

SMOKE SIGNALS

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POINTS OF INTEREST

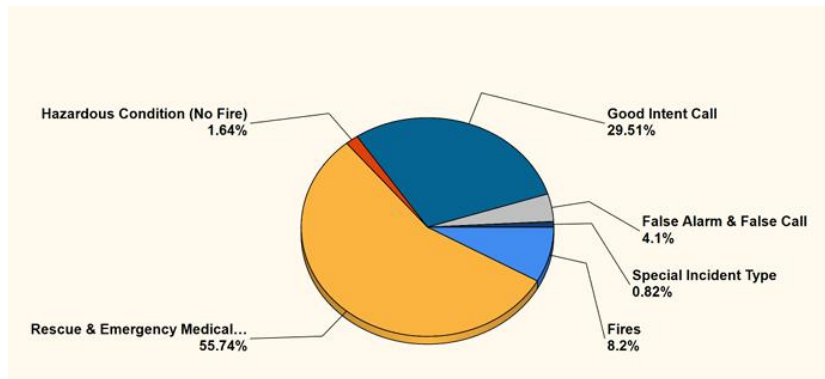
- Do not drive through a flooded area
- If you suspect a propane leak, get away immediately
- Never leave a candle burning unattended
- Let the kids make some crafts in the new year

2025: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Well, this year has gone by in a flash! The department has been busy with responding to a total of 122 calls! Out of those 122 calls; 68 of them were emergency medical service calls and 54 of them were fire related calls. These can be broken down into more categories as you can see from the pie chart below. Thank you volunteers for everything you do and being willing to share your time with your community!

We have many new faces that have started to volunteer this year. Make sure you tell them hello and thank you for your service. What does it take to be a volunteer? You must be 18 years old, have a valid driver's license, a high school or equivalent education and no felony or DUI's. Volunteers meet weekly for training, enabling them to be prepared to help in any emergency. If you would like to know more about being a volunteer, please contact us or stop by for more information.

We hope you have a fun filled holiday with family and friends and wish you a happy new year!



Make sure your smoke alarms are "heard" in the New Year.

A NOTE FROM YOUR NEW FIRE COMMISSIONER

Thank you to the voters of District 5 for the responsibility you have entrusted by electing me as your newest fire commissioner. I look forward to working with the current commissioners, Bonita Cobb and Dave Alvarado, Chief Scott Lynch, the District Secretary and the volunteer firefighters as we continue to provide services for the district. I also would like to thank the retiring commissioner, Isla Durham, for her 12 years of service. Your wisdom and guidance will be missed.

I will be learning more about the operation of our district and continuing to build on the progress of the precious leadership and volunteers. We strive to use your tax dollars sparingly to provide effective and timely emergency response in our area. If you have concerns with the operation of Fires District 5, or would like to observe, please feel free to attend the commissioners meeting at 6pm, on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the fire house on Four Mound Rd. You may also write me at brian.scott_dist5pos1@yahoo.com.



WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A FLOOD

A flood is a type of natural disaster. They occur when there is more water than lakes, rivers, oceans or the ground can hold. They can occur with heavy rains or snow melt off. If the ground is

frozen and can't absorb the water or ice and other objects are blocking the flow of a waterway; these can also cause flooding or the redirecting of water.

A flood can affect many parts of your day to day life, your house may become damaged, roads washed away or damage to your property that you have taken such good care of.

Our community is not in a direct flood zone, however we can still be affected by it with living so close to lake spokane. The roadways could still have damage to them due to culverts being plugged and water getting rerouted.

In case you are in an area where there is flooding here are some safety tips to be aware of: Stay away from the area, keep off of bridges or washed out roads, following any instructions that the emergency management is issuing, don't try to drive through any flooded roads: stop and get to higher ground.

HOME FIRE PREVENTION & SAFETY TIPS

Inspect electrical cords for damage and unplug devices when not in use. Never use extension cords for appliances.

Install smoke detectors on every floor and in bedrooms. Test them monthly and replace batteries when necessary.

Whether cooking on the stove or baking in the oven, do not leave it unattended.

