

Three Rivers Fire Community Outreach

The Three Rivers Fire Department is looking for ways to improve our service to you. We're seeking your answers to a few questions, and hope to hear from you.

We need new volunteers. Many of our veteran firefighters have moved away or retired. Becoming a volunteer firefighter not only provides an essential service to our community, our Tuesday night meetings are a great way to meet your neighbors. Everyone is welcome. Can you help?

Smoke detectors save lives. Do you have all that you need? How old are the batteries on the ones you have? We'll be glad to provide and install new detectors, or install new batteries, as needed. Please just let us know.

Our community website is 3riversfire.org. Check it out! Let us know what you think.

- The HOME page has a slide show of our volunteers in action.
- Click the VOLUNTEER page to contact us with questions, comments and requests.
- Click the COMMISSIONERS page for announcements and commissioner meeting notes.
- Click the COMMUNITY-OUTREACH page to see this handout and an addendum document.

How prepared are you for a natural disaster? If our district suffers a record flood or major earthquake with bridges down and an extended power outage, would you have adequate food, shelter, and water? What else might you need?

You no doubt saw the catastrophic impact of the 2011 earthquake/tsunami in Japan. We face a similar threat here, and you can get more information about it in the addendum document on our website. To prepare for such an event, our department is considering a plan to equip the fire hall as an emergency center. This would include:

- a whole-building backup generator
- a base station for radio communications
- seismic strengthening of the fire hall

Recent discussion of response to such a disaster has identified the Quillayute airport as the hub for airborne relief efforts in western Clallam and Jefferson counties. In addition to the above, we plan to coordinate with the city of Forks and county, state and federal agencies to upgrade airport facilities as much as possible.

Do you support these goals? We'd like to hear from you regardless of whether you do or don't.

First of all, please rest assured that we have no plans to raise your taxes. Most of our existing reserve fund is earmarked for maintaining existing equipment and replacing it when needed, so the plan to provide emergency center capabilities depends on obtaining a grant. Grant agencies base their decisions in part upon the support the proposal receives within the community that it will serve. Your opinion will help us decide whether or not to pursue these goals, so please "volunteer" your opinion on the Contact Us page: <http://www.3riversfire.org/volunteer.html>. Or you can contact us at: Three Rivers Fire Department, P.O. Box 2385, Forks, WA 98331.