SUNRIVER FIRE & RESCUE
2019 ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARE  PRACTICE  RESPOND

PLAN
Sunriver Emergency Preparedness
Greetings To Our Community,

Sunriver Fire & Rescue serves the community of Sunriver as an all hazards fire department. We also provide ambulance service to 350 sq. miles outside of Sunriver. All nine of our career staff are firefighter/paramedics, providing advanced life support care, fire, and rescue services to our community.

In 2019, our primary focus was on emergency preparedness. The emergency preparedness preparation included community awareness presentations, community communications, siren testing, emergency operation center simulation of a wildland fire, and supporting the Sunriver ladder fuels reduction program. One of the important components of emergency preparedness is relationships with our Central Oregon fire suppression partners, Oregon Department of Transportation, Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office, United States Forest Service, and many others.

Highlights from 2019

⇒ New policies to improve decontamination after fire and ambulance emergencies
⇒ The successful and professional negotiation of a new three-year labor contract
⇒ New station uniforms and protective firefighting turnout
⇒ Replacement of our heart monitor/defibrillators
⇒ The purchase of Lexipol Policies and Fire Procedures
⇒ New/refurbished ambulance with a gurney lift system was put into service

We hosted our weekly fire station open house’s and attended public events throughout the community in 2019. We believe in supporting our community and appreciate your support of Sunriver Fire & Rescue.

I want to thank our Board of Directors, administrative staff, career and reserve firefighter/paramedics for their professionalism and commitment to serving Sunriver.

Tim Moor
Fire Chief

Motivated by our MISSION

The mission and commitment of Sunriver Fire & Rescue is to provide services designed to protect the people we serve from the adverse effects of fire, medical emergencies & exposure to other dangerous conditions through emergency response, education & prevention.
You guys are fantastic - thanks for your professionalism - in that energetic crash all I received was a cracked rib”.

-Community Member
EMERGENCY PLANNING and PREPAREDNESS

Our theme for the 2019 Annual Report is “PLAN”, as it best represents efforts for preparing our community for any natural or human-caused disaster that could happen. While we live in our beautiful forested community we know that many of the threats that exist in the world are less likely to occur here, but nonetheless they can happen anywhere. However, we do know that the threat of wildfire is certainly at the top of the list for planning and preparing our community.

Fire Chief Moor and Police Chief Darling conducted 12 community meetings, reaching more than 350 residents and owners sharing how they should plan to respond to an emergency situation, especially one that may require evacuation. They discussed the importance of family planning for emergency supplies as well as meeting places and routes for escape from disaster.

In collaboration with our partners in the Police Department, Deschutes County and SROA we continued to fine-tune our evacuation plan, tested our alert systems and messaged our community throughout the year on what they can expect from their emergency services during a disaster and what their role is in helping to have a safe outcome from whatever may be on the horizon. We look forward to even greater gains in our planning, preparedness and response practices and drills to continue to make Sunriver a safe and beautiful place to live.

EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER - PIO JIM BENNETT

In June, the Fire Department, in collaboration with the Police Department, conducted their annual Emergency Operations Center (EOC) drill. The tabletop drill brought together the emergency planning team that also includes representatives from the Sunriver Owner’s Association, Sunriver Resort, Service District management, Sunriver Village and our community utilities. The drill focused on a response to a wildfire scenario that included planning for evacuations and interaction with emergency responders who would be engaging the incident. The yearly drill provides important insight into our response planning, team development and identifying areas of challenge.
OPERATIONS
DEPUTY CHIEF BJORVIK

WE VALUE OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Our success is rooted in our personnel and bolstered by the partnerships we have fostered and continue to build upon with local, state and federal agencies.

The Newberry Division of the United States Forest Service is an agency that we work side-by-side with in response to various incidents that occur around or near Sunriver. In June, our department conducted an emergency medical services (EMS) training day with nearly 40 members of the Newberry Division.

The training provided firefighters experience at five different teaching stations: major trauma, medical incident response form, multi-agency coordination, Traverse Rescue Systems and fire-line medical emergencies, as well as a motor vehicle crash scenario. The experience provided direct training for forest service personnel in responding to their own incidents as well as assist SRFD with medical calls in our Ambulance Service Area (which includes national forest areas).

Whether it is participating in fire season briefing, working prescribed burns or other training, it all breeds familiarity and confidence. This directly benefits fire operations, by firefighters from different agencies, who may respond together on a fire or other incident, knowing each other, our tactics and resources before arriving at the scene.

One of the department’s other many important partners (too many to list in one annual report!) is the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), specifically the Prineville/Sisters Unit. They assist us with training, participate in fire season briefings, and help us obtain needed equipment.

