



Medford Rural Fire Protection District #2



SPRING / SUMMER 2015

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Refresher!

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Extinguisher Training



Eric Thompson

It is a pleasure to serve the citizens and visitors of Medford, Oregon and Medford Rural Fire Protection District #2.

I would like to express my appreciation to our citizens, elected officials and city leadership for the continuous support

that you provide our organization. We welcome community feedback on the quality of our service, and the speed, professionalism, and compassion with which it is provided. We strive each day to improve in every facet of our services. Our department members are dedicated to excellence and focused on quality outcomes.

I am honored to serve as your Fire Chief, and I am very fortunate to be surrounded by such a professional, pro-active staff, which is the key ingredient of our success. Our employees are the most valuable asset to the organization. I am proud to be able to say that our staff truly takes to heart our core values "Honor, Integrity, and Service".

It is our belief that the quality of life within the community depends on a partnership between the citizens, business community, elected officials and city employees. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

In addition to our emergency services, we are committed to making our community as safe as possible through education and prevention. On behalf of Medford Fire De-

partment, I invite you and your family to visit one of our facilities or schedule a Fire Safety Program for your organization. Visit the Fire & Life Safety page of our website or call our headquarters office to learn about the variety of life safety programs available to you. We have programs devoted to the needs of our youth, seniors, businesses and families of Medford.

Chief Eric Thompson

About your Chief:

Chief Thompson's first day with Medford Fire Department was January 2, 2020. He is very enthusiastic about his move to Oregon and brings with him a wealth of experience. He was a 24-year member of the Texas Fire Service and was the Fire Chief and Assistant City Manager for the City of Red Oak, Texas. Chief Thompson was the north branch resource coordinator for Texas Intra Fire Mutual Aid System, coordinating mutual aid resources for 33 counties. He was also the North Region Director for the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, as well as the chairman of the TFCA strategic planning and Best Practice committees. He was awarded the 2018 Fire Chief of the Year Award from the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, as well as the 2014, and 2018 Presidents Award. Chief Thompson holds a Master Firefighter Certification, Fire Officer IV, and Level II Instructor. He is a graduate of Texas Fire Chiefs Academy, Texas A&M Fire Service Chief Executive Officer program, the University of Maryland Staff and Command Program. He possesses a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Northwood University.

MRFPD2

Board of Directors
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Vice Pres Bill Riggert
Sec/Treas Dan Marcisz
Director Joe Brooks
Director Lisa Sandrock

2020 Burn Permit Enclosed in this Newsletter!

Open Burn Season Begins March 1st

**Burning is dependent upon Environmental Air Quality Conditions
Call 541-776-7007 to verify**

Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Success

R327.4 Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Construction Guide for Wildfire Hazard Zones

Attic Vents

ORSC Section R327.4.4

All Vents \geq 12' above grade or surface below:

All vents shall have screening made of corrosion-resistant metal mesh with minimum 1/16" and maximum 1/8" grid or be designed to resist flame and ember intrusion (ASTM E2886).

Eave, Soffit, and Cornice Vents <12' above grade or surface:

All vents shall have screening made of corrosion-resistant metal mesh with minimum 1/16" and maximum 1/8" grid and be designed to resist flame and ember intrusion (ASTM E2886).

Roofing

ORSC Section R327.4.3

Roofing shall be asphalt, slate, metal, tile, clay, concrete, or equivalent minimum Class B. Wood shingle or shake materials prohibited. Cap off or fire-block spaces between roofing and roof deck to prevent flame and ember intrusion and provide galvanized valley flashing where valley flashing is installed.

Walking Surfaces

ORSC Section R327.4.7

Deck, porch, and balcony walking surfaces greater than 30" and less than 12' above grade or the surface below shall be constructed of minimum 2" nominal lumber for decks \leq 200 sq. ft., non-combustible, ignition-resistant conforming to ASTM E84 or UL 723, exterior fire retardant treated wood, meets ASTM E2632 and ASTM 2726 criteria, or meets ASTM E2632 with ignition-resistant wall covering.

Rain Gutters

ORSC Section R327.4.3.1

Non-combustible materials with provisions to prevent the accumulation of leaves and debris in the gutters (Non-combustible corrosion resistant metal screening).

Underfloor Protection

ORSC Section R327.4.6.4

Underfloor area of elevated structures shall be enclosed or meet non-combustible material, ignition-resistant material, ASTM E2957 compliant, one layer of minimum 5/8" Type X applied behind the exterior covering of the underside, or 1-hour fire resistive exterior wall assembly.

