

FIRE HOUSE NEWS

A Publication by
The Rocky Point Firefighters Association
rpfirefightersassoc@gmail.com
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April 1, 2024

Volume 5 - Issue 4

Special Meeting

April 8, 2024

There will be a special meeting of the Rocky Point Fire & EMS Board of Directors at the Fire Hall at 25600 Rocky Point Road on April 8, 2024 to answer any questions regarding the Operating levy placed on the ballot for \$.82. This will start at 11:00 a.m. and last till 12:00 noon. The meeting follows the regular 9:00 a.m. board meeting.

NEXT REGULAR FIRE BOARD MEETING

April 8 at 9:00 am

Everyone is welcome to come and listen.

Be sure to check the www.rpfire.com website or the kiosk in front of the fire hall for the official minutes of the March board meeting and/or the April Agenda.

Board Members Emails

There is one email address for the board. That email address is: board@rpfire.com.

Budget Committee Meeting

April 8, 2024 at 8 am.
25600 Rocky Point Rd

Around the Station

The Association Pancake Breakfast was held on Saturday the 23rd. Thank you to everyone who came out and joined us for breakfast. If you didn't make it we're sorry, because you missed a really good breakfast! We had a great time and enjoyed seeing all of you that came out. It was a successful event and we thank you all.

Welcome to our newest volunteer, Shane Cartwright. We are delighted to have one of the local community step up and join our team. Shane is a firefighter 2 and has a lot of credentials and experience in fire and wildland.

Reminder: Volunteers Are Needed!

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Rocky Point is a Firewise Community!

Rocky Point Firewise Connection

Firewise USA® is a nationwide program that provides formal recognition to communities implementing actions to protect people and properties from the risk of fire in the wildland urban interface. Participants reduce their wildfire risks by actively participating in the program and completing requirements each year.
<https://www.nfpa.org>

Firewise Committee Update

Greetings All,

As the days are getting longer and warmer, we are all ready to spring into action with our property cleaning.

Your Firewise committee would like to invite you to stop by the Fire Department to pick up a Volunteer Hourly worksheet. The forms may be picked up, filled out, and returned at the main door of the Department in the Red Boxes. Hours logged are applied to in-kind-hours that will help the community remain in good standing with Firewise.

**May 4th, Spring Brush & Mulch at the Odessa Transfer Station-- Hosted by Klamath County Landfill.

**Mark your calendar and we will see you at Firewise Outreach June 8th at Rocky Point Fire Dept.

**Firewise will soon be listed on the RPFire website, under the more tab.

Committee members: Diana Newdall, Jerry Higgins, Patrick Hagen, Greg Hoskins, Steve McKee, Del Ramsdel, Rod & Linda Golart, Steve Hill, and David Reed.

The committee may be reached at:

rockypointfirewiseconnection@gmail.com

Fire Prevention Event

Saturday, June 8, 2024

Beginning at 9 am at
25600 Rocky Point Road
BBQ



Vendor and Fire Informational Booths



Silent Auction, 50/50 Tickets, Your Fire Wise Questions Answered!

All proceeds go to the 2024 - 25 Rocky Point Fire Department budget.

PHONE SCAM ALERT!

Do Not Donate to Rocky Point Fire & EMS via the phone! We are not calling for donations.

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Firewise

Be sure to check the Rocky Point Fire & EMS website (rpfire.com) frequently for information, updates, and in the case of any disaster or emergency, important instructions.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are working on creating a reference book for fire plans and we need your help. We are asking you to fill out a form, including a drawing of your residence floor plan, and return it to the fire department. The form is found on the rpfire.com website in .pdf format. You can click on the form and print it out to complete and return to the fire station.

All information will be kept confidential.

Reminder: Volunteers Are Needed!

Future Fundraiser

Mark Your Calendar! July 28, 2024

Annually Bonanza hosts a National Chili Cook-off with entries from across the nation. This year Rocky Point Fire & EMS will join Bonanza in the event. On July 28 we will host a **Chili Cook-Off** for local entries and some nationals will stay over for the event. Rocky Point Fire & EMS will also be serving hot dogs, hamburgers and stuffed baked potatoes from the Bonanza cook shack. We will also be holding an auction at this event.

We invite all you Chili Chefs to enter your chili in the local competition. Entry forms and fee info will be available soon, as well as more information as it becomes available.

We could use some helpers in this event also. If you are available to help please let the Chief know.

Spring Clean-Up & Shredding Project

As Spring arrives and you are working on Firewise clean-up on your property, keep in mind that a Spring Shredding project is being set-up again this Spring with ODF. The two streets that ODF will do shredding on are Forest Park and Pelican Butte. As was the case last year, everyone else can haul their limbs to be shredded to the empty lot across Fugar Way from the fire station. The exact date hasn't been set yet but will be in early May. We are repeating the "Chipping Project Guidelines" for creating your shred piles. **See page 4.**

Address Signs

When you experience an emergency and call 911 for help, we need to be able to find you. Do you have your house number posted in plain site on the street? If you need an address sign for your property, call the station; 541-356-2100. If no one answers, please leave a message.

