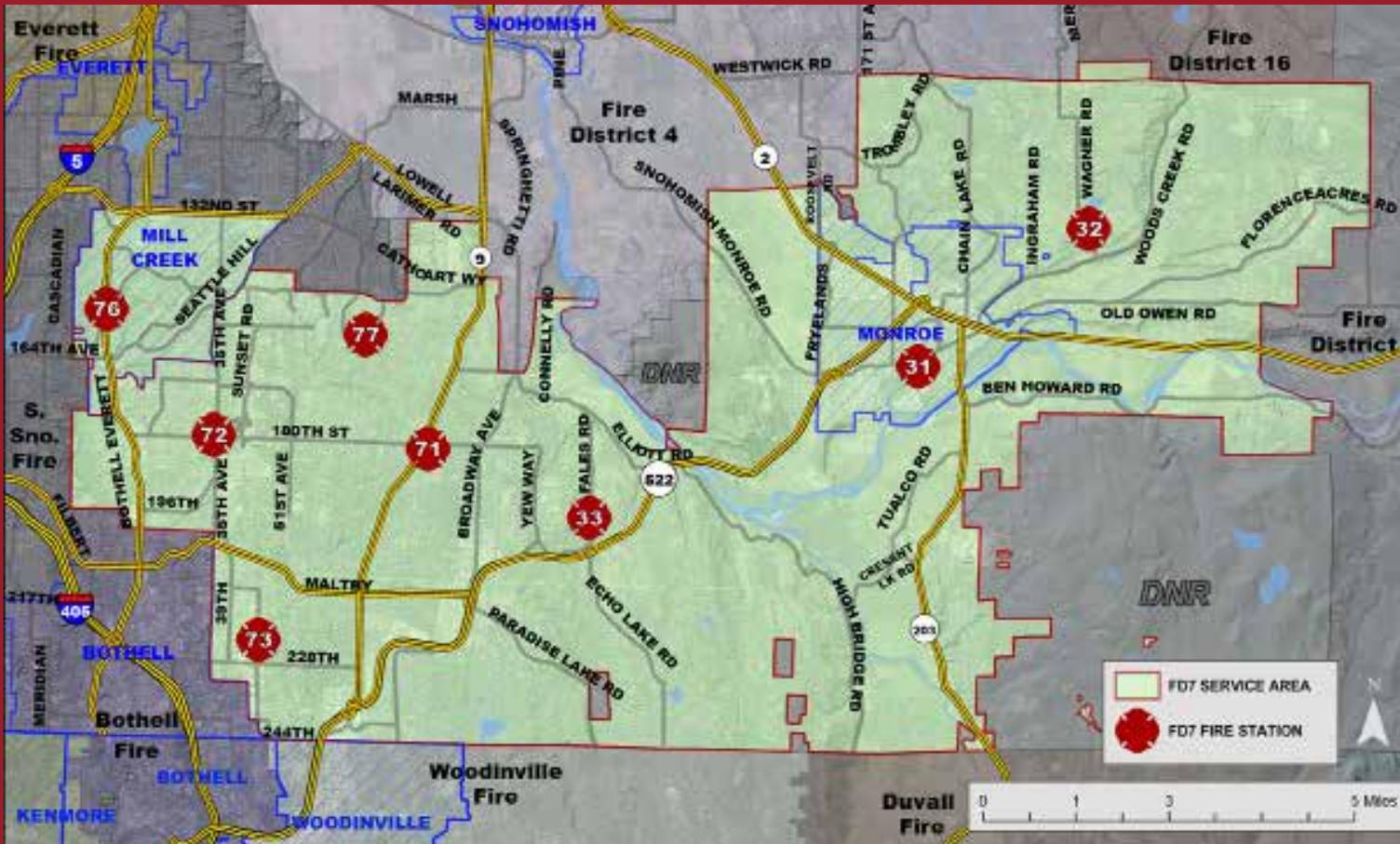


Snohomish County Fire District 7

2019 Annual report





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Social Media



@SnoCountyFire7



@SnoCountyFire7



Nextdoor

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Message from Commissioners

Snohomish County Fire District 7's Board of Fire Commissioners are elected by the voters to represent the public's interests for fire and EMS service. Due to the merger between Monroe Fire District 3 and Fire District 7 in 2016, the board consists of six commissioners, but through natural attrition and the election process, the number of fire commissioners will be reduced back to five.