Have a fire extinguisher on hand and know how to use it. Inspect monthly for pressurization and replace if needed.

Only use smoking materials outside and extinguish ashtrays with water before disposing of contents.

Never leave a burning candle unattended. Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.

Have an emergency fire escape plan in place and practice the plan at least twice a year.

Keep anything flammable at least 3 feet away from a space heater. Turn off space heaters when you leave the room and don't leave them unattended.

IF THERE'S A FIRE IN YOUR HOME, GET OUT, DIAL 911, AND DON'T GO BACK INSIDE.

PROPANE SAFETY

There are a lot of household items that use propane, whether it be your cooking grill or how you heat your house. Here is a quick check list if you suspect a leak:

1. Get away immediately
2. Avoid creating sparks
DO NOT turn any light switches on or off. Do not interact with any appliances, outlets or landline phones.
3. Stay away and report the leak

Once you are safely away call your propane retailer and/ or 911. Stay away until it is determined safe to re-enter

A propane gas leak is an emergency; it can cause a fire and explosion. Unless you suspect a leak to be at the tank close the valve, turn it clockwise, if you feel comfortable. Before you use any propane appliances again have your entire system checked by a qualified professional to make sure there are no more leaks.

LET'S CELEBRATE

Jan 1st- New Year's Day

Jan 4th- National Trivia Day

Jan 8th- Bubble Bath Day

Jan 17th-Hot Buttered Rum Day

Jan 19th-MLK Jr Day

Jan 29th- National Puzzle Day

Feb 2nd- Groundhog Day

Feb 8th- Boy Scouts Day

Feb 16th-Presidents Day

Feb 23rd-Banana Bread Day

Feb 27th- Strawyberry Day

Mar 1st- National Pig Day

Mar 6th- Oreo Cookie Day

Mar 14th- Childrens Craft Day

Mar 22nd- National Goof off Day

Mar 30th- National Pencil Day

District 5 Commissioners meet the second Tuesday of every month at 6PM. All are welcome to the meetings.

Do you have an event planned? Let us know and we can help spread the word!! Email admin@scfd5.ord with the information



Need a quick activity: Let your kiddo color this picture

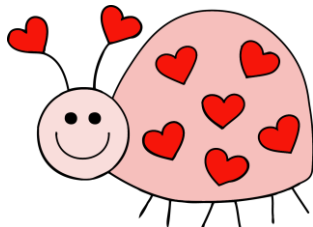
KIDS CORNER

In the new year there are lots of activities that you can do at the house were you can stay away from the elements, here are some ideas:



1. Valentines Day: heart sun catchers, paper plate hearts, coffee filter garlands or handmade cards.
2. Math Fun: use candy hearts for graphing or counting-incoroparte into your kids homework if they have any, make hot cocoa math with marshmallows, if we get enough snow make a math snowball fight.
3. Groundhog Day: try a themed worksheet, learn about shadows, or make a fun "viewing" of the groundhog seeing his shadow.
4. Polar Bears: Feb 27th is national Polar Bear Day-there are lots of crafts that you can do or find a documentary on polar bears and learn something new!

There is lots of free crafts and worksheets on the internet, just use google to find them.



YOUR COULD BE A WINNER

O E I Q R D S I W Z V Y L R G
O H X H B E V R W I N T E R H
D F I X I F S F O D W K S U L
G C A B D P R O K G H I F S O
R T O R T M N O L B H D P P V
E C H M M A S E S U A S L R E
E H K S M T U N W T T Z G I G
N O Y K O I N X C Y Z I B N B
I C X X K O S N R L E Z O G Q
A O B U Y S H S N S U A C N O
V L V A V A I T I T H C R F H
E A G H Z Z N K V O P A K D I
B T N F Q X E B Y E N R R L Q
X E Z X R J Q R X H L E S Z V
T B Y F I R E W P N F G R E A

Find the below words and return to the firehouse for a chance to win a \$5 gift card to Eagles Nest!! ***Make sure your name is on the word Search***

new year
love
kids
fire
commissioner
spring
winter
frost
chocolate
resolution
luck
green
sunshine

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