

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

Board of Commissioners
Walter Leftwich, President
Tracy Burns
David Commander
Cody Melancon
Gary Newman



 **Prairieville Fire Department**

In Any Emergency, Dial 911

PFD Is Part of Prairieville



Santa Claus rides with the PFD



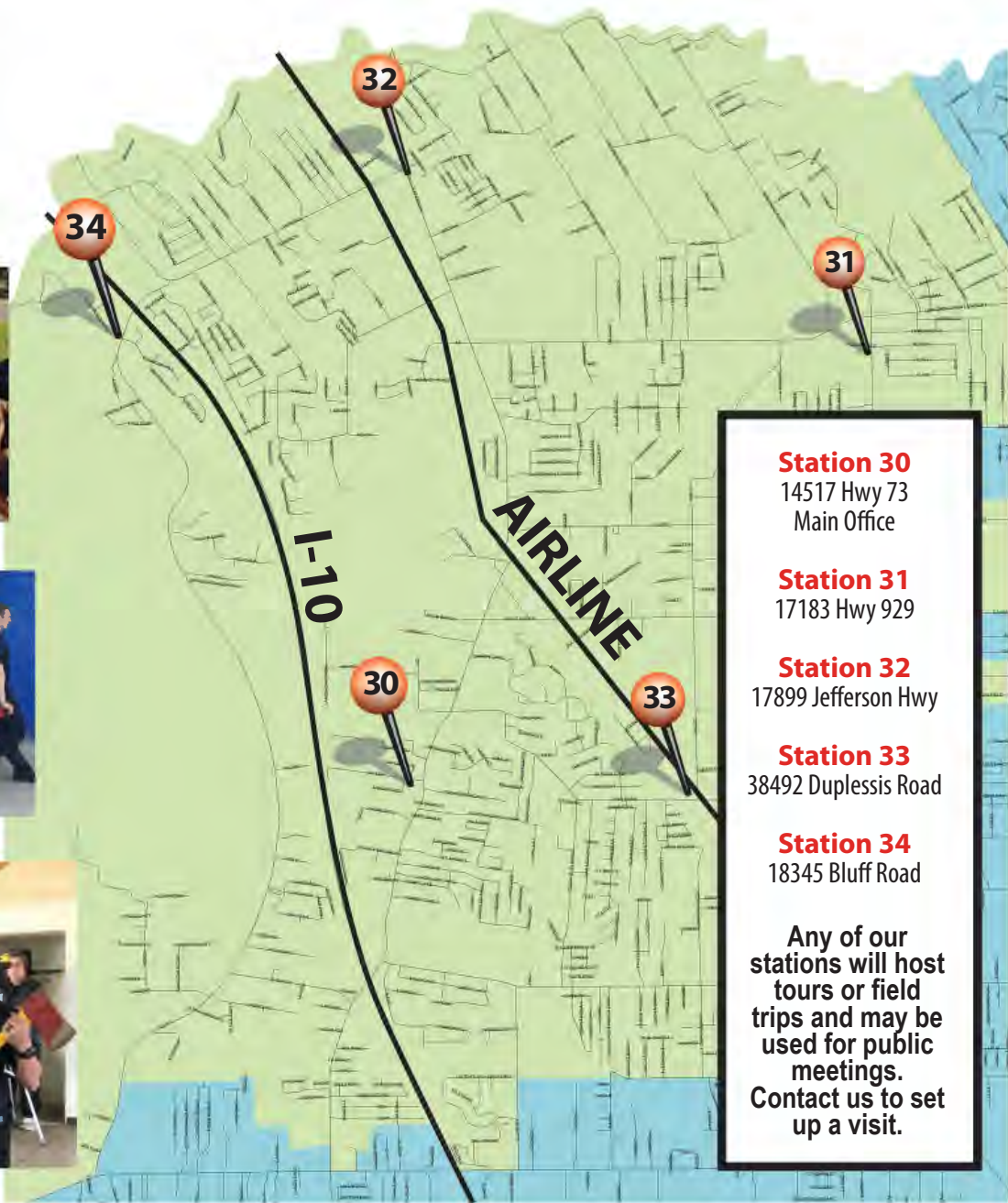
Special Olympics Torch Run



Collecting School Supplies



911 Commemoration



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.

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Ascension Fire District 3

2018



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Ascension
Fire District 3

Dear fellow residents,

On behalf of the dedicated men and women who make up Ascension Fire District 3 – better known as the Prairieville Fire Department – welcome to this summary of the many things we do to help keep you safe.

From humble beginnings in 1970 with one firetruck and an all-volunteer force, we have grown to a department of some 50 highly-trained professional firefighters manning five state-of-the-art stations around the clock.

As this community continues to expand, our greatest challenge is maintaining the high level of service you have come to expect from us as we face the ever-growing number of people and businesses who call Prairieville home. With your continued support, we will grow along with our community and keep providing you with the finest emergency assistance possible.