The Board is responsible for governing the operations of the Fire District through setting budgets, establishing policy for the district. Further, they guide strategic planning to reach the goals and mission of the Fire District. The Fire Chief reports to the Board and then carries out the daily functions of the Fire District.

The Board of Fire Commissioners remain dedicated to following the District's vision of being trusted leaders serving the community with a commitment to innovation and improvement. This is achieved through the continued partnership with neighboring fire districts. Through the collaboration of resources with our Community Paramedicine Program, Fire/Emergency Medical Service mutual aid, training academy and regional planning committees improves the emergency readiness and response, while being more efficient in the use of tax payer dollars.

District 7 continues to work to maintain a strong financial base as stewards of our citizens' tax dollars. Our fiduciary responsibility was once again confirmed with our 36th consecutive clean audit from the Washington State Auditor's Office. Whereas we were disappointed that voters' did not approve our request for a Fire Levy Lid Liff in 2019, we continue with our dedication to improved service to our citizens. Fire District 7 will work harder in the future to better communicate our financial needs to maintain current fire and EMS service levels.

The Board of Fire Commissioners appreciate the continuous feedback from our citizens through our social media platforms and we always welcome input at our open public board meetings. We would also like to thank all our first responders and staff for their dedication and commitment on behalf of our citizens as we look forward to serving you all in the future.



Randy Fay - Position: 3
rfay@snofire7.org



Leslie Jo Wells - Position: 4
lwells@snofire7.org



Jeff Schaub - Position: 2
jschaub@snofire7.org



Chairman
Roy Waugh - Position: 5
rwaugh@snofire7.org



Vice Chairman
Bill Snyder - Position: 2
bsnyder@snofire7.org



Randy Woolery - Position: 5
rwoolery@snofire7.org



Message From The Fire Chief

Earning Trust Through Action



Dear Neighbor,

Snohomish County Fire District 7 is pleased to provide its 2019 Annual Report. Fire District 7 provides fire and life safety services to over 116,000 people over 98.5 square miles in central and east Snohomish County, including the communities

of Clearview, Maltby, and Monroe. Fire District 7 also serves Mill Creek through a contract for emergency services. In addition, as approved by voters, Lake Stevens Fire has merged into Fire District 7 beginning January 1, 2020.

In 2019 our emergency personnel responded to just under 11,000 emergency calls. Your support means that Fire District 7 has built one of the most advanced emergency response systems in Snohomish County with highly-trained personnel, facilities, apparatus, and rescue programs.

Fire District 7 is committed to providing the best service possible in a financially-responsible manner. The fire district operates under a balanced budget and has earned more than 36 years of clean audits by the state. Our strong financial practices mean that Fire District 7 funds daily operations and capital needs (such as apparatus and facilities) through its regular levies for fire and emergency medical service. Many fire districts require voter-approved bonds, which cost taxpayers more in interest payments. The last bond requested and approved by voters in Fire District 7 was in 1978.

We constantly evaluate how we can serve you better when it comes to service levels and costs. Our Standards of Cover report evaluates our emergency response today and into the future with projected growth and needed capital expenses. We also advocate for road networking before new

developments occur, and work with neighboring agencies to eliminate duplication of services and provide mutual aid to reach people in need faster.

We faced two significant issues in Fire District 7 in 2019. One was asking voters to approve a fire levy lid lift to continue a sustainable funding source for emergency services. This measure was placed on the ballot both in the primary and the general elections. Unfortunately the voters rejected continuing this funding at \$1.50 / 1,000 assessed value. We take pride in being able to fund all our community's emergency service needs from our two operational levies for fire and EMS. Failure of this levy will cause us to adjust our forecast and services in the future. Again, we have not requested any voter approved bonds for capital needs since 1978.

