



# Snohomish County FIRE DISTRICT 7

163 Village Court, Monroe, WA 98272  
360-794-7666 or 425-486-1217 • www.snofire7.org

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Sound  
Publishing, Inc.  
98204



# Snohomish County FIRE DISTRICT 7 NEWSLETTER

2018 NEWSLETTER - Spring Edition

## Prevention Corner

### Pedestrian Safety

- Cross the street in a well-lit area at night.
- Always cross the street at a crosswalk.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Don't wear headphones or talk on a cell phone when crossing.
- Don't assume vehicles will stop. Make eye contact with drivers.

CONNECT WITH US . . .



Facebook @ firedistrict7



Twitter @ snocountyfire7



NEXTDOOR

## Kids' Corner

Word Search

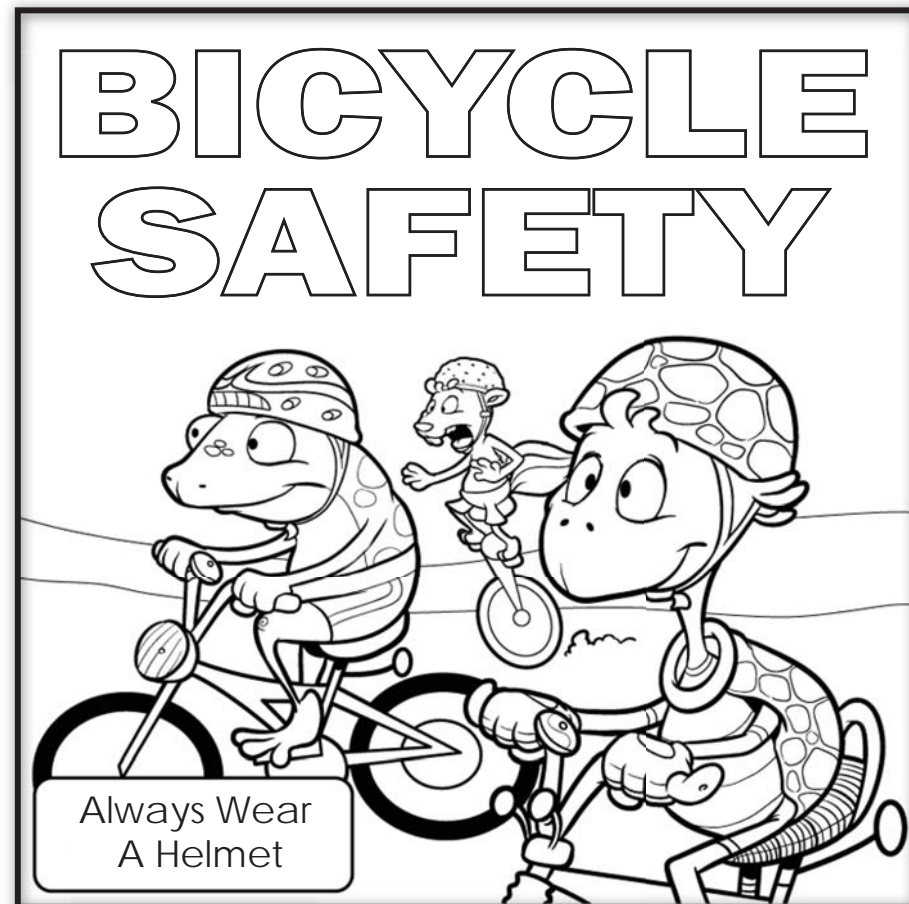
M W M P Y C F Z T D  
W S C O O T E R V C  
S K A T E B O A R D  
A P O F R O G H Z Y  
A E O U E A L L Q F  
T C V G Y T F J I U  
H E L M E T Y F S N  
S T H G I L Z K I M  
T S G N I S S O R C  
E K I B T I R E S N



Find these words . . .

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| Helmet     | Fun       |
| Safety     | Tires     |
| Bike       | Traffic   |
| Scooter    | Crossings |
| Skateboard | Lights    |

Color and share with us on Facebook



## ECRWSS Postal Customer

## Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for your continued support of Snohomish County Fire District 7. In 2017, we responded to 11,541 emergency calls, which is a 9.3% increase over the year before. As our community continues to grow, it is vital that we plan for the future to meet the increased demand for service.

