

SOUTH LANE FIRE & RESCUE**FIRE
PREVENTION
WEEK****2020 FIRE PREVENTION WEEK MESSAGE - JOHN WOOTEN**

Hello,

It is my pleasure to share this news with you during the 2020 Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme for the 2020 Fire Prevention Week is *"Serve up Fire Safety in the Kitchen."* Kitchen fires can be devastating and have a number of causes. Have a previously established evacuation plan and meeting place. Keep a fire extinguisher handy and make sure to test your alarms and change the batteries.

This year our Fire Prevention Week activities will be adjusted due to the COVID-19 Executive Orders. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims of the recent devastating fires.

Fire Station Replacement and Upgrades

The District will continue planning for the replacement of Station 203 (Creswell) and renovation of Station 201 (Cottage Grove). These projects are a priority for the District going forward. The facilities upgrades are part of our Strategic Plan.

Fire Prevention Programs

We will be engaging in an aggressive campaign throughout the District and working with our partners to enhance Wildland Urban Interface preparation utilizing the Fire Wise program. One key focus of our efforts will be around creating defensible space. The recent tragic fires in Oregon and across the Northwest have demonstrated we need to do more.

2020 Fire Season

To say this fire season has been tragic is a major understatement. Our crews have been busy responding to fires. We responded as part of the Oregon Strike Teams to the

Northern California Fires as well as the Holiday Farms Fire. The District itself did not see a large fire this year.

Personal Message

I am committed as ever to the safety of our communities. I have always performed my duties regardless of my personal or political beliefs. I apologize for the divisions resulting from the release of social media posts from my page. I have

always asked those under my command to accept responsibility, learn from their mistake and make better decisions going forward. I accept responsibility for the divisions this caused and I am sorry. I have learned from my mistake and will be a better leader for it.

Be Safe,
Chief Wooten