The second issue was the passage of a merger with Lake Stevens Fire. Many fire districts are merging or partnering with neighboring agencies to improve service and reduce duplication of costs. Lake Stevens Fire has the same financial practices that we do with the end result of reducing impacts to taxpayers. Following voter approval of this merger, we initiated the practices of completing this partnership. Immediately, both agencies and the communities benefited with better deployment of personnel and reducing costs long-term through administrative and training efficiencies. The merger officially began January 1, 2020.

In closing, I want to simply say thank you. As part of this merger I will retire, reducing the cost of one Fire Chief. It has been an honor to serve this community for 40 years. You can be proud that the members of your Fire Department display pride in their profession on a daily basis. Our Commissioners, employees and emergency response personnel are leaders in your community and continue to strive to earn your trust through thier actions.

Thank you,
Fire Chief Gary Meek



About Fire District 7

Build community trust and resilience through education and community engagement.
Deliver excellent service while focusing on innovation and continuous improvement.

Our Vision, Goals & Values

VISION:

- Fire District 7 – A trusted leader serving the community with a commitment to innovation and improvement.

GOALS:

- Plan for technology improvements and maintenance to meet the operational needs of the district.
- Develop and expand on existing partnerships to build trust and explore collaborative opportunities.
- Deliver excellent service while focusing on innovation and improvement.
- Exercise sound financial judgment and plan for fiscal sustainability.
- Develop and manage infrastructure to support operations and innovations now and for the future.
- Hire, develop, take care of and promote the best people.
- Build community trust and resilience through education and engagement.

VALUES:

- We seek feedback and learn and improve from experience.
- We are willing to take risks and make changes in order to improve service.
- We are committed to doing the work and continuously improving the way work gets done.



Square miles
protected

98.5

Population
served

116,000

Number of
Personnel

194

Number of
Stations

8



Finance

Exercise sound financial judgment and plan for fiscal sustainability.

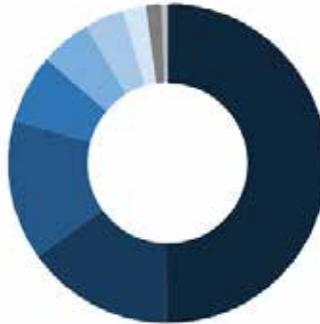
Finance Operations

*Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT)

Revenue

■	\$24,556,748	Fire Levy
■	\$7,347,814	EMS Levy
■	\$6,965,580	*GEMT
■	\$3,393,745	Mill Creek Contract
■	\$2,528,109	Charges for Services
■	\$1,970,708	Transports
■	\$1,144,063	Other Services
■	\$787,653	Grants
■	\$284,027	State Mobilization

\$48,978,447 Total

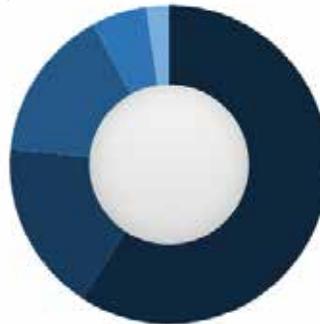


*Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT)
Includes revenue for services rendered in 2018 & 2019

Expense

■	\$29,120,955	Personnel
■	\$8,558,595	Interfund
■	\$7,647,698	M&O
■	\$2,771,255	**Capital
■	\$1,142,382	Debt

\$49,240,885 Total



** Paid outside of general fund

General Fund

Fire District 7 is committed to providing the best service possible in a financially responsible manner. The fire district operates under a balanced budget and has earned more than 36 years of clean audits by the state. Our financial philosophy means that we pay up-front for apparatus and station renovations as opposed to requiring voter-approved bonds to meet these needs, which is an additional property tax. Fire District 7 has not requested voters to approve a bond since 1978.

2019 Levy Rates

Fire District 7 operates with funding from property tax revenues generated through two levies:

Fire \$1.35
EMS \$0.41

Total 2019 Levy Rate
\$1.76

Audit

Fire District 7 has earned over 36 years of clean audits from the state.

36

Fiscally Responsible

Fire District 7 has not requested voters to approve a bond since 1978.



Regionalization

Develop and expand on existing partnerships to build trust and explore collaborative opportunities.

Develop and manage infrastructure to support operations and innovations now and for the future.

