units, one technical rescue trailer and seven staff vehicles.

An interlocal agreement signed in 2021 provides our neighboring district, Port Ludlow Fire & Rescue (PLFR), with management services. PLFR receives administrative services from our Fire Chief, Assistant Chiefs, Battalion Chiefs and Medical Services Officer. Continuing on the route of efficiency the citizens of Port Ludlow will soon have the opportunity to vote on joining East Jefferson Fire Rescue.



Image Right: Ladder 16, purchased in 2021, put in service in 2022



2021

EJFR and the Marrowstone Island Foundation (MIF) gathered at the construction site on Flagler Rd to formally begin the improvement project in November of 2021. In addition to the current apparatus bays on-site, there will soon be quarters. After a lengthy planning and implementing stage, a manufactured building will be delivered to this site in order to house volunteers in an effort to decrease response times to island residents.

Members of the Marrowstone Island Foundation and island residents fund raised heavily in order to purchase the building before donating it to EJFR. Land improvement efforts including vacating a right of way and partnering with neighbors on water and septic plans have been in the works since 2019.

A Merge with PLFR is on the Ballot November 2022

In July of 2022, the PLFR Board of Commissioners voted to petition EJFR to merge. EJFR's Board voted to accept the petition. PLFR citizens will vote to accept or decline the merger in november 2022.

MERGER FAQ's

How will the merger impact my community's emergency services?

The current Management Services Interlocal Agreement, has allowed for a battalion chief on-duty who manages routine surges in 911 calls across both districts. The battalion chief then shifts resources between districts when multiple calls occur in order to optimize response to the community's needs.

As a result of the cooperative efforts, both districts have increased minimum staffing during the past year. A merger will make this permanent, increasing the combined daily staffing and growing the depth of recall for volunteers and off-duty members in the event of major incidents.

How will the merger affect personnel?

Both districts have lost valuable employees to larger agencies that can provide more opportunities. The merging of our two small fire districts will create a larger organization that has the capacity to focus on our most precious resource — our people.

2022 and Beyond

Strategic Plan Fall 2022

EJFR has engaged in the process of establishing standards of cover as well as a strategic plan for the future. The results of this analysis will be the roadmap for the districts future service delivery, adopted goals and financial planning. Final results are anticipated in fall of 2022.

Standards of Cover are defined as: Those written policies and procedures that establish the distribution and concentration of fixed and mobile resources of an organization.

Financial Future FAQ's 2023 - 2024

Will my property taxes increase with the merger?

Fire districts submit their tax levies in the fall before the new budget year. So, if the merger is approved by voters in November 2022, it will go into effect in January 2023 and the merged district will operate that first year on the combined revenues levied separately. Both district's levy rates are among the lowest in the region. As of August 2022 the projected 2023 rates for EJFR are \$.85, and for PLFR \$1.02 per \$1000 of assessed value. Whether merged or operating as individual agencies, these low levy rates will no longer be sufficient to maintain current levels of service in 2024. Commissioners in both districts are developing plans to ask voters to approve a levy lid lift, likely in early 2023.

Inflation is especially high now but has averaged 2.48% over the past 10 years. State law prevents fire districts from increasing their levies more than 1% annually without voter approval. As assessed valuations rise, levy rates decline to keep revenue increases under the 1% cap.

Finding family in the fire department

Battalion Chief Jason MacDonald

By TAYLOR AUSTIN

Firefighting has long been a family affair for the MacDonald family. "I can remember walking around in my dad's firefighting boots at three years old," recalls Jason MacDonald, a battalion chief for East Jefferson Fire Rescue. For MacDonald, the department has always been a strong thread in his life, he is a third generation fireman — his father and grandfather also volunteered with EJFR.

MacDonald started volunteering with East Jefferson in January 1993 while attending Port Townsend High School and enrolled in a program that allowed his volunteer work to count toward school credits.

"I knew from an early age I wanted to be involved; the department is like family," MacDonald said.

After graduating high school, MacDonald went to Western Washington University in Bellingham, and remained connected with his hometown fire department. For four years, he came home every weekend and on holiday breaks to volunteer.

