



Smoke Signals

Indian Hills Fire Protection District

Serving the Citizens of Indian Hills Since 1947

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Grant Money Helps With Key Purchases to Provide Better Service

Two recently awarded grants have allowed Indian Hills Fire Rescue to purchase several key items that will enhance the Department's service to the community.

The EMTS Grant has allowed the Department to acquire three needed items:

- A vehicle stabilization kit that will be used to secure a vehicle after an accident and provide added safety for responders and patients during extrication.
- A CO pulse oximeter that will allow responders to detect carbon monoxide levels in a patient's body and initiate faster medical treatment if needed.
- Two ambulance-based PC tablets that will permit medical responders to generate faster reports and speed information to the hospital regarding patient status.

The Homeland Security Grant has resulted in the purchase of 20 hand-held portable radios for Department volunteers as well as eight new mobile radios that are based in each apparatus and a base radio that is housed at the station. The new suite of radios replaces devices that are 15 years old and do not meet present communications standards. In addition to bringing the Department's communications up to present standards, the new radios provide options for further enhancement, including digital broadcast.



Both grants required a percentage matching dollar amount. The Department used money raised from the Big Chili celebration to help pay for the EMTS grant items, while the District contributed funds to help defray the cost of the radio suite.

Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors: Where to Position Them in Your House



Having both smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in your home is important. Smoke detectors detect smoke generated by flaming or smoldering fires, whereas carbon monoxide detectors alarm you about faulty fuel burning devices to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. While both devices serve a purpose, knowing the best placement for each is important. Here are some tips on where to position them for optimal use.

Position smoke alarms:

- On every level of your home, including finished attics and basements.
- Inside every bedroom, especially if people sleep with the door partly or completely closed.
- In the hall near every sleeping area. If your home has multiple sleeping areas, install a unit in each. If a hall is more than 40 feet long, install a unit at each end.
- At the top of the first-to-second floor stairway and at the bottom of the basement stairway.

Position carbon monoxide detectors:

- In a central location near sleeping areas if you have only one.
- On every level and in every bedroom if you have more than one.
- Away from any fuel-burning appliances.
- Away from humid environments such as bathrooms.

For further information, check individual manufacturer's instructions for proper placement. And don't forget to regularly check the batteries!

New Tender Arrives to Serve Community Firefighting Needs

There's a shiny new truck in town whose purpose is to carry water in the event that a fire breaks out in Indian Hills.

The 3,000-gallon tender features a Mack 6x6 chassis to help it navigate the mountain terrain in all kinds of weather. The truck replaces the Department's aging 1974 Autocar.

With the addition of the tender, the District's fleet is complete and includes two engines, two brush trucks, a command vehicle, an ATV, and two ambulances to provide the best care to its residents as well as anyone requiring aid while in the District.



CONTACT US

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Community Firewise Efforts Kick Off Again in January

The Indian Hills Firewise community group will kick off 2015 with a meeting on Monday, January 19 at 7 pm at the fire station. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Indian Hills Firewise group was established in early 2013 to research feasible ways for residents to get rid of excess vegetation on their property and therefore lower community vulnerability to a wildland fire. At that time, the District was divided into six neighborhoods and assigned leaders to each area.

Next summer, the County will host at least one slash collection site in Indian Hills as well as multiple other sites around the County. Details about dates, costs, and specific locations will be forthcoming.

In the meantime, Indian Hills Firewise community members will continue to meet and brainstorm local solutions. Come join the group!

If We Can't Find You, We Can't Help You!

Indian Hills Fire Rescue offers affordable house number signs made of rust-free aluminum with white numbers on a blue reflective background to help us find you should the need arise.

The signs are available in horizontal and vertical formats with numbers on one or both sides. Pricing is \$15 for a one-sided sign and \$20 for a two-sided sign. You can order your house number sign by completing an order form, which is available at the Indian Hills Post Office or on our website at www.ihfr.org.

If you have any questions about the signs, please call 303-697-4568.

Looking to Volunteer? Join the Indian Hills Fire Boots



If you're looking for a way to help your local fire department but are not quite up to the task of being a firefighter or medical responder, you should consider joining the Indian Hills Fire Boots.

The Boots, which was established in 2010, is a group of non-uniformed volunteers who provide support to Indian Hills Fire Rescue. Areas of involvement have included the Fourth of July festivities, fund raising, incident support, and the Big Chili event, among others.

The Boots meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm at the fire station. The next meeting is scheduled for December 17. For more information, call Jackie Kniss at 720-339-8618.



Indian Hills Fire Rescue

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Chief's Corner

With 2014 rapidly coming to a close, it's time to reflect on the year.

We were fortunate to have another moist summer that kept the wildland/urban interface fire danger low, requiring the department to only have to respond to two fires this season.

The 4th of July celebration was a great success with the pancake breakfast, Air Life medical chopper visit, parade, and fireworks show topping off the day's events. We would like to thank everyone for respecting the new water rules that were put in place this year during the parade to ensure that anyone who did not want to get wet could still participate.

We are looking forward to continuing to serve our community and the surrounding districts as needed in the ongoing effort to keep all safe in the foothills area.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday.

Emery Carson, Chief

