

Great things are happening for the Ozark Fire District. Three new employees have recently completed the onboarding process. Onboarding consists of a 4-week learning process that covers district tactics and equipment to better prepare members for service. We are proud of the current employee's commitment to excellence as they were an integral part of ensuring team success.



Initial assignments:

FF. Jacob Morelan (A-Shift)

FF. Jared Stover (B-Shift)

FF. Jacob Walles (C-Shift)

September 20, 2022, marks the first day of service for our new ladder truck. Ladder-11 will operate out of Station #1 located at 604 N. 3rd St. Ladder-11 is a result of the 2021 bond initiative and marks a major milestone for achieving our strategic plan. A ceremony was hosted to introduce and celebrate the hard work and dedication of the crews to place the apparatus in service. Ladder-11 will increase the districts' ability to complete technical operations above ground level and increase the protection provided to citizens.

We want everyone to be ready for fire prevention month in October. Over the next couple weeks, you will see our crews and trucks at the elementary and pre-schools in the district. Crews will be spreading fire prevention messages to students about smoke detectors, fire escape plans and demonstrating tools and equipment that they use.

The Ozark Fire Protection District wants to remind everyone about some of the fundamental fire safety messages. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) research shows that in 2020, 26 percent of the fires that were reported occurred in single and multi-family residences (356,500 homes), these fires caused 74 percent of civilian fatalities (2,580) and 76 percent of the civilian injuries (11,500). (Ahrens & Evarts, 2021) Knowing what to do when the smoke alarm goes off and having an escape plan is essential to try to reduce this number. Every home should have an escape plan. This plan should include:

- How to get out of the house in the event of a fire (2nd floor problems, two different exits).
- Where to meet (tree, neighbor's house, mailbox, etc.) once you are out of the house.
- Do not go back in.
- Call 911 from outside or a neighbor's house.

Check you smoke detector and make sure that they are working. Call the Ozark Fire Protection District 417-581-4436 we install batteries or can help you with a smoke detector solution.

References: Ahrens, M., & Evarts, B. (2021). Fire Loss in the United States During 2020.

Quincy: National Fire Protection Association.

Respectfully;

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