



# FULLY INVOLVED



## ADAIR RURAL FIRE & RESCUE Newsletter Fall 2023

Proudly serving your Adair Village and Soap Creek Valley neighborhoods since 1974.

### A Word From Your Fire Chief.



Chief Aaron Harris EMT/RN

I would like to say “Thank You” to our residents. We have not responded to any burn complaints or illegal activities all summer long! While this may not seem like a big deal, it frees up our personnel and apparatus to respond to more critical emergencies. I’m not saying we have not been busy, we have. Ask any one of my firefighters who have been volunteering over the past 5 years and they will tell you this is the most fire they have seen during the summer.

Our summer started out very dry due to limited rainfall from April through June. Early July was hot, dry, and windy kicking off Adair Fire’s fire season in a hurry with a 1.5-acre wildland fire off Wiles Rd. Then we responded to an All-County 75-acre field fire, just across the river from downtown Corvallis. The following day we provided mutual aid to Polk County, where we assisted with initial attack of a 7.5-acre forest fire outside of Pedee. Later in July, Adair Fire assisted Polk County again on a 10-acre fire, just off Airlie Rd. We wrapped up the month with a clothes dryer fire on Hwy 99, that was kept to the dryer itself!

August was not any easier. At the beginning of August, Adair Fire assisted the State Fire Marshal’s Office by participating in a Benton County Task Force to the Priceboro Rd fire, outside of Harrisburg. During August we had calls for assistance from Philomath F&R (PF&R), Albany FD, Corvallis FD (CFD), and Salem FD. Also, Adair Fire received assistance from CFD and PF&R on a forest fire inside our own district, at the intersection of Sulphur Springs and Soap Creek Rd. Adair Fire ended the month by deploying again for the State Fire Marshal’s Office in a Task Force down to the Smith River Complex Fire, along the California border.

In early September, an Adair Fire firefighter deployed with a third Benton County Task Force to the Bensel Fire, just outside of Hermiston. With the end of Fire Season in sight, I ask that you stay self-aware to help us close out the season a little “q word” than it started!

If you ever have any questions about how, what, and when to legally burn in the Adair Rural Fire Protection District please visit our website at [www.Adair-rural-fire.com](http://www.Adair-rural-fire.com). Thanks again!

### Open House Oct. 7th from 11:00am to 2:00pm



from a **Life Flight Helicopter** (if it isn’t called into action for a real emergency). Bring your family, friends and appetite.

- 11:00 to 12:15 Fire Truck Rides.
- 11:00 to 12:45 Kid’s Games and Activities.
- 11:30 to 12:30 Hotdogs, Drinks and Snacks.
- 11:45 to 12:30 ODF Wildfire Demonstration.
- 12:45 to 2:00 Auto Accident Patient Removal & Life Flight Helicopter Demonstration!

See [www.adair-rural-fire.com](http://www.adair-rural-fire.com) for updates and any schedule changes. We hope to see you there.

### Dennis Haney - Thank You For Everything



Dennis Haney 1938—1923

The Adair Rural Fire Protection District and our community lost a wonderful and noteworthy leader, friend, family man, and neighbor. On March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Fire Marshal Dennis Haney passed away suddenly at the age of 84.

Dennis was instrumental in the formation of the Adair Rural Fire Protection District. When the Air Force left the area and Adair Village returned to private lands, the area was left without fire protection. In March 1973, Dennis, along with five others fought to create the Fire Protection District which still

serves the community to this day. Dennis was asked to be your first Fire Chief and served in the position for 16 years.

As Fire Chief, Dennis was able to help acquire land and build the Soap Creek Valley Substation, enhancing our ability to provide protection to the valley. He increased the capacity of Adair’s main station by adding two more apparatus bays, a hose tower, and improved equipment. He was pivotal in getting a levy passed to purchase a brand-new 3000-gallon water tender, that we still use today.

After leaving his position as Adair’s Fire Chief, he remained active in the department as our local Fire Marshal for the next 33 years. For 10 years he concurrently worked as a Deputy Fire Marshal for the Albany Fire Department. He was still serving the community of Adair as our Fire Marshal when he passed away.

We can’t thank Dennis enough for everything he did for our district and its citizens. He will be deeply missed.

