



Onward, here comes Winter and El Nino?! Bring on the Holidays!



MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

Important Updates

I lifted the BCVFD's fire district burn ban. Please check the website for updates.

<https://brazoscanyonvfd.org/>

Please note: The company installing fiber optics has disrupted the landlines. At this time, BCVFD's landline is not working at the station. Please contact us via email: brazosvfd@rio-arriba.org.

The recent inspection by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) yielded positive results, highlighting significant improvements as well as identifying areas that require further attention. Overall, the inspection proceeded smoothly. Notably, our firefighter training over 14 months has expanded to 88 hours average per firefighter which is a substantial achievement, especially considering that we are fully volunteer-based and do our best within our constraints.

I am proud to report that we have made enhancements in all inspected areas over the past year. However, one critical area that requires further improvement is the water hydrants. While Cañones has several hydrants and Ponderosa has one, the remainder of the district lacks hydrants that meet the necessary standards. This is an area requiring further research, and I invite anyone who is willing to volunteer their time to contact our department. Thank you.

Additionally, one of our brush trucks has been 'grounded' due to safety concerns regarding its skid which includes the hose, radiator, and other components to water suppression. Although



it was constructed by firefighters and deemed acceptable at the time, it no longer meets current safety standards. Consequently, our insurance provider will not cover any injuries related to the skid, hose, or reel section. In response, Assistant Chief Jake Collison has submitted a grant proposal to replace Brush 1. We remain hopeful for a positive outcome. Currently, Brush 1 serves as a utility vehicle effectively transporting gear and supplies for training and emergency responses. It is a reliable four-wheel drive truck.

Please note that the ISO report will not be available for three to six months and we await its findings with anticipation.

Recruitment Efforts

Please join BCVFD as a firefighter! It is a unique way to pay it forward. You can also join as a limited duty member or auxiliary and help with tasks such as chipping events or working on water tanks, hose rolling, etc. Serving your community as a volunteer with the fire department is a rewarding opportunity. Applications can be filled out and submitted directly to the county for a background check. Please the application link here: [Firefighter Application](#)

Training Highlights

Firefighters participate in various trainings throughout the year. The dedicated firefighters serving Brazos Canyon fire district work hard and train monthly. Please take a moment to thank us when you see us. Even as volunteers we strive toward achieving Firefighter I and Firefighter II certifications.

On September 11, 2001, in New York, firefighters ascended 20 to 40 floors on foot before evacuation directives were issued or, tragically, before the towers collapsed. In a heartfelt memorial tribute we participated in a stair climb at the Española Fire Academy Facility where we climbed the equivalent of 68 floors to honor those who lost their lives on that day. While they accomplished this feat in merely 15 minutes, fueled by adrenaline, we completed our climb in 45 minutes, making it a humbling experience for all participants.



9-11 Stair Climb, great representation by your Brazos Firefighters.

As we descended the floors during our seventeen evolutions, we were reminded of the heroism exhibited by our nation's firefighting forces. A looped video on display showcased the names and photographs of each firefighter honoring their bravery and dedication.

Other recent training sessions: The timely connection to water hydrants, donning bunker/structure gear within one minute, and drafting water from the river to fill the tender. Working with Fishtail Ranch on the newly designed and built dry hydrant. Thank you to Lee Weiss for his contraction of this important water suppression device. We also collaborated with TA Fire to practice hose handling and drafting water from BCVFD's Tender's drop tank into TA Fire's engine's water tank. Additionally, we completed CPR training alongside a comprehensive 32-hour Firefighter II wildland training program which combined both classroom instruction and field training experience.

In September, Capt. B. Gallagher and I devised a fire scenario to be conducted in Brazos Meadows. We meticulously mapped out the escape routes and safety zones as well as the Incident Command Post. However, our plans were disrupted by a significant lightning storm that rendered outdoor training unsafe. Consequently, we shifted our focus to indoor training, which included radio communication Q&A and scenario discussions on appropriate responses during a fire incident.



Firefighters participate in various training throughout the year, recently a “Mutual Aid” scenario with TA, Chama and BCVFD at the Brazos Meadows neighborhood.

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The team reviews the scenario with an open AAR (After Action Review)

Other:

We have ordered and received Wildland Fire Evacuation signs; however, State Forestry Department has requested that we refrain from installing them until the NM512 tree work is completed as the signs may be damaged. BCVFD will keep you informed.





WE NEED YOU to Volunteer or Donate to support BCVFD



Firewise USA®

Firewise USA® continues to collaborate with the fire department to drive education regarding defensible space and mitigation strategies. Over the summer there have been various events and organized chipping for area residents. The public access at Yoda Lane was our last scheduled event. We thank our volunteers for their time,



patience and support. For more details, please keep an eye on our website and also BCFVD website.





DID YOU KNOW?

That you can take pine needles to Russell's rather than home to discard them? This partnership has been very good for area residents but be reminded, it is for **PINE NEEDLES** only, no construction materials allowed. We want to keep this relationship solid and a recent dump of concrete at this location caused a bit of churn. Thank you in advance for your compliance.



Leak Repair on Ponderosa Tanks



THE FIREHOUSE BULLETIN



Brazos Canyon Volunteer Fire Department | Serving Our Community with Pride

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Community Newsletter



HOT TOPICS

Your Fire Department spends a lot of time volunteering for the safety and benefit of our community, please consider donating by using the QR code below.

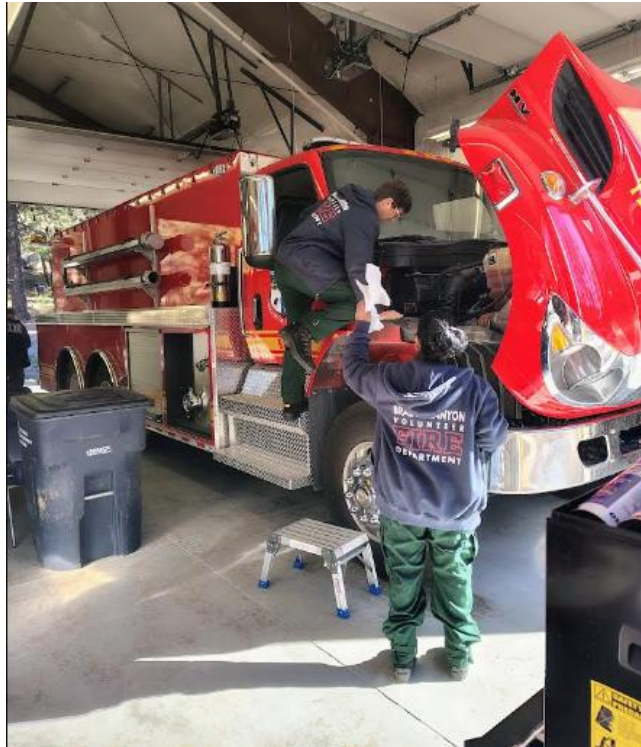


CALENDAR & UPCOMING EVENTS

November 21st	Monthly Meeting at Hayes Station
November 26 th	Thanksgiving

Brazos Canyon Volunteer Fire Department — Serving Our Community with Pride

Questions or submissions? Contact us at: BrazosVFD@rio-arriba.org 575-588-0014



Monthly Checklist being conducted by Val and Mark to make sure equipment is tip top.



Mike trains the team on apparatus operation.