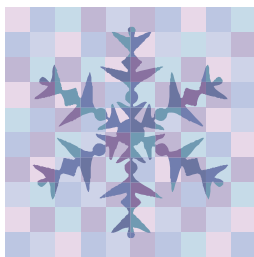


NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Tentatively Scheduled Calendar of Events

- **December 15** - FREE!
Cooking in the Dark Class
6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- **December 17** - CPR & First Aid Class
- **December 24** - Santa Cruz



If you have questions or comments please feel free to write, e-mail, call us or even come by the District office.

Regular Board Meetings

Held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

Meetings are open to the public.

CPR & First Aid Class

December 17th

Call to register 673-2222

Cost: \$45 per person

After 23 years of service, Cowlitz County Fire District #5 is retiring Tender #51. Yep, that is correct, 23 years it has hauled three thousand gallons of water to Wildland fires, structure fires and to water reservoirs. After 23 years it is time to update, time to improve the service delivery to you the tax payer. On Friday the 20th of November, Cowlitz County Fire District #5 took delivery of a 2010 Kenworth T-300 water tender manufactured by Fouts Bros. out of Atlanta, Georgia. With this addition we have the ability to train more responders to drive this apparatus. Yes, there are some that would ask the question, "You don't know how to drive?". We do EVAP (Emergency Vehicle Accident Prevention) training yearly, yet the old tender was a 10 speed split manual transmission and the new tender is an auto-matic. How many folks can drive or do drive a manual transmission this day and age? Steel was the product of choice 23 years ago and that is leading to the demise structurally for the old truck. Water and steel lead to rust and rust leads to structural loss. With new technology, we now have a poly tank that requires no maintenance due to water and metals. As well, the design of the new tender lends itself to versatility when called for service. Monitors, cross lays, supply lines all lend a hand in deploying an apparatus that can handle a wider variety of calls.

Sounds great, nice toy, glad to see you can buy these nice things in such a depressed economy. Our agency hears your concerns and is very proud to have purchased this equipment with no impact to taxes, operational budget funds or reductions in services. In fact, Cowlitz County Fire District #5 has NEVER run a bond or a levy to fund its infrastructure, operational needs or services. Being fiscally responsible, the Commissioners and Administrative Staff for your fire district continue to strive for financial excellence. As we all continue to be effected by economic conditions, financial accountability is what you expect and deserve from your fire district. With that in place, we are proud to take delivery of this new piece of equipment through reserve funding specifically set aside for apparatus replacement.

**Take a minute, stop by, and see what we have to offer,
fill out a volunteer application.**



I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.
[Henry Wadsworth Longfellow](#)

CANDLES, DECORATIVE OR DANGEROUS?

BY JIM WALTON



This is the time of year to be festive! With Thanksgiving behind us and Christmas just ahead, many people will be using candles for their celebrations. Candles can be very dangerous when not used properly. Many people do not realize how quickly things can go wrong. Four out of ten candle fires start in the bedroom, and one in six start in common rooms, living rooms, family rooms or dens. Nearly half the people killed in homes fires started by candles were younger than 20; children ages 5 to 9 accounted for a disproportionate share of the victims.

Please use the following guidelines when using candles and we will all have a Happier New Year !!

- Extinguish all candles when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- Keep candles away from things that can catch fire, such as clothing, books, paper, curtains, Christmas trees or decorations.
- Place candles on stable furniture in sturdy holders that won't tip over and that are big enough to collect dripping wax.
- Don't place lit candles in windows, where they may ignite blinds or curtains.
- Place candles only in areas where they won't be knocked over by children or pets.
- Extinguish taper and pillar candles when they get within two inches of the holder or decorative material. Extinguish votive candles before the last half-inch of wax starts to melt.
- Avoid candles with combustible materials embedded in them, or with holders or decorations that could ignite.
- Don't allow children or teens to have candles in their bedrooms.



