

VERNONIA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

School Back in Session: Be Prepared and Aware

The 2014-15 school year is underway! With the start of school comes extra foot, car and bus traffic. Be prepared to leave earlier and slow your commute in the morning and afternoon hours. Be aware of children waiting at bus stops, walking along roadways and at crosswalks. Be extra cautious at the crosswalk in front of the fire department, where children are crossing and traffic is turning in/out to access the school. SLOW DOWN when entering this area! If you are approaching or following a school bus, pay attention! School bus drivers will turn on flashing amber lights 100 - 300 feet in advance, to warn traffic that the bus is preparing to stop on the road to load

or unload children. Drivers should get ready to stop. Remember that you cannot pass a school bus when the red lights are flashing! Let's keep our children safe this year! All it takes is awareness and patience!



Make a Disaster Preparedness Plan

It is important to make sure that the entire family is prepared and informed in the event of a disaster or emergency. You may not always be together when these events take place and should have plans for making sure you are able to contact and find one another.

The American Red Cross suggests some basic steps to make sure you remain safe:

- Meet with your family or household members. Discuss how to prepare and respond to emergencies that are most likely to happen where you live, learn, work and play.
- Identify responsibilities for each member of your household and plan to work together as a team.
- If a family member is in the military, plan how you would respond if they were deployed.

Plan what to do in case you are separated during an emergency:

- Choose two places to meet: Right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency, such as a fire. Outside your neighborhood, in case you cannot return home or are asked to evacuate.
- Choose an out-of-area emergency contact person. It may be easier to text or call long distance if local phone lines are overloaded or out of service. Everyone should have emergency contact information in writing or saved on their cell phones.

Plan what to do if you have to evacuate:

- Decide where you would go and what route you would take to get there. You may choose to go to a hotel/motel, stay with friends or relatives in a safe location or go to an evacuation shelter if necessary.
- Practice evacuating your home



twice a year. Drive your planned evacuation route and plot alternate routes on your map in case roads are impassable.

- Plan ahead for your pets. Keep a phone list of pet-friendly hotels/motels and animal shelters that are along your evacuation routes.

Let Your Family Know You're Safe

- If your community has experienced a disaster, register on the American Red Cross Safe and Well website to let your family and friends know you are safe. You may also call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) and select the prompt for "Disaster" to register yourself and your family.
- Be informed. Make a plan. Build a kit. Get involved.

For more information about disaster preparedness visit: www.ready.gov and www.redcross.org/prepare/nationalpreparednessmonth

*Courtesy of FEMA and American Red Cross

Calls responded to August 1-31

Fire	3
Emergency Medical Service	34
Hazardous Condition	2
Service Call	5
Good Intent	8
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	4
No Emergency Found	0
False Alarm	0
Total	56

Burn Ban in effect. 503-429-8252



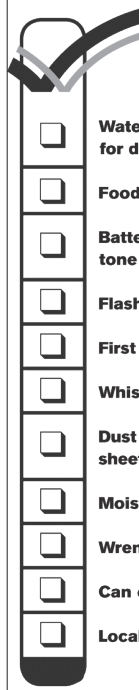
★★ **RECRUITMENT** ★★
We Need Volunteers
www.vernoniafire.us

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a firefighter? Have you ever wanted to volunteer in your community? The Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District is in need of additional personnel and we have positions for everyone. From firefighting to support positions, we can use your help. All training and equipment is provided free of charge. Being a volunteer firefighter is a very rewarding job. Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District provides a vast array of Emergency Services ranging from Vehicle Extrication to fire scene Rehab & Firefighting. We respond to over 400 calls per year. We hold our general membership meeting every second Monday of the month at the Fire station. You can call Dean Smith at 503-429-8252 with any questions. Feel free to email us at anytime at vrfvolunteers@gmail.com

BE DISASTER AWARE
SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH
TAKE ACTION TO PREPARE



AMERICA'S **PrepareAthon!**



Recommended Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- Local maps

Through its **Ready Campaign**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency educates and empowers Americans to take some simple steps to prepare for and respond to potential emergencies, including natural disasters and terrorist attacks. **Ready** asks individuals to do three key things: get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.

All Americans should have some basic supplies on hand in order to survive for at least three days if an emergency occurs. Following is a listing of some basic items that every emergency supply kit should include. However, it is important that individuals review this list and consider where they live and the unique needs of their family in order to create an emergency supply kit that will meet these needs. Individuals should also consider having at least two emergency supply kits, one full kit at home and smaller portable kits in their workplace, vehicle or other places they spend time.



Additional Items to Consider Adding to an Emergency Supply Kit:

- Prescription medications and glasses
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- Cash or traveler's checks and change
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from www.ready.gov
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person. Consider additional bedding if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Complete change of clothing including a long sleeved shirt, long pants and sturdy shoes. Consider additional clothing if you live in a cold-weather climate.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper - When diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Fire Extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Ready

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.®

Emergency Supply List