MUTUAL AID AND TASK FORCE ASSIGNMENTS

The 2019 fire season, especially locally, had less significant wildfire incidents than in previous years. There were no incidents requiring an engine and crew response from SRFD, however Deputy Chief Bjorvik was called upon as Division Supervisor Trainee and also as Operations Section Chief Trainee. The first fire was the McKay Butte Fire northeast of La Pine in July which burned approximately 170 acres, followed by the Battle Creek Fire near Dayville in August, that burned 115 acres. The department received reimbursements to the district of nearly $9,800 for our participation in both fires.
OPERATIONS / Training

DEPUTY CHIEF BJORVIK

The department conducted over 2,845 hours of training in 2019. Training consisted of special schools and training courses as well as regularly scheduled in-house training.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Certificates Awarded:

- Driver/Operator: 4
- Firefighter 1: 4
- Firefighter 2: 1
- Mobile Water Supply Apparatus Operator: 4

National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Certificates Awarded:

- Firefighter Type 2: 5
- Firefighter Type 1: 3
- Single Resource Engine Boss: 1

Department members participated in numerous prescribed burns with Deschutes National Forest Newberry Division, as well as the Canyon 66, a 5,072 acre prescribed burn on the Ochoco National Forest in September.

Engineer Newcomb participates monthly in a Special Rescue Training with Bend Fire and Rescue.

Deputy Chief Bjorvik served as President of the Central Oregon Fire Instructors Association.

Central Oregon Wildfire School (COWS)

After nearly a ten-year absence, the Central Oregon Wildfire School (COWS) returned to Central Oregon. Driven by the strong support and logistics planning of Deputy Chief Bjorvik, the Central Oregon Fire Instructors Association, the Central Oregon Fire Management Service and departments throughout Central Oregon this important school once again provided wildlands live-fire experience for our structural (local) agencies.

The return of this important training opportunity was made possible by a generous grant from the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. Held in May on the Deschutes National Forest west of Sunriver, the training brought together 20 engine crews, comprised of 85 firefighters from throughout Deschutes County, as well as Crook County Fire and Rescue and Jefferson County Fire.
OPERATIONS / Apparatus

DEPUTY CHIEF BJORVIK

Engine 224
Structural Fire Engine
2016 Pierce Velocity
Primary “first-in” engine for SRFD

(Reserve) Engine 221
Structural Fire Engine
2000 Pierce Dash
Secondary structural engine for SRFD
*Standard structural fire equipment and 750 gallon water tank*

Medics 271 and 272
Medics
2019 and 2016 Ford F450
*Provides advanced life support and transport of patients.*

Truck 251
Ladder Truck
2009 Pierce Velocity
Ladder truck used for structural firefighting
*Standard structural fire equipment, 75’ aerial ladder and 460 gallon water tank*

Engine 242
Heavy Brush Engine
2008 Pierce Contender
Wildland and interface fire engine
*Wildlands fire equipment including hand tools, chainsaws and 500 gallon water tank*

Engine 241
Light Brush Engine
2008 Ford F450 4x4
Initial attack wildland and interface fire engine
*Wildlands fire equipment including hand tools, chainsaws and 350 gallon water tank*

Tender 231
Water Tender
2009 Freightliner
3,100 gallon water tank
*Tender for mobile water supply*
OPERATIONS / Statistics

DEPUTY CHIEF BJORVIK

CALLS FOR SERVICE

Calls For Service represent the total number of calls or incidents the department responds to during the year, from minor medical incidents to structural fires.

In 2019 the department responded to 618 calls for service.

NOTE: 2018 previously reported at 579, updated data is reflected in this chart (589).

MONTH BY MONTH

Monthly Calls For Service reflect the population increase and decrease based on seasonal visitation; with summer peak in July and August and again in December and January for the height of the ski season.

CALL TYPE

- **Fire** – Any incident with fire
- **False Alarm** – Fire or other alarm is cancelled before arrival or determined to be false
- **Medical/Rescue** – Medical services rendered or incidents requiring rescue (such as a motor vehicle accident)
- **Service Call** – Non emergency, low priority calls to assist the public (i.e. outreach, active home inspections)
- **Hazardous Conditions** – Non fire emergency incidents such as down power wires and reports of smoke
FIRE INCIDENTS
Fire incidents, as with most all fire departments, now represent a small percentage of total calls for service. However, low frequency, they are high risk and require extensive and continuous training since there is limited opportunity for “live-fire” incidents and exercises. In 2019 the department responded to 17 fire incidents.

IN AND OUT OF DISTRICT RESPONSE
- As with all fire agencies in Deschutes County, SRFD responds to incidents outside of the district to provide mutual aid support. This is provided through agreement between all agencies, to assist one another provide the timeliest response to emergencies and assist other agencies when they are impacted by major incidents. In 2019 the department responded to 85 incidents out of district.

