

District News

A community newsletter brought to you by Lewis County Fire District Six

Volume 8, Issue 1 June 2022



YOUR FIRE & EMS PROTECTION

Facts About Your Fire District

The 2010 population of Lewis County was 75,502 and has seen a growth of **11.42%** and is now at 84,121; this number is expected to climb to 100,000 by 2025.

Does the Increase in Population Mean an Increase in Fire Districts Service Calls?

- 2017—788 Calls for Service
- 2021—942 Calls for Service (17% Growth)

DID YOU KNOW THESE FACTS ABOUT HEART ATTACKS?

- The American Heart Association time compliance for heart attacks response standard for EMT/Paramedics is 8 minutes
- Irreversible brain damage starts to set in after 8 minutes
- A heart attack victim's chances of survival are reduced by 7%-10% with every passing minute without Advanced Life Support (paramedics)
- Few attempts at resuscitation succeed after 10 minutes
- NFPA Standard 1720 (which applies to suburban/rural combination volunteer/full-time staff departments) for EMS recommends an 8 minute response to 90% of the EMS Incidents

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM A WILDFIRE

- Trim vegetation so the fire department can have safe access to your home
- Keep vegetation, including the lawn around your home, low and green
- Beauty bark will smolder. Use it away from the home
- Make sure your home has a non-flammable roof and deck
- Eliminate fire fuels within 30 feet of your home
- Burn safely. Carefully monitor and follow burn restrictions, bans, and wildfire risk

Preparing yourself, your family, and your home are key. Be proactive in receiving information about fires that could affect you. Sign up for Lewis County Alert (lewiscountywa.gov/em) as well as follow social media sites that disseminate fire news and evacuation warnings. In the event of wildfire, it's imperative citizens are familiar with the evacuation levels.

- **Level 1:** Alert
- **Level 2:** Ready
- **Level 3:** Leave Immediately

For more information about preparing your family and home, visit our website at www.lcfd6.org.

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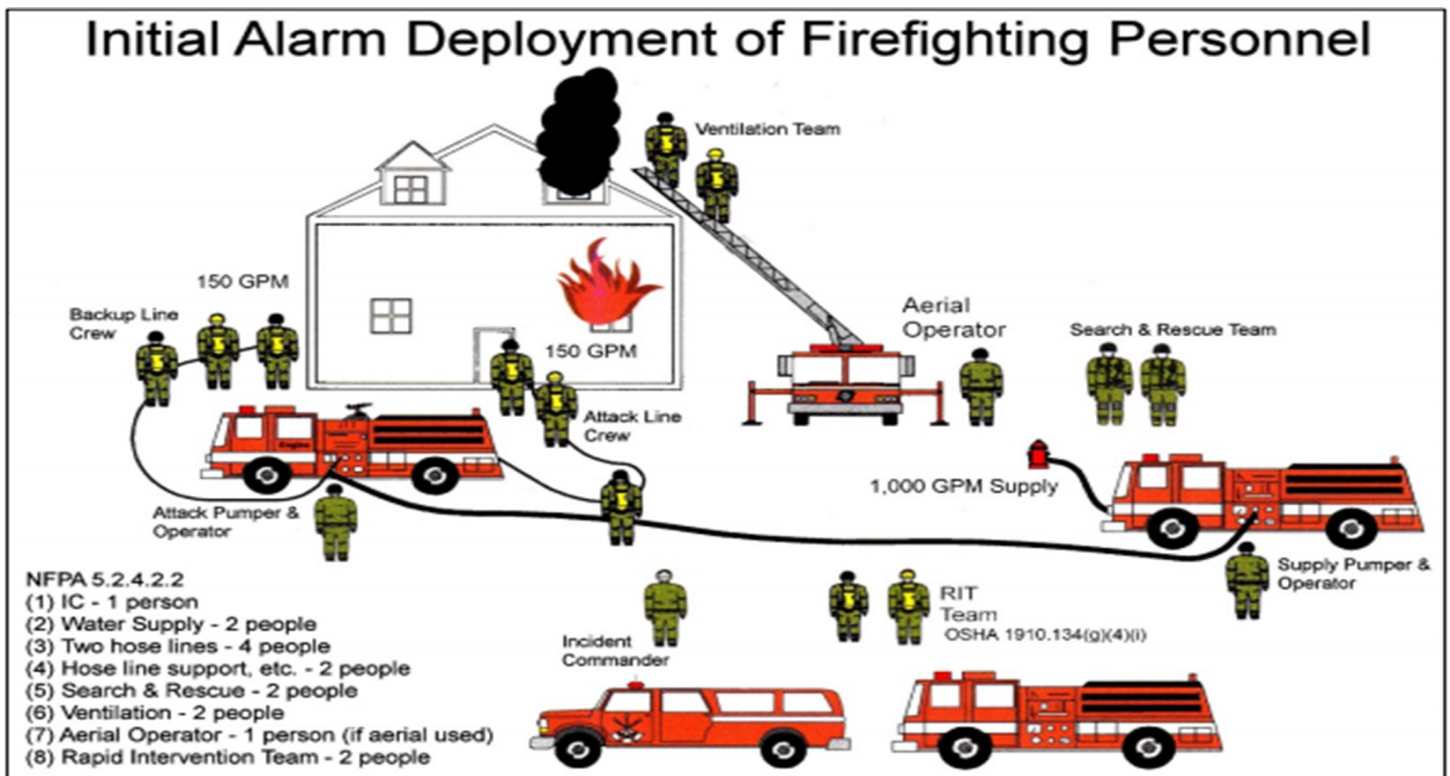
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DID YOU KNOW THESE FACTS ABOUT RESIDENTIAL FIRES?

