

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

RETIREMENTS:



Congratulations to **Deputy Chief Craig Clinton** on his retirement after 35 years in the fire service. SRFR thanks him for his many years of leadership.

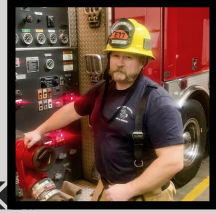


Congratulations to **Firefighter Paramedic Jon Dudder** on his retirement after 32 years in the fire service.

PROMOTIONS:



Congratulations to newly promoted **Driver Operator Jesse Abercrombie**.



Congratulations to newly promoted **Driver Operator Stacy Arnold**.



Congratulations to newly promoted **District Administrative Coordinator Mel Jenkins**.



Congratulations to newly promoted **Public Information Education Officer Kaitlin King**.



Congratulations to newly promoted **Human Resources Analyst Denise Mattern**.

NEW HIRES:

Join us in welcoming our new **Human Resources Assistant Isa Quevedo**.



Join us in welcoming our new **Logistics Technician Tim Cheetham**.



PREVENTION CORNER: DRIVING IN WET WEATHER

As residents of western Washington, we are no strangers to the many forms of rain. In the Pacific Northwest, the winter months are often filled with more rainy days than snowy ones. Even though rain is more familiar than snow or ice, it requires just as much caution when we are out on the road. According to the American Automobile Association (AAA), "wet pavement contributes to nearly 1.2 million traffic crashes each year." Surprisingly, rain is the deadliest weather related road hazard in the U.S. and surpasses snow, ice, and sleet by almost 40%. Because of this, it is important to practice safe driving when the roads are wet.

Washington State Department of Transportation & Snohomish County PUD provide the following tips to remember the next time you're caught driving in the rain or wind.

Wet Weather Driving Tips

- Slow down.
- Leave extra room between cars.
- Allow extra time to reach destinations.
- Turn on headlights.
- Watch for water pooling on the roadway.
- Turn off cruise control.

Flooding: Turn Around. Don't Drown.

- Obey detour and closure signs. Never drive around a barricade.
- Do not drive or walk through standing water if you can't tell how deep it is.
- Six inches of water is enough to knock a person down and will stall most vehicles.
- One foot of water can make you lose control of your vehicle.
- Two feet of water can sweep a vehicle away, even SUVs and trucks.

Hydroplaning Recovery

- Don't panic.
- Avoid hard braking and quick turns.
- Ease off the gas, lightly pump brakes (or use consistent pressure if ABS).

Downed Power Lines

- Do not approach fallen power lines! They could carry enough electricity to prove fatal. Stay at least 30 feet away, and if you see a fallen power line, call Snohomish County PUD at 425-783-1001 to report the location.
- Always assume a power line is live.
- Do not touch anything or anyone in contact with a fallen power line.
- If a downed power line touches your car, stay inside. Honk your horn, roll down your window and call for help or call 911. Wait for the fire department or utility workers to tell you it's safe to exit.
 - If you must leave due to fire risk, remove loose clothing, and jump clear of the vehicle so you're not touching the vehicle when you land. Shuffle away without picking up your feet. No matter what, keep feet together.
- If you see a tree that could impact the power line, call Snohomish County PUD at 425-783-1001.

Learn more at: www.WSDOT.com




SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER

SCOUT DAY at the Fire Station

Open to all scout groups and community

- First Aid & CPR
- Fire Safety
- Disaster Preparedness
- And More!

Marysville Fire District
Saturday, March 11th 10AM-12PM

PREVENTION

Share the message of prevention

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue
Saturday, February 18th, 11AM-1PM

Downtown Lake Stevens Fire Station 81

SNOCOSCOUT DAY

Share the message of prevention

Marysville Fire District
Saturday, March 11th 10AM-12PM

Shoules Fire Station 62

TIPS TO KEEP SAFE WHILE PLAYING IN THE COLD

KIDS CORNER

Wear warm clothing, and come indoors periodically to prevent hypothermia or frostbite.

Make sure to use the proper gear, like helmets. When you are skiing, snowboarding or playing ice hockey.

Even though it's cold outside, it's important to use sunscreen and stay hydrated. Compared to adults, children have higher risk of dehydration.

CONNECT WITH US: @SnoRegionalFire

360.794.7666

www.SRFR.org

Customer Postal ECRWSS

163 Village Court
Monroe WA 98272

SRFR logo

PAID US Postage PRRST STD Sound Publishing, Inc. 98204

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Neighbor,

Because of the incredible support we have in our community, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR) has been recommended for accreditation by the Center for Public Safety Excellence's Commission on Fire Accreditation International. The accreditation process assesses everything that the Fire District does from emergency response programs to financial stewardship and business processes. Accredited agencies have faster response times which reduce property losses during fires and lives lost during medical emergencies. It also will improve our public protection class rating, which is linked to what you pay in homeowner fire insurance premiums.

There are only seven agencies in Washington that have accomplished this level of excellence, two of which are the Department of Defense. This has been a team effort led by Assistant Chief Mike Messer. In some form, every member of SRFR contributed to this success. It is important to note that the accreditation process never stops, SRFR will always seek continuous improvement so we can best serve our amazing community.

We are making good on our commitments to the community in regard to the voter-approved fire levy lid lift last year. For example, we are hiring new firefighters and emergency personnel to replace those who have retired or transferred to provide the level of service our community requires. Like most professions in the nation, the labor pool is tight, and we are putting our best foot forward to attract the top-scoring candidates who will serve the community with compassion and dedication.