"I knew I wanted to keep tied with the station, but also follow my education," MacDonald said. "Looking back, I think being committed to the department helped me make good choices throughout high school and college."

After graduating from Western Washington in 2003, MacDonald returned home and continued with East Jefferson Fire Rescue as an entry level firefighter for the then-designated District 6. He later became a lieutenant, which is a supervisor in charge of one shift at a station. Later, EJFR gave him the opportunity to expand his skill set by sending him to paramedic school in Seattle.

Currently, MacDonald's role within East Jefferson Fire Rescue is the A-Shift Battalion Chief at the Chimacum fire station, a new role created in Fall of last year. He provides supervision and oversight of an area that extends from the Hood Canal to Point Wilson, training assignments, managing day-to-day staff stationing, and any duties related to larger calls to the station.

"We are unique among departments of our size because we all move in and out of roles as needed, and maintain all fire fighting and safety certifications even if we are not actively working as firefighters," he explained.

In his 24 years of experience working with East Jefferson, MacDonald has grown proud of "the department's dedication to always making the service better."

In 2008, East Jefferson Fire Rescue committed to sending firefighters to paramedic school, and the resulting life-saving success rate on calls is one of the highest in the state of Washington.

"A large portion of our volunteers are born here, raised here, and committed to working here, we genuinely care about the people here because they are our people," MacDonald added.

From an early age, MacDonald had a sense of the tight bond in the department, "a greater support network" between the people working with EJFR, something he didn't find in other jobs.

He said of his co-worker Battalion Chief Justin Clouse: "His grandma and my grandma were friends when they were young, and we have known each other since who knows when — we just always have," MacDonald said. "With both of us growing up in the department, we have a bond that has lasted through the decades."

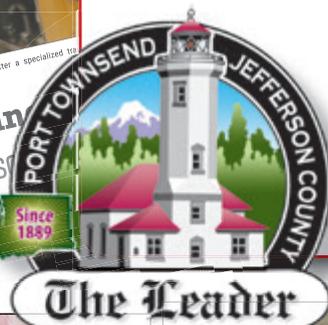


East Jefferson Fire Rescue

Thank you for being there when we need you!

Port Townsend/Jefferson County Leader
Chronicling Jefferson County
history for 133 years.

In depth • In touch • Independent
226 Adams St., Port Townsend
(360)385-2900 • www.ptleader.com



No space for anything
Firefighters train for rescue
in bottoms of boats, He



Photo shows a Chimacum dwelling engulfed by flames Saturday. East Jefferson Fire Chief Bret Black said firefighters faced a lack of water supply. Photo courtesy of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

Home destroyed by blaze at Glendale Farm

stretched to the road. The single-story home was a total loss. "When we got there, it was already collapsed. It was a very fast fire," he said. The resident of the home made it out OK with some minor injuries, the chief said, and the person was treated by an aid unit but declined to be transported. Two other residents on the property, and their dog, escaped injury and with housing. The cause of the fire remains under investigation, but Black said it was not suspicious. With the structure already collapsed at the arrival time of first units, firefighters took up a defensive posture and worked to keep the fire from spreading.

The emergency response left several drivers in the area temporarily stranded. Highway 10 and Center Road were shut down because of the blaze just before 6:30 a.m., with Center Road finally reopening just before 3 p.m. Saturday. Soaring flames from the fire were mostly visible from Center Road, and smoke could be seen for miles. Neighbors said Glendale Farm, located near the 400 block of Center Road, has been the site of repeated fires in the past. The devastating fire Saturday was also noted during Monday's meeting of the board of county commissioners. "It was a hard weekend in District 2," said Commissioner Bl...





