Chief’s Report

I would like to update you on some of the exciting things that have been happening in the North Highline Fire District #11 (NHFD). In 2019, NHFD entered into a consolidation agreement with King County Fire District #2 (King 2). NHFD and King 2 have had a long-standing agreement, which improved benefits to both Districts and was renegotiated several times over the years. The 2019 agreement brings NHFD long-term financial and operational stability by streamlining response and chain of command for fire and emergency medical aid services.

In 2020, NHFD will ask North Highline voters to reauthorize the 2015-2020 Fire Benefit Charge that passed in 2014 with overwhelming voter support. The Fire Benefit Charge provides NHFD with a stable funding source to provide high quality services to North Highline. For instance, we purchased 2 new, much needed fire engines without going into debt and began staffing an aid car. More than 75% of NHFD’s 9-1-1 calls are aid related. Year over year, aid calls represent the greatest increase in the number of NHFD’s 9-1-1 calls. Before the Fire Benefit Charge, NHFD did not have enough money to staff the aid car.

Today, NHFD’s Board of Commissioners has positioned us to bring back the aid car and the important services it provides to our community. Because of the Fire Benefit Charge and our agreement with District 2, we now provide an aid car at Station 18 on an intermittent basis. The aid car is budgeted to be in service about half-time in 2020. Our goal is to have the aid car staffed full-time 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

The Fire Benefit Charge is an integral component of the NHFD’s long term funding. The Board of Commissioners has carefully monitored the amount of the Fire Benefit Charge and prudently budgeted your tax dollars over the 6-year history of the Fire Benefit Charge. In fact, the Board of Commissioners reduced the total amount of the Fire Benefit Charge from the prior year in 3 of 6 years.

Without your support, NHFD would be unable to provide North Highline with the quality fire and emergency medical services you need and deserve. We are humbled by the continuous and generous support from the community we serve. Thank you!

Be Safe and Thank You for Your Continued Support!

Chief Mike Marrs
Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. Following a few simple tips from the National Fire Protection Association will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

Source: nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2019

**Holiday Decorating**

- Keep candles away from decorations and other things that can burn. • Keep decorations away from windows and doors. • Be careful with holiday decorations and choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant. • Replace any string of lights with old or broken cords or loose bulb connections. • Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged. • Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both. • Read manufacturer’s instructions for number of light strands to connect.

**Holiday Entertaining**

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan. • Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop. • Keep children and pets away from candles. • Ask smokers to smoke outside and remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them. • Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet. • Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers and wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

www.NorthHighlineFD.org
Baby It’s Cold Outside...

If you are stopped or stalled in wintry weather, follow these safety rules:

- Stay with your vehicle and don’t overexert yourself.
- Put bright markers on the antenna or windows and keep the interior dome light turned on.
- Don’t run your car for long periods of time with the windows up or in an enclosed space. If you must run your vehicle, clear the exhaust pipe of any snow and run it only sporadically — just long enough to stay warm.
- Make sure your cell phone is on because even if you do not have service, your phone is still communicating with the outside world and can assist in locating you! Save your battery by dimming your display, turn off vibration mode, and turn off voice controls, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and other apps in the background.
Run Report for November 2019

- Fires: 36
- EMS/Rescues: 703
- Other: 45
- False/Cancelled Alarms: 119

You are Invited to the North Highline Fire District Board Meetings

Your elected fire commissioners: Liz Giba, Julie Hiatt, and Dominic Barrera invite you to attend our monthly Board Meetings, which are held on the fourth Monday of each month at: 6:00pm at Station #18 in White Center at 1243 SW 112th St.

We encourage everyone to come, learn what challenges our district faces, what we are doing about them, and give us your input. You don’t need to RSVP if you want to attend, just show up. For more information, go to our website: www.NorthHighlineFD.org or call us at: 206-243-0330

HOLIDAY PET SAFETY

The 5 things every pet should avoid during the Holidays

POINSETTIAS & MISTLETOE

TINSEL

CHRISTMAS TREES

CANDLES

(some) HOLIDAY FOODS

Winter Safety Tips

- Lights On! Our day-light hours are much shorter than they used to be. It is a great idea to make some small changes to our daily routines to help keep ourselves safe: Avoid coming home in the dark.
- Leave porch lights on or make sure they have a light photo sensor so they automatically come on in the dark.
- Leave lamps on timers so your house is well lit when you arrive home.
- If you notice a street light is out, jot down the address and report it to the city so it can be inspected or repaired.
- When leaving for parties or on vacation, leave lights on timers.

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