

The Snow Lake Volunteer Fire Department was chartered on July 30, 1976, by the Secretary of State.

The incorporators were Flake Farmer, I.N. Smith, and Ted Bruehl. It was and continues to be a nonprofit and a No-Shares issued business. The original fire station was located on Lake Shore Dr. in what is now being used as the maintenance shop by the Town of Snow Lake Shores.

The original fire truck was a surplus 1946 military fire truck. The Department then upgraded to a 1959 Mack fire truck, followed by a 1969 American LaFrance which remained in service until in 1996. Our first new truck was received through a State of Mississippi grant. It was a 1996 Ford F800 pumper with a 1,000 gallon water tank and 1,000 gallon per minute pump. The truck was built by GATCO Fire Trucks of Greenwood, MS. and is still in use by the Department.

The Snow Lake Shores Fire District was established, which led to a new revenue source. The Department moved into our present station in 1997. The Ladies Auxiliary's donation of \$25,000, helped fund and furnish the station. There have been two additions to the station to provide temporary housing for the Benton County Ambulance Service and additional equipment for the Department. We have hosted State of Mississippi Firefighter Classes at the station, plus ongoing fire fighting and first responder training at our meetings

The Department has been the recipient of several FEMA grants that have enabled us to better equip ourselves. The grants were:

- 2004 grant for firefighter safety equipment
- 2006 grant for a 2006 Kenworth pumper/tanker with a 2,500 gallon capacity. This truck is still in use by the department.
- 2007 Fire Prevention grant allowing us to distribute over 700 smoke detectors to Snow Lake and our Benton County service area

We have also received several MS Forestry Commission grants for wildland firefighting equipment.

Several additions have been made to our firefighting and first responder equipment:

- A 1986 Chevrolet pickup donated by the MS Forestry Commission used to fight grass fires
- A 1986 Ford F700 donated by Greenlawn which was used as Water Tanker
- A 2000 Dodge D350 replaced the 1986 Chevrolet as our grass fire and wildland truck. This truck is still in use by the department.
- A 2003 Ford F150 donated by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. which we use as our medical and service truck. This truck is still in use by the department.
- A 2006 Ford Explorer donated by the Town of Snow Lake that we use as a medical truck. This truck is still in use by the department.
- A 2010 Polaris Ranger which we use in wildland and medical situations. This vehicle is still in use by the department.

Over the past several years, the Department has hosted several Community events including:

- Santa Claus at Fire Station for children and grandchildren of Snow Lakers
- Easter egg hunt with the Easter Bunny at the Fire Station for children and grandchildren of Snow Lakers
- CPR/AED classes at the Fire Station for Snow Lakers
- Open Hose at the Fire Station
- First Responders day at Snow Lake for Benton County Fire Fighters, EMTs and Law Enforcement personnel