A SHIFT Back Row L to R: Halie Duke, Aaron Minker, Scott Walker, Lt. Gavin Rogers, Michael Archuleta, BC Jason MacDonald, Jeff Woods

Front Row L to R: Scott Campbell, Alex Morris, Jesse Cordova, Lt. Chris Kauzlarich, Scotty Pulido, Bobby Grimm, Lt. Curtis Sanders



C SHIFT

Back row L to R: Matt Kaldahl, Chad Holbrook, Matt Sheehan, Ben Richter, Lt. Curt Kilgore, Rolf Schumann, Aaron Parker

Front Row L to R: Emily Higgins, Lt. Trevor Bergen, Lt. Rick Martin, BC Justin Fletcher, Zack Dean, Andy Dalrymple

Not Pictured: Resident Gavin Williams



B SHIFT

Back Row L to R: Jacob Kinney, Lt. Reece Chambers, Lt. Steve Grimm, Lt. Caton White, BC Justin Clouse, Sarah Duce

Front Row L to R: Pete Yelaca, CJ Wright, Dan Severin, Adin Welander, JB Fairbanks

Not Pictured: Mike Kithcart, Patrick Williams, Ben Carver, Resident Tyler Lloyd, Resident Parker Hayne



EAST JEFFERSON FIRE RESCUE & PORT LUDLOW FIRE RESCUE TRAINING EXERCISE

Top Row: Pete Yelaca, Wicus McGuffey, Dan Wagner, Chief Black, Charlie Johnson, Caton White, Patrick Williams

Bottom Row: Steve Grimm, Dan Severin, Reece Chambers, JB Fairbanks, Tracy Jonassen, Curtis Beery



Assistant Chief Brian Tracer



Assistant Chief Pete Brummel



Local 2032 Leadership Rick Martin & Caton White



East Jefferson & Port Ludlow trucks



**Thank You For Keeping
Our Community Safe
For 150 Years**

John L. Scott
REAL ESTATE

Serving Port Townsend and area since 1984
(360) 385-4115





presents

**Fall First Friday
Speaker Series**

**FIRE &
FIREFIGHTING**

*In-person and online
programs every first Friday,
September through
December!*

Learn more and
register at
jchsmuseum.org





Thank you East Jefferson Fire Rescue!

From Jefferson County Public Health in Port Townsend
Open M-F 9 AM-4:30 PM Clinic: 360-385-9400

The City of Port Townsend
Congratulates
East Jefferson Fire Rescue

for 150 years of dedicated bravery and
service to our community and region.



City of Port
Townsend

From the original engine house on Madison/Monroe and the now-historic bell tower of 1872, to the enduring partnership that exists today between agency leadership and staff, we salute you.

Here's to the next 150 years!

250 Madison Street Port Townsend • (360) 385-3000 • cityofpt.us

Port Townsend Fire Station Evolution



Original PT Fire Station 1928



Original PT Fire Station 1946



Uptown Fire Station



Uptown Fire Station Present Day



Victoria Place Salutes East Jefferson Fire Rescue for 150 Years of Service

Thank you for keeping our residents and employees safe.

We follow your lead by serving seniors through a range of assisted living services, 24/7 on-site care and individualized care plans – all in a safe, home-like atmosphere.


Victoria Place
 Senior Living

491 Discovery Road
 Port Townsend, WA 98368
 360-379-8223

enlivant.com



Call 360-379-8223 to schedule a personalized tour.

Brian and Jenny Vervynck would like to say
Thank you very much

to the East Jefferson Fire Rescue

for their extraordinary and caring work and service during our recent devastating home fire.



COMMEMORATIVE PATCH

Designed by Carmen Gough, daughter of retired Jefferson County Fire Protection District #1 (JCFPD#1) Fire Chief Chuck Boggs, the commemorative patch includes elements of EJFR's existing patch which she also created. A gold-rimmed red Maltese cross forms the patch's background. A black circle envelops the design and includes the celebration's evocative tag line. Pride is evident in the treatment of the department name – large and bold letters in red, outlined in black. The three stars that adorn the top of the inner circle represent the three agencies (JCFPD #1, JCFPD #6 and City of Port Townsend Fire) that became EJFR. The laurel branches represent victory, success and achievement – appropriate ideals for an organization whose members battle for lives and property. The number, 150, honors the years that form the district's history while golden rays of sunrise symbolize EJFR's bright future ahead. Finally, the famous bell tower is depicted behind an antique steam-powered fire engine and its crew.



RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

Now in its 13th year of showcasing the effectiveness of residential fire sprinkler systems, the Washington State Fire Marshal's Office Residential Fire Sprinkler Demonstration Trailer is out raising statewide awareness through public education.

Last year there were 78 fire fatalities reported to the State Fire Marshal's Office. Learning about the life-saving features of residential fire sprinkler systems and watching a live-fire demonstration benefits everyone from prospective home buyers to community officials, home builders, and students of all ages.

The entire live-presentation takes about ten minutes. Operators illustrate how residential fire sprinklers save lives and property and clarify many of the misconceptions surrounding residential fire sprinklers.

Spectators witness just how quickly a small fire can escalate and how effectively a residential fire sprinkler system can contain that fire. The 24-foot residential fire sprinkler trailer is available for demonstrations by reservation and can be reserved for training events, media events, Fire Prevention Week events, safety education events, fire department open houses, demonstrations for community officials, and county and regional fairs.

For more information about the Residential Fire Sprinkler Demonstration Trailer, or to make a reservation, please email the Washington State Fire Marshal's Office at: firesprinkler@wsp.wa.gov.



From your friends at

WESTBAY



AUTO PARTS

| | |
|--|---|
| Shelton Olympic Hwy N 360-426-3351 | Silverdale Silverdale Way 360-692-2924 |
| Port Orchard Mile High Dr. 360-876-8008 | Port Townsend Sims Way 360-385-3476 |
| Gig Harbor Uddenberg Ln 253-851-9965 | Poulsbo Viking Way 360-779-3934 |
| Belfair State Rt. 3 360-275-9000 | Purdy Purdy Drive NW 253-857-4088 |
| Kingston State Hwy 104 360-297-2428 | W. Bremerton Kitsap Way 360-479-0347 |

Leading Causes of House Fires

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has identified several of the most common causes of house fires. These include the following.

COOKING

Cooking was the leading cause of reported home fires and home fire injuries in 2015-2019 and the second leading cause of home fire deaths. Cooking caused 49 percent of reported home fires, 20 percent of reported home fire deaths, and 42 percent of home fire injuries.

In 2019, Thanksgiving was the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day and Christmas Eve.

HEATING

Heating is the second leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries, and the third leading cause of home fire deaths. Local fire departments responded to an estimated average of 48,530 fires involving heating equipment per year in 2014-2018, accounting for 14% of all reported home fires during this time. These fires resulted in annual losses of 500 civilian deaths, 1,350 civilian injuries, and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage.

U.S. Fire Administration 2019 - 178,100 cooking fires.

APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT

Any device that generates heat (stoves, clothes dryers, heaters) or heats up with extended use (computers, fans) is a potential fire hazard. Cooking vessels that are left unattended are a frequent cause of avoidable fires.

U.S. Fire Administration 2019 – 33,100 Heating Fires

CANDLES

Every candle comes with a warning: “a burning candle should never be left unattended.” Yet, many candles are often forgotten and can burn out of control. Candle fires are most likely to occur on Christmas Day, New Year’s Day, and Christmas Eve.

From 2015-2019 U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 7,400 home structure fires that were started by candles per year. These fires caused an annual average of 90 deaths, 670 injuries and \$291 million in direct property damage.

HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

Candles aren’t alone in causing tragic fires during the winter holiday season. Christmas tree lights and other lit decorations are obvious culprits. Live trees that are not watered properly and left to dry out are an easy target for incineration by hot lights.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS AND DEVICES

Any device that uses electrical power has the potential to start a fire, and overheated lighting equipment comes in at the top of the list. Shoddy electrical work within a home — poorly connected circuits, loose wires, improper grounding — is also a danger often unknown to homeowners.

Electricity helps make our lives easier but there are times when we can take its power and its potential for fire-related hazards for granted.

To help reduce your risk, NFPA and ESFI recommend that you have all electrical work done by a qualified electrician, including electrical inspections, when buying or remodeling a home.

U.S. Fire Administration 2019 - 24,200 electrical malfunction fires.

