



Larry Durham—page 4

SMOKE SIGNALS

THIS PUBLICATION PUT OUT BY THE BOARD
OF SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #5



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BURNING QUESTIONS?

We are well into the fall season and many of you have questions regarding outdoor burning. One of the most common questions we get is:

How do I know what I can burn and when I can burn?

There are many different agencies from your local fire district, to county, to state to federal that regulate burning conditions. After talking to most of those agencies, we have put together the following guidelines:

FOR YARD AND GARDEN DEBRIS BURNING

- Yard and garden waste may be burned with no permit required on Friday through Monday the first two weekends in April only (8 days total) unless otherwise posted. **-OR-**
- Yard and garden waste may be burned by purchasing a permit from Spokane County Fire District #5. The permit costs \$25.00 and is good for **one calendar year**. It allows *you* to choose which 8 days to burn during the year. Call 796-4793 for further information.
- **NOTE: You must *always* call the day you plan to burn for clearance whether you have a permit or not. Call SCAPCA at 477-4710 and this fire district at 796-4793.**

FOR FOREST DEBRIS (SLASH)

Burning in undeveloped forest areas is delegated by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. In forested areas protected by DNR, debris burning is permitted without a written permit if **all** of the following conditions are met:

- **Burn one pile at a time** of forest debris that is less than 4 feet in diameter at any time of the year.
- **Burn only natural vegetation** or untreated wood products.
- **Burn piles are at least 50 feet from structures** and 500 feet from any forest slash.

- **Clear the area** around the burn pile of any flammable material.
- **The winds are calm or light.** It is too windy to burn if trees are swaying, flags are extended, or waves appear on open water.
- **Maintain a connected water hose** or at least five gallons of water and a shovel nearby.
- **Attend the fire** until it is completely extinguished.
- **Be prepared to extinguish the fire** if it becomes a nuisance.
- **Call 1-800-323-BURN and 477-4710** to obtain updated burning information on the day of the burn.

If any of these conditions cannot be met, a written DNR burning permit is required.

To obtain a DNR burning permit call 1-800-527-3305 at least a week before you plan to burn.

If you haven't guessed by now, the most critical part of determining what and when you can burn is CALLING THE PROPER AUTHORITIES!!! Avoiding that responsibility may cost you hundreds of dollars in fines.

SCAPCA (Spokane County Air Pollution Control Authority) puts restrictions on burning mainly based on air quality. Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources puts restrictions on burning mainly based on moisture levels and weather (although other factors are considered). Spokane County Fire District #5 uses any and all county, state and federal guidelines in determining restrictions on burning. That is why it is important to let us know what and when you are going to burn.

Our district's website, www.scfd5.org has links to both DNR and SCAPCA sites for more information.



WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR FIRE DISTRICT IS DOING?

COME TO OUR MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETINGS!

The district office is located in Station 51 on the SW corner of Four Mound and Dover Rd. We also have Station 52 on the corner of Valley and Charles Rd. We conduct our business meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00p.m. at the district office. We have informational handouts available regarding burning and emergency preparedness as well as fun and educational items for children. This fire district operates on volunteers; we are always looking for community members who want to join our department. Call for more information.

WEBSITE: www.scfd5.org

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS: FIRE DISTRICT #5 796-4793

S.C.O.P.E.: 796-2391 (call re: Neighborhood Watch)

CRIME CHECK: 532-9266 Note: This is for non-emergencies only Mon.—Fri. from 8am.-8pm. and Sat. 8am-5pm; for emergencies always dial 911. You may also access Crime Check on the Web at www.spokanecrimereportingcenter.org.

~ NEW VOLUNTEERS ~

We currently have 26 volunteers; 9 of them currently are Emergency Medical Technicians and 7 are taking the basic EMT course.

