



# HOT TOPICS

## PSFPD COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

### THANKS AND GRATITUDE

2020 has been unpredictable, but one thing we can always count on is the support of our community and neighbors.

Two fires threatened surrounding areas in October. As of early November the East Troublesome fire (Thompson Zone) is 48% contained and the Cameron Peak fire is 92% contained with dedicated firefighters and emergency management crews from multiple agencies engaged in activities to manage the fires. While the battle against the fires is not done, the colder weather has given us time to pause and consider future preparation plans.

#### EVACUATION PREPARATION: 7 P's of What to Take with You

1. People
2. Pets
3. Photos and other Precious mementos
4. Prescriptions
5. Purse/wallet
6. Papers (and/or your computer's hard drive)
7. Pillow (blanket, change of clothes)

[Click here: How to plan and build a Ready Kit](#)

There are too many friends and neighbors to thank for their quick actions and strong communications during the hectic and often frightening days of mid-October. Help came in gestures large and small including food donations, encouraging words, boarding animals and sharing available space with displaced residents, to name just a few.

#### »»» [STAY IN THE LOOP - PSFPD FACEBOOK PAGE](#) «««

FOLLOW THE PINEWOOD SPRINGS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT [FACEBOOK PAGE](#). IT WILL PROVIDE ACCURATE AND TIMELY INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DISTRICT AND FIREFIGHTERS, LOCAL EMERGENCY INFO FROM LARIMER AND BOULDER COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES, EMERGENCY ALERTS AND EVACUATION INFORMATION, AND OTHER ITEMS OF VALUE TO RESIDENTS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

## PINEWOOD SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Pinewood Springs Fire Protection District (PSFPD) provides 24/7 service to the Pinewood Springs Community and US-36 corridor from mile marker 8.5 to mile marker 14.25, protecting lives and property, providing accident and Hazmat response, serving as a disaster management hub and engaging in wild land and structure fire suppression.



#### Officers

- Ted Plank, Chief
- Andrew Lucas, Assistant Chief
- Jessica Bologna, Captain
- John Bykerk, Lieutenant
- Andrew Hart, Lieutenant
- SteveLeMaire, Lieutenant
- Brian Rappel, Lieutenant

#### Firefighters

- Trevor Byron
- Angelo Gala
- Charlie Gau
- Thomas Hart
- Shannon Heintz
- Matt Khachaturian
- Art Maese
- Kevin Noble
- Kirk Ping
- Ross Swanson

#### Technicians

- Larry Davis
- Dick Wilcox

- Elizabeth Noble, Command Aid
- Geri Plank, Command Aid
- Sue Perney, Estes Park  
Communications Liaison
- Gabi Benson, Communication  
Specialist

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### CHANGING OF THE SEASONS

Winter will soon be upon us bringing new scenery and adventures to enjoy and be grateful for. As we stay warm indoors, here are a few safety considerations to keep in mind.

#### CHIMNEY MAINTENANCE

During the winter months our fire department typically responds to multiple chimney fires. Residents should consider having their chimney cleaned and inspected each fall prior to regular use (or more often if fireplace/stove is used daily). A chimney sweep is much less expensive than fire or smoke damage. Pay specific attention when you first fire up your wood stoves and fireplaces - check all connection points for leaks and pay attention to poor drafting, which may be an indication of pipe blockage.

#### ASH REMOVAL

Even after several days a pile of ashes can hold enough heat to reignite and start a fire. After clearing the ashes from your wood stove or fireplace make sure there are no hot spots. All ashes should be stored in a fire-resistant metal container with a tight-fitting cover. The metal container should be placed away from anything that can burn. After a week in the metal container the ashes are then safe to dispose. NEVER dispose of ashes in a plastic garbage can, cardboard box, or paper grocery bag.



The safety of our community remains paramount, no matter the season. Please follow the link below for the most up-to-date information from Larimer County on COVID-19.

#### [Larimer County Safer at Home Guidelines](#)

Your volunteer-staffed fire department continues to serve the community following procedural guidelines to protect our firefighters, approved by Estes Park Health.

As a reminder, the Pinewood Springs Fire Station and Community Center is currently closed to the public.

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#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: 4 TO 6 HRS/MONTH**

**YOUR FIRE BOARD IS LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH MONTHLY EXPENSE REPORTING. IF YOU HAVE EXCEL AND QUICKBOOKS EXPERIENCE AND ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT KRISTA.DIAZ@PWSFIRE.ORG**

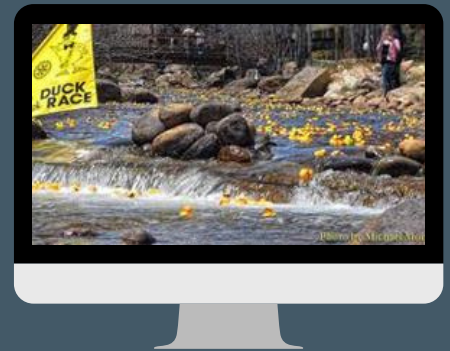
### 2020 Estes Park Duck Race!



A big THANK YOU to our community for supporting Pinewood Springs in this year's ESTES PARK ROTARY DUCK RACE! With your help over \$2,000 was raised to support your local volunteer Fire Department.

With this donation the Fire Department was able to purchase several sets of wildland fire gear.

Stay tuned for dates for the 2021 Duck Race!



### Board of Directors

The PSFPD Board of Directors is comprised of volunteer community members handling the administrative business of the fire district, which covers over 3,200 acres of our community, the US-36 corridor and the adjacent National Forest lands.

Jon Andrews, Board President  
Dan Kowalski, Vice President  
Krista Diaz, Treasurer  
Ardean Johnson, Secretary  
Michael Graham, At-Large

The Board meets virtually the 2nd Wednesday of each month.