



CRYSTAL PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FEBRUARY 2009 MONTHLY UPDATE (**REVISED: 3 APR 09**)

Members of the Crystal Park VFD celebrated its second anniversary on February 18, 2009 quietly and going about our business protecting and serving the community we live in. I would like to thank the members and our Auxiliary for serving and committing countless hours of their personal time for the benefit of Crystal Park and our neighbors. A word about the predicted fire season. The fire danger has been very high in the last few weeks with the El Paso County's first Red Flag condition. The fire danger for 2009 has already been determined to be quite serious. We strongly recommend that every homeowner use the mild weather periods to continue to mitigate the fire danger around their homes. Members of the CPVFD are available to conduct Firewise assessments of your homes if you need assistance. Chief Hennessey

1. Training: Training continued with three CPVFD volunteers in EMT-Basic training. In addition, EMS In-Service training was attended at MSFD in the last month. Other training conducted in the last month included Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), Search and Rescue, and Fire Service. Upcoming training includes the Basic Structure Firefighting Course which will start in the next few weeks at MSFD; we have 3 new firefighters ready to take the class.

2. Grant Update: SCBAs, FF PPE, Gas Detector, and Wildfire Shelters have all been received with the exception of PPE coat and pants. This equipment benefits the entire Park and provides for CPVFD firefighters the capability to respond to virtually any incident anywhere in the Park. The CPVFD and Auxiliary stretched very limited donation to more than \$85,000 in free grant money.

3. Incidents: There were no incidents in the Park since the last report. CPVFD firefighters and 1st Responders/EMT/Firefighters continued to support MSFD and provided mutual aid to numerous incidents in Manitou Springs this last month.

4. Budget: All items in the budget have been expended in accordance with the plan. We also received a check from the Colorado Forest Service Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program as expected. The only change in the budget was approved by a **unanimous majority (Revised 3 April 2009)** vote of the Board to use funds that will not be needed as a result of getting significant grant funds to put lights and run electricity in the new facility. As a reminder to the Board, the Metro District oversees the contribution from the HOA budget approved by the Membership.

5. New ISO Rating Received: The Crystal Park Fire District has been officially lowered to an ISO rating of 9 from the 10 that many areas currently have. This new rating validates that the CPVFD is capable of providing fire protection services to the community.

6. Fire Station/Shelter-in-Place (SIP)/Maintenance Facility Update: Fire Station and Mx Facility remains at about 80% complete. Electrical installation has been delayed due to discussions with Springs Utilities regarding the electrical connection location.

7. Department's Apparatus Status: Engine 910 and Tender 960 are in full operational service at this time. Brush 940 and the ATV Trailer are no longer in service. We do not have any rapid wildfire response at this time due to Brush 940 being reconfigured to a plow truck for the winter.

8. The Department website is: www.crystalparkvfd.org