SANTA CRUZ

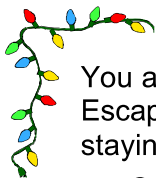


The tradition continues! Santa will be making his rounds on the Fire truck again this year as he has been for the past 60 years! Look & listen for him to be in these areas on Christmas Eve:(Weather permitting)

- North Route - Nectarine, N. Meeker Dr., Kalama River Rd., Laverne Dr., Bates Rd., Modrow Rd. & Spencer Creek Rd.
- Town Area -Elm, N. 4th, Geranium, Taylor, Horizon, Waters Watch, N. 5th, Ivy, N. 2nd Pl., Juniper, N. 2nd St., Holly, N. 3rd St., Elm, China Garden, Date St., S. 7th, S. 8th, S. 9th, S. 10th, S. 11th, Military, Douglas, S. 3rd Pl., Birch, Summit, Parkland, Cloverdale, Ashland Lp., Ashland St., S. 1st, & S. 2nd
- South Route - China Garden Rd. from 10th to Quietwood, Simmons, Star, Gore, Cloverdale Rd. from Greystone to upper Green Mtn. Rd., J.E. Johnson, Johnson Spur, S. Cloverdale to Dave's View, Vincent, 6100 block Old Pacific Hwy to Robb Rd., Kilkelly, Todd, Ring, Confer, Hahn, Acredale area, Sauer & Jaeger

As our community continues to grow it gets increasingly difficult to stop at each house. Talk with your neighbors and pick a "Santa Stop". Choose an intersection on one of the routes and gather there with your family, friends and neighbors to greet Santa and his Firefighter Friends!

HOLIDAY GUEST TIPS

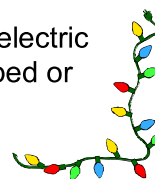


You and your family may know your Fire Escape Plans, but what about your guests staying with you for the holidays?

- Could they get out safely in the event of a fire?
- Have you told them where your safe meeting place is?
- Do they know where the fire extinguishers are?

These are all things to consider when having guests over for any occasion. Use these tips to ensure your home is as safe for your guests as it is for you and your family.

- Make sure your smoke alarms are in working order and have good batteries installed
- Talk about where your safe meeting place is in case there is a fire
- Show your guests where they could find your fire extinguishers and first aid kits in the event of an emergency
- Use flame resistant or flame retardant decorations to reduce the risk of holiday fires
- **Turn off** all light strings and electric decorations before going to bed or leaving home



Are you concerned about the levels of alcohol in hand sanitizers? Our friends at the Washington Poison Center had some great information on their website that can help you decide for yourself.

There are several internet-based emails circulating regarding serious alcohol toxicity resulting from exposure to hand sanitizer products predominantly containing ethanol. While it is true that the concentration of ethanol in these gels is equivalent to various strong alcoholic beverages, someone cannot get drunk from casual exposure. For example, licking hands after use is not a problem.

- Community-based studies have shown beneficial effects of hand sanitizers. Hand sanitizers were effective in reducing illnesses in households, elementary schools, and in university dormitories.
- Expect no toxicity from a taste or a lick of hand sanitizer gel. Sanitizer gel should have a Mr. Yuk sticker on it and be kept out of the reach of children along with other ethanol containing products such as perfumes and mouthwashes.
- Adults should supervise use of hand sanitizer gel. Products containing ethanol/alcohol like sanitizer gel and others can be abused.
- Never transfer hand sanitizer to an unmarked container.

Call the Washington Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222 for any hand sanitizer ingestion greater than the amount used on your hands or if there is concern.

Thank you to the Washington Poison Center for providing this information on their website!
Please visit www.wapc.org for more information



Cowlitz County Fire
District #5

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Kalama, WA 98625

Phone: 360-673-2222
Fax: 360-673-3389
Email: ccf5@kalama.com

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www.CowlitzFD5.org

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COOKING IN THE DARK

HOW WILL YOU COOK WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT?

Rough Winter weather is on it's way and we've already had a few power outages in our area this Fall. If those power outages were to last longer would you be prepared?

Cooking in the Dark offers a chance to learn how to plan for and prepare two weeks worth of meals with NO electricity. Marcie Maynes of Simple-Safety will teach you the basics of power outage survival and how to shelter-in place.

Prepare to be your own Hero!

You will learn:

- How to prepare food without power for up to two weeks
- How long food can last in a fridge or freezer following a power outage
- Proper long-term water storage
- What non-food items are necessary for survival

When: Tuesday, December 15th
from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: Fire Station #52
415 Todd Rd, Kalama

Cost: FREE!

Register: Call DeAnn Sharp at
673-2222 or e-mail
dsharp@cowlitzfd5.org