

# THE AERIAL VIEW

THE OFFICIAL FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

Summer 2022 Edition- July



## CONTENT

Message from Chief Davis

The Fire Front

#YourFWFD Community Outreach

Summer Safety Information

Quarterly Statistics

Welcome to this edition of the Fort Worth Fire Department's Quarterly Newsletter: ***The Aerial View!*** We've entered the heat of summer and the FWFD has been incredibly busy with wildfires, heat related EMS calls and July 4th safety preparations. In this edition, you'll find information on all of these topics and more.

To stay up-to-date with the latest information on your Fort Worth Fire Department, be sure to follow us on social media.

## Contact

### Email:

FirePIO@fortworthtexas.gov

### Phone:

817-392-6886

## Follow Your Fort Worth Fire Department on Social Media



@fortworthfire



@fortworthfd



Fort Worth  
Fire Department



FortWorthFire



bit.ly/3BT3Jq5

## Letter from Fire Chief Jim Davis

Dear Fort Worth,

First and foremost, we want to thank YOU, the residents of Fort Worth for voting yes to the bond. On May 7th, you voted "YES" to the **2022 Bond project**. By passing this project, we will be able to fund the reconstruction of **Station 16** and **Station 37**. As the city grows, we need to grow to meet the needs of our residents. We truly appreciate your support to help this important funding pass.



We're sad to announce the retirement of **Assistant Chief Homer Robertson**. Chief Robertson has been a dedicated firefighter with this department for 37 years. On **July 7th**, there will be a "send off" event at the Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex (505 W. Felix Street) from noon-3pm. All are welcome to stop by and join us in congratulating him on an incredibly successful career.

The Fort Worth Fire Department has welcomed a new uniformed **Public Information Officer (PIO)**. Engineer **Craig Trojacek**. He's been with the FWFD for 19 years.



He stepped into the role as the PIO in May and quickly hit the ground running. Engineer Trojacek serves as the liaison between the Fire Department and the residents of Fort Worth and the media to provide timely, accurate and important updates, information and alerts. We're excited to bring his experience to the Communications Office.



On May 18th and 19th, the FWFD deployed 5 firefighters with TIFMAS (Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System) to battle the **Coconut Wildfire** (28,500 acres burned) and the **Mesquite Heat Wildfire** (11,000 acres burned). The highly trained FWFD wildland team joined the TIFMAS Strike Team with firefighters from San Angelo, McKinney, Allen, Dallas and Houston. They were sent out on a 16-day deployment and all returned home safely.

As we prepare to celebrate the **4th of July** in Fort Worth, we are asking the residents of the city to be mindful of the dangers of fireworks.



Not only are they illegal, but they pose a dangerous threat for grass and wildfires given our current **drought** situation. The FWFD's response to grass/brush fires has increased exponentially this summer. The response rate has been **700%** more than it was at this time last year. Please remain vigilant to avoid sparks and embers. And remember that fireworks are illegal in Fort Worth. We want to wish you all a very **happy** and **safe** 4th of July!

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve as your Fire Department in the City of Fort Worth. We appreciate your support, your hospitality and your generosity. Stay safe.

Sincerely,

*Jim Davis*

# THE FIRE FRONT

*A Closer Look Spotlighting a Fire Response from this Quarter*



Crews on scene at the fire work to remove antique books, vases and photographs from the home. Knowing the items would sit in the water and soot until the homeowners could return, fire crews wanted to ensure these irreplaceable antiques and personal valuables were given a chance at restoration.

## Residential Structure Fire at 16 Trinity Oaks Road

*June 18, 2022*

At 6am on June 18th, the Fort Worth Fire Department was dispatched to a residential structure fire on Trinity Oaks Road in Westworth Village. The arriving crews from Station 16, Station 18, Station 6 and mutual aid from the River Oaks Fire Department saw heavy smoke and fire coming from the roof of a large one story home.

Firefighters immediately began an aggressive attack on the fire until part of the roof collapsed. **ALL** fire personnel were evacuated from the burning structure and a headcount (PAR) was taken to ensure everyone made it out safely. After everyone was accounted for, the fire turned defensive and crews worked to extinguish it using an aerial and multiple hose lines.

