



# West Valley Fire Department

*"Protecting And Serving Our Community"*

**Issue II/ 2018**



"We are an equal opportunity employer/provider."

## **Fire District Insurance Rating Score Improves to a 4**

Yakima County Fire District 12 was recently informed by the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB) of an improvement in our Community's insurance rating score effective December 1, 2018. WSRB is Washington State's source of property underwriting and rating information for the insurance industry. Their services are available, through a subscription service, to all companies that are licensed to sell property insurance in the State of Washington. WSRB calculates a community's protection class based on more than 70 criteria broken into four categories: water supply, fire department capabilities, communications, and fire control.

The WSRB evaluates fire protection capabilities of all Washington communities and rates them on a protection class scale of 1 to 10, where 1 indicates exemplary fire protection capabilities, and 10 indicates very poor or no capabilities. (At present there are no 1's within our State).

This year in the month of June, a WSRB representative evaluated our Department through a detailed process. The process included meeting with representatives of the local water companies, dispatch, Fire Marshal's Office and the fire department to review maintenance and response records, affirming personnel certifications, equipment capabilities, fire response, prevention and several other factors to determine the capability of our Department and overall fire safety of our community.

Many insurance companies use the WSRB protection class rating to assess insurance premium rates for homeowners and commercial properties. Generally, the better a community's Fire Protection Class rating is – the lower the cost of insurance premiums are for those insuring their homes and property. While not all insurance companies use the factor of a community's Fire Protection Class as part of their formula to calculate insurance premiums – many do.

For many property owners our improved Fire Protection Class rating from Protection Class 5 to our new Protection Class 4 rating will result in an annual savings in the cost of property insurance. We recommend you contact your insurance agent to inform them of the improved classification of Yakima County Fire District 12 and check to see if they use WSRB classification when setting your premium. Let your agent know "effective December 1, 2018 Yakima County Fire District 12 is a class 4 community with water tender credit."

Below are the improvements, effective December 1<sup>st</sup>.

- If you live within 5 miles of a fire station and a hydrant is located less than 1000 feet of your home/property your score = 4 (old score = 5).
- If you live within 5 miles of a fire station and a hydrant is located greater than 1000 feet of your home/property your score = 5 (old score = 6).
- If you live more than 5 miles from a fire station but less than 7 miles your home/property score = 9 (old score = 9).
- If you live more than 7 miles from a fire station but are within our District boundaries, your home/property score = 9A (old score 9A).
- Commercial Property- If your commercial property is within 5 miles of a fire station and a hydrant is located less than 1000 feet of your property the score = 4 (old score 5).
- Commercial Property within 5 miles of a fire station and a hydrant is greater than 1000 feet of your property the score = 9 (old score 9).
- Commercial Property greater than 5 miles from a fire station the score = 10 (old score 10).

As mentioned above, not all insurance companies use WSRB, it may pay to shop around for one that does based on the location of your property or if you are out past 7 miles of a station shop for one that does not use WSRB to find the best rate for your property insurance. For more information on WSRB and the rating schedule visit their website at [www.wsrb.com](http://www.wsrb.com).

## **YOUR INPUT IS REQUESTED!**

The Fire District is in the process of updating our Strategic Plan, as a citizen of the District, you are a major stakeholder and your opinion regarding the future of our District matters. Our Strategic Plan provides guidance and direction to the District as it frames what we are, what we do and how we will accomplish our mission. As a Fire District, to meet our mission and achieve our goals we must know where we are going, the environment we must operate within and identify how we will get there.