APPLIANCE CHARGING ACCIDENTS

Appliance charging is another form of electrical fire but deserves its category.

The charging of appliances generates a lot of heat. For example, when laptops and phones charge on sheets or flammable surfaces, heat can build up quickly and lead to a fire.

The air intake section of a laptop is usually on the bottom of the computer. However, this can often be covered up when you place a laptop on a soft surface

like a bed, leading to overheating. For an example a laptop exploding and causing \$40,000 of fire damage

SMOKING

Among the most common causes of house fires is the consequence of negligent smoking habits. People sometimes fall asleep while smoking. In doing so, they can set their bed, chair or couch on fire, which can easily result in a fatality. Another avoidable hazard is discarding still-hot ashes into a trash can where they can ignite.

Smoking materials, including cigarettes, pipes, and cigars, started an estimated 16,500 home structure fires reported to U.S. fire departments in 2016. These fires caused 660 deaths, 1,060 injuries and \$372 million in direct property damage. Smoking materials caused 5% of reported home fires, 23% of home fire deaths, 10% of home fire injuries, and 6% of the direct property damage.

CHEMICALS AND GASES

Home fires can easily be caused by sources of natural gas or propane gas. An errant spark combined with a small leak can create a combustible situation. Improperly mixed household chemicals can also trigger combustion, which is why it’s important to conduct such activity outside the home setting.

LIGHTNING

Lightning fires most commonly occur during the summer months when afternoon and early evening storms are at their peak. Homes in heavily wooded areas are extra vulnerable to lightning strikes that can set the surrounding landscape on fire.

CHILDREN

Small children unknowingly playing with fire or matches inside the home are one of the leading causes of house fires. Older kids who know what fire can do — and just want to see what happens — are equally dangerous. Though there may be no way to curb their curiosity entirely, it’s possible to mitigate potential disaster by talking to children about how destructive careless behavior around fire may be.

BBQ GRILL

This is a larger issue in the summer than at any other time. A barbecue grill can lead to uncontrolled flame in a few different ways, such as proximity to combustibles like dry grass, or because of a gas leak. Decrease the likelihood of these accidents by checking for gas leaks prior to firing up the grill, or by cooking atop stone or some other flame-immune material — and always keep a watchful eye on an operating grill.

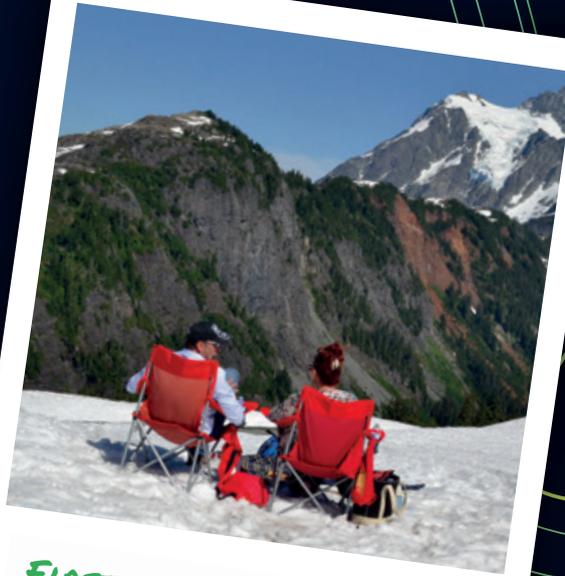
WILDFIRE

Every year, wildfires burn across the United States, and a growing number of people are living where wildfires are a real risk. In 2018 more than 58,000 fires burned nearly nine million acres across the U.S. More than 25,000 structures were destroyed, including 18,137 residences and 229 commercial structures. California accounted for the highest number of structures lost in one state due to the number of significant fires, including the Mendocino Complex, Carr, Camp and Woolsey fires.





FIRST NEST EGG



FIRST DAY OF RETIREMENT



FIRST SECOND HONEYMOON IN ICELAND

CD Specials to Grow Your Savings!

2.75% APY for 13 months

Earn 2.75% APY on a 13-month certificate of deposit (CD). Offer applies to new money¹ only with a \$10,000 minimum deposit. A new money requirement is applied to all funds deposited in the account.