To meet this demand, many fire districts look to regional partnerships or merging fire districts to provide improved service, enhanced training opportunities and staffing, as well as more efficient administrative functions and governance. Currently, Snohomish County Fire District 7 is exploring a merger with Lake Stevens Fire. We currently share a Community Resource Paramedic, as well as partner together for fire marshal services, training programs and apparatus maintenance services.

Our contract to provide emergency services to the City of Mill Creek is another example of a regional partnership that reduces borders and duplication of government which helps make the delivery service more efficient for our citizens. Fire District 7 recently signed a new six year contract with the City of Mill Creek.

Not only are we evaluating regional partnerships, we are also updating our Strategic Plan. This plan guides Fire District 7 by outlining our values and goals. We are here to serve you and value our citizen's input. There is more information in this newsletter about how you can be involved in this process.

Fire District 7 is grateful to have supportive communities as we work to constantly improve the service to our

citizens. One way that we do this through customer surveys for emergency medical responses. Your input is invaluable to us. We ask citizens to fill out the surveys honestly so we can evaluate our performance to continue to deliver the highest level of service.



Chief Gary Meek  
GMeek@snofire7.org

## Strategic Plan Update

In 2014, Fire District 7 conducted a comprehensive internal and external evaluation of the organization. Through this process, we were able to create a three year Strategic Plan that drives why we are here, where we are going, and how we are going to get there, all with the mindset of serving our citizens and Earning Trust Through Action.

In creating our Strategic Plan, we set short, medium, and long term organizational goals, and moved from being reactive to proactive in our dynamic, ever-changing environment. We hold our personnel accountable to the goals and values outlined in our plan, and are always looking to the future needs of the citizens of Fire District 7.

This year we will be evaluating and updating our Strategic Plan to help us

continue to be adaptive and innovative, build more effective regional partnerships, and ultimately provide better service to our communities. We value feedback from our citizens and are looking for input as we update our Strategic Plan.

We are establishing a Community Input Committee. The group will have the opportunity to give community perspective and guide Fire District 7 in our future goals. The meeting will be held this summer.

The meeting will be held this summer. If you are interested in being part of the committee send an email with the following information to: [hchadwick@snofire7.org](mailto:hchadwick@snofire7.org)  
1. Your name 2. Physical address  
3. Email 4. Phone number



## VISION•GOALS•VALUES

**VISION**  
Fire District 7 – A trusted leader serving the community with a commitment to innovation and improvement.

- GOALS**
- Plan for technology improvements and maintenance to meet the operational needs of the district.
  - Develop and expand on existing partnerships to build trust and explore collaborative opportunities.
  - Deliver excellent service while focusing on innovation and improvement.
  - Exercise sound financial judgment and plan for fiscal sustainability.
  - Develop and manage infrastructure to support operations and innovations now and for the future.
  - Hire, develop, take care of and promote the best people.
  - Build community trust and resilience through education and engagement.

- VALUES**
- Continuous Improvement
- We seek feedback and learn and improve from experience.
  - We are willing to take risks and make changes in order to improve service.
  - We are committed to doing the work, and continuously improving the way work gets done.

- Integrity
- We are open, transparent, and accountable to the public we serve.
  - We acknowledge that public trust matters – and strive to be worthy of it.
  - We are respectful, effective and humble.
  - We do what's right for the right reason.

- Teamwork
- We work cooperatively with one another to achieve our goals.
  - We strive for open and honest communications and value differing opinions.
  - Our managers coach, mentor and develop a strong team culture.

- Compassion and Service
- We treat our customers with respect and dignity.
  - We appreciate the importance of caring for people in the most challenging of circumstances.
  - We are not here for ourselves, but for the community we serve.

## EARNING TRUST THROUGH ACTION

# Pedestrian and Bike Safety



- Put your phone down. Many people are distracted by electronics while driving and crossing the street.
- Watch for turning vehicles and make eye contact with the driver before crossing the street.
- Pedestrian and bike riders need to wear bright clothes as night to be seen by drivers.

one in the family every time you ride a bike, scooter, skateboard, skate, snowboard, or ski - and it needs to fit properly. Additionally, any helmet that has been involved in a crash needs to be replaced immediately - even if there aren't any visible signs of damage.