Outreach programs continue as we regularly visit each school, many daycare centers and civic groups each year to deliver a fire safety program. A cooperative effort between the PFD and Dutchtown High School puts on a class that presents emergency medical response as a career. We support numerous community events and always welcome the opportunity to participate in more.

The number one job of the PFD is to protect the 40,000 or so people who live here and we take this responsibility very seriously.

Please let me know how we can be of additional service to you.

Sincerely,

MARK STEWART

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

PFD People

Ray Poche

After more than three decades of working to protect our community as a volunteer and professional firefighter, Deputy Chief Ray Poche recently retired. He joined the PFD in 1986 and held various positions including training officer and more than 10 years as deputy chief. Thank you Ray for your 31 years of dedication and service.



Pat Carpenter

PFD's new Deputy Chief Pat Carpenter is one of the original hires made by Ascension Fire District 3 when the department went from volunteer to professional, full-time status in 2006. He has served as firefighter, captain and district chief. Carpenter is a nationally-registered EMT and holds numerous certifications in emergency response and rescue operations.



Chief Mark Stewart and Firefighter William Deaver

Firefighter of the Year

Firefighter/Operator William Deaver is the PFD's 2018 Knights of Columbus Firefighter of the Year.

A member of the PFD since 2016, Deaver is a graduate of the LSU Fireman Training Institute and a certified Emergency Medical Technician. Through his training and work to achieve Senior Firefighter status, Deaver leads by example with a positive attitude and continuous support for his co-workers and our mission to keep you safe.



Fire Rating

The Property Insurance Association of Louisiana issues fire ratings using a complex formula including water distribution and availability, communication, dispatch procedures, equipment and personnel. Currently, our rating is 3, which improved from 4 in 2016.

These ratings impact fire insurance premiums at businesses and homes. We work every day to further lower our rating which could potentially save you money. Check with your agent to make sure your fire insurance policy is up-to-date.



Firehouse Subs Grant

The PFD has been awarded a \$27,000 grant from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation, funded by purchases made at its restaurants.

"We are proud to receive this money and have put it to good use, purchasing three thermal imaging cameras for our firefighters," Chief Stewart said. "This equipment significantly enhances our ability to locate hidden fires in walls or closets and to rescue people who may be unconscious or trapped in a burning building."

Since its inception, the foundation has donated more than \$35 million to fire departments across the country for equipment, training and support.



PFD training for forced entry firefighting

Preventing Home Fires

Stove burners, candles and space heaters are the biggest causes of home fires. These tips will reduce your chance of a fire and keep you and your loved ones safe.

Cooking Fires

Never leave a pan unattended and keep combustibles – paper and dish towels – away. If a fire does start, put a lid on the pan and don't try to carry it outside.

Heating Equipment - Wood Stoves, Fireplaces, Space Heaters

Keep drapes and bedding at least five feet away and plug heaters directly into outlets, not an extension cord.

Electrical Equipment

Overloaded extension cords can ignite. Never run an extension cord under a rug.

Appliances

Lint buildup in dryers and items too close to gas water heaters can catch fire.

Smoking

Families are often asleep when a dropped cigarette ignites bedding or carpet and people die of smoke inhalation.

Candles

Use tip-proof containers and don't leave them unattended. During power failures, use flashlights and lanterns.

Children Playing With Matches /Lighters

Children often start fires in hiding places such as closets or under beds. Store matches and lighters out of their reach.

In Any Emergency, Dial 911



Supporting our Schools

The PFD partners with Dutchtown High School to provide standby emergency service at all football games. Acadian Ambulance and East Baton Rouge EMS join us to assist teachers in a year-long class for juniors and seniors who may be interested in a career as an Emergency Medical Responder. Besides classwork, students visit fire stations and interact with our first responders to gain valuable hands-on experience.

We make time each year to visit the nine schools and numerous daycare centers in Fire District 3, educating students on fire prevention and safety. With four new schools in the planning stages, our efforts to reach even more young people will expand in coming years.



It's never too early to teach fire safety.

Water Rescue Upgrades

Since the devastating flood of 2016, we have significantly enhanced our ability to perform water rescues. We acquired two high-water vehicles, a 2.5-ton truck and a Hummer from government surplus and a new shallow water boat. Some 30 members of our department have completed the specialized training required to become certified in swift water rescue.



Mutual Assistance

PFD Chief Mark Stewart (L) and Deputy Chief Pat Carpenter (R) present the keys to a PFD truck donated to the St. Amant Volunteer Fire Department to Chief James LeBlanc. Ascension's fire departments have mutual aid agreements in place to assist one another and keep you safe.

The Numbers

We respond immediately to your call for assistance, dispatching the necessary personnel and equipment to expertly handle the situation. Besides fires, the PFD responds to requests for help involving emergency medical situations, hazardous materials and motor vehicle accidents.

Calls for Service	
2015	2,099
2016	2,336
2017	2,502
2018 to date	2,314

Smoke Alarms Save Lives!

Test your alarms once a month, change the battery at least once a year and contact us with any questions.