This year we are updating the 2018-2022 and adding a new fifth year 2023. We have developed an online survey to gather the opinions of our constituents. Please take a few minutes to provide input to our plan through this online survey. The strategic planning survey is available on our web site [www.westvalleyfire.com](http://www.westvalleyfire.com) on the right side of the page under "Quick Links" the survey will be available on our site until October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Thank You,  
Chief Craig on behalf of the Board of Fire Commissioners



YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #12  
WEST VALLEY FIRE-RESCUE  
10000 ZIER ROAD  
YAKIMA, WA 98908

PRSR STD  
U.S Postage  
**PAID**  
YAKIMA, WA  
PERMIT NO. 7

\*\*ECR WSS  
POSTAL CUSTOMER

When temperatures  
rise, remember to  
stay hydrated!



### Station 52 Addition

In 2017 it was determined our major Capital Improvement expenditure for 2018 would be to add on and remodel our current Station 52 located at 9102 Ahtanum Road. Our goal is to staff Station 52 with 30 Volunteer Firefighters; current layout of the station is much too small to comfortably fit 30 members. The project consists of adding a new dayroom at the south side of the building measuring 22'-8" by 28'-0" = 635 square feet. The addition of an ADA wheelchair ramp, remodeling the current dayroom into an office and a small workout space and remodeling the current restrooms to ADA compliancy. We will also be replacing and enlarging the two north apparatus bay overhead doors to accommodate the height of modern fire engines and replacing the south apparatus bay overhead door. We will be adding an Extractor, a special washing machine that is utilized to wash contaminated gear from incidents. The project was started on June 18<sup>th</sup> with a target completion date of the second week of September. We will be hosting an Open House later this fall to show the finished project to our Community.

### LOOK. LISTEN. LEARN.

Be aware.  
Fire can happen anywhere.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK: OCTOBER 7-13, 2018  
firepreventionweek.org



### West Valley Firefighters Association Potato Feed

Friday, September 14, 2018

5:00-8:00pm

10000 Zier Road

Please join us for this annual fundraiser and help support the WVFD Association. Price is \$6.00 and includes Potato, Salad & Drink. Desserts will be available for \$1.00



### New Recruits Wanted

West Valley Fire Department is currently accepting applications for the 2019 recruit school. No experience is required, we will provide you with the necessary training to become a volunteer firefighter. Our recruit school will run January through May on Monday & Thursday nights at 6:00pm, as well as some Saturday classes. Applications can be found at [www.westvalleyfire.com](http://www.westvalleyfire.com), or you can pick one up at 10000 Zier Road. Applications will be accepted until October 31st. If you have any questions contact Lieutenant Chris Lyons at (509)966-3111.

### New Fire-Science Students Join the Department!

In June, 8 of our Fire-Science students from West Valley High School joined our Department, 2 as fully trained firefighters and 6 as cadets. Congratulations and welcome to our new members;



**Firefighters**  
Zach Feist & Tristan Masters

#### **Cadets**

Ethan Bunting, Josie Gohl, Conner Koch, Hailey Lamiquiz, Jarrett Paullin & Justine Vetsch

## Calendar of Events

### August

- 24 WVFFA Golf Tournament 1pm
- 28 First day of school (West Valley)

### September

- 3 Labor Day (office closed)
- 11 Commissioners Meeting 7pm\*
- 14 WVFFA Potato Feed 5pm
- 25 Commissioners Meeting 4pm\*

### October

- 7-13 Fire Prevention Week-Look. Listen. Learn.
- 9 Commissioner's Meeting 7pm
- 23 Commissioner's Meeting 4pm
- 26 Haunted Fire House 6:30pm
- 31 New Recruit Applications Due

\*Meetings are held at 10000 Zier Road

### West Valley Firefighter's Association 11th Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, August 24th @ Appletree Golf Course  
\$310 for a team of 4, includes 18 hole green fees, unlimited range balls and cart. We will also be collecting hole sponsors for our tournament at \$100 a hole. A custom sign will be placed at the hole of your choice, along with recognition in our next District newsletter. These sponsorships help our Association fund the community projects we do each year. For information on team registration or hole sponsorship please contact Chris Lyons at 509-966-3111.

Thank you in advance from the West Valley Firefighter's Association.