

VERNONIA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

VRFPD's New Pumper/Tender

Several months ago VRFPD was able to order a new Pumper/Tender to replace our much older and out dated one. The process from specing, ordering, and waiting on production takes several months.

VRFPD would like to let you all know that the new Pumper/Tender is almost ready to be put into service. The emergency lighting and radios have been installed and the only thing remaining is the arrival of all of the new fire hose to

complete the package.

As soon as the unit is complete, VRFPD will host a "Meet & Greet" to show her off.

In addition to the new Pumper/Tender, VRFPD would like to also showcase the new Duty Officer Rig that is almost ready to be put into service for the new training Captain Will Steinweg. Captain Steinweg not only leads the training at the department, but he is also another full time First Responder in addition to Chief Smith. His new Duty Officer Rig will be ready to be shown in the very near future as well.



The Board of Directors, Command Staff, and the Volunteers would like to thank you for your continued support.



Winter Driving Tips

By Robert Schattschneider P.I.O. VRFPD

Winter driving can be a challenge, but the State of Oregon put together the "Oregon Winter Driving Guide," which you can find by using Google to view the complete guide. With winter weather just around the corner, it's time to be thinking ahead.

First, be prepared. Have the items in your car that can really make a difference if you are caught in bad winter weather on Oregon's roads and highways.

Here is a list of items that are suggested to have in or on your vehicles:

- A jack, lug wrench and a shovel
- Chains or traction tires
- Flares
- Road map
- Extra warm clothes, boots, hats, gloves, blanket and or sleeping bag
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- First Aid kit
- Matches or lighter
- Extra food and water
- Jumper cables
- Cell phone and adapter charger cords
- A pocket knife
- Extra washer fluid.

Tune up your vehicle by making sure that your antifreeze is good to -25 degrees. Make sure that your wiper blades are clean or new, and that your washer fluid level is full. Make sure that your heater and defroster is working properly to keep your vehicle and windshield warm and clear, and keep your gas tank on full.

Have someone check the condition and age of your vehicle's battery. Next, check your tires for proper tread and inflation. Also make sure that they are traction tires

made for snow and include a set of snow chains for those roads and highways that are posted with signage requiring chains.

Oregon law requires traction tires or chains for all of Oregon's roads and highways. Some sections of our roads and highways are "Posted" with signage stating that they are required on those sections of the highway. Don't wait until you are stuck to chain up. Chain up early when you know that you are going to be traveling on those sections of our roads and highways.

Some tips for winter driving can really help. First, do not use your cruise control on snow covered or icy roadways. Remember that bridges freeze first before the road surface.

Keep your hands at the 9 and 3 o'clock position on your steering wheel for best control of your vehicle.

If you lose traction, gradually slowdown without slamming on your brakes. Slamming on your brakes will only make your situation worse. Every action that you take while controlling your vehicle, do so smoothly and gradually. Sudden turns, acceleration and braking will increase your odds of losing control on slippery surfaces.

In conclusion, watch out for snow plows and sanding trucks. Don't follow them too closely and do not pass. On some sections of our highways, snow plows sometimes work side by side to clear the roadways quicker and more efficiently. If you attempt to pass one of these vehicles, you might not realize that there is another plow or sanding truck in front of the other one.

You can find out more about Oregon's chain laws at: www.TripCheck.com.

Calls responded to October 1-31

Fire	0
Emergency Medical Service	36
Hazardous Condition	0
Service Call	7
Good Intent	2
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident	0
No Emergency Found	0
False Alarm	1
Total	45

VOLUNTEERS WANTED



VERNONIA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

VRFPD is currently accepting applications for Volunteer Fire Fighters.

- You must have a High School Diploma or G.E.D., a valid Oregon Driver's License, and be at least 18 years of age.

- Currently, you must be able to attend weekly training on Monday nights

- Willing to attend the Fire Academy

- Live or work (employer willing to let you respond to calls) within VRFPD's District

- Applications can be picked up at the Fire Station.



Here's What We Do!

VRFPD

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VRFPD Seeks New Public Information Officer

VRFPD is seeking a replacement for their current Public Information Officer. If you are looking for a way to volunteer some time to the Fire Department without having to go through a lot of training, this just might be the opportunity you've been looking for.

For details about the position please contact Chief Smith at (503) 429-8252.