



# Grant County Fire District No. 8

## Volunteer Recruitment Brochure

To protect life, property, and the environment...

MARCH 2019

### Grant County Fire District 8

#### **Station 81 and**

#### **Business Office:**

510 E Government Road  
PO Box 1728  
Mattawa, WA 99349  
(509) 932-4777 office  
(509) 932-4747 fax  
www.gcfid8.net

#### **Station 82:**

7 Desert Aire Drive SW  
Mattawa, WA 99349  
(509) 932-4746 fax

#### **Station 83:**

24062 Road J SW  
Mattawa, WA 99349

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## Your Neighbor's House is on FIRE!

### WOULDN'T YOU WANT TO DO MORE THAN WATCH?

Of course you would want to help! How to help? Become a volunteer firefighter! It is a great way to do something important and to make a real difference, for your community, and for yourself.

However, as a volunteer firefighter, you will need more than just a desire to help people. You will also need courage, enthusiasm, dedication and a willingness to learn new skills and face new challenges.

If you feel that you have these qualities, we would like the opportunity to discuss



your becoming involved with our organization.

Watching can be a helpless feeling. However, helping can give you a tremendous feeling! You can make a difference!

## Welcome...

We are your providers of fire suppression, emergency medical services, and public safety education in the Mattawa and Desert Aire communities along with the outlying areas south of the Saddle Mountains along the Columbia River.

This brochure was prepared for you, the potential volunteer, to show you who we are and what we do. We hope to explain our services to the community, the pride we take in our operations, and the reasons you might be interested in joining us.

Our operations rely on skilled personnel to perform the services we provide our community. As you read this, you will see how we are organized and, perhaps, choose a specialty that is best suited to you and to our agency.

Nationwide, fire and emergency medical services have become increasingly complex. Keeping a District and its personnel trained in state-of-the-art skills requires commitment. As a volunteer, you can expect to receive weekly training, or more if you have time. You will spend varied amounts of time responding to emergency incidents.

We encourage you to consider working with us to maintain the quality of our operations, and help provide this crucial service to our community. WE NEED YOUR HELP! If you are interested and willing to make the commitment to serve your community through the District, please call us at 509-932-4777. We will be glad to discuss the opportunities and the application process with you.

# Letter from the Fire Chief

Fellow Citizens:

As Chief of this Fire District, I am committed to providing the most effective and efficient fire protection and emergency medical services for you and those who visit our area. Within the realm of fire and EMS, it has been proven repeatedly that the most efficient and cost-effective type of agency is the combination volunteer and career agency.

This type of agency combines the guaranteed daytime response of the career firefighters and EMTs with response of volunteers during the evening hours and on weekends. This use of trained

volunteers allows us to place a greater number of responders in the field while reducing the cost impact of service delivery. The outcome is of real value to each of you and it is something that we wish to maintain and improve. This can only happen with your involvement.

Participation as a volunteer with our organization is a highly rewarding endeavor with high levels of personal satisfaction. Volunteers experience a tremendous sense of accomplishment after a job well done. The volunteer's contribution to the community is a

valuable service that has the potential to touch all of us.

Once you understand what is involved, the rewards and the need to become a member of our agency, I hope you will make the commitment to join. In doing so, you will be making a truly valuable contribution to your fellow citizens.

Sincerely,

  
Fire Chief

## Opportunities

When you think of your District, do you think of a fire engine responding? At the District, we provide many services, all of which are important to reducing fire and life hazards in our community.

Many of your personal skills may be useful to the District. All services are challenging. The ingredients you add to the mix are your time, talents, enthusiasm and experience...we supply all the training and opportunity.

A wide range of disciplines is necessary in a well-run District. Among them are:

### *Firefighter*

Become a firefighter and be trained in structure and wildland fire suppression. You will have the opportunity to respond to virtually all fire calls within our area and when we are called for mutual aid assistance in the County. The firefighter is often called upon to assist in emergency medical calls as well.



