



# La Pine Rural Fire Protection District

51590 Huntington Rd  
Post Office Box 10  
La Pine, OR 97739  
Phone 541.536.2935  
Fax 541.536.2627  
[www.lapinefire.org](http://www.lapinefire.org)

Dear Property Owner:

Your residence is located within the boundaries of La Pine Rural Fire Protection District. This letter is to inform you that the load limits recently changed on the bridge located on Wood Duck Court into your housing development prevents the La Pine Fire District's emergency response apparatus (engines, ladders, and water tenders) and our outside aid companies from crossing the bridge.

The Fire District has made contact with your homeowner's association and Deschutes County to provide notice of the need for reconstruction and engineering to support future fire apparatus access and our current fire response limitations.

We are sending you this notice to advise you of the impacts of this recent change, which is necessary to ensure the safety of our personnel, apparatus, and to protect our ability to respond to future community service needs without delay. We want to ensure you that a **response** from the Fire District **will occur** but this issue will cause operational delays and require a change in some strategy and tactics. Multiple avenues to deliver service within these restrictions are being explored and considered at this time.

We are recommending that homeowners effected by this change assess your risk closely and take additional steps to provide for your own fire and personal safety. Please consider the following:

- a. Maintain working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- b. Maintain working extinguishers
- c. Maintain all heating devices and space between devices and combustibles to include cleaning and inspection of chimneys and wood stoves
- d. Stay away from using portable heating devices
- e. Don't overload electrical appliances and circuits
- f. Use flashlights when in need and stay away from using candles
- g. Create and practice a fire escape plan and have escape ladders in each room on the second floor
- h. Plan ahead for the evacuation of persons with disabilities
- i. Maintain your own egress capabilities for single and multi-story homes
- j. Maintain defensible space around your home in summer and winter



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The La Pine Fire District and Oregon State Fire Marshals Office is willing to meet with the association to discuss what options the association and homeowners may have to provide for fire responses into this area until such time the bridge can be brought up to fire department apparatus standards.

Sincerely,

*Erick Holsey*

Erick Holsey  
Fire Chief  
La Pine Rural Fire Protection District

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*Pride Service Dedication*

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