

# WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS



It is important to take steps to understand how wildfires can affect us in Snohomish County, and it is important to learn what we can do to prepare for a wildfire and what we can do to keep our homes and properties safe. Our crews are always prepared to respond to wildfires and brush fires that take place in our own community. Here are some ways that you can stay ready as well:



## Prepare Supplies & Landscape

- Create a fire-resistant zone that is free of leaves, debris or flammable materials for at least 30 feet from your home.
- If available, store an N95 mask to protect yourself from smoke.



## Be Informed & Learn

- Follow the QR code above to view the **Snohomish County Public Safety Hub**.
- Take a class. Register for our next **Wildfire Preparedness Class**:
  - May 13th, 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
  - Go to [www.SRFR.org](http://www.SRFR.org) to register!



SCAN ME



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

As we move into the spring season, I want to take a moment to connect with our community and share how Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR) continues to evolve to meet your needs.

It is truly an honor to serve this region. Every day, our firefighters, paramedics, and professional staff provide reliable emergency response, advanced medical care, and compassionate service you can count on. At the same time, we remain focused on the future, making thoughtful, responsible investments in our people, systems, and preparedness so we are ready for what comes next.

Emergency medical services are at the heart of what we do and are often the service our community relies on most. We continue strengthening our EMS system by expanding access to paramedic-level care, enhancing training, and improving how care is delivered in the field. These efforts ensure that when you call for help, you receive timely, high-quality care from highly trained professionals.

We are also taking a measured approach to incorporating technology that improves coordination, enhances decision-making, and supports safer operations. Each tool is carefully evaluated to ensure it provides clear value, helping us serve more effectively while remaining responsible stewards of public resources.

Behind every response is a team of dedicated professionals. SRFR continues to invest in training and leadership development to ensure personnel are prepared for the increasingly complex demands of today's emergency environment. This includes not only technical expertise but also the ability to lead, adapt, and perform under pressure.

At the same time, we are strengthening emergency preparedness by planning and training for large-scale incidents such as wildfires, severe weather, and other regional emergencies. Through coordination with our partners and a strong focus on readiness, we are working to ensure our community is protected in times of crisis.

As our region grows, we are planning carefully for the future, evaluating facilities, deployment strategies, and long-term sustainability. We remain committed to balancing service expectations with fiscal responsibility, ensuring every investment is purposeful, transparent, and aligned with community needs.

We are proud to serve this community and grateful for the way you show up for one another. Time and again, we see neighbors helping neighbors, stepping in during difficult moments, and demonstrating care and resilience that make a difference. Public safety is a shared responsibility, and your actions, big or small, play an important role. We are grateful to serve alongside a community that looks out for one another.

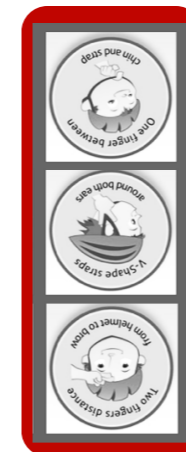
Your trust means everything to us, and we remain committed to providing professional, responsive, and compassionate service every day. On behalf of everyone at Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue, thank you for your continued support.

Stay safe,  
Brian Park, Fire Chief



## SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

SPRING 2026 NEWSLETTER



BE SURE YOUR  
HELMET FITS!

AS YOU GET READY TO BIKE SAFELY, CAN YOU FIND ALL THE WORDS BELOW?

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- ★ Always wear a helmet.
- ★ Wear brightly colored clothes to be seen better.
- ★ Before the ride, make sure the brakes, gears and tires work properly.
- ★ Always stop at STOP signs and traffic lights.
- ★ If you need to cross a street, walk your bike across; don't ride.



CONNECT WITH US: [www.SRFR.org](https://www.srfr.org) 360.794.7666 @SnoRegionalFire

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163 Village Court  
Monroe, WA 98272

## HOW ARE WE FUNDED?

The support of our community has allowed us to build one of the best emergency response agencies in the region. SRFR continues to ensure that we provide the highest level of service for those who work and live within our district. We would not be able to do this without your support.

SRFR is primarily funded through two voter-approved levies, a fire services levy, and a levy for emergency medical services (EMS). Both levies are paid through local property taxes, and the rates must be approved by SRFR voters. As the community has grown, service demands have increased, and the cost of providing service has risen. As a result, voters are periodically asked to return the levy to the original amount



through a "lid lift." A lid lift allows voters to determine if a levy should be reset to the initial cap of \$1.50 per \$1,000 for fire and/or \$0.50 per \$1,000 for EMS.



As the second-largest emergency services provider in Snohomish County, SRFR continues to grow alongside our community. We are working to implement key service improvements, bolster quality assurance, and prioritize firefighter safety and training. On top of this, we are active members within the community offering regular safety classes, school visits, and opportunities for the community to learn more about what we do. We are also engaged with our local city councils and chambers of commerce. Our philosophy is to serve our community with a relentless pursuit of excellence as we continuously improve to meet the needs of our growing community.



**NEW!** Sign up for our Digital Mailing List!  
<https://bit.ly/SRFRNews>



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## FIREHOUSE FEATURE

### SRFR BOATS

SRFR provides a wide range of critical services, including water rescue, where having the right equipment and trained personnel is essential to saving lives.



