

THE SIREN

CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT

SWORN TO SERVE, DEDICATED TO SAVE

EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY

Clackamas Fire continues to work to meet and exceed the community-supported emergency services levy goals. As we are now into year two of the levy, the Fire District just started an academy with 16 new firefighters. Once these firefighters have graduated, they will be deployed throughout the Fire District to continue to increase daily staffing.

The primary focus for the levy this year are the deployment of a Quick Response Unit to increase response performance in our higher call volume areas in the northern portion of the Fire District and the career staffing of Station 12 in the rural community of Logan.

To read the most recent update from Fire Chief, Nick Browne, click [here](#).

2024 WILDFIRE SEASON

The 2024 wildfire season in Oregon has been one of the most destructive in the state's history, surpassing previous records. By October, approximately 1.9 million acres have burned—nearly triple the 10-year average for the state. Oregon's wildfire risk has been exacerbated by warmer temperatures, which have created drier conditions.

To date, Clackamas Fire has deployed personnel to 24 wildfires in Oregon, one in Idaho, and supported 35 fires in Alaska. The Emergency Conflagration Act invoked by the governor has allowed the Oregon State Fire Marshal to mobilize firefighting resources to 16 conflagrations, and Clackamas Fire personnel have been deployed to all of them. Clackamas Fire was also able to support four task forces with providing personnel to increase state firefighting capacity. The total Clackamas Fire personnel deployed, including our Crew 30 handcrew, to the wildfires across Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska was 223.



The Fire District's seasonal handcrew, also known as Crew 30, is a specialized group of firefighters who work on the ground to combat wildfires, using hand tools rather than machinery. They play an essential role in cutting fire lines, removing vegetation, and preventing the fire from spreading.

Crew 30 was assigned to six wildfires, five in Oregon, and one in Idaho. As of Oct. 3, 2024, they have completed their 2024 season with an astounding 75 days on fire assignments that included two prescribed burn assignments to restore fire adapted landscapes, and a total of 22,278.5 fire line hours.

As Oregon continues to battle these wildfires, Clackamas Fire remains focused on protecting lives and property.

OPERATION SANTA

Operation Santa has been a Clackamas Fire tradition within the community for over 50 years. The program's goal is to collect new, unwrapped toys and non-perishable food for individuals and families in need. Each year, the season kicks off the beginning of December by participating in five community parades and five donation drop-off events.



The routes to each of the parades, along with a tracker to check where we're at on the parade route will be available soon on our website at: www.clackamasfire.com. The Fire District will not collect donations during the parades. Please bring donations to our drop-off events.

Individuals, case workers, and organizations can apply for holiday assistance through our partners at the Clackamas

Service Center. The Clackamas Service Center receives the requests for holiday assistance, determines availability, and coordinates pick-ups at their warehouse.

Clackamas Fire is here for the community and through your generosity, we can make a significant difference in the lives of those in need this holiday season.

WINTER WEATHER DRIVING TIPS

Winter driving can be dangerous due to icy roads, reduced visibility, and cold temperatures. Here are some essential tips to stay safe:

1. Prepare your Vehicle

- **Check your tires:** Ensure they are properly inflated and have adequate tread. Consider using winter tires if you live in an area with heavy snow or ice.
- **Battery and fluids:** Cold weather can weaken your car's battery. Check that it's in good condition, and top off essential fluids such as antifreeze and windshield washer fluid.
- **Lights and wipers:** Make sure all lights are working properly and replace worn windshield wipers for better visibility.

2. Drive Slowly and Smoothly

- **Speed reduction:** Drive slower than usual to account for reduced traction on icy or snow-covered roads.
- **Smooth braking and accelerating:** Avoid sudden movements. Accelerate and decelerate slowly to maintain control.
- **Increased following distance:** Leave more space between your vehicle and the one in front. On icy roads, it takes longer to stop.

3. Understand How to Handle Skids

- **Steering in skids:** If your car starts to skid, steer in the direction you want the front wheels to go. Avoid slamming on the brakes, as that can worsen the skid.
- **Braking with ABS:** If your car has Anti-lock Braking System (ABS), press the brake pedal firmly. Don't pump the brakes, as ABS will handle pulsing for you.

4. Use Snow Chains or Snow Tires

- **Chains for deep snow:** In mountainous or rural areas with heavy snow, use snow chains for added grip. Be sure to practice installing them before you need them.
- **Winter tires:** They provide better traction on snow and ice compared to all-season tires.

5. Plan Ahead

- **Check the weather:** Always check the forecast before traveling. If conditions are too severe, delay your trip.
- **Clear your car:** Remove snow and ice from all windows, mirrors, lights, and the roof of your car to ensure maximum visibility.
- **Keep an emergency kit:** Include items like blankets, a flashlight, food, water, and a shovel in case you get stuck.

Sources:

- National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA)
- AAA Driving Tips

PROPERTY SAVED

The below information reflects the number of active structure fires our firefighters responded to from January to August 2024. Preservation of life and property are a priority of the Fire District. These numbers reflect the amount of property saved in dollars by firefighting efforts.

Incident Type	# of unique Incident Number
Building fire	112
Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	14
Commercial Compactor fire, confined to rubbish	1
Contained Appliance Fire (Oven, Dryer, Microwave)	16
Cooking fire, confined to container	7
Fence Fire	8
Fires in structure other than in a building	5
Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	1
# of unique Incident Number	164

Total Property Saved in Dollars:

46.3M

CALL
TRACKER

January to September 2024 (Mutual Aid Not Included)

Total Calls: 25,203

Good Intent: 3,705

EMS/Rescue: 16,997

False Alarm: 865

Hazardous Condition: 265

Service Call: 2,748

Fire: 589

Other: 34