

# THE AERIAL VIEW

THE OFFICIAL FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

Fall 2022 Edition- October



Welcome to this edition of the Fort Worth Fire Department's Quarterly Newsletter: **The Aerial View!** The holidays are quickly approaching as are the colder temperatures. We've got the tips you need to have a safe holiday season this year! In this edition, you'll find information on this topic and so much more.

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



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## 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,

We want to thank the community and all of our neighboring cities for their outpouring of support as we mourned the loss of one of our own this September. Engineer David Greene passed away on September 19th after a short battle with occupational cancer. He served the City of Fort Worth for 29 years. We continue to keep his loved ones and friends in our thoughts and prayers.



On August 26th, we proudly welcomed Fire Recruit Class 91 to the FWFD at their graduation ceremony held at the Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex. The class of 29 recruits took their official oath to serve the residents of Fort Worth with their family, friends, Mayor, Councilmembers and fellow FWFD firefighters in attendance. Congratulations to all of you once again. We will see the next class of graduating recruits on November 18th with Class 92.

As we shut the door on the summer months in Texas, we would be remiss to reflect back on one of the **hottest** and **driest summers** we have seen in a while. The weather conditions made for an incredibly busy summer with a **238% increase** in wildfire and grassfire responses since 2021 and **148% increase** since 2021. Our firefighters worked **1,690** of these fires from June 1st to August 21st.



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If not for the historic rainfall on August 21st-22nd, the end to the grassfires would have been unknown. We cover more on the record-breaking and dangerous weather that came through North Texas in "The Fire Front".

We continue to send our thoughts and prayers for relief and recovery to Florida in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian. The FWFD was proud to send members



Photo Courtesy of Texas Task Force 1

of our Department to Florida with the Texas Task Force 1. The road to the new normal is going to be a long one for the people of Florida, and we stand ready to support them if needed again.

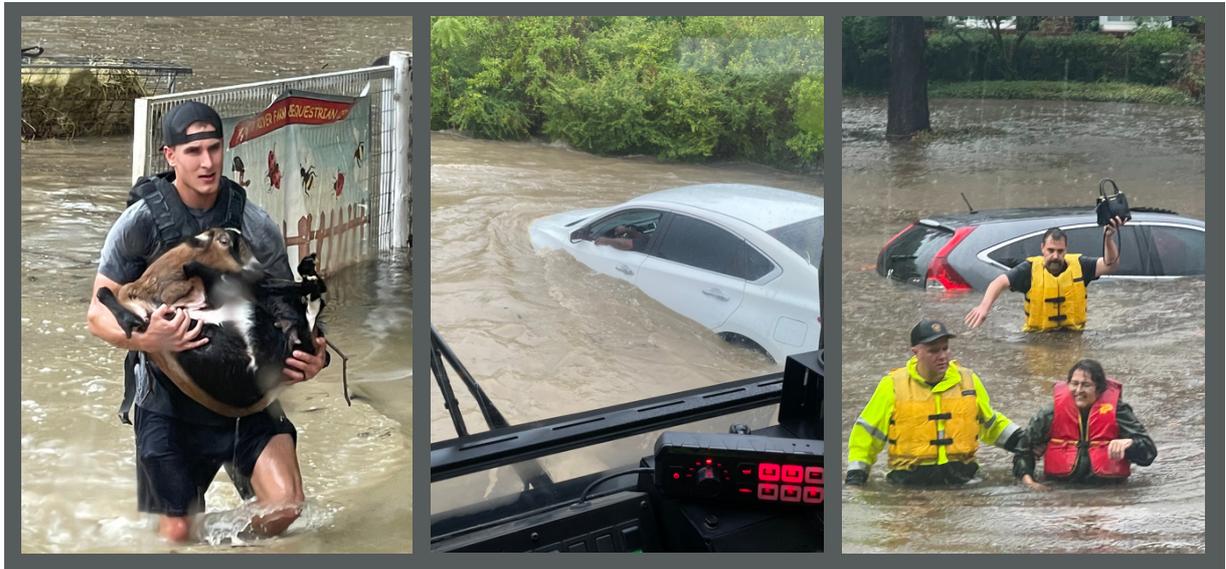
Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve as your Fire Department in the City of Fort Worth. We appreciate your support, your hospitality and your generosity. Stay safe.

Sincerely,

*Jim Davis*

# THE FIRE FRONT

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



*Fort Worth firefighters worked around the clock making water rescues of residents stranded in their vehicles and livestock trapped in flood waters.*

## Historic Rainfall Leads to Widespread Flooding

**August 22, 2022**

The rain began to fall in the Metroplex on Sunday evening, August 21st and did not end until late Monday on August 22nd. The record-breaking rainfall crushed a **67**-day streak without rainfall. This was the second longest stretch on record.

According to the US National Weather Service - Fort Worth, the total 24-hour rainfall in DFW was also the second greatest with **9.56** inches of rain falling. The daily record for the greatest amount of rainfall for both the 21st and the 22nd were broken as well. Those records had been in place for over **100 years**.

The Fort Worth Fire Department was dispatched to a total of **174** high water investigations and high-water rescues beginning at 10pm on Sunday night. Many motorists were stranded in their vehicles after attempting to drive through standing water. In addition to the high-water calls, the Fire Department responded to **500** calls for service including EMS needs, motor vehicle accidents and structure fires, just between midnight and 4pm on Monday.