Regionalization and Capital Facilities



Snohomish County Fire District 7 and Lake Stevens Fire have a long history of collaboration and partnership. The two Districts have collaborated by training together, teaming in emergency response, administrative services and sharing a Community Resource Paramedic. The overarching goal of this partnership has been to improve efficiencies and service to the people we serve.

On August 6, 2019 voters in Lake Stevens approved the merge and since that time we've been working hard to implement the January 1, 2020 merger. Improving and efficiently managing emergency services are significant responsibilities that we take seriously for home and business owners.

We have some of the most highly trained emergency service professionals in the region. As a new Fire District, these professionals will operate as one team to build a stronger response force. A consolidated organizational structure and budget will decrease duplication and improve efficiencies to the communities we serve.

Take care and stay safe,
Kevin K. O'Brien, your Fire Chief



New Fire Station 33

On April 1, 2019 Snohomish County Fire District 7 officially opened Fire Station 33 which is located near the intersection of Fales Road and Highway 522.

The 11,000 square foot fire station provides improved response times and accessibility to the Echo Lake and Lost Lake communities while continuing to meet the District response standards for the Maltby/Paradise Lake Road communities. The opening of the new station solidified the implementation of the district's long range plan of relocating crews to Fire Station 33 to better serve these communities.

The new fire station features three apparatus bays, office and training areas, and dorms for the crew. The crews that were assigned to Station 74, Maltby Station, were reassigned to the new facility. The old Fire Station 74 has transitioned into the district's logistics facility to fulfill increasing needs of the district. To commemorate the opening of the fire station, department personnel held a short flag raising and public ribbon cutting ceremony.

Snohomish County Fire District 7 continues to develop partnerships with neighboring agencies to improve emergency services and be more efficient with taxpayer dollars. In 2016, as approved by voters, Monroe Fire District 3 merged with Fire District 7. During the 2019 August Primary elections, Lake Stevens Fire asked voters to approve a merger with Fire District 7. A merger would enable better deployment of personnel, apparatus and equipment to provide an improved emergency response. There also would be additional personnel to respond who have advanced training and skills for more complex emergencies. Voters overwhelmingly approved the measure with the merger of the two agencies to officially take place on January 1, 2020.

Significant Events

30th Drive SE Fire

Firefighters rescue one person trapped in a fast moving house fire that displaced a family of four. No injuries.



1/18/19

Wagner Road Fire

Firefighters battled a fully involved house fire with no injuries to civilians. Due to the long driveway and inaccessibility to fire hydrants, they used 700 feet of hose to extinguish the blaze.



4/2/19

Firefighters save house as vehicle fire spreads

Firefighters worked quickly to contain a fully engulfed vehicle fire that was spreading to the nearby house. Due to their quick tactics firefighters saved the home.



6/6/19

1/14/19



Donation of Toy Fire Truck

During a visit to the Burn Center at Harborview Medical Center, firefighters donate two toy fire trucks to kids being treated. These cars give children going through treatment the opportunity to play and be kids.

2/20/19



179th Ave SE Fire

More than 19 people were displaced as firefighters battled a 2 alarm apartment fire in Monroe. The fire spread quickly through 8 units but there were no injuries.

5/13/19



First Mock DUI Assembly at North Creek High School

Fire District 7 partnered with local law enforcement agencies and North Creek High School to complete a dramatization of a collision and extrication of patients to teach students about real consequences of driving under the influence.

Schnitzer Steel Fire

Black smoke covered Highway 522 as firefighters and heavy machinery worked to extinguish a fire that started in scrap metal pile.



6/26/19

Fryelands Boulevard Fire

Firefighters battled a commercial structure fire from the exterior of the condemned warehouse. It took almost two hours to extinguish the flames of the collapsed building.



7/3/19

7/7/19



First Kids Water Safety Day Camp

Fire District 7's Water Rescue and Public Education Team took steps to educate kids about the dangers found on lakes and rivers. Two camps were held during the summer educating more than 40 campers.

