

Chief: Steve Avgeris
Asst Chiefs:
Chuck Biegert
David Lipking

1701 Colestin Rd.
Ashland, OR 97520
(541) 488-1768



Board of Directors:

Pamela Haunschild
Alissa Lipking
Peggy Moore
Teri Thomas
Cynthia Warzyn

COLESTIN RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

December 11, 2014

Dear Neighbor,

We are very fortunate to have a volunteer fire department in our beautiful little valley. We have an amazing amount of equipment and a few dedicated volunteers. We also have an automatic aid agreement with Cal-Fire, which means that professional support is usually on its way. It is this combination of nearby response and firsthand knowledge of our area, followed by assistance from two states, that helps keep us safe and disaster free. While this has been the case for the past 30 plus years there is no guarantee that without increasing the volunteer base this situation will not change!

In many rural areas small fire departments are folding, are under-equipped or under-staffed. In many of these areas, residents are unable to insure their homes. We have been working hard to maintain and improve our department so that we all still qualify for insurance. There is, however, no guarantee this situation will continue without an increase in our volunteer base, which has declined substantially in recent years. Additionally, the recent drought increases the likelihood of serious fires, which means without an adequate number of volunteer fire fighters we could be in serious trouble.

Firefighting training will begin sometime in late winter, depending on the weather. We need your help! We are in desperate need of more volunteers, especially those that are capable of the physical demands of firefighting or are interested in helping with rescue and medical aid. We train every other Friday evening for a few months and then continue special trainings through the summer. We will mail a postcard with the schedule when it has been set.

Please consider helping your friends and neighbors by giving some of your time. Also, if you know someone you'd like to have show up at your next emergency, encourage them to join you in this effort. This situation concerns every person who lives in the Valley. Whether you live on the Ski Road, in the middle of the Valley or in the Hilt area, a serious fire will affect you, your family and your home.

If you would like more information, or want to give us ideas, comments or feedback on our fire department, please contact our Chief, Steve Avgeris at 541 821-8339, or Board Member Alissa Lipking at 541-951-2965 / adl060708@gmail.com.

Wishing you a very happy and safe holiday season,

The Colestin Rural Fire District Board of Directors
Pam, Alissa, Peggy, Teri & Cindy