



Community Events:

No Backyard Burning
June 16th through
September 30th

**Philomath Frolic &
Rodeo**
July 12—14

First Aid/CPR Class
July 14
9am—4pm

Philomath Uncorked
July 28
3:00—7:00 pm

National Night Out
August 7

First Aid/CPR Class
August 18
9am—4pm

Back to School
August 28 & 29

**PYAC Community
Carnival**
September 14

First Aid/CPR Class
September 15
9am—4pm

Fire Prevention Week
October 7—13

**Philomath Fire & Rescue
Open House**
October 13

11:00 am—2:00 pm
Come down for
community education
and an engine ride!

First Aid/CPR Class
October 20
9am—4pm

First Aid/CPR Class
November 17
9am—4pm

Hot off the Press

Summer 2018

Ready, Set, Go

The United States is experiencing longer and more severe wildfire seasons than ever before. This year wildfires have already broken out in Colorado and New Mexico and we are expecting wildfires to flare up in Oregon some time in July. Here in Benton County we are seeing extremes of weather as we enter the fire season - a period characterized by high temperatures, no significant rainfall, and vegetation that has dried to a crisp. One spark in tall grasses on a breezy day, and we could have a wildfire catastrophe on our hands.

Each year many homes survive wildfires, while others do not. The homes that survive often owe their survival to the fact that their owners prepared for the possibility of wildfire:

Ready – Take personal responsibility and prepare in advance: create Defensible Space.

First and foremost, be sure you have prepared your home and property by creating defensible space, and getting your home ready for wildfire. Actions such as removing pine needles from your roof and gutters, keeping the landscape within 30 feet of your home lean and green will make a difference. To learn how to create defensible space, visit our Protect Your Home

website: <https://www.co.benton.or.us/planning/page/wildfire-protection>

- Plan more than one escape route from your home or subdivision by car and by foot.
- Prepare a family evacuation kit.
- Residents in wildfire risk areas should make a home inventory – lists, pictures or a videotape of the contents of your home. Insurance adjusters will expect you to prove what you had with either receipts or photographs.
- Make a family communication plan and pick two meeting places for your family.

Set – Maintain Situational awareness.

Pack your emergency items. Stay aware of the

latest news and information on the fire from local media, your local fire department and public safety agency.

Go! - Time to Evacuate - Act early!

Follow your personal wildland fire action plan. Doing so will support your safety and will allow firefighters to best maneuver resources to combat the fire.

If advised to evacuate, do so immediately and safely.

For more information, please go to the Ready, Set, Go website at: [http://](http://www.wildlandfirersg.org/)

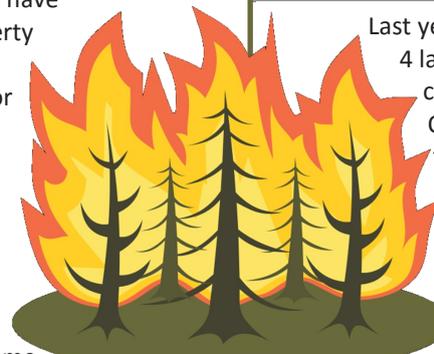
www.wildlandfirersg.org/, or call us at 541.360.0030 for a home preparedness inspection.

A word from the Chief

Last year our personnel responded to 4 large wildfires, called conflagrations, within the state of Oregon and 2 conflagrations in the state of California. Over the last decade the West Coast has struggled with these large fires due, primarily, to the fact that we have had below average rainfall and snowpack.

Summer 2018 is expected to be just as dry, meaning that our responders will likely be sent out of District to help suppress more of these large fires.

Within the District, we also respond to many field fires during the summer months. A haphazardly disposed cigarette butt or wayward firecracker can cause considerable damage. Because of this potential, backyard burning is prohibited this time of year. We understand that it can be frustrating looking at that pile of yard debris, knowing that it will have to sit or be hauled to the dump. But we would like to thank everyone who resists the urge to illegally burn, understanding that the risk just isn't worth the reward.



Philomath Fire & Rescue

1035 Main Street, P.O. Box 247
Philomath, OR 97370
Phone: 541-360-0030

Visit our website: www.philomathfire.com
and like us on Facebook!

Our Mission:

*The preservation of property through the
extinguishment and prevention of fires.*

*The protection and care of human life through
education and treatment.*

*The development of character through
commitment and teamwork.*

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer

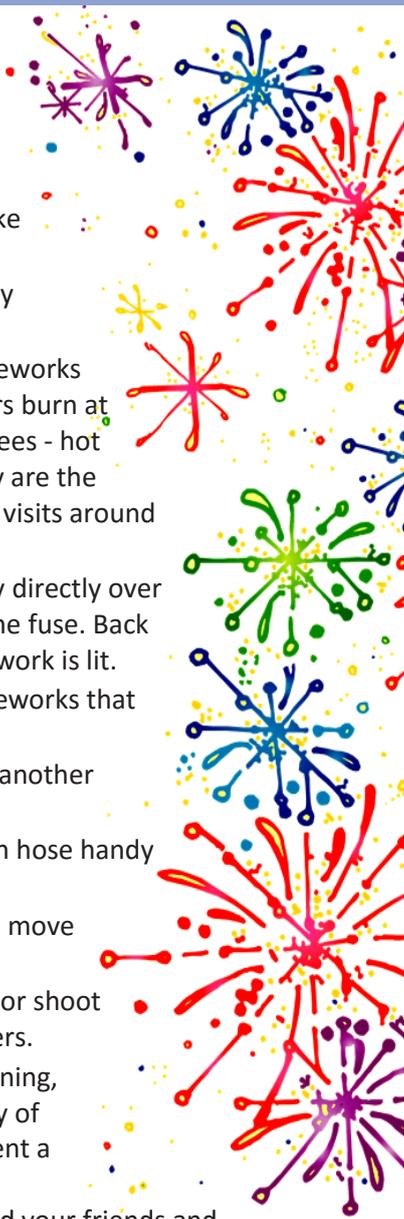
Fireworks Safety

4th of July is wonderful for spending time with the family and celebrating! Fireworks are a fun and exciting addition to the party as long as you take some safety precautions first:

- Do not allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Always have an adult supervise fireworks activities, even sparklers! Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees - hot enough to melt some metals. They are the reason for many emergency room visits around the 4th of July.
- Do not place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance once the firework is lit.
- Do not try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not ignited fully.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Do not carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.

With a few simple precautions, you and your friends and family can have a fun and safe 4th of July!

These fireworks safety tips come from the Consumers Product Safety Commission. More information can be found on their website: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks>



Volunteer Spotlight—Dave Wiger

Dave Wiger is a 40-year volunteer of Philomath Fire & Rescue and has worked with the Oregon Department of Forestry since 1974. In addition to contributing his time with the Fire Department, he also volunteered with the Warrior Swim Team, the Dolphin Swim Team, the PHS Electron Run, and put in approximately 250 hours towards the construction of the Philomath Library.

Always civic minded and community oriented, Dave said that his passion for wildland firefighting is what brought him to Philomath Fire & Rescue. He was able to translate his love for forest management and protection into work dedicated to protecting his neighbors and community.

“Dave’s contribution to the community is unprecedented. He is an inspiration and mentor to new members of the department. He is a true leader and an example for all” says Chief Miller. “We cannot thank him enough for his time and dedication to the Philomath Community”.

Have you thought about giving back to the community but don’t know where to start? Stop by Station 201 on Main Street to talk to our personnel about how the Fire Service might be right for you!