Fire District 7

In District Incident Dispatches

8,672

Out of District Incident Dispatches

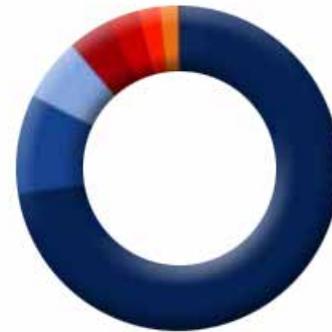
2,051

Total Incident Dispatches

10,723

Total Apparatus Dispatches

17,859



- 6,509** ■ Rescue & EMS Incidents
- 846** ■ Good Intent Call
- 464** ■ Service Call
- 432** ■ False Alarm & False Call
- 120** ■ Other
- 165** ■ Fire
- 136** ■ Hazardous Condition (No Fire)

*NFIRS: National Fire Incident Reporting System



Management

We acknowledge that public trust matters – and strive to be worthy of it. We are willing to take risks and make changes in order to improve service. We are committed to our work and continuously improving the way work gets done.

Anatomy of a 911 Call

2019 FIRE	2019 EMS
Turnout Time in Minutes	
1:42	1:18
Average	Average
2:35 or Less 90% of the time	2:06 or Less 90% of the time
Objective: 1:30 or Less	Objective: 1:30 or Less
Achieved: 40% of the time	Achieved: 70% of the time
Response Time in Minutes	
6:45	5:30
Average	Average
11:07 or Less 90% of the time	2:06 or Less 90% of the time
Objective: 7:30 or Less	Objective: 7:30 or Less
Achieved: 48% of the time	Achieved: 83% of the time
Full Alarm Assignment in Minutes	
11:45	5:48
Average	Average
15:02 or Less 90% of the time	8:35 or Less 90% of the time
Objective: 11:30 or Less	Objective: 10:00 or Less
Achieved: 48% of the time	Achieved: 90% of the time



CALL
Someone calls 911

DISPATCH
The 911 center processes call and dispatches units

TURNOUT
Time from when unit is dispatched to when the crew is dressed in gear and in the vehicle, ready to go

TRAVEL
Time from when the unit starts moving to when it arrives on scene

Turnout + Travel = Response Time





Agency Overview

Develop and manage infrastructure to support operations and innovations now and for the future.

We are committed to doing the work, and continuously improving the way work gets done.

Services Provided

Snohomish County Fire District 7 provides fire and life safety services to over 116,000 people across 98.5 square miles in central and east Snohomish County, including the communities of Clearview, Maltby, Mill Creek and Monroe. In 2019 our emergency personnel responded to just under 11,000 emergency calls. Through taxpayer support, Fire District 7 has built an advanced emergency response system in Snohomish County with highly cross-trained personnel, facilities, apparatus, and rescue programs. We appreciate your support and are grateful for the opportunity to serve your community.

Here are some of the key services we provide:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Suppression
Structural
Wildland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Medical Services
Basic Life Support
Advanced Life Support
Community Resource Paramedic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Risk Reduction |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Operations
Hazardous Materials
Water Rescue
Technical Rescue | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Marshal Services • Business inspections • Public Education • Community Engagement |

194

Number of Personnel

6

Commissioners

13

Administration

138

Career Firefighters

18

Part-time Firefighters

13

Administrative Support

6

Mechanics

Fire Suppression

Natural Disaster
Deployments

4

Natural Disaster
Mobilization Hours

1,747

Natural Disaster
Resources for
Reimbursement

\$158,977

Dollar worth of
structures saved

\$15,177,071

One of Fire District 7's primary focuses is fire suppression which has two primary areas of focus; Structural and Wildland. Each require very different equipment, training and strategy. All operations personnel are cross-trained as firefighters in both fire suppression areas, as well as EMS providers.

Structure (building) fires require the expertise of firefighters that have knowledge and equipment to allow the flow of large volumes of water, search and rescue of occupants trapped inside a building, roof ventilation operations, and the removal of harmful gasses and smoke.

Wildland (brush) Fires require a completely different set of skills although brush fires will often result in structure fires that are in its path of destruction. Wildland fires depend on a fast attack of smaller trucks that have all terrain capability and the firefighters that wear a completely different set of protective gear. You won't often see your firefighters wearing the heavy clothing and breathing apparatus. You will see them in much lighter gear with small hand tools and small hose lines along with bulldozers and aerial water drops when needed.