Fire District 7 partners with SafeKids to offer bicycle helmets at minimal costs to our citizens. Bicycle and multi-sport helmets are available in a variety of sizes for \$10 at all Fire District 7 stations. Stop by any of our eight station locations to purchase and be fitted for a helmet.

According to SafeKids Worldwide, wearing a properly fitted bicycle helmet can reduce the risk of a serious head injury by 45%. However, less than half of children 14 and under wear a bike helmet. A helmet should be worn by every-

Over the last two months Fire District 7 has responded to approximately 10 motor vehicle versus pedestrian emergency calls. As the weather starts to warm up, even more people are headed outside to enjoy the sunshine. Drivers and pedestrians share the responsibility of keeping themselves and others on the road safe. We want to remind all drivers to be aware of their surroundings, as well as remind pedestrians and bike riders how they can have a safer trip.

- Pedestrians always use sidewalks or paths and only cross the street at marked crosswalks or intersections.



## Station 33 Update

Progress update for Fales Road fire station

Construction continues on the new Fire Station 33 on Fales Road. We have encountered some delays, but our architectural firm (TCA Architecture) and General Contractor (Allied Construction Associates) are working together to shift additional site work around to minimize the impact of these delays.

We anticipate the construction to be completed sometime in mid-August with a potential station opening in early September.

The 11,000 square foot fire station will provide improved response times and accessibility to the Echo Lake and Lost Lake communities. The station will feature three apparatus bays, office and training areas, and dorms for a crew of one



lieutenant and two firefighters. Fire District 7 is focused on the continued construction of the new fire station despite the delays, and is looking forward to the completion of the project to better serve our citizens.



CPR & First Aid Training

Snohomish County Fire District 7 offers a Certified CPR Only class and a First Aid and CPR class. Both classes are available to adults and children age 12 or older. Fire District 7 utilizes the American Heart Association's Heartsaver® First Aid with CPR and AED Training curriculum. The classes teach students how to recognize and treat life-threatening emergencies until medical help arrives. Students who successfully complete the class receive a 2-year certification card. Sign up on line at [www.snofire7.org](http://www.snofire7.org)

**SIGN UP TODAY**

# Employee Spotlight

Please join us in congratulating these individuals on their hard work and their constant drive to make positive changes to better serve our communities. The following promotions have been to fill vacant positions due to retirements and attrition.

## Promoted

**Battalion Chief Evan Adolf** promoted on October 1, 2017

**Battalion Chief Rob Fisher** promoted on December 1, 2017

**Captain Colby Titland** promoted on March 1, 2018

**Captain Troy Smith** promoted on March 1, 2018

**Lieutenant Jeremy Karapostoles** promoted on April 1, 2018

**Lieutenant James Hammeren** promoted on April 1, 2018

Congratulations to everyone on their new positions and continued service to the citizens of Fire District 7.

## New Hires

New entry level firefighters – hired on March 1, 2018. Two new hires were to fill vacant positions due to retirements. An additional four entry level firefighter positions were hired due to increased call volume and service demand.



Jake Eldredge, Bryce Human, Noah Young, Benjamin Bloomquist, Jesse Abercrombie, and Johnson Brooks. (Left to Right)



Battalion Chief  
Evan Adolf



Battalion Chief  
Rob Fisher



Captain  
Colby Titland



Captain  
Troy Smith



Lieutenant  
Jeremy Karapostoles



Lieutenant  
James Hammeren

# Mill Creek Business Inspections

Fire inspectors are planning to conduct annual business fire inspections in the City of Mill Creek beginning in May. This is an effort to schedule inspections throughout the year, rather than the last quarter of the year as they have been conducted in the past. Annual fire inspections have reduced the incidence of fire in the cities of Mill Creek and Monroe, and also assists the fire district in maintaining a low insurance rating in all areas of the fire district within 5 miles of a fire station.

Businesses can minimize business interruptions by ensuring their portable fire extinguishers have been checked by a fire extinguisher company within the past 12 months. Other fire hazards commonly observed by fire inspectors are the use of extension cords to power non-portable equipment, or affixing extension cords to walls, or passing them through walls or ceilings. Extension cords are only intended for temporary power of portable appliances.

If you have any questions about business fire inspections, please contact Fire District 7's Community Risk Reduction Division by email at [riskreduction@snofire7.org](mailto:riskreduction@snofire7.org) or 360-805-0338.