Public Assist:

Remember, if you or a family member falls, indoors or outdoors, and you need help getting up, call 911. They will dispatch your local fire department, and we will come assist you in getting up. This is referred to as "Public Assist" and there is no charge, **unless** you have injured yourself and we need to transport you to the hospital.

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March Fire Department Stats

Medical Calls (ALS) 4
MVA 4

Medical Air Transport Memberships

We would encourage every resident of Rocky Point to be a member of both Air MedCare Network (Airlink) and Mercy Flights. In a medical emergency where air transport is critical, we have no control over which service will respond. The one that is currently available will be the one responding.

Even though Airlink will no longer be providing helicopter service from Klamath Falls, they will be providing helicopter service from Bend and fixed wing service from Klamath Falls. Your membership continuation is important in the case of a medical emergency when Airlink from Bend provides the flight service. The membership is honored State wide. In fact, your Airlink Membership is good Nation Wide. And keep in mind, your Airlink ambulance coverage is separate from your air transport coverage and you want to keep that.

We want to encourage you to also carry a Mercy flight membership as they will be providing service out of Medford. The memberships do not cross over. And Mercy Flights does not provide service nationwide.

Both Airlink and Mercy Flights will have booths at the Fire Wise Fire Prevention Event Saturday, June 8.

The cost of carrying both memberships is minimal compared to an air transport bill.

Fire Tip

What does your roof top look like after this last winter? Now that Spring is here and we are all thinking about being FireWise, be sure to clean the debris from your roof top and storm gutters, if you have gutters. Also, clear all the pine needles and pine cones, broken limbs, branches, etc. from around your house.

In clearing keep in mind the 5 ft, 30 ft and 100 ft cleared space rule.

The "Chipping Project"

Chipping can be a very effective method of slash disposal. A layer of chips a few inches deep spread across the ground poses relatively little fire hazard.

Chipping results in a neat appearance, and the mulch holds soil moisture, covers exposed soil, and inhibits weed germination. Most of the labor is in dragging the material to the chipper and feeding it by hand. The material also can be piled first and the chipper moved around to each of the piles.

Chipping requires fairly level ground and good access, since most chippers are towed by a truck. Below are some basic tips to ensure a smooth operation.

- Only pile clean slash (ex: not created from tractors or blades pushed with dirt, only cut by chainsaws or other shears)
- Piles should not exceed waist height
- All butts of the slash need to be pointing in the same direction (ex: not jackstraw)
- Point the butts towards the main road
- Piles should be in a straight row
- If there is too much slash to keep rows at waist height, start another row directly behind, keeping in mind that the butts are pointing in the same direction and towards the road.
- If material is too large, cut into smaller pieces (ex: smaller trees need to be cut into manageable sizes, not to exceed 6" DBH, same with larger brush and branches)

First Aid Tip

Spring has Sprung and we will all be out clearing and cleaning and gardening and absorbing that gorgeous sunshine! Be sure to drink lots of water and stay hydrated. Monitor your activity level to a moderate rate. Also be sure to use sun screen and wear a hat!

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Klamath County Health Announces Spring Open Burn Window For Klamath County Air Quality Zone

The Spring open burn window that allows Klamath County Air Quality Zone residents the opportunity to burn yard waste was recently announced.

Begins 8 am Saturday April 6 and Ends 5 pm Sunday April 21.

The open burn window may be cancelled at any time due to air quality or fire hazard conditions. KCPH reminds people that the smoke from burning yard debris is equally as harmful to lungs as cigarette smoke.

In communities outside the Air Quality Zone, residents must contact their local fire district before open burning. Burn conditions vary greatly throughout Klamath County and open burn periods are determined locally based on current risk.

Rocky Point residents need to remember to call the fire station and leave your name and address and the date you are burning. 541-356-2100

If no one answers it is probably because they are on a call or a project that has them away from the station, please leave a message with your name, address and day you are burning.

“No trash, plastic, rubber, tar, petroleum products, treated or painted wood may be burned.”

Fire District guidelines for public safety:

-The wind must be no greater than 10 mph.

For wind speed call 541-883-8127.

-A charged hose or fire extinguisher must be at the burn site.

-A responsible adult must be present at the fire from the first flame until the fire is extinguished.

-The burn pile shall be no larger than six feet in diameter and four feet high.

-There must be a six-foot clear area down to mineral soil around the burn pile, and the pile must be at least 20 feet from combustible fences and buildings.

-Burning hours are 8 am to 5 pm and the fire must be completely extinguished by dark.

-The person conducting any burning is responsible for damage and the cost of an out of control burn, traffic problems and other hazards caused by the smoke.

-Any escaped fire, burning of unauthorized material, traffic problems, or other hazards not mentioned could result in violations and fines.

-Smoke creating a nuisance (even if burning authorized materials), may result in a request to extinguish the fire. Planning an open burn according to where other neighbors live and monitoring wind directions will reduce the chance of smoke creating a nuisance.
