



CRYSTAL PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FEBRUARY & MARCH 2012 MONTHLY UPDATE

www.crystalparkvfd.org

This is a 2 month summary report for Feb/Mar 2012.

1. Incidents: In February and March we were toned out 4 times by Dispatch. One incident was a gas odor investigation, the other was smoke investigation, and two were “moveup” calls to cover MSFD District when they responded to structure fires. Note that we are now automatically toned when there is a structure fire in Manitou which is testimony to the confidence in the CPVFD volunteers by the MSFD leadership. CPVFD volunteers continued to support numerous other calls in Manitou Springs this last month to help maintain our proficiency as a **Fire•Rescue•EMS** organization.

2. Grant (AFG) Update: We did not submit a grant application for a VFA grant this year. The rules would require that we would have to spend the money as soon as possible and we felt that would not allow us to find the right equipment (e.g. tender). We are still not closed on the AFG grant per the Gov’t hold on submitting final paperwork. We do not know when we will be given the green light to submit final paperwork.

3. CPVFD “5th Anniversary” Celebration: On February 18th, we celebrated our five year anniversary. It was open house format and was supported by a number of residents from the District.



4. “MAYDAY” Training: In March, we conducted joint Mayday training with MSFD and CPVFD FFs. An obstacle course was developed where FFs, without the ability to see, had to follow a hoseline into a simulated burning structure, deal with collapse on top of them and deal with a floor collapse below them. FFs had to correctly execute “MAYDAY” procedures over the radio. The training was very challenging!

5. Lower North Fork Fire Deployment: CPVFD FF Steve Leander deployed with MSFD Tender 1 to the Lower North Fork Wildland Fire in March. Deployments like this help us bring significant experience back to the District. Terrain, fuel load, and overall characteristics where all very similar to Crystal Park. (Photo from KDVR Fox 31 Denver Website)



6. Pack Test and Wildland Fire Refresher Training Completions: It’s that time of year and in March our Wildland FFs began taking their 45lb Pack Tests at the Manitou track. All that want to be nationally deployable have passed the Pack Test and completed the required annual refresher training. We are ready!!!

7. 10,000 Gallon Water Tank Donation: Manitou Springs Water Dept still intends on giving us a 10K gallon water tank free of charge. In Feb, we confirmed with Kirk Greasby that Crystal Park is still intended to receive the tank. This will be critical and we already have a location that needs to be coordinated with the HOA Board.

8. Fire Danger Reaches “Extreme” Levels in March: March was extremely dry and we have already reached “extreme” fire danger conditions in March. In Crystal Park, dry fuels, heavy fuel loading, topography, lack of significant mitigation, etc... all make CP vulnerable. We take every smoke investigation seriously and respond in mass with MSFD to ascertain validity of the call.