3.25% APY for 25 months

Earn 3.25% APY on a 25-month certificate of deposit (CD). Offer applies to new money¹ only with a \$25,000 minimum deposit. A new money requirement is applied to all funds deposited in the account.



Scan the code to view rates or visit ourfirstfed.com/rates

Interest Rates Effective: 9/26/2022

¹New money is described as funds not previously held on deposit at First Fed within the last 30 days. APY is Annual Percentage Yield. Penalties may be imposed on early withdrawal.



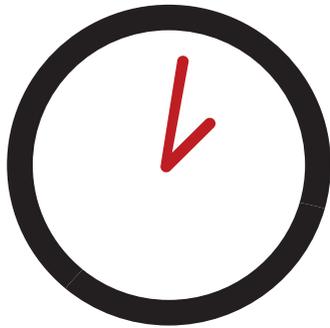
ourfirstfed.com | 800.800.1577 | Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender





Fire Prevention Week

October 9-15, 2022



2 Minutes

The time it takes for a fire to become life-threatening

5 Minutes

The time it takes for a residence to become engulfed in flames



600°

The temperature a room on fire can reach at eye level

Ready.gov U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Fire Prevention Week is observed each year during the week of October 9th in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8, 1871, and caused devastating damage. This horrific conflagration killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2,000 acres of land.

How to make a Home Fire Escape Plan

100 YEARS

1922-2022

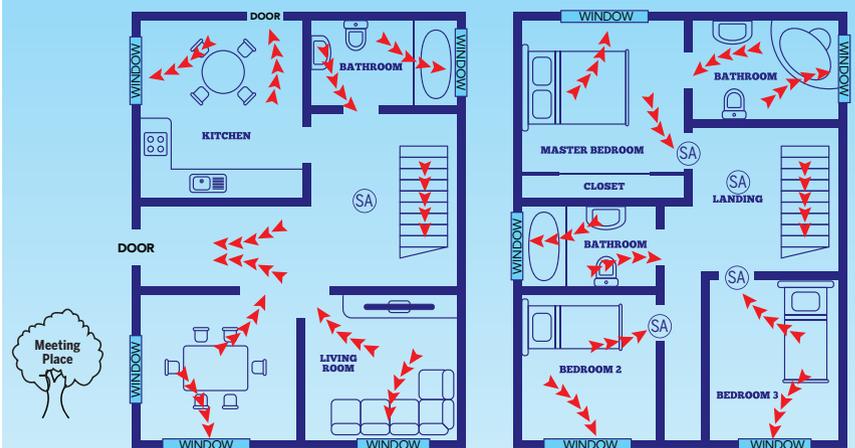
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™



Visit Sparky.org for more activities!

- Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Visit each room. Find two ways out.
- All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
- Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.
- Make sure everyone in your home knows how to dial 911 or your local emergency number.
- Practice your home fire drill!
- Make your own home fire escape plan using the grid provided on page 2.

Sample Escape Plan



Kids

1st FLOOR

Sparky® is a trademark of NFPA®. ©NFPA 2022

2nd FLOOR



We're dedicated to the Olympic Peninsula.



Just like they are.

Congratulations on 150 years
East Jefferson Fire Rescue.