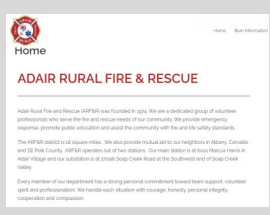
### Patient and Courteous Driving On Highway 99

In our last newsletter we asked for burn pile compliance, and it worked. Let’s try the same approach with accident-free driving through every intersection on Highway 99. When traveling north or south, don’t speed, don’t tailgate, don’t pass illegally, and don’t play on your phone. Always be on the lookout for vehicles pulling onto the road or making unexpected maneuvers.

For the drivers trying to get onto 99, please be patient. When we are in a hurry, we miss seeing that small car behind the garbage truck or misunderstand what the driver on the other side of the intersection is doing. Please be courteous. Drive the way you would want others to operate their vehicle around you. So, the challenge has been laid down, no 911 calls to the 99/Ryals/Arboretum intersection.

### [www.adair-rural-fire.com](http://www.adair-rural-fire.com) Website and Facebook Page

The Adair website and Facebook page are great resources. The website includes a burn information page with links to the daily burn status. The website will undergo a significant makeover this winter making it easier to use and expanding its content. Please follow us on Facebook to get timely important information and learn more about activities within the department.



Millions of calls each year are placed to 911 and poison control centers. Most of these calls are for household exposures and 80% are related to children between 1 and 4 years old. Many of the suggestions below are review for parents and homeowners, but always be on the lookout for ways to prevent poison exposures in your home.



- Utilize child-proof locks and latches on cabinets.
- Keep medication in secure locations that limit a child’s ability to reach them.
- Keep items in their original containers. Don’t transfer them to coffee cans or soda bottles.
- Safely discard items into sealed containers in outside trash receptacles.
- Keep indoor plants out of reach to young children and animals; some may be poisonous.
- Stay away from areas that have been sprayed recently with pesticides or fertilizer.
- Have the Poison Control Center phone number 800-222-1222 programmed in your phone.

When to call 911: If a person stops breathing, collapses, or has a seizure. This is an emergency!

When to call the Regional Poison Control Center: If there’s been a poisoning and the person has NOT stopped breathing, NOT collapsed, or NOT had a seizure. If you have concerns about possible poisoning, or want more information call the Poison Control Center.

### Pre-Incident Access Plans For Rural Addresses

When we receive a call for any type of emergency assistance, one of our first considerations is access to the scene. In the event of a fire, it’s critical to know if our first-in apparatus should be a large engine or small mini-pumper brush truck. Understanding the layout of a property helps us plan strategy and ensure the appropriate additional resources are called. Over the next 12 months a representative from our department will be visiting all the rural addresses in our district to evaluate access and other characteristics of the property that may affect our response. This initiative will not include addresses in Adair Village or nearby subdivisions.

Once complete, we will leave a printed notice at the primary entrance to your residence with a summary of our findings. Our data collection will include gates, driveway length, grade, clearance, and turn-around. We will note bridge restrictions, on-site water sources, make a quick assessment of the defensible space around the primary residence and other notable features. This data is to help our response and for your information. It will not result in requests for any specific property owner’s actions. The information will not be sent to or affect insurance.

Keep in mind, good access helps us to help you. Our trucks are up to 9 feet wide, 35 feet long, and 12 feet tall. Low-hanging branches often damage our trucks or can deny access completely. It is hard to change the layout of your driveway, but it’s easy to trim trees and bushes.

If you would like to opt out of the program, please send an email to [adair.ems.coordinator@gmail.com](mailto:adair.ems.coordinator@gmail.com) including OPT OUT and your address in the subject line. Although not necessary, you may leave additional notes or comments in the body of the email. Upon receipt of your email, we will acknowledge your request and remove the property from the list of addresses to survey.

### Thank You To The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians for New Radios

Adair Fire has new portable radios thanks to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. We received a \$10,000 matching grant to replace our outdated, poorly-functioning portable radios. Communication between firefighters is critical on all calls. In certain situations, reliable communications can literally be a life saver.

The Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution fund awards charitable organizations and local governments with grants for a wide variety of purposes. Adair Rural Fire and Rescue has been fortunate enough to receive five distinct public safety grants over the lifetime of the program. A grant for AEDs, remote front-mount bumper nozzles for two of our brush trucks, two separate grants for firefighter turnouts, and this year’s portable radios.

The ARF&R district and all the people we serve benefit from the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution fund’s generosity. Adair proudly wears a Confederated Tribe’s Salmon patch on our turnouts to express our gratitude for all their help.



Capt. Chuck Harris Accepts Award



Honorary Siletz Tribe Turnout Patch



Adair is Always Training



**The Desire to Serve - The Ability to Perform - The Courage to Act**

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