



CRYSTAL PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AUGUST 2009 MONTHLY UPDATE

www.crystalparkvfd.org

During the annual meeting of the HOA, the Department responded to numerous questions from the HOA membership. Questions answered included, but were not limited to, whether a conflict of interest exists, whether the Chief is actually qualified, mutual aid, budget, and what happened regarding the insurance ISO rating. Since that time, I have received calls from insurance agents with residents trying to get better rates, resident installation of new cisterns that could be used for fire protection, and numerous folks have written thanking the Department volunteers for what they do. The CPVFD is a "service" organization and our mission is to protect the entire community of Crystal Park. We will continue to ensure we are ready, qualified, and responsive to meet the challenges presented to us.

Chief Hennessey (jhennessey@crystalparkvfd.org)

1. Training: Aggressive training continues in the Department with 8 Wildland FFs and Engineers taking the 40 hour Wildland Urban Interface (S-215) training class. In addition, one of our EMTs completed his qualifications in IV training. Future training includes Driver Training (16 Hrs), Sawyer Qualification Training (40 Hrs) and Pumps Training (24 Hrs). The CPVFD has initiated Rapid Training Evolutions (RTEs) every Tuesday evening further pushing our volunteers to stay proficient in their skills. Training thus far has included structures, communication, and apparatus use.

2. Incidents: Since the last report, we responded to a vehicle accident on Waterfall Loop (non-injury) and Crystal Park Road (non-injury), a medical call in the lower park, and we were requested for mutual aid to support a technical rescue (HAR) in Manitou Springs. In addition, our EMTs and First Responders supported several medical calls, an "Incline" rescue and a gas leak while volunteering at Manitou Springs; this volunteer time allows our EMS and Rescue personnel to maintain their skills proficiency.

3. Firewise Assessments: We continued to be asked to conduct Firewise assessments. Our goal was to conduct at least 20 assessments this summer and we have already exceeded that goal; we will conduct assessments for any resident that asks so give us a call. We also turned over names of folks that requested to be put on the Forestry Committee list for contract work.

4. Apparatus Markings/Equipment: Our apparatus, engines and rescue, along with the vehicles owned by the HOA, have markings and equipment (i.e. lights, siren) that are compliant with NFPA and ISO standards. These markings and equipment provide for the safety of the driver and other civilian drivers. They also let law enforcement know these are emergency response vehicles. In addition, we successfully completed our first "Ladder Testing" which is an annual requirement for our ladders we carry on Eng 910. This ensures that our ladders are compliant with NFPA guidelines and are safe for FFs to use.

5. Pikes Peak Marathon & Buddy Walk: Over the last two weekends, the volunteers of the CPVFD, along with the MSFD, supported the Buddy Walk and the Pikes Peak Marathon as part of our community service. Our volunteers spent significant amount of their own time to provide EMS services during the marathon and helped raise thousands of dollars to benefit Down Syndrome national education, research and advocacy initiatives, as well as local programs. Thank you to all that gave their personal time. The next event we are supporting is the MDA "Fill the Boot" Campaign over the Labor Day Weekend. Thus far the CPVFD volunteers have donated more than 890 hours to these types of community events. Great job all!!