EMS Division

Snohomish County Fire District 7 EMS serves a wide variety of medical needs from the most critical, such as cardiac arrest or severe trauma, to the most basic such as a sprained ankle. Our personnel are trained to handle it all. All of our firefighters are cross-trained as EMTs or paramedics. All of our Paramedics are trained through the rigorous Harborview Medical Center.

Fire District 7 has had a **Community Resource Paramedic** (CRP) since 2015. The CRP is responsible for assisting patients who have needs that traditional Emergency Medical Services is not appropriate for. The CRP may assist patients who are at risk for falls or may need help finding a primary care physician so that they do not need to rely on Emergency Services to solve their chronic medical condition.

MSO's

Medical Services Officers (MSO's) are a group of Captains who work in the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division of Snohomish County Fire District 7. There are currently four MSO's with one assigned to each 24 hour shift. Their primary role is to provide functional supervision of all EMS related activity on their shift. This includes review of patient charts to assure documentation standards are met, training personnel in the most up to date medical procedures and responding on the most critical EMS incidents to provide on scene assistance and quality assurance. The MSO is a fast paced and rewarding job. They interact with all of the personnel on their shift and members of the community every day. One of District 7's goals is to deliver excellent service while focusing on innovation and improvement. The MSO plays a key role in helping us achieve that goal in our EMS delivery.

EMS Patient Satisfaction

96.02%

Number of Patient Contacts

6,447

CPR Survival Rate

50%

Number of Transports

70%



Special Operations

Water Rescue Certifications

40

Technical Rescue Certifications

19

HazMat Certifications

15

HazMat

Seven jurisdictions in Snohomish County have come together as partners to create a regional hazardous materials (HAZMAT) response team to better serve our respective communities. This team requires specialized resources and training to respond to these types of emergencies. Their technical skills and equipment provide them with the ability to detect and/or identify chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive materials. The team utilizes various levels of chemical protective clothing and equipment needed to enter dangerous atmospheres.

Water Rescue

Fire District 7 has three major rivers within its jurisdiction and countless lakes where we respond to water related rescue calls; such as missing person(s) in swim areas, capsized boats, vehicles into the water, flooding and other water related incidents. The Water Rescue Team is highly trained in swift water rescue, boat operations, rescue swimming for free diving to 40 feet deep and long distance swims.

Tech Rescue

Nine jurisdictions in Snohomish County have come together as partners to create a regional technical rescue response team to better serve our communities. Having a regional team combines these rescue resources and reduces duplication to provide a seamless and efficient emergency response. These highly trained professionals are ready to assist with tasks associated with the following rescue disciplines: trench, rope, urban search & rescue (USAR), water/ice, and confined space.



Training Division

Fire District 7's Training Division is committed to preparing our personnel to deliver excellent customer service to the citizens of our communities while adhering to training requirements that are mandated by law. We do this by proactively responding to changes, solving problems, collaborating on issues, assessing the needs of our community and personnel, and developing viable solutions. The training division accomplishes this by incorporating the best instructional and training methods, as well as continuously evaluating the capabilities of our personnel.

We collaborated with neighboring agencies to conduct a Part-Time Academy where each recruit received training to prepared them for national certifications in HazMat Awareness and Operations, Firefighter 1 and Firefighter 2.

Training Topics

- Firefighting strategies and tactics
- Live fire
- EMS
- Search and rescue
- Vehicle extrication/Scene lighting
- Driver/operator pumping officer development
- Firefighter safety
- Incident command/blue card
- Hazardous materials
- Rope rescue
- Water rescue
- Hose Evolutions
- Chainsaw/Circular Saw
- Policy/Procedure
- Forcible Entry
- Tactical Ventilation
- Fire Origin and Cause/Preserving Evidence
- Water Supply
- Building Construction
- Fire Behavior
- Fire Protection Systems
- Leadership
- PIO/PE
- Ground Ladders
- Computer Programs (New World, Fire Mobile, ESO, Operative IQ)

Training Hours

36,341

**17 new Career
Firefighters totaling
13,280 training hours
prior to serving
communities**

13,280

**10 members completed
an 800 hour 'Officer
Development Academy'
Total Training Hours**

800 hours



Community Risk Reduction

Number of
Burn Permits Issued

345

Number of
Fire/Life Safety
Existing Business
Inspections

1,342

Most Common Fire
Safety Violation
Identified During
Inspection

Extension cords being
used in place of
permanent wiring.

The Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Division is a system and process in which programs, actions, and services within our community are utilized to prevent injuries; loss of life; loss of property; and damage to the environment. CRR activities identify and prioritize risks and apply resources in a coordinated manner to minimize the probability and severity of occurrence of fire, natural disasters, and man-made disasters.

Historically, these activities have been provided through the Fire Prevention Division. However, this did not comprehensively encompass the value of the division's work in injury prevention, prevention of hazardous materials incidents, and other activities.

The benefits of a safer community are achieved through:

Risk Assessment

Through incident analysis, incident type and location we make informed decisions about resource deployment, track trends, impacts upon community demographics, and employ preventative measures.

Employ Strategies for mitigating risks

Decisions are made on how to best implement ways to prevent these risks from recurring, or reducing the impacts of the risks through Education, Emergency Response, Engineering, Enforcement, and Economic Incentive

Measurement and Improvement

Establishing a program to measure the impacts of community risk reduction activities upon the very risks intended to be improved.



Public Education/Community Engagement

Building community trust and resilience through education and engagement is a guiding value of Fire District 7. We partner with our local schools, from elementary to high school, to teach a variety of lessons on fire and life safety topics that are designed for the specific age group. Furthermore, we offer a variety of community education programs and are involved in community safety awareness fairs and events. Fire District 7 continues the commitment of providing fire and life safety education to help create safer communities. We follow curriculum designed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Additionally, Fire District 7 collaborates with civic groups and other organizations to bring awareness to potential risks and educate on ways to protect your family.

Community Events Highlighted:

- Fire District 7 worked collaboratively with North Creek High School and Law Enforcement to conduct the school's first Mock DUI Assembly to teach students about the dangers driving under the influence.
- Fire District 7 hosted 2 Open Houses and connected with over 900 citizens! The focus was to connect with the community and teach about emergency preparedness, as well as services provided.
- The Mill Creek Festival is a 2 day event that promotes community engagement. Every year is filled with fun and opportunities to engage with the community.
- Fire District 7 hosted 2 Kids Water Safety Camps to teach kids about the dangers of water and proper safety measures.

In Our Schools

Elementary Programs

Kindergarten:

- Tools vs. Toys

2nd Grade:

- Know 2 Ways Out!

4th Grade:

- Hazards in the home

High School Programs

- Impact Teen Diver &
- Mock DUI Assembly

Community Events
and Community
Engagement Activities

43

Number of
Classrooms Visited With
Over 2,950 students
reached

117

Citizens CPR/First Aid
Only Certified

127

Citizens CPR/
First Aid Certified

142

Kids Water Safety
Camps

40



2020 Calendar of Events

YMCA Healthy Kids Day:

April 18, 2020 at the Monroe YMCA

EMS Week Open House:

*May 17, 2020 at Fire Station 71
8010 180th St SE, Snohomish, WA 98296*

Health and Safety Fair:

May 13, 2020 in Lake Stevens

Kids Water Safety Camps:

July 8, 2020 at Lake Tye Park 14964 Fryelands Blvd, Monroe, WA 98272

July 30, 2020 at Lundeen Park 10020 Lundeen Park Way, Lake Stevens, WA 98258

Mill Creek Festival:

July 11 – 12, 2020 in Mill Creek

Aquafest:

July 24 – 26, 2020 in Lake Stevens

National Night Out Against Crime:

August 4, 2020 various locations

Monroe Fair Days Parade:

August 29, 2020 in downtown Monroe

Fire Prevention Week Open House:

*October 10, 2020 at Fire Station 31
163 Village Court, Monroe, WA 98272*



Headquarters
163 Village Court
Monroe, WA 98272
360-794-7666



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Thank you