FIRE HOUSE NEWS

A Publication by
The Rocky Point Firefighters Association
rpfirefightersassoc@gmail.com

April 1, 2025 Volume 6 – Issue 4

SPAGHETTI LUNCH

WITH BREAD AND DRINK

Adults: $12.00 Children: $6.00

Wine available with additional charge

Rocky Point Resort

April 12 – 11 am – 2 pm

Community Sponsored Fundraiser for Rocky Point Fire & EMS

NEXT REGULAR FIRE BOARD MEETING

April 14 at 9:00 am

Everyone is welcome to come and listen.

Be sure to check the www.rpfire.com website or the kiosk in front of the fire hall for the official minutes of the March board meeting and/or the April Agenda.

Board Members Emails

There is one email address for the board. That email address is: board@rpfire.com.

For Fire Department Information

Be sure to check the Rocky Point Fire & EMS website (www.rpfire.com) frequently for info, updates, and in the case of any disaster or emergency, important instructions.

March Emergency Calls:

MVA	3
Smoke Report	3
ALS	10
Public Assist	2

Reminder:

We can better serve you, in case of a house fire, if we have information available, in advance, regarding your floor plan and property design. Please go to the rpfire.com website, click on Chief's Desk then select Pre-Fire Planning Form. Print the form and fill it out including a drawing of your residence floor plan, and return it to the fire department. **All information will be kept confidential.**

Fire Department Hours:

For the time being the fire station hours will vary as volunteers are available. Ty will be at the station on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and until noon on Thursdays. That is the only scheduled hours until the Chief can return and resume her schedule.

LEVY INFORMATIONAL MEETING

April 14 following the Board Meeting

Come and get the correct information why we need this levy to stay in business.

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Around The Station

Oregon State Fire Marshall's Grant money has been awarded and Ty Collins is currently receiving applications and contacting the persons who have already turned in their applications. These applications will be processed on a first come basis.

The Firewise Title III grant has been signed by the County Commissioners and contacts with the property owners will begin soon. See more information on page 3.

The volunteers held their pancake breakfast fundraiser the 15th of March. Mother nature dumped snow everyday for a couple of days before the event tempering the attendance, even so, we held a very successful fundraiser. We want to thank everyone who came out and supported us. And a big Thank You to those who helped with the preparations, the cooking and the serving. With the volunteer numbers as low as they are right now we really depend on our community for help. We appreciate you!

We want to extend a huge Thank You to Brian Muly, who lives in Newberg and is coming here to Rocky Point to help with Medical services while the Chief is recuperating from her fall and broken ankle.

Community members and Rocky Point Resort have teamed together again this year to hold a fundraiser for Rocky Point Fire & EMS. Thank you for your support! This means so much and is so needed, if we are to continue to keep this service available locally.

The Levy will be on the ballot again this May and the board members are working on dates and times for some Townhall type meetings to answer questions regarding the current status of income versus expenses for Rocky Point Fire & EMS. The volunteers request that you make every effort possible to attend one of the meetings before you make your decision how to vote.

Around The Station - Continued

Please get the facts from the source and don't make your decision based on someone else's opinion or on incorrect data provided by any source other than the Fire Department. And please vote. The first meeting will be held April 14 following the Board Meeting.

Chief Diann is in a boot now and has been coming out to the station a few hours a day a couple of days a week to keep up on computer work that can only be done at the station. She continues to work from home, attend meetings either in person or via Zoom, and respond to communications via phone and email. She is in frequent communication with her crew and the board members and continues to do "Chief" stuff remotely.

Recently we have had a few smoke reports that were the result of residents burning without notifying the Fire Department of their plans. This has required unnecessary responses with equipment that is expensive to run. We want to remind you to please call the fire department and let us know of your plans to burn, when and where. If no one answers, please leave a message with the details.

Public Assist:

Remember, if you or a family member falls, indoors or outdoors, and you need help getting up, call 911. They will dispatch your local fire department, and we will come assist you in getting up. This is referred to as "Public Assist" and there is no charge, **unless** you have injured yourself and we need to transport you to the hospital

Do you have an address sign?

When you experience an emergency and call 911 for help, we need to be able to find you. Do you have your house number posted in plain site on the street? If you need an address sign for your property, call the station; 541-356-2100. If no one answers, please leave a message

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Rocky Point is a Firewise Community!

Firewise Committee Update

Greetings Firewise Community!

Rocky Point Firewise Connection was awarded a Title lll grant from Klamath County for fuels reduction on properties with structures rated HIGH hazard on the 2025 Oregon Statewide Wildfire Hazard Map. In our community three areas stand out, parts of Odessa, Mountain Lakes and all of Varney Creek.

Members of Firewise Connection will be contacting impacted residents to review the grant guidelines for fuels reduction and review property for work if resident is interested.

Any questions call:
Jerry Higgins 541-891-7804
Diana Newdall 541-810-3180
Email:
rockypointfirewiseconnection@gmail.com

*****ODF chipping*****Get your name on the chipping list****
Call/text: Diana Newdall 541-810-3180
Email:
rockypointfirewiseconnection@gmail.com

Committee members: Diana Newdall, Jerry Higgins, Greg Hoskins, Steve McKee, Del Ramsdel, Rod & Linda Golart, Steve Hill, and Ellen Fawl.

