



GRIFFIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

Over the last several weeks, our community has had to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. As a precautionary measure, the Griffin Fire Department has limited the public's access to the stations to protect our first responders. They can be exposed to many things while responding to emergency calls and through their efforts to assist our community. While the department continues to provide them with personal protective equipment and the training to stay safe, limiting the public's access is one more level of protection. When our responders stay healthy they can continue to provide assistance to our community when called to do so. As always, if you need emergency medical attention or have another emergency you need help with, we are always here to assist you. We are just three digits away, 9-1-1. We thank you for your understanding and we look forward to having our community visiting us again, as soon as we are clear to do so.



— JOHN WOOD

LEVY LID LIFT 2021

The Griffin Fire Department operates on the taxes our community pay through a voter approved levy. Once the levy passes, our budget remains the same from year to year. Over time, as costs increase we must ask the community to support a levy renewal. The Griffin Fire Department asked the citizens of our community for a Levy renewal in 2006 and our community approved that request. In 2020 the Griffin Fire Department had plans to once again ask the community for a levy renewal; however, our community, as well as the world, is experiencing emotional, physical and financial difficulties and hardships. Out of concern for our community we are postponing our request until next year. We will continue to provide the same services to our community with pride and integrity. Our Board of Commissioners, employees and volunteers wish each of you good health and peace of mind. We look forward to less challenging times. Thank you for your constant support!

OUTDOOR BURNING

As we get into the warmer weather and spring cleaning of our yards, please remember to be safe and courteous to our neighbors when conducting yard burning. Only burn natural vegetation. For more information on burn permits, visit Olympia Region Clean Air Agency web site (www.orcaa.org).

Residential Outdoor Burning

Residential burning is the outdoor burning of leaves, clippings, prunings and other yard and gardening refuse originating on the maintained area of residential property (e.g. lands immediately adjacent and in close proximity to a human dwelling) and burned on such lands by the property owner and/or another responsible person. (ORCAA Web Site)

Using burn barrels is illegal

The fires in burn barrels receive little oxygen and create toxic smoke that stays low to the ground. Burn barrels are illegal statewide. (Dept. of Ecology)

What's illegal to burn

It's important to verify that what you want to burn is legal before you begin burning. You can be fined up to \$10,000 per day for illegal burning.

Burning any type of garbage or construction debris is not allowed.

This includes:

- Construction debris, lumber and treated wood
- Paper, cardboard and junk mail
- Rubber, Metal and Asphalt
- Plastics and petroleum products
- Dead animals
- Any substance that emits toxins or bad odors when burned



FIRE
192
2019 TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS
546

EMS
354
2019 TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS
546

MUTUAL AID
91
CITIZENS IN OUR DISTRICT
5,350

OVERLAPPING
61
CITIZENS IN OUR DISTRICT
5,350

WELCOME TO OUR NEW OFFICE MANAGER

Rosemary Mesa-Walton is a multilingual professional with eight (8+) years of experience in business administration, including tangible experience in operations management for businesses ranging in size from small-scale, independently owned ventures to large-scale multi-million dollar corporations. Varied skills include operations, client relations, human resources, recruiting, project management, and administrative support.

Her educational background includes a Master's and Bachelor's degree both from the University of Florida. She graduated with an MA in International Business with a specialization in Global Management and New Venture Planning, and a BA in Business Administration with a specialization in Spanish.

Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her husband and two Great Danes, as well as running 5Ks, swimming, reading and crafting.

FIRE PREVENTION

The Griffin Fire Department has already started planning for Fire Prevention Week (FPW) 2020, where we will be teaching students K-4th Grades at Griffin School. FPW 2020 will be October 5-11, this year and has the theme of "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape" –Plan and practice your escape.

FPW started in 1922 and is held annually during the week of October 9th, in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire, which began on October 8, 1871. This fire killed more than 250 people and left more than 100,000 people homeless and burned more than 17,400 structures.

For more information on fire prevention or to find more info on staying safe at home check-out www.NFPA.org

Contact Us:

Thurston County Fire Protection District 13
Griffin Fire Department
3707 Steamboat Loop NW
Olympia, WA 98502
email: admin@griffinfd.org
phone: 360-866-9000
<https://griffinfd.org/griffin/>

WHAT'S NEW AT GRIFFIN FIRE?

NEW READER BOARD

The Griffin Fire Department is excited to announce the purchase of a new reader board for our headquarters' station. Our current reader board displays a single message per side for a period of days. The messages have to be changed letter by letter. We feel that the reader board is an important tool for communication by the department and community groups. Our new reader board is capable of displaying multiple messages at a time and most importantly can be updated remotely in case of emergent road closers and/or conditions. The new sign will allow the Griffin Fire Department to relay important safety notices as they occur, and of course the sign will continue to display the familiar weekly sayings that everyone loves seeing.



GRIFFIN FIRE DEPARTMENT
3707 STEAMBOAT LOOP NW
OLYMPIA, WA 98502

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SEEN US ON FACEBOOK?

Your Griffin Fire Department has been actively improving its web presence in order to better serve you! The internet, and more specifically web based social media outlets, such as Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor, and our department Website are very useful tools in helping us reach out to you and notifying you of incidents that may affect you.

We pride ourselves on not only being here for you when you call 911, but also being your neighbors and friends, as some of us actually are! We love to let you know what is happening at the firehouse and keeping you up to date on projects. These web based outlets help us do just that. So if you haven't already, like us on Facebook to see what we're up to! If you see us give an update that might help you or your friends about things like road closures or back up, go ahead and help us out by sharing the post and spreading the word.