The residents of the house were not home at the time of the fire. Knowing that the homeowners wouldn't have a chance to come back in enough time to salvage what could be saved, fire crews stayed on scene to pull out whatever they could from the water and smoke in hopes it can be restored. From the start of the fire until clean up/salvage efforts ended, the FWFD was on scene for more than six hours.

We want to thank the neighbors for their generosity in providing water, snacks and even lunch to all of us in the triple digit heat. Our job is to serve the residents of Fort Worth and we want you to know how much we appreciate your continuous support.

*\*Westworth Village contracts with the FWFD as their fire service department after previously relying on a volunteer department.*

# #YourFWFD in the Community

*Educating, Training and Assisting the Residents of Fort Worth*



Your Fort Worth Fire Department is committed to serving our community by providing exceptional fire and life safety education services through engaging demonstrations and informative programs.

If you would like to learn more about events or have us come to your school/ business/ community group/ event, please contact us at:

 817-392-6862



Fire.Safety@FortWorthTexas.gov

## Events in the Community

*April 2022 through June 2022*

**#YourFWFD was proud to take part in these community events:**

- The **Community Risk Reduction** team teaches CPR/AED classes; gives Safety House demonstrations; provides "Career Day" presentations; and participates in Health & Safety Fairs. Because of these events and activities, the FWFD was able to educate, train and interact with:
  - **In March:** 1,438 **children** and 1,249 **adults** (2,687 total)
  - **In April:** 1,981 **children** and 802 **adults** (2,783 total)
  - **In May:** 3,310 **children** and 4,368 **adults** (7,678 total)- includes the Mayfest booth.
  - **In June:** to be calculated!
- **May 25th-** The FWFD was honored to be a part of the "Where Achievement Begins: Mayor's Celebration for Workforce-Ready Graduates" ceremony at the Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex.
- **June 1st-** FWFD Fire Chief Davis kicked off the Mayor's Summer reading challenge at the Summerglenn Public Library. Chief Davis read "Curious George and the Firefighters" to about 40 children and then the kids were treated to a tour of Engine 31 and the crew's gear and tools.

## Report Fireworks Online



Scan here to access the online portal to report fireworks in the City of Fort Worth.



Report Fireworks

Call:

817-392-4444

Report Online:

[reportfireworks.fortworthtexas.gov](http://reportfireworks.fortworthtexas.gov)

MyFW App:

Download app to any smart phone

# 4th of July Safety

The Fort Worth Fire Department is gearing up for Fourth of July operations and reminds our residents that the possession, sale or discharge of fireworks in the City of Fort Worth is illegal. Between July 1st and the 6th of 2021, we received over 4,500 calls reporting fireworks. We also receive an increase for our most common calls (including grass fires, structure fires, trash fires and traumatic injuries).

In order to continue to provide the quickest response possible to emergency calls, we ask that our residents use the Non-Emergency Fireworks Hotline to report fireworks. Residents can call **817-392-4444**, report them online at **[reportfireworks.fortworthtexas.gov](http://reportfireworks.fortworthtexas.gov)** or use the **MyFW** Smartphone App. We want to stress though, that if you have an emergency situation, please continue to call 911.

On June 28th, Tarrant County issued a burn ban prohibiting outside burning within the unincorporated areas of the County for a period of 90 days.

Tarrant County is in an extreme drought with ALL of Fort Worth affected.

6.1-7.5.2021

- Grass/Brush Fires: **109**
- Residential, apartment, commercial, outside, and outbuilding fires: **202**

6.1-6.28.2022

- Grass/Brush Fires: **163**
- Residential, apartment, commercial, outside, and outbuilding fires: **241**

## STAY SAFE FORT WORTH SUMMER HEAT SAFETY

### KEEP COOL

Wear light-colored, loose fitting clothing that permits the evaporation of perspiration. Wear sunscreen & wide-brimmed hats to prevent sunburn & heat-related illness. Avoid staying in the sun for extended periods. Conduct outdoor work or exercise in the early morning or evening when it is cooler. Seek air-conditioning during the heat of the day (libraries, malls, etc.)





### STAY HYDRATED

Drink water throughout the day to replace fluid lost to sweat & heat. Don't wait for extreme thirst to drink. Avoid alcohol, caffeine & sugary drinks. Make sure your family, friends & neighbors are drinking enough water.