Boat 31 on Snoqualmie River

With strong support from the community, SRFR began replacing its aging fleet several years ago. After extensive planning and development, two new vessels are now in service: Boat 31, assigned to Monroe, and Boat 81, moored on Lake Stevens and ready to respond. Boat 31, built by SJX Jet Boats in northern Idaho, is designed specifically for swiftwater and shallow river operations. Powered by a turbocharged EcoBoost engine and jet propulsion system, it can navigate in just inches of water while maintaining speed and control in fast-moving currents, allowing crews to reach areas that would otherwise be inaccessible.

Boat 81, built by Munson Boats in Burlington, Washington, is a versatile model designed for both firefighting and rescue operations. It features a bow-mounted monitor capable of delivering 500 gallons per minute for fire suppression, along with a bow door that allows for safer deployment of rescue swimmers and quick access to docks, shorelines, and other vessels.



Boat 81 During Sea Trials

Both boats are equipped with advanced Garmin navigation technology, including side-scan sonar that provides detailed views below the surface. Boat 81 also features FLIR thermal imaging, which can detect heat signatures such as body heat, enhancing search capabilities in low-visibility or high-risk situations.

Built for durability and designed to handle demanding conditions, these vessels reflect SRFR's commitment to investing in reliable, high-performance equipment. They are expected to serve the community for many years to come.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July 8th & 16th:** Water Safety Camps
  - Registration open!
  - Scan the QR to register!
- **July 11th-12th:** Firefighter Pancake Breakfast at St.81
- **August 4th:** National Night Out
- **October 3rd:** FPW Open House at St. 31



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## CLOSE BEFORE YOU DOZE



Did you know that closing your door could be the difference between life and death in a fire?

Over the years, UL Research Institute has conducted over a decade of research that underscores the importance of closing your door at night and keeping a closed door between you and a fire, especially if the fire is blocking your exit. Even when made of combustible materials, a closed door can significantly slow the spread of fire and smoke, buying critical time to escape or safely shelter in place.

Using thermal imaging cameras, researchers found that closed-door rooms during a fire had average temperatures of less than 100°F, compared to open-door rooms which reached more than 1,000°F.

To reinforce this life-saving message, Public Information & Education Officers Kaitlin King and Peter Mongillo visit 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms across the district. They teach students what to do when a smoke alarm sounds, emphasizing the key phrase: "Close before you doze."

Students learn to check their door for heat if they hear an alarm. If the door is hot, they are taught to keep it closed because that door can serve as a vital barrier between them and the fire. From there, they are encouraged to look for a second way out. If that exit is a window that is safely accessible and within reach of the ground, they may be able to use it, depending on mobility and conditions.

But what if the window is high up? Despite what many students initially think, the answer is not to jump. Instead, the safest option is to shelter in place. Stay by the window, call out for help, and signal to firefighters by holding a visible item, such as a blanket, towel, or pillow, out the window. If the home is equipped with an escape ladder, it can be used as an alternate exit. However, it is essential that all family members are familiar with how to use it.



PIEO King at Kokanee Elementary



Closed Door (left) Open Door (right)

In addition to closing doors at night, every household should have a fire escape plan. Identify at least two ways out of every room, choose a designated meeting place outside the home, and make sure everyone understands the life-saving power of a closed door.

## ADULT & SENIOR SAFETY CLASSES

### Home Fire Safety

October 7  
December 9

### Disaster Preparedness

September 9  
November 11

### Wildfire Preparedness

May 13  
August 12

### Aging in Place

April 8

Register online or request an in-person class at [www.SRFR.org](http://www.SRFR.org).



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## PREVENTING WINDOW FALLS

As spring approaches and the weather becomes nicer, we tend to start opening our windows at home to allow the fresh air in. This is also the time of year that medical professionals see a spike in youth window falls. Falls are more common than we think. Every year almost 5,000 children are injured after a window fall, and most of the children are between 2 to 5 years old. Children are curious by nature, anatomically top heavy, and can fall through a window opened more than 4 inches. Any fall through a window is dangerous, even if the child is on the first floor of the home.

**Here are three things you can do to reduce the risk of a window fall:**

### 1 INSTALL WINDOW GUARDS AND STOPS

Never open windows more than 4 inches to prevent young children from falling out. Remember, screens are meant to keep bugs out, not children in. Properly installed window guards prevent unintentional falls. Install window guards that include an emergency release device in case of a fire. Window stops are also a great idea. They allow fresh air and a cross breeze and still ensure windows cannot open wide enough for kids to fall out.

### 2 CLOSE WINDOWS AFTER USE

If you have windows that can open from both top and bottom, make a habit of opening just the top to prevent accidental falls. Keep in mind that as kids grow, they may have enough strength, dexterity and curiosity to open the bottom, so try to keep windows locked and closed when they are not being used. If you visit a place where windows are not childproofed, close and lock them during your visit, and watch your child carefully.

### 3 KEEP KIDS FROM CLIMBING NEAR WINDOWS

Move chairs, tables, cribs and other furniture away from windows to help prevent window falls. Also, teach children not to play near windows. Make it a house rule to play at least 2 feet from windows. Never move a child who appears to be seriously injured after a fall – call 911, and let trained medical personnel move the child.

For more prevention tips visit <https://www.safekids.org/falls>



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SAFETY