

PFD



**Prairieville
Fire Department
Ascension Fire District 3
2022**



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2022

Dear fellow Prairieville resident,

Welcome to a brief outline of just a few of the many activities we engage in at The Prairieville Fire Department as part of our constant effort to keep you safe.

With no disrespect to any of the dedicated firefighters who have ever worked for the PFD and helped keep our community safe, through better training, new technology and improved techniques, we are more prepared today to handle your call for help than at any time in our history.

The number of calls for assistance we receive goes up each year. We get about 60 each week, with most being medical emergencies. Through dedication, advanced training, and your continued support, we have outfitted our responding vehicles and personnel with significantly enhanced life-saving equipment.

We continue to budget conservatively, allowing us to purchase necessary equipment and hire and train new firefighters with existing funds. Still in the planning stages – as the COVID-19 pandemic slowed everything down – is another new station near the Southern end of Prairieville in the Bluff Road area. This location will further strengthen our ability to help protect the 40,000 or so residents of our community. We hope to start construction soon and I will keep you posted on the developments.

In any accident, injury, sudden illness or fire, early moments make a huge difference in the outcome. We stand ready 24/7/365 to respond when you need us. As always, we are only three phone taps away when you dial 911.

Sincerely,

MARK STEWART

Chief, Prairieville Fire Department
Ascension Fire District 3
mstewart@prairievillefire.com

On the cover: PFD personnel take part in a fire hose training exercise.

Board of Commissioners



Gary Newman
President



Tracy Burns



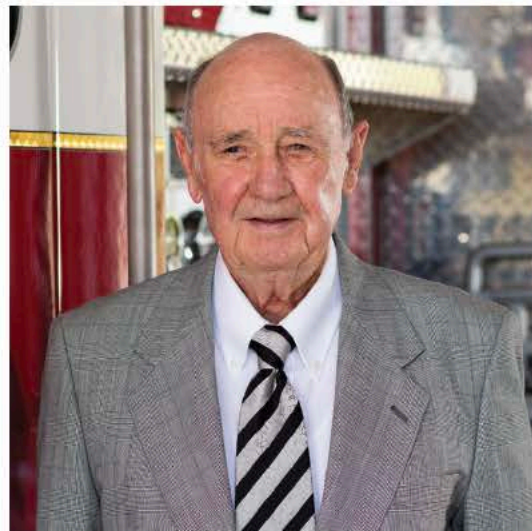
David Commander



Cody Melancon



Raymond Vince



In Memory

Walter Leftwich, 1935-2022

Our department lost one of its biggest supporters in early 2022 with the passing of Walter Leftwich. A charter member of the PFD in 1970, he was an integral part of our development from one truck and five firemen into the modern emergency response agency we are today. Leftwich served as president of our Board of Commissioners for some 20 years and never wavered in his dedication to the PFD and the safety of our community.

With Walter's passing, Gary Newman assumes the board president position and new commissioner Raymond Vince fills the vacancy.



PFD Firefighter of the Year Morgen Christ is flanked by Deputy Chief Pat Carpenter (L) and Chief Mark Stewart (R).

Firefighter of the Year

Eight Ascension Parish Fire Departments recently gathered for the 47th annual Knights of Columbus appreciation banquet where PFD's Morgen Christ was named our Firefighter of the Year for 2022. Christ was honored for his reliability, dedication, and eagerness to work with a team to reach common goals.

Enhanced Response

Most of the calls we receive for help are medical in nature. New equipment and training allow us to provide greater care in these emergency situations.



(L-R) PFD's Kevin Longino, Jeffery Jones, Valshaun Green, Cory Dugas and Kane Crozier train with our CPR Machine.

LUCAS Device

A vital element of CPR is correctly performing chest compressions. The LUCAS Device automates this task and frees a first responder to handle other responsibilities, such as in an incident when multiple victims need medical attention.



AEDs Automatic External Defibrillators

All of our engines now carry new ZOLL AED Pros. These automated external defibrillators can be adjusted to treat children and people of all sizes. The units also monitor and record heart rhythms.



NARCAN

Emergency responders carry NARCAN nasal spray, a potentially life-saving medicine that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

Advanced EMTs

We respond to your call with the correct personnel and equipment. Through enhanced training, we now have an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician on each truck that rolls from our stations.

Advanced EMTs complete special education allowing them to offer additional treatments, including administering IVs, giving medicine, and performing other procedures.

Storing Gasoline



Improperly stored gas can cause a fire.

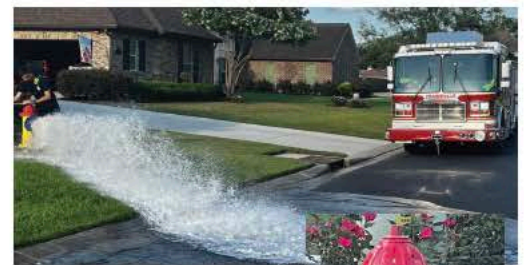
Just about everyone has a can of gasoline at home to fuel lawn equipment and how you store it is critical. Keep gas containers tightly closed, out of direct sunlight and far away from heat sources such as a water heater or furnace with a pilot light.

Electric Stove Safety

Two-thirds of Americans cook with electric stoves and a recent report from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) questions whether the appliances cause more problems than their gas counterparts.

"Homes with electric stoves reported two-and-a-half times more fires than those with gas ones," Chief Stewart said. "Additionally, the NFPA says the death rate of electric range households was more than three times higher and the injury rate nearly five times greater."

Chief Stewart points out that it's not the appliance's fault as human error is the biggest factor in any cooking fire. "Electric elements may not look hot, and things placed on or near them catch fire. Don't leave anything unattended while cooking and keep the stovetop free of clutter."