1250 W Sims Way Port Townsend • 360-385-5575 • pcfcu.org

Fire Prevention Fun Page

Fire Safety Scramble

TPOS PROD & LROL _____

ECPEAS _____

MLAAR _____

REHUESTGIXIN _____

DEDLRA _____

TGIERRFFIEH _____

Stop, Drop & Roll, Escape, Alarm, Extinguisher, Ladder, Firefighter

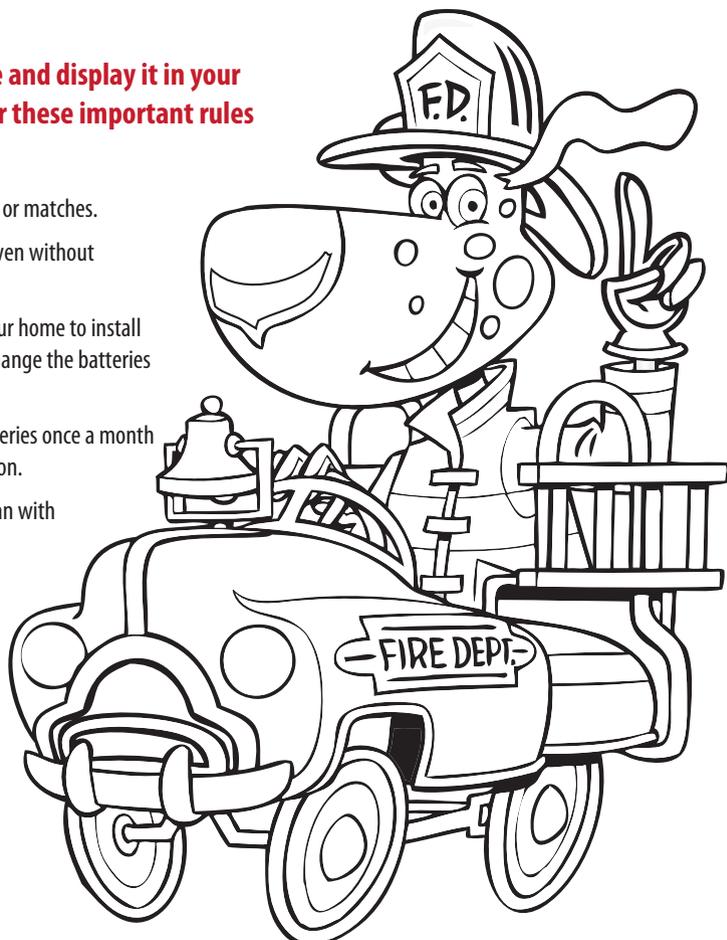


History Spot

Dalmatians have long been associated with firefighting. According to the American Kennel Club, Dalmatians commonly ran with carriages, guarding the people or goods inside, as early as the mid-1700s. In the 1870s, the Fire Department of New York began employing the breed to clear the way for horse-drawn fire carriages and defend the horses from other dogs or animals along the way. The tradition continued long after engines replaced the horses, and Dalmatians continue to be mascots in firehouses around the U.S. to this day.

Color in the picture and display it in your home to remember these important rules of fire safety:

- Never play with lighters or matches.
- Don't use the stove or oven without adult supervision.
- Remind the adults in your home to install smoke alarms, and to change the batteries at least once a year.
- Check smoke alarm batteries once a month by pushing the test button.
- Practice a fire escape plan with everyone in your home.



SPACE HEATERS



According to the National Fire Prevention Association, space heaters account for **43%** of home heating fires and **85%** of associated deaths.

Comfort
or
HAZARD?

Unvented, combustion-based space heaters have asphyxiated homeowners or led to explosions. The US Department of Energy recommends buying UL-tested, thermostatically controlled space heater units with tip-over safety switches that automatically shut off the heater if knocked over.

USE AN OPEN OUTLET!

KEEP SOME DISTANCE!

Always leave 3 feet of clearance around space heaters and avoid operating them unattended.

Unattended heaters left too close to drapes, couches, or other household items can lead to damages or fires.

Portable electric space heaters plugged into overloaded outlets or circuits can lead to burning wires inside the walls of homes. Plug your space heater into an outlet that is not in use.



Power strips are not designed

NEVER PLUG SPACE HEATERS INTO POWER STRIPS

to handle the high current flow needed for space heaters and can melt or burn when a space heater is plugged into them.



Don't do it!

(360) 385-5800
jeffpud.org

PUD
Jefferson County
Public Utility District

Public Utility District No.1 of Jefferson County is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



Congratulations
EAST JEFFERSON FIRE RESCUE
for 150 years of service to Jefferson County

The Port Townsend Paper mill has been in continuous operation for over 95 years. We are proud of our extensive history and hope to continue growing with our community for many years to come.



www.ptpc.com

100 Mill Road, Port Townsend, WA 98368 • 360.385.3170