PROPERTY LOSS VALUE
The property loss value is based on an educated estimate of the value of property that was damaged in a fire or other event. Total property loss in 2019 was $243,750.
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT WATERS

It was yet another busy year for office administration. Administrative Assistant Waters participated in and coordinated countless projects including preparations for the 2019/20 budget, EOC planning and drill, local and state training, training for new reserve staff and more. Administrative Assistant Waters also participated as a member in training opportunities with the Oregon Fire Service Office Administrators Association.

The **Ground Emergency Medical Transport** program (GEMT) was coordinated through the Administrative Assistant and provided significant Medicaid reimbursements of $45,195 in the 2018/19 budget year and $46,062 was collected retroactively from the 2017/18 budget year. General ambulance billing and collections were changed to another provider in 2019 to enhance reimbursements and collections.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE

CAPTAIN JEFFCOTT

Captain Jeffcott continued as President of the East Cascades Emergency Medical Services (ECEMS), as well as a member of the Deschutes County Ambulance Service Area Committee that reports directly to the County Commissioners on matters related to the assignment, regulation and monitoring of ambulance service areas within Deschutes County.

The department purchased two, new Lifepak 15 heart monitors. The department’s rebuilt ambulance (which was delivered in early 2019) is equipped with a new Stryker Power Load system that lifts the cot into the ambulance automatically without personnel having to lift. This helps reduce the possibility of back related injuries.

Past practice has been to respond to most medical calls with one Firefighter-Paramedic and one Firefighter-EMT in the medic (ambulance). Procedures were changed this year to provide a higher level of staffing and care for responses into our ambulance service area and mutual aid calls by having two paramedics (Firefighter and Engineer) on board.

**Ambulance Service Area and Transports**

The SRFD provides contemporary, industry leading, emergency medical services (EMS) to the Sunriver community. In addition, the department responds to medical/rescue incidents within the Ambulance Service Area (ASA). The ASA encompasses more than 350 square miles and includes hundreds of miles of roadway, campgrounds, lakes and forested areas. In 2019, the department billed for $132,396.00 in reimbursable ambulance transport costs.
Reserve Program / Technology

Reserve Firefighter Program

The department’s reserve training program, commanded by Captain Sphatt, was modified this year to help ensure that all new personnel were receiving the training that would best prepare them for work in our community. Changes allowed for greater accountability in training that reinforced what the Reserve Firefighters had learned in the Fire Academy, while blending with the department’s specific response strategies and tactics. The was also supported by a new firefighter manual and a two-week in house academy that provided a more solid structure of new firefighter training.

Each of our new Reserve Firefighters graduated from an extensive academy taught in cooperation with three other fire agencies in Central Oregon. During the academy new members attended classroom as well as hands-on exposure to the tools and techniques required for a new firefighter.

TECHNOLOGY - FIREFIGHTER, JJ JOHNSTON

Technology continues to be ever more important in the fire service. As the industry changes, we continue to strive to stay on the cutting edge of advancements to better serve our community. As such, the following technology additions and changes have been made at the department:

- An iPad was purchased for use while responding to calls to expedite response planning and information valuable to firefighters at the scene.
- New monitors and computers were installed in the fire station to keep firefighters informed, in real-time of calls and active incidents within the district.
- A small cell phone repeater was installed to better support in-station operations.
- A technology contract was established for support services from Deschutes County 911.
PREVENTION
CAPTAIN SPHATT

Community Events / Public Education

Captain Sphatt manages our life safety programming including community events and public education. In 2019, the department once again participated in numerous community events to provide fire safety education, outreach and community partnerships.

In 2019, the department installed 25 “Knox Boxes” in our community. These boxes contain a key to the location and can be accessed by emergency responders, saving valuable time. A critical tool in surviving a fire is having functioning and appropriately placed smoke alarms in your home or business. In 2019, the department assisted in installing these at more than 20 locations.

The department participated in seven large community events reaching 700 community members!

- July 4th festival
- Ponderosa tree planting
- National Night Out
- Health and Safety Fair
- National Night Out
- Trick-or-Treat at the Village
- Wonderland Express
- Kid’s Day

During the summer the department conducts public open houses, welcoming in our community to see the “inside” of their fire department. Nine open houses were held with more than 180 visitors!

The department also enjoys providing tours for interested groups and families. Over 100 people participated in our 15 tours.

The department made some changes to our commercial fire inspections program by partnering with the State Fire Marshal Office to complete inspections within our district. They conducted inspections at resort facilities and in the Village. The goal of these inspections is to help ensure safety in our community.

The SRFD provides CPR classes for members of our community. In 2019 we conducted six classes with over 70 participants being trained or recertified by Sunriver Firefighters!