We stand ready, fully trained and prepared to respond to your calls for help. While we hope to never see that kind of rainfall any time soon, we know that it's just a matter of time. We can't stress the importance of **not** driving through standing water or venturing out into water- *it does not take much water to move you or your vehicle*. Please be safe, Fort Worth.

This is a day we won't soon forget.

# #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

*July 2022 through September 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 June:** 129 **children** and 820 **adults (949 total)**
  - **In July:** 51 **children** and 354 **adults (405 total)**
  - **In August:** 689 **children** and 3,328 **adults (4,017 total)**
  - **In September:** 67 **children** and 7,228 **adults (7,295 total)**
- **July 9th-** The #FWFD was joined by Cook Children's Rehabilitation Services at Bob Bolen Public Safety Complex for the 7th Annual "Tri My Best Triathlon." This event is open for children and young adults with developmental disabilities. It is a swim, bike and run event where participants are organized by their endurance and assistance needs.
- **September 9th-** The #FWFD joined the FWPD and MedStar at the Patriot Day Celebration at Lone Star Elementary in north Fort Worth.

# "FALL BACK" SAFETY

Safety reminders for the end of Daylight Savings time from your Fort Worth Fire Department

### CHECK SMOKE & CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS

Replace the batteries in all of your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. And replace any alarms that are over 10 years old. Test all smoke alarms as well to ensure they're working properly. With increased use of furnaces, fireplaces and space heaters, ensure you have at least one CO detector in your home.

### PREPARE A WINTER EMERGENCY KIT FOR YOUR HOME

Create or restock your winter preparedness kit! Include flashlights, first aid kit, batteries, matches, manual can opener, non-perishable food, bottled water, battery-operated radio, blankets, and medication. Prepare a kit with supplies that will last you at least 72 hours.

### PREPARE A WINTER EMERGENCY KIT FOR YOUR CAR

Make sure your car is prepared for any winter weather emergency. Create a kit with flares, warm clothes (including hat & gloves), water, flashlight, batteries, jumper cables, non-perishable snacks, blankets, first aid kit, reflective vests/triangles, sand for traction, and battery operated phone charger.

### ADDITIONAL REMINDERS:

- Driving:** You won't be used to driving in the dark in rush-hour traffic when the time changes. It will take time to adjust. Remember to leave extra time and prepare for "night driving."
- Sleep:** You may get an extra hour of sleep but your biological clock needs to reset with the clock too! Adjust your habits to ensure an adequate amount of sleep so you can stay alert and stay safe!



## Remember November.

Daylight Savings Time ends in at 2:00AM on Sunday, November 6th.

When you set turn your clocks back one hour, don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke alarms AND test them too.

## Cooler temps are on the way, Texas!

As the air turns cooler and the leaves start to change colors, it's important that we shift our minds and gears into fall safety. Taking the proper precautions now allows your family to enjoy the new season and the holidays while avoiding some of the dangers that accompany both.

- Service your **furnace**
- Use **fireplaces** safely
- Use extreme caution with **space heaters**
- Exercise **candle** caution
- Remember that shorter days mean limited **visibility** while driving.
  - Watch for children (especially in school zones) and slow down on wet roads.

# HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Have children wear **REFLECTIVE MARKINGS** or carry a **FLASHLIGHT** so they can be seen.

Always **CHECK CANDY** before letting your child eat it. Avoid homemade treats made by strangers.



Always **ACCOMPANY YOUR YOUNG CHILDREN** when they are trick or treating.

Make sure your children's costumes are properly sized to **AVOID FALLS AND TRIPPING.**



Use **NON-TOXIC MAKE-UP** on your child instead of a mask so vision is not limited.

Keep kids on a sidewalk or path and don't let them dash across the street or to the next house. Always **WALK TOGETHER** and cross at a street corner or walk signal.





# Holiday Safety

**THANKSGIVING SAFETY**

TOP CAUSES OF HOME FIRES:

- Unattended Stovetops
- Abandoned material
- Product Misuse (mostly turkey fryers)
- Flammable items too close to a source of heat
- Equipment not properly turned off

A cooking fire is 3 times more likely on Thanksgiving than any other day of the year!

FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT

November and December bring many holidays for you and your family to celebrate. To prevent emergencies this holiday season, be prepared and be safe!

**Thanksgiving:**  
November 24

**Hanukkah:**  
December 18-26

**Christmas:**  
December 24-25

**Kwanzaa:**  
December 26-January 1

**New Years Eve:**  
December 31- January 1

**Holiday Entertaining Safety Tips**

From: your Fort Worth Fire Department

- Test your smoke alarms & be sure that you have working fire extinguishers
- Tell your guests about your home fire escape plan & the location of the first aid kit(s)
- Keep children and pets away from any lit candles & keep matches/lighters out of reach
- Stay in the kitchen at all times when there is food on the stovetop

'Tis the season for a very merry & SAFE party!

FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT

FORT WORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR JULY 2022-SEPTEMBER 2022



**Fire Responses**  
1,914 Calls



**Emergency Medical Service**  
23,222 Calls



**Automatic Alarms**  
1,863 Calls



**Motor Vehicle Accidents**  
3,256 Calls



**Other Responses**  
5,253 Calls

**Total Calls:**  
**35,509**



# Quarterly Calls for Service Totals

Between July 1, 2022 and September 30, 2022, the Fort Worth Fire Department responded to just under **35,509 calls for service.**

Nearly **65%** 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)

