

Key Peninsula FIRE NEWS

Summer 2011



Message from the Chief



The Key Peninsula Fire Department has entered a new period of cooperation and collaboration. We've worked hard over the past

year to change for the better and it's paying off. Our fire district board is working together to provide the direction and leadership you would expect from your elected commissioners. I invite you to attend a regular meeting and see for yourself.

Morale is high at the department, but we are short a few career fire fighter positions. Career fire fighters mean guaranteed staffing for the department, while volunteer fire fighters are available when their schedules allow. Both do the same work, and I am proud to serve with all the fire fighters in our department.

Key Peninsula Fire Department covers 65 square miles and approximately 20,000 people. Currently we have four on-duty career fire fighters per shift. When our replacement paramedic graduates, we will transition to a minimum of five. This should enable us to provide guaranteed staffing in Wauna about 90 percent of the time, so that's good news.

The bad news is that we really need seven on-duty career fire fighters per shift to meet the demand for service by local residents and businesses. This would guarantee staffing for a medic unit in the Wauna and Home fire stations, as well as staff a fire engine in Home on minimum staffing days. On fully-staffed days, an additional engine company would be assigned to our Wrightbliss station. Our volunteer fire fighters could continue to respond as they do now.

This would mean hiring another 12 fire fighters, and we just don't have the money in our budget. As I've said before, we will live within our means and provide the best service for the tax dollars we have. But long-term, improving coverage to meet changing demands in our service territory is something that we will need to address.

Sincerely,

TOM LIQUE
Fire Chief



BURN BAN?

The Pierce County Fire Marshall may declare a burn ban during the dry season for unincorporated areas. For current information, please contact the Fire Department at (253) 884-2222 or check online at www.keypeninsulafire.org.

Celebrate Safely with Fireworks!

The Fourth of July is one of our nation's most fun holidays, yet every year fireworks account for many trips to the hospital and calls to the fire department! Please follow these important tips to ensure your celebration is a happy and safe one if you choose to light off fireworks this Fourth. Also, talk to the children in your family about what it means to celebrate safely without causing injury or property damage to self or others.

BE PREPARED

- Purchase legal fireworks sold at licensed outlets
- Store fireworks out of the reach of children
- Keep pets safe indoors
- Select a space to light fireworks with care and consideration for the surrounding area

BE SAFE

- Only adults should light fireworks
- Use only outdoors
- Do not throw or hold fireworks

- Protect your eyes
- Light one firework at a time and move away quickly
- Never relight a "dud"
- Have water on hand, always!

BE RESPONSIBLE

- Soak used fireworks in water
- Be considerate—clean up debris and used fireworks
- Always keep matches and lighters away from children





Key Peninsula Fire Department
 8911 Key Peninsula Highway KPN
 Lakebay, WA 98349
 (253) 884-2222 www.keypeninsulafire.org

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Calendar of Events

CPR classes are filling up! Please call Key Peninsula FD at (253) 884-2222 for details and to sign up for classes.

- Jun 28** Key to Cooperation—**1-4pm** (KP Civic Center)
- Jul 9-10** Key Fest (Volunteer Park)
- Jul 9** Crazy Key Parade – **10am** (Key Center)
- Jul 10** Keys Got Talent – noon (Volunteer Park)
- Jul 12** Board of Fire Commissioners – **6pm** (Key Center Fire Station, 8911 Key Peninsula Hwy KPN)
- Jul 16-17** Safe Sitter Classes— **8am—4pm** (Key Center FS)
- Jul 17** Croquet Tournament – **12-6:30pm** (Longbranch Improvement Club)
- Jul 26** Board of Fire Commissioners – **6pm** (Key Center FS)
- Aug 9** Board of Fire Commissioners – **6pm** (Key Center FS)
- Aug 23** Board of Fire Commissioners – **6pm** (Key Center FS)
- Sep 10** Open House—**10am—3pm** (Wauna Fire Station)
- Sep 13** Board of Fire Commissioners – **6pm** (Key Center FS)
- Sep 17** First Responder Recognition – **1-5pm** (United Methodist Church, 7400 Pioneer Way, Gig Harbor)
- Sep 27** Board of Fire Commissioners – **6pm** (Key Center FS)

Order Your Vital Signs!

Key Peninsula Volunteer Fire Fighters offer “vital signs” for purchase to assist in identifying your home in case of an emergency. When a crew is dispatched it can be difficult to locate a house number, especially in the dark or inclement weather. Adding a “vital sign” - a red reflective marker with your house number - to your property makes it easier to locate an address quickly for emergency response. When every seconds counts, a home that is easy to locate could mean the difference between life and death.



- White 3” reflective letters on red reflective background
- Visible up to 300 feet away day or night!
- Address numbers printed on both sides of sign
- Proceeds support Fire District 16

Members will install “vital signs” **at no charge** for anyone that places an order and lives within the service area of Key Peninsula Fire Department.

ORDER FORM

Complete Sign
\$15.00 each

Name: _____

Address: _____

Quantity: _____

Order Total: _____

Phone: _____

Address Numbers: _ _ _ _ _

Second Sign: _ _ _ _ _

Make Checks Payable to:
 KP Firefighters Association
 PO Box 701
 Vaughn, WA 98394