Hydrant Checks

PFD crews recently completed checks of all fire hydrants in our response area, ensuring each is in proper working order. Colored discs let us know how much water can be expected from that hydrant and reflective blue markers are placed on roadways so they can be quickly located at night.



Move Over!

Every state in our country has a "Move Over" law requiring that motorists yield to emergency responders on roadways. Drivers are required to change lanes, if possible, when emergency vehicles are present or at least slow down. Violators face a fine of up to \$200.

"In the last two decades, some 150 law enforcement officers and first responders have been struck and killed while working incidents on Louisiana's highways," Chief Stewart said. "The 'Move Over' law helps protect them as they try to help you."



Check Smoke Detectors

Test your smoke detectors monthly. If you need help installing or maintaining them, let us know and we'll help.

Prairieville Fire Department

Ascension Fire District 3

14517 LA Highway 73

Prairieville, LA 70769

225.673.6663

prairievillefire.com

Mark Stewart, Chief

Pat Carpenter, Deputy Chief



Prairieville Fire Department

Emergency, Dial 911



Join Us!

Considering a career as a first responder? Stop by our main office at 14517 Highway 73 and pick up a job application.

By the Numbers

When you need us, dial 911 and we will respond as quickly as possible.

Calls for Service

2022 to date 2,964

2021 3,729

2020 3,152

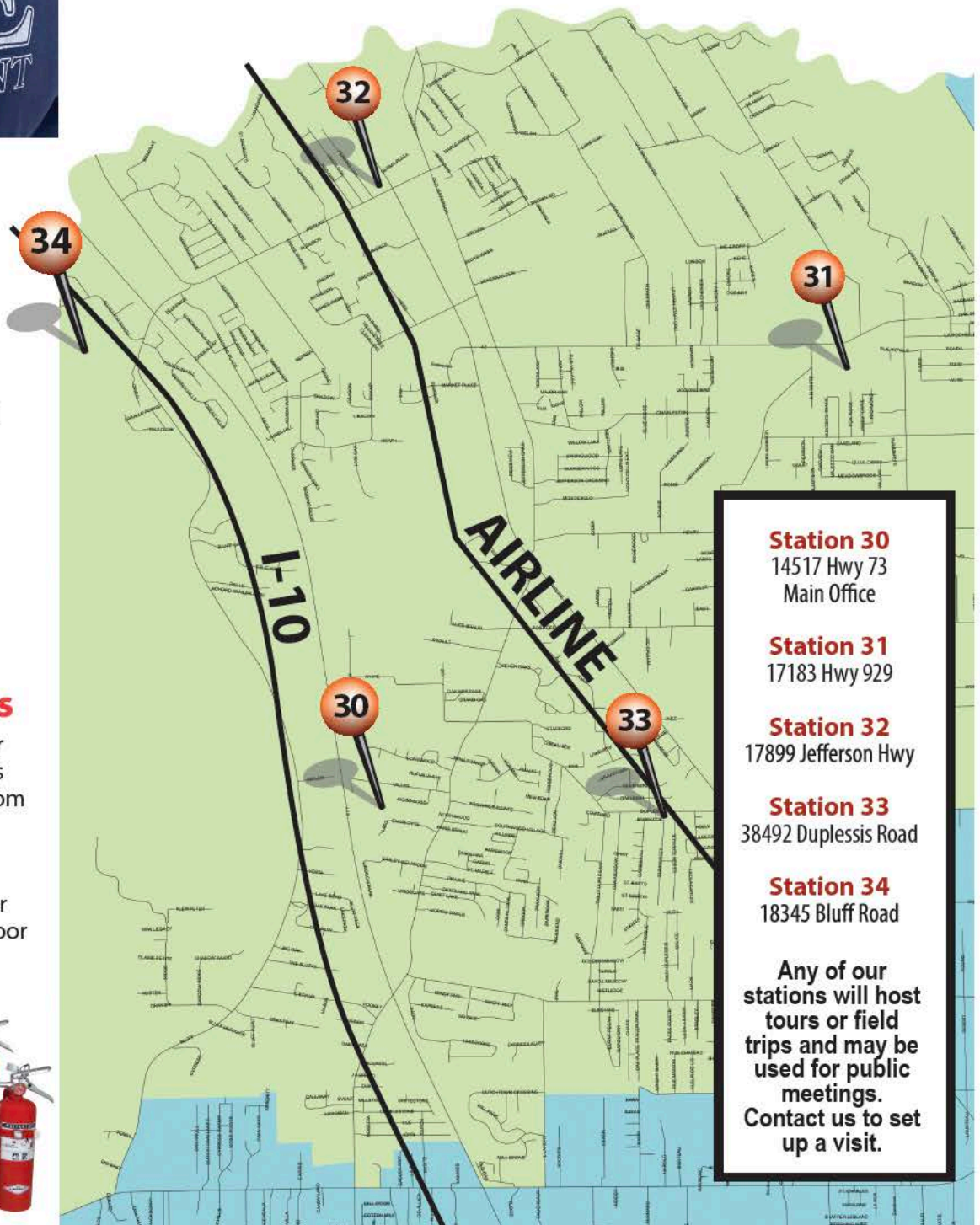


House Numbers

Make sure your house number is plainly visible from the road. Illuminated numbers in a contrasting color near the front door are best.

Be Prepared

Fire extinguishers are inexpensive and could save your life. Keep one on each floor of your home, especially in the kitchen, laundry room and garage.



Station 30

14517 Hwy 73
Main Office

Station 31

17183 Hwy 929

Station 32

17899 Jefferson Hwy

Station 33

38492 Duplessis Road

Station 34

18345 Bluff Road

Any of our stations will host tours or field trips and may be used for public meetings. Contact us to set up a visit.