- A fire in a house doubles in size every minute
- House fires are more deadly today than in 1960
- A house today goes to flashover in as little as 8 minutes (flashover is when all combustible materials exposed to intense heat rapidly and simultaneously ignite); where a house built in 1960 went to flashover in 40 minutes
- Fires in homes today burn 39% hotter than fires in homes in 1960
- Today fires are more toxic and hotter because of petrol-chemical loading (plastics) in homes



- It takes at least 15 firefighters to carry out the critical task of fighting fires in a home. A 1991 study by the NFPA, National Fire Academy, Seattle, Austin, and seven Phoenix fire departments concluded that 15 firefighters are needed at a structure fire in order to safely carry out offensive interior operations safely and effectively
- Washington State WAC 296.305.05002 States that firefighters must not engage in interior structural firefighting in the absence of at least two firefighters which are on standby outside
- Fire District Six responds with three agencies to any structure fires that occur within the district. With a three district response, we get an average of six total firefighters on a structure fire
- Volunteers programs are in decline because of the time commitments required today. A commitment of 24 hours a month or 240 hours a year are required for training. In addition, we require volunteers to pull at least 24 hours shift time a month. These shifts provide critical coverage to areas of the district with a higher response time from our full-time staffed station.
- Lewis County Fire District #6 covers 145 square miles
- Volunteers previously responded to call backs on an average .06% of the time from 2018—2022

FIRE DISTRICT STATISTICS

Volunteer Response to Emergencies

Average Percent of Participation Per Year: 0.60% of time.

2019 Total Calls: 917 - Volunteers Responded to Call Backs: 35 Times

2020 Total Calls: 818 - Volunteers responded to Call Backs: 31 Times

2021 Total Calls: 942 - Volunteers responded to Call Backs: 63 Times

Volunteer Drill Attendance (Average Hours):

2019	2020	2021
25.72	67.78	51.82

We have been working hard to improve drill attendance over the last three years for our volunteer staff, but we still have more work to do!

Volunteer Hours Pulled per Station in 2021:

Station 61: 132 hrs. (Station staffed 24/7 with career staff)

Station 62: 36 hrs. (Station staffed with career staff as available)

Station 63: 0 hrs.

Station 64: 0 hrs. (Station does not have crew quarters for shift work)

Average Fire District Response Times:

	2020	2021
Station 61 - 2123 Jackson Hwy (Chehalis)	6:47	6:30
Station 62 - 268 Dieckman Rd (Adna)	12:07	14:02
Station 63 - 736 Login Hill Rd (Chehalis)	14:11	14:48
Station 64 - 114 Galaxie Rd (Newaukum)	11:34	11:48

2021 Mutual Aid Calls (Assistance Provided to Other Agencies)

Lewis County Fire District #5 (Napavine) - 1

Lewis County Fire District #13 (Boistfort) - 1

Riverside Fire Authority (Centralia) - 2

Chehalis Fire Department (Chehalis- Within City Limits) - 9

TOWNHALL MEETING!

Fire Chief Ken Cardinale will be conducting a townhall meeting in July. This meeting will be held to answer any questions our citizens may have regarding fire service, emergency medical services, and plans for the future.

Once an official date has been set, a news release will be made to the local news outlets and our social media sites.

We encourage everyone to attend!



**LEWIS COUNTY FIRE
DISTRICT SIX**

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Administration Staff

Ken Cardinale: Fire Chief
Patrick Smith: A/C—MSO

Board of Fire Commissioners

Colin Mason Chair
Greg Greene
James Martin

We're on the WEB!

www.lcfd6.org

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Next Issues:

We will be laying out the improvements that we have made to date and the plans that we have for the future to meet the service demands that we presently experience. In addition, we will be laying out the plans for recommended changes necessary to meet the projected service needs for the future of your fire district.

Ken Cardinale, Fire Chief

Fire District 6 is a combination fire district, meaning it employs career firefighters as well as volunteer firefighters. With four stations spread across 145 square miles, nearly 8,000 citizens, and over 950 calls for service annually, the Fire District is actively seeking volunteers. Our stations include:

- **Station 61:** Jackson Highway—Staffed 24/7 with 2-3 career firefighters.
- **Station 62:** Dieckman Road—Volunteer station with the ability for volunteers to be placed on shifts or respond from home. *Station is not currently staffed.*
- **Station 63:** Logan Hill Road—Volunteer station with the ability for volunteers to work shifts during the day or respond from home. *Station is not currently staffed.*
- **Station 64:** Galaxie Road—Volunteer station where volunteers respond from home. Station does not have crew quarters, therefore the *Station is not staffed.*

Volunteers obtain training and experience in the fire service. Under the direction of the fire chief, training has been improved and will continue to improve to provide better service to our community. Our volunteers receive credit points that are applied to their overall testing score in the hiring process. Our volunteers receive credits for their service and tenure. Our goal is to hire the best individual for a position. By doing this, we have the ability to observe the work ethic, attitude, and mechanical aptitude that is needed for the position of firefighter/EMT. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter or volunteer firefighter/EMT, apply today. Applications are available online at www.lcfd6.org or at Fire District 6 headquarters on Jackson Highway. Applicants must be 18 years old to apply.

Lewis County Fire District Six is an equal-opportunity employer and complies with all federal and state rules and regulations. The Fire District does not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, or disability.