Windows, Doors, Skylights Glazing

ORSC Section R327.4.8

Exterior windows, windows within exterior doors, and skylights shall be tempered glass (Minimum dual pane), multilayered glazed panels, glass block, or have a minimum fire-resistant rating of 20 minutes.

Overhanging Projections

ORSC R327.4.6.1; R327.4.6.2; R327.4.6.3

All enclosed roof eaves, soffits, cornices, exterior patio/porch ceilings and floor projections less than 12' above grade or the surface below shall be covered with either non-combustible material, ignition-resistant material, ASTM E2957 compliant, one layer of minimum 5/8" Type X applied behind the exterior covering, or 1-hour fire resistive exterior wall assembly (Gable end overhangs are exempt).

Exterior Wall Covering

ORSC Section R327.4.5

Wall covering materials shall be noncombustible, ignition-resistant, heavy timber, log wall, or wall assemblies tested in accordance with ASTM E2707. Alternatively, one layer of minimum 5/8" Type X applied behind the exterior wall covering or cladding or 1-hour fire resistive exterior wall assembly. Exterior wall coverings shall extend from the top of the foundation to the roof, and terminate at 2" nominal solid wood blocking between rafters at all roof overhangs, or in the case of enclosed eaves or soffits, shall terminate at the underside of the enclosure.



For a list of approved materials, visit: <http://www.ci.medford.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=4340>

On October 17, 2019, the City of Medford successfully adopted ignition-resistant construction requirements for new homes built in wildfire hazard zones. An ignition-resistant construction code amendment was first introduced by to the State Building Codes Division in 2016 as a wildfire mitigation effort. At that time there were no significant wildfire mitigation code requirements for new homes built in wildfire hazard zones. In January 2019, after much effort and many public testimonies, the Building Codes Division adopted section R327.4 *Wildfire Hazard Mitigation*. In short, these requirements enhance protection of new homes built in wildfire hazard zones by requiring the use of exterior inherently ignition-resistant materials/assemblies or those that have passed a standardized ignition-resistant test. The codes also contain provisions to protect vulnerable areas (attics and underfloor) from being exposed to ember and flame intrusion. The goal of these standards is to reduce or eliminate the ignition potential of new homes built in wildfire hazard zones. Preventing a conflagration of homes reduces the chances of life loss, injuries suffered, and properties being destroyed from wildfire. It also protects firefighters. The new section is only effective if adopted locally. It is our hope that the code is adopted by Jackson County as well. We will support this effort to protect our region.

Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire

Medford has been awarded a Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire (CPAW) grant! The Fire & Life Safety Division worked with the Planning Department to submit the application. We were awarded a fully funded grant for focused assistance. This grant will help the City develop planning strategies and mitigation efforts, which could include new and amended planning and vegetation ordinances for wildfire hazard zones. Focused assistance is provided for 4-6 months and includes expertise to support key planning topics, one site visit in late spring 2020, review of applicable technical materials, and a final deliverable report with findings/recommendations. For more information, visit: <https://planningforwildfire.org/who-we-are/>.

Medford Fire-Rescue Employee News

New Firefighter Recruits



Todd Rufener ~ Taylor Spencer ~ Andrew Burton ~ Adam Hendy

Four new Firefighters reported for their first day of duty on February 3, 2020. Over the next 12 weeks, the recruits will train specifically on firefighting tactics, emergency medical skills, vehicle extrication, hazardous materials, and other subjects related to their new jobs. In addition to the formal training, they will spend many hours of self-study to prepare themselves for a written examinations and a practical skills evaluation.

We welcome them to the Medford firefighting family and expect them to adhere to the high standards set by our organization in order to serve our community the best way possible.

Welcome to our New Board Member



Lisa Sandrock

MRFPD2 would like to introduce their newest member of the Board of Directors. Lisa Sandrock is a native of not only Oregon, but the Rural District. She is a graduate of the Phoenix-Talent Schools, and of Southern Oregon University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business. She spent her entire life in the local area, working in the communications and transportation industries. She currently operates her own nutritional therapy practice.

Lisa is a Master Food Preserver and enjoys farming life with her husband and children. She previously served as a District Budget Committee member for several years before her appointment to the Board in October 2019.

Lisa feels it is important to serve the community. In keeping with her father, Duane Venekamp, a 43 year MRFPD2 Board Member, she believes it is important to serve and be involved in the local community. Lisa says, "I am looking forward to being involved with board decisions that benefit, maintain and serve our district patrons".

News about your Fire District!

Medford Rural Fire Protection District #2
200 South Ivy, #180
Medford, OR 97501

2020 Burn Permit Enclosed

Honor ~ Integrity ~ Service

Medford Rural Fire Protection District #2

Enclosed inside this Newsletter

2020 Burn Permit

