



# FIRE 3 Insider

Clark County Fire District 3 NEWSLETTER

Summer 2022

**Fire District 3**  
CLARK COUNTY WASHINGTON



## Message from the Chief

By Chief Scott Sorenson

I want to start this communication by thanking our firefighters who save lives and property

in our community every day. Many have dedicated their careers to the Fire District 3 community. We recognize these heroes with an award ceremony each year, and it is an honor to serve with them.

Daily operations are funded by a fire levy that is capped at \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. Over time, the levy rate falls as property values rise to limit the fire district to roughly the same amount of revenue per year plus a 1% increase allowed by law. In 2022, our fire levy has fallen to \$1.36 per \$1,000.

At times, we ask our community to return the fire levy to a previously approved amount. This "lid lift" helps us respond to higher call volumes and increasing costs for service. We recognize that the current

economy is difficult for many. As a result, Fire District 3 will not be on the ballot this year. We will discuss a possible fire levy lid lift sometime in 2023.

Capital items, like fire stations, are funded by bonds. Fire District 3 and other agencies continue to ask the Clark County Council to pass impact fees associated with serving new growth. Impact fees help reduce the bond amount needed from our taxpayers.

Fire District 3 operates under a balanced budget and has long history of passing its financial and accountability audits by the state. Our Board of Fire Commissioners meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 6:00 pm. This is your fire district, and we encourage you to attend.

As always, feel free to contact me with questions or concerns. I can be reached at (360) 892-2331 or [scott@fire3.org](mailto:scott@fire3.org). Thank you.

## Wildfire Risk Reduction

Much of the eastern half of Fire District 3 is in the forested foothills of the Cascade Range. The area has many homes tucked away amongst the trees, some with very poor access and many with no visible addresses. Fire District 3 has a special program for property owners in this wilderness-urban interface to learn how to protect themselves and defend against wildfires.

Fire District 3 will come to your property

and conduct a fire risk survey free of charge. The recommendations will help protect your property from wildfires, and prevent a house fire from spreading into the forest.

Your participation in this program also helps Fire District 3. Planning for evacuation routes and emergency resources that may be needed is important to save lives and property. Please contact Fire District 3 at (360) 892-2331 to schedule your free risk assessment.

### IN THIS EDITION:

Message from the Chief

Wildfire Risk Reduction

A Job Well Done

*"more than fire..."*

17718 NE 159th Street  
Brush Prairie, WA 98606  
(360) 892-2331  
[www.fire3.org](http://www.fire3.org)



FireDistrict3

# Fire District 3

CLARK COUNTY WASHINGTON

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## Connect with us...

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## A Job Well Done

Please join Fire District 3 in congratulating this year's award recipients! This year, we honored the following heroes on staff: Jason Mansfield, Captain EMT, for Firefighter of the Year; Jerik Traffie, Firefighter Paramedic, for Rookie of the Year; Brian George, Captain EMT, for Excellence in Action; and Taylor Nye, Probationary Firefighter EMT, for Volunteer of the Year.

Four additional employees were recognized with a Meritorious Service Award, including Josh Alexander, Firefighter EMT; Zane Norris, Firefighter EMT; Bryce Ponder, Firefighter Paramedic; and Joe Stiffler, Captain EMT.

The following employees were

commended for milestone years service. For 35 illustrious years of dedicated service, we thank Jeffrey Stewart, Battalion Chief.

For 20 years of service, we thank Larry Bauska, Training Captain and Cadet Program Director; Joe Gray, Training Captain; Craig Martinell, Captain EMT; Joe Stiffler, Captain EMT; and Tony Wagar, Captain EMT.

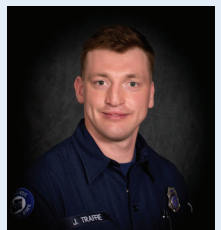
For 15 years of service, we thank Nolan Meyer, Captain Paramedic; Tony Mitchum, Firefighter EMT; and Andrew Wolf, Captain Paramedic.

Celebrating five years with us, we thank Josh Hall, Firefighter EMT; Zach Helmes, Firefighter EMT; and Andrew Lyons, Firefighter EMT.

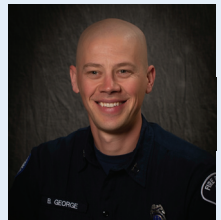
**Firefighter  
of the Year**  
Jason Mansfield  
Captain EMT



**Rookie  
of the Year**  
Jerik Traffie  
Firefighter  
Paramedic



**Excellence  
in Action**  
Brian George  
Captain EMT



**Volunteer  
of the Year**  
Taylor Nye  
Probationary  
Firefighter EMT