Some important projects are moving forward. We will remodel Station 83 on Division Street in Machias once permits are approved and the design is underway to expand the vehicle maintenance facility at our Monroe Headquarters. In 2023, we are planning an extensive remodel or rebuild of Station 81 in downtown Lake Stevens and are looking to purchase property to relocate Station 32 to better serve residents in the Chain Lake and North Monroe area.

I will never stop singing the praises of the team we have here at SRFR. As your fire chief, I want you to know how hard everyone works - behind the scenes or on the scene of an emergency - to care for you, your family and loved ones. Thank you for partnering with us to save lives, protect property, safeguard the environment, and take care of people.

With sincere appreciation,
Kevin K. O'Brien
Your Fire Chief



CALLING 9-1-1

What to expect when calling for help:

Many people know the number to call when you encounter a serious emergency, but some do not know what to expect when you call 911. Our countywide dispatch, Snohomish County 911 (Sno911) says, "When you call 911 the first thing you will be asked is to provide the exact location of the emergency and for your phone number. Our 911 operators are trained to ask a series of questions that can help determine what type of response to send, how many responders and whether both law enforcement, fire and EMS units are needed. Our 911 operators can also provide life-saving medical guidance over the phone before first responders arrive."

When calling 911, you want to be ready to share information about the emergency and about your location. You want to stay on the phone until help arrives or until the dispatcher tells you that you can hang up. Generally you want to call 911 **for serious medical problems** (chest pain, seizure, bleeding, serious injury, loss of consciousness), **any type of fire** (business, car, building), **any life-threatening situation** (fights, person with weapons, etc.), or **to report crimes in progress**.



Sign up for Smart 911! Give 911 the information they need to help you fast.

ON YOUR BALLOT:

Request to Maintain a Seven Member Board

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue is asking voters to **consider maintaining the current number of Fire Commissioners at seven positions**. Fire commissioners are elected from the community and make policies for the district, as well as manage and conduct business affairs.

SRFR is the second largest fire agency in Snohomish County serving approximately 160,000 people. Most fire agencies our size have a seven- or nine-member Board of Fire Commissioners. These include South County Fire to our west and North County Fire & EMS to the north. King County has at least three agencies, including Eastside Fire, Valley Regional Fire, and Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority, that have boards our size or larger with seven to nine board members.

SRFR will have a measure on the **February 14, 2023 Special Election** ballot to maintain a seven-member Board of Fire Commissioners. Previous merger language with a neighboring district had called for reducing the board to five positions. A seven-member board is appropriate for our population and provides better representation for the number of residents and businesses we serve.



FEBRUARY 14TH SPECIAL ELECTION

PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Resolve to be ready this New Year.

In our continued efforts to create a safer community, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue offers a variety of community education and prevention programs to the communities we serve. We believe in preventing injuries & emergencies before they even happen. Learn more by using the QR codes or by visiting our website at www.SRFR.org.



School Visits

Each school year, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue partners with our local schools, from preschool to high school, to deliver age-specific fire & life safety lessons to students. Our lessons are fun and engaging, and aligned with the fire safety curriculum designed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). If you would like us to visit a private school or homeschool group, please go to our website, www.SRFR.org, and submit a request.



Home Education Lessons

For those that prefer to learn at home, we have 17 different video lessons that are fun for the whole family.

VIDEOS INCORPORATE:

- State Learning Standards:
 - Next Generation Science Standards
 - Common Core State Standards
 - Washington State Teaching Standards
- Science, Math, Music, & Social Studies Concepts
- Worksheets & Interactive Experiments & Activities

VIDEOS HIGHLIGHT:

- Safety Messages
- Firefighter Careers, Special Teams, and Skills



Adult & Senior Safety Classes

We want to make sure you feel prepared for any emergency or disaster that may come your way. Because of this, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue offers virtual adult and senior safety classes. Our 2023 class schedule is as follows. Use the QR Code, or visit www.SRFR.org to learn more and sign up for a class!

Disaster Preparedness Aging in Place Home Fire Safety

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| • January 11 | • February 8 | • March 8 |
| • April 12 | • May 10 | • December 13 |
| • July 12 | • August 9 | |
| • October 11 | • November 8 | |



PulsePoint Respond



In partnership with the Medic One Foundation, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue offers PulsePoint Respond to our residents. PulsePoint Respond is an app designed to improve cardiac arrest survival rates through increased bystander CPR performance. This smart phone app empowers the public to provide lifesaving assistance for victims of sudden cardiac arrest before first responders arrive. Download the app today!



Bike Helmets

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue provides FREE bike and multisport helmets throughout the year at various events throughout our district. Follow our social media pages for updates about the next bike helmet event near you! Need a bike helmet but cannot afford one? Contact us at CommunityRelations@SRFR.org, and we may be able to help. Please note that supplies are limited.



Life Jackets



Need to borrow a life jacket? Free loaner life jackets are available at **Station 31, 163 Village Court, Monroe, WA 98272**. Come to the fire station with the person who needs the life jacket. There, you can get fitted, borrow the jacket, and return it when you are done. Remember, when having fun out on the water, everyone should wear a properly fitted life jacket.



2023 Community Events

Save the date for some of our upcoming 2023 events!

- **February 18th:** Scout Open House, Station 81, Lake Stevens
- **July 11th:** SRFR Water Safety Camp, Lake Tye
- **July 17th:** SRFR Water Safety Camp, Lundeen Park
- **July 28th-30th:** Aquafest, Lake Stevens
- **August 1st:** National Night Out, Multiple Locations
- **October 14th:** Fire Prevention Week Open House, Station 31, Monroe