



## SPRING 2024

### FIRE DISTRICT 8 proudly serves the communities of:

- Moran Prairie
- Glenrose
- Hangman Hills
- Valleyford
- Bella Vista
- Mica
- Painted Hills
- Ponderosa
- Saltese
- Morningside Heights



Brush 81 proudly serving  
Moran Prairie.

## FIRE STATION 81 OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, May 11  
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Spokane County Fire  
District 8, Station 81

6117 S. Palouse Hwy,  
Spokane

Join us for fun family  
activities, food, firefighter  
demonstrations, a  
helicopter landing  
and more.

We hope to see you and  
your family there.

Visit [scfd8.org](http://scfd8.org) for  
more information

[www.scfd8.org](http://www.scfd8.org)  
509-926-6699



## A Message from the Chief

Hello, as spring and summer approach, we are reminded of the impacts to people and property from last year's Gray and Oregon Road Fires. We are all hopeful that fires like these



will not occur in our region again but realistically, it's not if but when. I ask you to please be prepared for fire season! There are important steps you can take as a citizen to prepare. The first is to recognize when severe fire weather occurs in our area. We never know when or where a fire may occur or from what direction it will come.

That kind of uncertainty means creating evolving evacuation plans as we prepare. The second is to create and manage defensible space around your home or community. You will find helpful links in the newsletter.

The fire district continually looks for ways to be prepared to serve you. An important way to prepare is to plan. The Board of Fire Commissioners recently adopted the 2024-2026 Fire District 8 Strategic Plan. This plan serves as a guiding light, illuminating the path forward in an effort to help realize our mission — which is to serve you! The plan also serves as a "report card" to our citizens to make sure we are doing what we should be doing. I encourage you to take a few minutes to review our strategic plan at [www.scfd8.org](http://www.scfd8.org).



Lonnie Rash, Fire Chief, SCFD8

Please have a safe and joyful  
summer.

If you have any questions or  
suggestions about how we  
can serve you better, please  
e-mail me at [lrash@scfd8.org](mailto:lrash@scfd8.org)  
or call/text at 509-370-9801.

## FIRE DISTRICT 8 UPDATES

SCFD 8 recognizes **Fire Commissioner Greg Hesse** for his more than 34 years in the fire service. He retired from the City of Spokane Fire Department as a Division Chief. Greg also spent 22 years as a Spokane County Fire District 8 Fire Commissioner. Commissioner Hesse, thank you for your service.

SCFD 8 welcomes **Fire Commissioner Jeff Larsen** to Fire District 8 and a new member of the Board of Fire Commissioner.

As a result of the passage of the SCFD8 Maintenance and Operations levy we are able to continue our efforts to increase fire station staffing with paramedics and EMTs. We

welcome **Neil Carter, Brian Myers, Austin Adams, and Grant Presley**. These four new recruits are currently in the academy and will graduate mid-summer. They then will begin working in the fire stations and continue their first year of probationary training. Welcome aboard.



SCFD8 New Recruits - L to R:  
**Austin Adams, Neil Carter, Brian Myers,  
and Grant Presley.**

# Wildfire Ready Neighbors

**Keep your property lean and green to help protect your family and home.**

Defensible space, coupled with home hardening, is essential to improve your home's chance of surviving a wildfire. Defensible space is the buffer you create between a building on your property and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surround it. This space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and it helps protect your home from catching fire—either from embers, direct flame contact or radiant heat. Proper defensible space also provides firefighters a safe area to work in, to defend your home.

**Visit Wildfire Ready Neighbors website ([wildfireready.dnr.wa.gov/](http://wildfireready.dnr.wa.gov/)) to sign up for your FREE PROPERTY ASSESSMENT.**



## Fire 8 Flyer



Fire 8 Flyer is a publication of  
Spokane County Fire District 8

12100 E Palouse Highway | PO Box 345  
Valleyford WA 99036

Lonnie Rash, Fire Chief  
Lee C. Boling, Commissioner  
Jeff Larsen, Commissioner  
Andy Rorie, Commissioner

### Would you like to receive the Fire 8 Flyer and other correspondence via email?

Send your name, address and email address to [admin@scfd8.org](mailto:admin@scfd8.org) to join our mailing list.

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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SPOKANE, WA  
PERMIT #4

## Stay Safe With These Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Tips

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Put batteries in the device the right way.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

Visit [NFPA.org](http://NFPA.org) for more information.



**Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters and e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch on fire or explode.**

**LI BATTERIES CAN EXPLODE OR CATCH FIRE IF USED INCORRECTLY!**