

News from the Ellsburg Volunteer Fire Department.2015.11

Our monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at 7pm. The department responded to 3 medical calls and 0 fire calls in October. Two calls were for rollovers . Both rollovers occurred at mile marker 44 on Highway 53. There are many safety issues that must be considered when responding on the highway. Traffic control can be dangerous. Visibility of responders on the side of the highway -especially at night- can be challenging. Reflective signs, cones, flares, lights, and clothing were discussed and displayed so members know what is available for safety. The department will purchase two reflective stop signs to help with traffic control. Reflective vests were issued to all members. Radio usage, including tuning to working channels and communicating with the ambulance and 911 dispatcher, was discussed. As the weather cools, heat is turned on in houses and other structures. This increases the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. A 4 system gas monitor is a necessary piece of equipment for the fire department to purchase and own so that CO levels can be checked when poisoning is suspected.

Deer hunting season is here. Members are reminded to respond to calls with orange clothing during deer rifle season. A medical training night will be held on Monday, November 16, at 7pm at the Bass Lake Fire Hall. The training will include the use of tourniquets and treatment of injuries related to hunting. The Cotton VFD will join us for this training.

With the coming of winter, there are several maintenance issues that need to be attended to. These include running the ATV before deer opener, battery checks, washing the trucks, removing heat shields from vehicles, installing skis on the 4-wheeler, installing ice augers on trucks, and winterizing portable pumps. Work nights will be held.

A reminder that Firefighter training begins Nov 24 at the Bass Lake Fire Hall. Classes will be held every Tuesday and Thursday and occasional Saturdays beginning at 6pm until April. A schedule of classes was distributed. You do not have to attend every class at Bass Lake. There are classes being held at other locations also so if you miss a class you can make it up elsewhere. It usually takes more than a year to complete the full course. Anyone interested in attending the classes should contact Chief Jeff Dulinski at 218-391-4319, or leave a message at the Bass Lake Fire Hall at 482-3777. By Heidi Yokel, Secretary, EVFD