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## A Message From The Chief

Fall 2023

Thank you for taking the time to read the first-ever Fire District # 6 newsletter. My name is Andy Lee and I am the new Fire Chief. I took over leadership of your Fire District in January of 2023. I served 27 years as a Volunteer Firefighter in this district which includes 8 years as Volunteer Assistant Fire Chief.

Our Volunteer Fire Service is made up of 50 Volunteers working out of 4 stations in Monitor, Dryden, Peshastin and Valley Hi. We contract with the City of Cashmere Fire Department for EMS response in the Fire District #6 service area that immediately surrounds the Cashmere city limits.

Fire District #6 is an all-Volunteer agency with the exception of myself, a 2-person summer-time wildfire crew (Austin Sabedra and Salvador Guerrero joined us this year), and Amanda Floren our part-time admin assistant.

The men and women volunteering to serve our

fire district strive to provide the best emergency service possible. We respond to a wide variety of emergencies including fires, emergency medical services, rescue

incidents, motor vehicle accidents or any other emergency that may occur. Our dedicated volunteers are a competent and caring group of local citizens willing to make personal sacrifices for the protection and good of our communities. With your support we will continue to improve the Fire District to meet the many challenges that lie ahead and will remain focused on protecting your communities.

Thank you for reading our newsletter. I welcome questions and visits and would be glad to take you on a tour of our fire stations. **Please contact me at 509-663-1678 or via email: [a\\_lee@ccfd6.net](mailto:a_lee@ccfd6.net)**



## Keeping Our Communities Safe

We responded to 623 9-1-1 calls in 2022; 647 so far this year (approximately 2 calls per day). This represents a 27% increase in calls over the past 4 years. We only have one paid firefighter (Fire Chief) and rely on Volunteer Firefighters to respond to help mitigate these distress calls. Our firefighters get a \$10 stipend for each 9-1-1 call they respond to. Chief Lee responds to the "tone out" for 9-1-1 calls as quickly as he can (from the office during the day, from his home in Dryden at night). He seeks to arrive on scene quickly to assess the situation and formulate a plan. Volunteers respond from their homes & jobs and bring the appropriate apparatus for the incident (engine, tender or brush truck). "I never know if a sufficient number of volunteers will respond and arrive to incident scenes in time to help control a structure fire or save a life at a motor vehicle accident," says Chief Lee.





# Your Volunteer Firefighters Are Dedicated



We have 50 volunteer firefighters & 6 EMTs. 8 of our volunteers have served for 20+ years; 6 for 10+ years.

We have 9 new recruits who have contributed 150 hours learning to be firefighter/EMTs for us.

Your volunteers donated 1103 hours last year!

## Volunteer Spotlight

**Robert Turner** is a Volunteer firefighter/EMT with a big-heart. He has responded to emergency calls from the 7,314 residents in our fire district since 1995 (28 years). During 2023 he has personally responded to 301 of your 9-1-1 calls for assistance. Volunteers receive a \$10 stipend each time they go on a call. Robert has declined the \$310 he has earned this year, and instead has donated it back to the fire district to help with apparatus maintenance costs.

During Covid he dedicated himself to keeping our communities safe. As a result, he was unable to see his grandkids for 2 years because he was afraid of passing the virus along to them. He is now trying to make-up-for-lost-time with them and hopes to retire from firefighting in the next year or so.

When asked “why he volunteers”, Robert replies “to help my neighbors and give-back to my community.” He also enjoys helping to train and mentor our new firefighter recruits and the camaraderie of shar-

ing time with his 50 fellow firefighters.

Sometimes upon arrival at a call, he gets asked “what took you folks so long to get here”? He replies “We are all volunteers responding from home or our job sites and then we must stop by the fire station to pick up a vehicle and gear. This all takes time. We are a dedicated crew, we show up and do what we can, when we can.”