### *Emergency Medical Services*

Become certified as an Emergency Medical Technician. You will have the opportunity to respond to virtually all medical emergencies within your assigned area. The emergency medical technician is often called upon to make the ultimate difference between life and death!



### *Scene Support Specialists*



Scene support specialist positions help provide additional skilled personnel during fire suppression activities or medical emergencies to relieve firefighters and EMTs so they can perform other tasks. These positions are Driver/Pump Operator, Rehab, Traffic Control, and Translator.

Our volunteers help prevent problems before they start by being active within their community.

# Accomplishments & Recognition

The District and your community do appreciate your time, effort, and commitment. Besides a handshake and a “thank you,” the District tries to reward its volunteers with recognition. We provide personal protective equipment to all our volunteers as well as provide them with annual reimbursement for the expenses they incur while responding. Currently, the reimbursement is based on a points system that factors in participation with a minimum response level of 10% or greater of all calls.

The District holds an annual appreciation banquet each

January that brings together community leaders and our members. During this evening, we recognize individuals for their contributions to our community through the fire service.

There are many opportunities to achieve several accomplishments and skills. You will learn skills you can develop nowhere else.

If you enjoy fire suppression and prevention, you will learn and practice fire suppression skills that could help save the lives and property of your friends, family, and neighbors.

If you enjoy the medical service field, you will acquire skills that could save the life of a friend or family member in the future.

In addition, you will find that doing any of these things will give you a new sense of pride.



Appreciation Dinner

## Social Activities

Our Volunteer Firefighters Auxiliary Association hosts fund raising events throughout the year, such as a golf tournament and car washes. They also assist with other events including the Desert



Aire Golf Cart Parade on Independence Day, Mattawa CommUNITY Day parade in August, Trunk or Treat for Halloween, Holiday Kids Tree Project, and the Holiday Festival in December. These are fun times for the whole family.

The Auxiliary is also called upon to help provide meals for extended operations calls such as wildland fires. District personnel coordinate these efforts with any and all help being appreciated very much.



## Training

The District strives to handle each emergency in a safe and expeditious manner. To that end, the District provides the training volunteers need.

New volunteers must complete recruit training before they can respond to emergencies. The first element is done here at the District and consists of a recruit preparatory class. The next part entails attending the “Burn to Learn” segment. For Emergency Medical Technicians, training is provided out of district after

completion of the first element of recruitment training and upon completion of the probationary period. Upon completion of a six-month probationary period, you will become one of the select few who are part of the Fire Service Family.

In order to maintain skill levels and proficiency, volunteers are required to attend a minimum of 40 hours of fire training each year. The District conducts weekly skill maintenance training each Wednesday night. Since

there are many aspects to training, the District conducts training alternating between fire training and EMS training, with one all-member training per month. Each of these tracks is designed to meet the needs of the specialties and the people involved.

Training outside of the District is available to all volunteers and is encouraged with approval from the Training Officer. The District pays the expenses while the volunteer makes the time.

## GRANT COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 8

510 E Government Road  
PO Box 1728  
Mattawa, WA 99349

Phone: 509-932-4777



*To protect life, property, and the environment.*

**We are on the WEB:**

**[www.gcf8.net](http://www.gcf8.net)**



**If you have an emergency, always**

**CALL  
9-1-1**

## Benefits for You and Our Community

The District provides on-duty life and medical insurance, as well as pension benefits through the Board of Volunteer Firefighters for firefighters and EMTs. A volunteer with 20 years' service qualifies for a pension benefit of \$310.00 per month. The District reimburses its volunteers on a point system. For each training attended and each call responded to, points are awarded and reimbursement is made accordingly. We also provide members with air ambulance service membership for members and their immediate family after a



year of service along with accident insurance, group term life insurance, and group AD&D insurance.

The District staff are proud of our organization. We would like to be able to share this experience with you. A staff member is ready, willing, and able to discuss your future with us and how we might best meet your needs in becoming a volunteer, someone who truly makes a difference in people's lives and gives to our community.

Come by the Business Office today! We'd love to meet you!