

Est. 1999

TALLAHASSEE RURAL
FIRE PROTECTION
ASS'N NEWSLETTER

Visit our web site at www.tallahasseevfd.com

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12 Mile Park

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Tallahassee Creeks

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August 2007

Emergency Fire Call # - 275-3058

President, Board of Directors, TRFPA
By Fred Arnold

Hello everyone,

It doesn't seem possible that September is just around the corner. It seems that only yesterday we were shoveling snow. We have been blessed with much needed moisture this summer. The flowers, grass, and other vegetation (weeds) have really grown this summer. We have also experienced some flooding in localized areas. If you have noticed any roads that have been washed out please let us know so that we can plan alternate routes (if available). You may experience some washouts when you visit your property. In the event of a fire it is important that roads and driveways are passable for our fire apparatus. If you are not able to visit your property, ask someone who lives in the area to check on your driveway and on the roads leading to your property.

So far, we have had a limited number of fires this summer. The moisture content in the trees and brush is up and the fire danger is low/moderate. Now is the time to make your structures more fire safe. Cutting and /or removing vegetation around the perimeter of all structures and propane tanks is very important. Vegetation that grew a few inches in years past is now several feet tall. This vegetation will dry out and become a highly flammable fire hazard.

There are no fire bans in place at this time. If you are planning any controlled burns please follow the following safety rules:

- Call our fire number (275-3058) and give your name and location of the burn.
- Have plenty of water on hand to control the size of your fire.
- Burn early in the morning to allow for changing weather conditions.
- Stay with your fire until it is completely out.
- Have all fires completely out before dark.

Have a safe remainder of the summer and enjoy all the beautiful colors that the summer rains have brought us.

Until next time,
May God Bless

ON THE FIRELINE

Back in the early spring, it was suggested that TRFPA was going to have an average fire season this year. So far, that has been the case, with only a few lightning-caused fires. However, the fire season is not over yet! With the consistent rain storms in July and August, there is now an abundance of grasses. These will soon begin to dry out and the possibility of fall fires will be upon us. Maintaining mowed areas around structures and timber stands will reduce any fire from advancing quickly to those areas.

All summer long, TRFPA has had firefighters deployed throughout the country. August is no exception, as we currently have firefighters deployed in California. This is a great training opportunity for those who participate, and it brings valuable experience to TRFPA.

Your continued support is always appreciated and is used to maintain our local equipment and personnel. If you should meet one of your firefighters, please extend a "thank you" to him or her!

Respectfully,
Erik Johnson, Fire Chief

**For a controlled burn or to report a fire dial 719-275-3058.
For all other emergencies dial 911.**

FIREFIGHTER TRAINING - SEPTEMBER 22

Firefighter training will be held on September 22 at the King Meadows Station on CR 11 at 0900hrs. All firefighters should plan to attend.

TRFPA MEETINGS

Our next meeting is a combined Board and Membership meeting. It will be held on **September 8, 2007**, at the Mountain View Trading Post, 45606 US Hwy 50, 275-0900, and will start at 6:00 pm. The October meeting is a regular Board meeting and will be held on **October 13, 2007**. Come early and join your friends and neighbors for dinner!

WILDLAND FIRE USE PROGRAM

Fire is a natural part of the wildland ecosystem, and some plants and animals depend on it for their survival and regeneration. "Wildland Fire Use" is a program used by the BLM and by the US Forest Service to manage some lightning-caused fires that meet stringent selection criteria. In approved areas, selected fires are allowed to play their natural role in the life cycle of the forest by being allowed to burn instead of being suppressed. The benefits of this program include: reduced risk of catastrophic fire, wildlife habitat improvement, fuels reduction, improved forest health, and a reduction in future fire suppression costs. For more information on this program, call the BLM/USFS interagency office at 269-8500 and ask for Ed Skerjanec, Fire Management Officer, or for Toni Toelle, Assistant Fire Management Officer.

TALLAHASSEE RURAL FIRE
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NEWSLETTER

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