



**WESTFIELD VOLUNTEER
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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Inc.**



Westfield Volunteer Fire Department Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 2

2nd Quarter, 2021

What's Inside

- **News from the Chief**
- **Quarter One Report**
- **Calendar of Events**
- **Summer Safety Tips**

**We are always
looking for
new members!**

**Stop by on Sundays or
contact a member for
more information!**





“Fire Service Growing Through Training”



In the fire service, training is one of the most important ways firefighters can stay safe on the fire scene and work efficiently with others to help in difficult situations. In the state of North Carolina, all firefighters have to have a minimum of 36 hours of training per year to stay on the state roster. Thank goodness the firefighters at

Westfield want to go beyond the minimum training hours the state requires. The firefighters at the Westfield Volunteer Fire Department have proven over the last 3 months that training is top priority so they're able to perform at a high level in a stressful situation. Essentially, the more you train the better you will perform when the time is called.

Most people that are entering the fire service don't understand how dangerous the fire service is. We have often told new firefighters it would take roughly five years for them to feel comfortable in knowing how to operate equipment and knowing what to do on a fire scene. Training is one of the elements that firefighters must complete to feel comfortable and safe on a fire scene. During the first three months of the year our firefighters have recorded over 750 hours of training. These hours consist of training in fields like: Personal Protective Equipment, Drivers Training, Search and Rescue, Pumps, Ropes, Ladders, Ventilation, Hazardous Materials, Hose Operations, Confined Space, Technical Rescue, Medical Responder, Scene Size-Up, Emergency Vehicle Drivers Training, etc.



The Westfield Volunteer Fire Department has 26 volunteer members and four personnel that work as paid staffers during an eight hour shifts, three days a week. Both volunteer and paid firefighters are just like everyone else in the community. They have families, full time jobs, church activities, hobbies, and many other things that take up their time. These firefighters are able to have a personal life while helping their community by serving with the fire department. These members are spending countless hours training to make sure the Westfield community is safe and the firefighters are safe while performing their duties.

Looking back over the last 20 years of being an officer of the Westfield Fire Department, there have been situations that come up on scenes that require your best firefighters, with the best training, working together, to make sure that scene is taken care of in the correct way. Over the years, the leadership of our department has put the right personnel in these roles. When one of our firefighters goes to training, it is not just a social event but it is a learning process. This gives the firefighter experience so when their time is called to help others in a time of need, they are trained and ready to perform at a high level to save lives and property.



From the desk of the Fire Chief, Continued

As the Chief of the Westfield Fire Department, I would like to say thank you to our firefighters for giving their time to train and better their skills in the fire service. Thank you for giving up your personal time to learn the proper techniques of the fire service. Thank you for understanding how important it is to stay safe on the fire scene while helping others in their time of need. There is no such thing as a perfect situation but with the training our firefighters are receiving, they are learning how to perform in those situations to make the best of them.

FEBRUARY ICE STORM

In February of this year our community was hit by the largest ice storm we have seen in several years. WVFD was proud to serve the residents in our district in every way possible. In preparation for the event we ensured our trucks were equipped with snow chains, and that all of our equipment was serviced and in good working order. All in all we assisted state and local government clear the roads of multiple trees and helped to ensure all environmental hazards were safely cleared.





Safety First



While you're doing your spring cleaning this year don't forget to check over your home for possible safety threats! Use this checklist to ensure you keep you and your family safe!



Test your homes smoke and carbon monoxide alarms



Remove dead leaves and debris from around porches, decks, and foundations



Don't use electrical appliances with frayed cords



Check grills for rust, worn parts, grease, and other debris before use



Check for water around electric appliances



Grills should only be used at least 10 feet away from your home or other buildings



Clean debris from your clothes dryer lint trap and exhaust vent



Keep a garden hose close by when burning yard trash and never leave a fire unattended

**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL
NORTH CAROLINA
FORESTRY SERVICE OFFICE
TO OBTAIN A BURN PERMIT**





WVFD First Quarter Call Report



Westfield Volunteer Fire Department had a very productive first quarter of 2021. WVFD

responded to two structure fires and have averaged 11 Firefighters on each call, as well as supplying two tankers, two engines, and a service truck at each call. Additionally, WVFD has responded to 35 emergency medical calls and an additional 28 hazardous condition, weather related, and good intent calls.

Westfield Volunteer Fire Department is so proud of our firefighters as well. So far this year WVFD firefighters have earned over 757 hours of training, and our station has had active duty members on hand for over 600 hours so far this year. We take a lot of pride in ensuring the citizens in the Westfield community can rely on our fire department in their time of need.





Equipment Spotlight

Brush 1

Westfield Volunteer Fire Department Brush 1 is our primary response vehicle for grass fires, wildfires, and other wilderness fires. This Ford F-350 was retrofitted to fit WVFD specifications. In addition to its 200 gallon tank, this truck is also equipped to pump from a tanker ensuring that it will never run out of water in an emergency. Brush 1 is supplied with portable water packs, rakes, axes and other hand tools, as well as a wench and chainsaw. You may notice that this truck isn't equipped with a light bar on top. This is to ensure that the truck has a smooth profile that minimizes tangles when driving through off road conditions. Brush 1 has been a valuable asset to WVFD!!



Remember! Make way for emergency vehicles!

**Move to the Right for
Sirens and Lights!**



May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Group 4	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Group 1	10	11 Chief's Meeting	12	13	14	15
16 Group 2 Business Meeting	17	18	19	20 Monthly Training	21 Tactical Rescue-Ag	22 Tactical Rescue-Ag
23 Group 3 Tac Rescue- Ag	24	25	26	27	28	29 Concealed Carry Class
30 Group 4	31					



June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Group 1	7	8 Chief's Meeting	9	10	11 Tactical Rescue-Ag	12 Tactical Rescue-Ag
13Group 2 Business Meeting Tac. Rescue	14	15	16	17 Monthly Training	18	19
20 Group 3	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Group 4	28	29	30			