If you would like to participate in the committee…contact us at
rockypointfirewiseconnection@gmail.com

Firewise Committee Update - Continued

Chipping Project

ODF Chipping Day – MAY 2nd, 2025

FW Connection will keep residents informed

***Get on the ODF chipping list**
Call or text: Diana Newdall 541-810-3180 or Email:
rockypointfirewiseconnection@gmail.com

***If your information is not on the list, ODF will NOT stop at your property.**

****see attached ODF Pile Specs for Chipping on last page of this newsletter**

Rocky Point Firewise Connection and Rocky Point Fire will not be responsible for piles that are not on the chipping list.

Special Board Meeting
April 14, 2025

There will be a special meeting of the Rocky Point Fire & EMS Board of Directors at the Fire Hall at 25600 Rocky Point Road on April 14th, 2025 to answer any questions regarding the Operating levy placed on the ballot for $ .82. This will start at 10:00 a.m. and last till 12:00 noon. The meeting follows the regular 9:00 a.m. board meeting.

State Fire Marshall's Grant

Applications are still being accepted for this grant from property owners with a Fire Risk Rating of Moderate. If you have any questions, or need an application, call Ty Collins 541-281-2216 or the Fire Station 541-356-2100. An application can be emailed to you upon your request.

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Medical Air Transport Memberships

We would encourage every resident of Rocky Point to be a member of both Airlink and Mercy Flights. In a medical emergency where air transport is critical, we have no control over which service will respond. The one that is currently available will be the one responding. Even though Airlink will no longer be providing helicopter service from Klamath Falls, they will be providing helicopter service from Bend and fixed wing service from Klamath Falls. Your membership continuation is important in the case of a medical emergency when Airlink from Bend provides the flight service. The membership is honored State wide**.** In fact, your Airlink Membership is good Nation Wide. And keep in mind, your Airlink ambulance coverage is separate from your air transport coverage and you want to keep both.

We want to encourage you to also carry a Mercy flight membership as they will be providing service out of Medford. The memberships do not cross over. And Mercy Flights does not provide service nationwide.

The cost of carrying both memberships is minimal compared to an air transport bill.

Fire Tip

For many, warmer springtime weather can mean yard work, but it should also be a time for considering fire safety around the house. Following are a few things you should consider:

Clean out dryer vents: At a minimum, dryer vents need to be cleaned out at least once a year, preferably by a professional. And lint vents should be cleaned after every cycle.

You should also make sure that the air exhaust vent pipe outside your house is not restricted and the flap opens when the dryer is running.

Fire Tip - Continued

Inspect your grill: Give it a full inspection, checking for grease or fat buildup, spider webs, and any other nest or debris. If it is a gas grill, be sure the propane tank hose has no leaks. And grills need to be at least 10 feet away from the house, decks and any other structures when in use.

Properly store and dispose of painting materials The oils used in oil-based paints and stains actually release heat as they dry, and so if rags covered in these materials are left in a trapped space, a fire can break out.

Don't leave cleaning rags or stain rags in a pile. Let them dry outside and keep them far away from your house.

Paint should be stored in a dry place out of direct sunlight. They should be stored inside, but paint can be flammable, so make sure to keep it away from a furnace or other heat source.

Check and Replace smoke detector batteries at least once a year and make sure they are working correctly.

First Aid Tip

As spring arrives, ensure your first aid kit is stocked and your skills are refreshed. Focus on outdoor activities, potential allergies, and weather changes, and remember to check expiration dates.

Stock Your First Aid Kit with the **Essentials:** Bandages, antiseptic wipes, antibiotic ointment, gauze, and pain relievers are crucial.

Consider adding spring specific items like calamine lotion (for insect bites), hydrocortisone cream (for rashes), and poison ivy/oak cream.

Make sure you have a car kit and a home kit.

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NEED YOUR HELP

This mess can be found just off HWY 140 on the Cold Springs Rd and is absolutely unacceptable!

If you have any information regarding this: photo of possible vehicle, license plate number or know who dumped their garbage here please call either the Fremont-Winema Forest Service or Rocky Point Fire & EMS.

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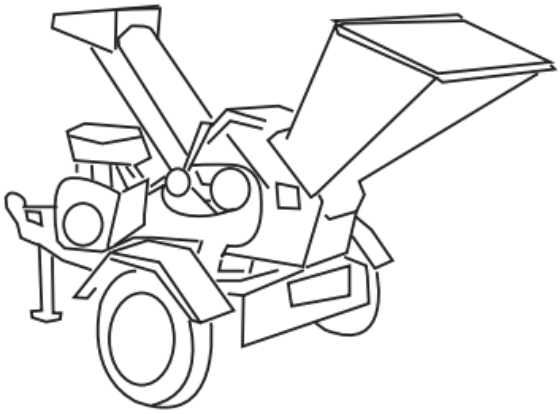

How to pile slash for chipping operations

Chipping can be a highly effective method of slash disposal. A layer of chips a few inches deep spread across the ground poses relatively little fire hazard. Chipping produces a neat appearance. The mulch holds soil moisture, covers exposed soil, and inhibits weed germination. Most of the labor is in dragging the material to the chipper and feeding it by hand. The material can also be piled first, so that the chipper can move from pile to pile. Chipping requires level ground and good access, since most chippers are towed by a truck. Below are some basic tips to ensure a smooth operation.

- Only pile clean slash (ex: not created from tractors or blades pushed with dirt, only cut by chainsaws or other shears)
- Piles should not exceed waist height
- All butts of the slash need to be pointing in the same direction (ex: not jackstraw)
- Point the butts towards the main road
- Pile should be in straight rows
- If there is too much slash to keep rows at waist height, start another row directly behind. Keeping in mind that the butts are pointing in the same direction and towards the road.
- If material is too large, cut into pieces (ex: smaller trees need to be cut into manageable sizes, not to exceed 6'' DBH, same with larger brush and branches)