



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

In 2021, the United States lost 240 firefighters due to COVID. Our volunteers continue to take precautions to protect both themselves and our patients (and their families). It's been a tough couple of years during this pandemic and it has been extremely dangerous for them. I am beyond grateful that they have continued to step up and be there for their community.

We continue to be vigilant in our weekly training. You have possibly seen us behind station one burning in our burn box, working on our skill set. In 2021, we responded to 16 structures fires where we needed to use our skill set.

For last two years, we have applied for a FEMA grant to purchase a new fire engine. Sadly, we have been turned down both times due to call volume (or lack of). Our fleet is aging and our newest fire engine is 16 years old. The Board of Commissioners continue to look for financial solutions to replace our 1984 fire engine and/or our 2001 fire engine.

Please be vigilant with COVID and protect yourself.



RECRUIT ACADEMY GRADUATES

Congratulations to Joe Fleming and Tanner Braman on completing the 2021 recruit academy. Joe and Tanner spent over 200 hours in academy plus countless hours studying at home. They

are currently attending more schooling to get their hazmat and FF1 certifications.

COMMISSIONER STEVE HARMON

Steve Harmon was a commissioner with Fire District 9 from 2016 until 2021. He graciously stepped up to fill the spot vacated by commissioner Dean Shelton. He was a great asset to our fire district and is still a great asset for our community. He was an immense help in facilitating two ballot measures. He was chairman of the commissioner board for two years holding many community meetings and finishing multiple district projects. Thank you Steve for your service!

FIREFIGHTER SPOTLIGHT

Joe Fleming joined the Big Lake Fire Department because he has always wanted to be involved in his community. He is an accountant at a local CPA firm and is married with two kids. His hobbies include traveling and now firefighting. He knew after his first meeting with Chief Berg that Big Lake Fire was the place he was meant to be.

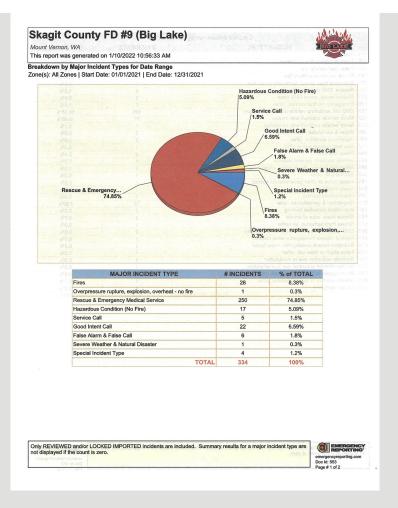


THEFTS

2021 has been a year for our satellite stations being burglarized once again along with our neighboring fire districts. These stations are remote and unmanned so an easier target to break into during the night. Supply chain demand is making it hard to replace our gas-powered equipment. Our volunteers have spent countless hours repairing the doors, installing cameras, adding door guards and window screens. It is sad that we have to cable and lock our equipment inside the station now. If you see something suspicious, please report it!

CALL VOLUME

In 2021, Big Lake Fire saw the highest call volume in its history. (The previous record of 321 was in 2017). This included responding to 16 structure fires, 10 wildland fires, 42 motor vehicle accidents and 195 medical calls.



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ADDRESS SIGN

Address signs are something that gets looked over. When a new house is complete, nobody wants to attach it to the front side of their house or they don't have a mailbox to hang it on. Please remember this is how we find you. If cars park in front of it, we won't see it, especially on the 3rd of July. Make sure your sign can be seen from either direction. In long driveways, sometimes more than one sign is needed to direct us to your location especially when there are split driveways and/or multiple families in one location. If we can't find you, we can't help you.

Web Version Forward

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