### BE PREPARED

Check on the elderly & neighbors to look for signs of heat-related illnesses. **NEVER** leave children, senior citizens or pets unattended in a vehicle, even for a short period of time!

### STAY INFORMED

Check the local news for extreme heat warnings & safety tips. Keep your friends, family & neighbors aware of weather & heat safety info.



Fort Worth Fire Department

## It's Summertime in Texas

Take measures to keep cool, remain hydrated, and stay informed. You can become ill from the heat if your body can't compensate for it and properly cool you off. The main things affecting your body's ability to cool itself during extremely hot weather are:

- **High humidity.** When the humidity is high, sweat won't evaporate as quickly. This keeps your body from releasing heat as fast as it may need to.
- **Personal factors.** Age, obesity, fever, dehydration, heart disease, mental illness, poor circulation, sunburn, and prescription drug and alcohol use all can play a role in whether a person can cool off enough in very hot weather.

\*CDC.gov

## Record High Temps!

The National Weather Service is comparing the summer of 2022 to that of 2011 and 1980- the hottest summers with the most consecutive 100°+ days.

**Did you know:** The agricultural financial impact of the 2011 heat wave was \$7.62 billion? While Texans are used to the heat, it is incredibly dangerous to you, your pets, your home and livestock.



## Extreme Heat Safety Checklist

- ( ) Wear loose fitting and light colored clothing
- ( ) Drink plenty of water and stay hydrated
- ( ) NEVER leave children or pets unattended in vehicles
- ( ) Limit your time outdoors (especially physical activity)
- ( ) Call elderly relatives and neighbors to check on them
- ( ) Watch for symptoms of being overheated and take action
- ( ) If you must go outdoors, wear sunscreen and take breaks often
- ( ) Be extra cautious with children who are more vulnerable to heat
- ( ) Stay informed by monitoring the weather and all alerts



FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR MARCH 2022-JUNE 2022



**Fire Responses**  
1,922 Calls



**Emergency Medical Service**  
28,883 Calls



**Automatic Alarms**  
2,480 Calls



**Motor Vehicle Accidents**  
4,347 Calls



**Other Responses**  
6,294 Calls

**Total Calls:**  
**43,926**



# Quarterly Calls for Service Totals

Between March 1, 2022 and June 30, 2022, the Fort Worth Fire Department responded to just under **43,926** calls for service.

Nearly **66%** of these calls were emergency medical service calls ranging from cardiac arrest to strokes. The "other responses" include calls for service such as air craft alerts, high water rescues, and gas leaks for example.

On average, your Fort Worth Fire Department responds to about 146,000 calls a year. The call types vary during the time of year. In the summer months, we respond to multiple grass/brush fires as well as increased EMS calls for heat-related issues. Make sure you're prepared for extended periods of extensive heat for the next few months!

Your safety is our top priority and we're proud to serve the residents of Fort Worth.

# Register for Emergency Alerts

The City of Fort Worth, through the Fire Department's Office of Emergency Management, has a **free** alert system called "Fort Worth Texas Alerts."

*This system replaced the NIXLE system.* If you were previously registered for "NIXLE alerts," you will need to register for this system in order to receive emergency notifications.

You can register for texts, phone calls, email or a combination of all three at by visiting **this site** to sign up today!

## FortWorthTexasAlerts.Gov

There are three ways to receive a "FortWorthTexasAlerts" alert from the **Fort Worth Fire Department Office of Emergency Management**. You can choose all options or whichever is most convenient for you.



### TEXT MESSAGE

When a FortWorthTexasAlerts.gov alert is sent out you can receive just a text on your phone to alert you of the notification.



### PHONE CALL

You can opt to also receive a phone call but this is not a requirement. When you register or update your registration add or remove this option.



### EMAIL

You can also receive an email with details about the alert. Your information will not be shared outside of FortWorthTexasAlerts.gov.

**\*\*Please be sure when you sign up for alerts to fully register and not sign up as a "guest." This enables you to edit your account as needed.**

[WWW.FORTWORTHTEXASALERTS.GOV](http://WWW.FORTWORTHTEXASALERTS.GOV)

