



Crystal Park

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

APRIL 2010 MONTHLY UPDATE

www.crystalparkvfd.org

1. Training: Training continues to be intense. Two firefighters completed National Incident Management System training for the ICS-300, Intermediate Incident Command System, one firefighter continues attending advanced training in the State of Colorado Firefighter 1 Certification Course, firefighters completed Wildland Firefighter Refresher Training, and four CPVFD volunteers are currently taking the S130/190 Basic Type II Wildland Firefighter class. We continued to have Rapid Training Evolutions (RTEs) every Tuesday evening at the station and attended weekly MSFD EMS and Fire Operations training.



2. Incidents: There were no incidents in the District this last month. The CPVFD volunteers continued to support numerous other medical and fire related calls in Manitou Springs this last month to help maintain our proficiency as a **Fire•Rescue•EMS** organization.

3. Annual 9 News Health Fair: On 24 April 2010, several CPVFD and Auxiliary volunteers supported the **9 News Health Fair** in Manitou Springs along with other health professionals. This was a great success and was the third year in a row we have supported this event. Thanks to all that served their community once again.

4. Cookbook Fundraiser: The CPVFD Auxiliary has launched the first fundraiser of the 2010. The first CPVFD Cookbook, "Cooking with Fire", will raise funds to help the CPVFD sustain Department operations and maintain equipment. There are over 200 recipes in the cookbook from Crystal Park residents, members, friends and family. Folks can sign up in the mailroom or contact the CPVFD Auxiliary at auxiliary@crystalparkvfd.org



5. New Response Time Study: The U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) completed a study that shows that the size of firefighting crews and response times have a substantial effect on the fire service's ability to protect lives and property in residential fires. "Fire risks grow exponentially. Each minute of delay is critical to the safety of the occupants and firefighters, and is directly related to property damage" (NIST Fire Safety Group). We are proud to report that in the last three years, the volunteers of CPVFD have worked hard and spent thousands of hours training and achieving many certification levels to ensure that we meet and/or exceeds the benchmarks for number of firefighters; time to incident; time to water on fire; primary search; occupant rescue and other variables called for in this study. Prior to the existence of the CPVFD, response times from other agencies could be more than 30-45 minutes in many areas of the District. The study can be read in its entirety on the CPVFD website.

6. Medical Director Visits CPVFD: Our Medical Director, Dr. Brian Crawford, from Penrose Hospital, attended last month's Department meeting. He was very impressed with the emergency medical capability that the CPVFD has developed in such a short time. He answered numerous questions from the volunteers and took a tour of the medical apparatus and equipment. We look forward to Dr. Crawford's future visits and his willingness to be our Medical Director in addition to MSFD. Having a Medical Director is testimony as to the qualifications and capabilities of our EMS First Responders, EMTs and Paramedic.

7. Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Status: The CPVFD was notified by FEMA that we were not selected for the two grants we submitted almost a year ago. The AFG grant process was focused on homeland security factors and funding was dramatically reduced. The AFG grant process for 2010 has just opened and we plan to submit a smaller grant application for PPE to protect our volunteers.

8. Brush Truck: We were not selected by the Frederick-Firestone Fire Protection District (CO) to receive their Type 6 Brush Truck. Recall they were looking to donate this vehicle. There was a department in Colorado that actually had a greater need. We will continue to look for a replacement apparatus for the F-450 which we no longer are allowed to use during this fire season.