

THE FIRE MARK



BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

APRIL 2015

Recognition is given to the families of firefighters that died during the month of March 2015.



WILDFIRE SAFETY

In Florida, each season poses a different danger! Wildfire season is upon us. The District would like to take this opportunity to share with you important ways that you can safeguard your home against wildfires. Southwest Florida can have wildfires year-round but generally, wildfire season peaks from January through June.

[Click Here](#) to learn tips to make your home or business safer from the threat of wildfires.



PURCHASE AN ALL-HAZARDS RADIO to alert you when there is an emergency in your area:
[Click Here to Learn More](#)

BSFD Trains in New Pediatric Resuscitation System

The Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District is the **FIRST** fire department in Lee County to adopt and utilize the revolutionary Handtevy Pediatric System. The District acquired this new pediatric emergency resuscitation and drug dosing system. First responders know that pediatric patients require specific medication, dosages and equipment based on the child's age and size, this system greatly increases BSFD's ability to quickly and effectively treat children by eliminating complicated mathematical equations when giving medications.



YEARS OF SERVICE



Administrative Assistant
Cheryl Call
15 years



Fire Inspector
Jeff Krupp
10 years

LIVE FIRE TRAINING

The District provided live fire training to firefighters using their certified training facility in March.



FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK

On March 18th, the Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District was represented at the Florida State Capitol by Fire Commissioners Steve Lohan, Fred Forbes, Lawrence P. Kosilla Jr., James Murphy and executive staff. During the lunch (pictured below) a legislator discussed a bill that would place Special District candidates who run for office on the primary ballot. Our elected officials expressed concern that the bill would create a situation where a nonpartisan race would become subject to partisan politics. The bill was not successful.



FULLY INVOLVED

During the month of April, the Bonita Springs Fire Control & Rescue District responded to a structure fire off [Hollybrier Lane in Pelican Landing](#). When the fire crews arrived the house was fully involved, the cause of the fire is still under investigation but it had appeared to have originated in the garage and spread quickly to the barrel-tiled roof. [During the April Board Meeting, AC DeWitt explains the safety concerns when responding to these types of emergencies](#). Roofs covered with barrel tiles are much heavier than shingles, get extremely hot and do not provide ventilation, without ventilation roof collapse is imminent. Upon arrival, the fire crews were able to verify that all occupants were safely evacuated and firefighters contained the fire, preventing loss of nearby life and property.



[Pit Crew Cardiac Arrest Training](#) is a county-wide training initiative that is focused on consistency of multi agency response in cardiac arrest emergencies. The concept is that training should be ran like a Nascar Pit Crew, each person have a set responsibility on the team. When every second counts, streamlining this process saves lives. [Click here](#) to view pictures from the training hosted at BSFD Station 4.

BIG OR SMALL, WE RESPOND TO THEM ALL

Managing large scale events like hurricanes, wildfires and even some multi alarm fires requires teamwork and coordination among multiple agencies. For safety reasons and to best coordinate emergency efforts, it's imperative that every agency is working from the same "playbook." In addition to county wide guidelines, a military-like system has been used for decades to streamline emergency efforts to ensure continuity among agencies.

Through the Fire Chiefs Association, Lee County has organized all of the Fire Districts into north and south teams who respond in large scale emergencies when the local resources have been overwhelmed. Lee County can deploy a *Strike Team* or a *Task Force*. A *Strike team* is composed of 5 fire engines or 5 brush trucks and a *Task Force* is a combination of 2 fire engines and 3 brush trucks and are primarily used for urban interface fires. Urban interface fires refer to those houses that are particularly susceptible to wildfires because they are developed within close proximity to trees and/or brush.



BSFD IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



GOAL 25,000!

The Bonita Springs firefighters hit the streets for the annual "Fill-the-Boot Drive" during the month of March. All funds collected were donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) to help find a cure for this debilitating muscular disease. The District and Local 3444 is happy to announce that it was the most successful boot drive to date raising **\$27,000** for the cause and beating the 2015 goal of \$25,000!



The 2nd Annual Easter Open House was a huge success. The BSFD partnered with Oak River Church and tripled attendance at the Open House on March 28th. The event included the Easter bunny, fire engine tours, face painting, live firefighter in gear demonstrations and an Easter hunt & games.



UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL EVENTS



MAY EVENTS



50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

JUNE EVENTS