District 5's Team:

Ted Adams—Station 51 Training Lt./EMT
Kjell Anderson—Fire Chief/EMT
Patty Bonner—FF/EMT
Bonnie Cobb—FF
Cindy Date—Station 52 EMT Lt.
Greg Egbert—FF
Jennifer Egbert—Station 51 EMT Lt.
Tim Fenton—FF
Mike Flint—FF/Equip. Manager
Bob Gambrel—Station 51 Captain
Joe Gumminger—FF/EMT
Caleb Guthimiller—FF
Jim Hansen—FF
Terry Huffman—FF
Ty Landt—FF/EMT-I
Bill Leonard—Volunteer

Peter Liebfried—FF
Greg Lucht—FF/EMT
Scott Lynch—FF
Miles McAdam—FF
Karen Namani—Station 52 Training Lt.
Mike Pankonin—FF/EMT/Comm. Mgr.
Dan Ritchie—FF
John VanSant—FF
Van Wohl—FF
Ron Wood—Station 52 Captain

Board of Commissioners:

Greg Lucht—Chairman/FF/EMT
Jim Ryan
Sheri Rhoads

District Administrator:

Carol Harrington



Go to www.scfd5.org for an application to become a volunteer!



GRANT NEWS . . . Show me the money!

Grants Received...

- Assistance to Firefighters Grant 2006: Wildland Boots for firefighters, Automatic Defibrillator, and SCBA's. 5% match

Grants pending...

- WA State DNR Grant 2006: Structure gear for fire-

fighters. Awards begin in December 2006. 50% match

Grants in writing stage... None at this time.

*** "Match" means the percentage the recipient is responsible for paying toward total amount funded.

TIPS FOR A FIRE-SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON



We all know that fires increase during the holiday season. Take a few moments to review these simple safety tips.

TREES

- Choose a fresh tree. If you are not cutting the tree yourself, purchase one that is not shedding needles.
- Re-cut the base of your tree and place it securely in a large, deep, non-tip stand.
- Place your tree away from exits, fireplaces and heat sources.
- Be sure your tree always has water. Your tree stand should be able to hold one gallon of water at all times.
- If you have an artificial tree, make sure it is labeled flame-retardant.
- If your tree is losing excessive needles, remove it from your home.

DECORATIONS

- If you hang ornaments from your fireplace, do not start a fire in it.
- Avoid burning wrapping paper in fireplaces or wood stoves. The burning of these materials is a common cause of chimney fires.

CANDLES

- Always put candles in non-tip candleholders before you light them. Do not burn candles near combustible decorations or displays.
- Never place candles on or near your holiday tree.
- Keep candles well away from curtains and other combustible articles. Never put candles in windows or near exits.
- Never leave candles burning unattended or within reach of small children.

- Remember to extinguish candles before you leave a room or go to bed.

LIGHTING

- Be sure all decorative lights (both indoor and outdoor) bear the label of an independent testing laboratory.
- Replace any light sets with cracked or frayed cords or sets with loose connections.
- Do not overload outlets.
- Do not run extension cords under carpets, across doorways, on or under heaters or pinched behind furniture.
- Unplug all decorative lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- Never use electric lights on a metal tree.

45th Annual Christmas Dinner

Springhill S.C.O.P.E. invites the community to a delicious dinner on December 2nd, 2006 at 6p.m. at the Springhill Grange Hall

Turkey will be served with all the trimmings followed by apple pie and ice cream.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT BY THE REDWING FIDDLERS

Santa promises to stop by!

Admission: 2 nonperishable items for a local food bank.

THANKS LARRY, FOR OVER 25 YEARS!



Larry Durheim retired from Spokane County Fire District #5 last September after twenty five years of faithful and dedicated service as a firefighter. Larry is well-known by many in our community as a horseman with a heart as big as the prairie. Always willing to help out in any situation with a smile (even climbing up flag poles), he will be sorely missed.

Correction(s): From the Spring 2006 Newsletter, article "Station 53 Update" "The board appointed Kjell Anderson..." should read, "Kjell Anderson volunteered to guide the project..."



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