

Make sure fire trucks can reach your house before a fire strikes

National Weather Service predicts a warmer than usual summer with below normal moisture. That kind of weather brings with it the threat of fire.

One of the first things that can hamper a fire department's response to a fire is the condition of the driveway. If the fire department can't get there quickly

and safely, property losses climb.

Tree limbs that are not cleared to 13 feet, 6 inches can damage fire equipment

and, in some cases, make the equipment useless to fight fires. Broken windows, or lights on top of fire vehicles cost all taxpayers money to replace. Broken radio antennas cause a safety problem for responders if they can't communicate with other equipment or with 9-1-1.

Driveways need to be 20 feet wide with an all-weather surface of 12 feet. Larger fire equipment weighs over 25 tons in some cases, and easily gets stuck or slides off driveways. All driveways over 100 feet long need an area where emergency equipment can turn around. Some fire equipment is 40 feet long and requires a large turnaround area. Rural driveways over 450 feet long


need a section where two vehicles can pass side by side.

Bridges must have an engineered weight limit posted on the ends of the bridge, or equipment will not cross the bridge to fight fires or respond to medical needs.

If indeed there is a forest fire and emergency equipment can't safely protect and fight the fire because of the driveway, then that property may be passed by for the next property that does have safe access for responders.

If property owners have question or concerns, they should contact their local fire department or the Oregon Department of Forestry.



Up to 3-year Supply* of 

With the purchase of a **select** Whirlpool® Brand washer and dryer pair



Offer valid April 15-May 31, 2005

TIDE is a registered trademark of The Procter & Gamble Company.

*Mail-in offer only. See Rebate Request Form for complete list of qualifying models and details. Void where prohibited by law. ©/™ WHIRLPOOL and all other trademarks are owned by Whirlpool, U.S.A. ©2005 Whirlpool Corporation. All rights reserved. See store for details



Example of a driveway with low hanging branches that may keep firefighters from reaching the house on the left.



Above, employees of BRIX, a company hired by the State of Oregon to construct crosswalks, place the stamp template in the crosswalk after using an infrared heater to warm up the surface so the stamp will imprint. After the surface cools, four coats of a cementitious color coating is applied.

Van Dyke

Serving the local community for over 60 years

APPLIANCES

2008 Main Street • Forest Grove • 503-357-6011



B&B Computing

Quality work at reasonable rates

- System configuration, upgrades and problem resolution
- Graphics, ads, brochures and Digital Camera help
- Internet connectivity (DSL) and training
- Home & business applications

(503) 429-0817

bnb998@msn.com