Firefighters sometimes witness distressing incidents that are hard to forget. After responding to these traumatic calls, Robert follows up with each Volunteer the next day to ensure they are doing okay; he says talking helps us to process these incidents and prepares our volunteers to respond to your next emergency call.

Next time you see Robert Turner or any of our volunteers, please take the time to thank them for their time and effort in keeping us all safe!



## Your Fire Commissioners

**Tim Larson**, Monitor

**Bob Wildfang**, Monitor

**Dave Nichols**, Cashmere

**Dave is retiring after 27 years of service.**  
*Thank you Dave!*

**Fire Commissioner meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Monitor Fire Station at 7 pm.**



# Chelan County Fire District #6

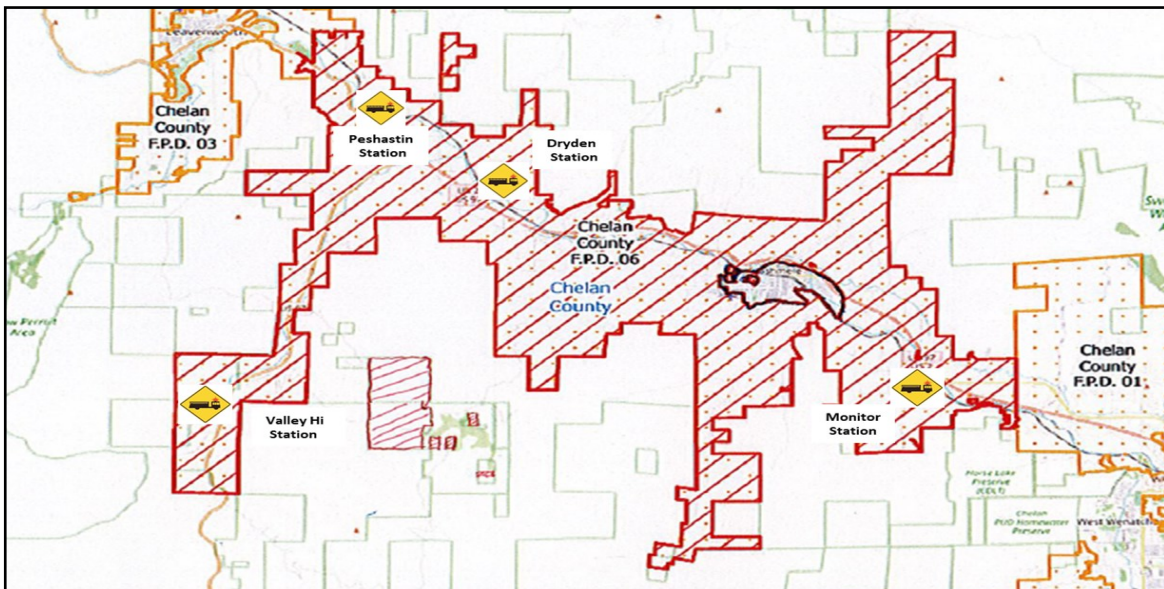
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## RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

### Chelan County Fire District # 6 Service Area



Chelan County Fire District # 6 provides emergency response services to an area covering 45 square miles and includes a population of over 7,314 residents. Our response area includes the towns of Dryden, Monitor and Peshastin. In addition, we service outlying unincorporated areas of Chelan County adjacent to these towns as well as those surrounding the City of Cashmere. We rely upon a volunteer staff of 50 individuals along with Chief Andy Lee to protect residents and visitors to our communities.

#### **Volunteers Needed-Community Building Opportunities:**

Fire Fighters and EMS Providers  
Grief Counselor for Firefighters/EMTs  
Website Manager  
Snow Removal and Shoveling: (Pick your nearest station to help!)  
Apparatus & Equipment cleaning and safety checks (join a work party).  
Other Talents Welcome: What skills can you share with us?

#### **Contact Chief Andy Lee**

#### **To Volunteer:**

509-663-1678

Email: [a\\_lee@ccfd6.net](mailto:a_lee@ccfd6.net)