



# ***2010 ANNUAL REPORT***

**We serve to protect your health, safety and property**

Dear Patrons,

This past year turned out to be a very eventful one for the Fort Osage Fire Protection District. After more than 34 years of service to our organization and our district, Chief Greg Pottberg retired from the fire service on April 9, 2010. As a result of Chief Pottberg's retirement, the Board of Directors promoted me to the position of Fire Chief. I have been excited and honored to work with many patrons of our district and our community, and I am looking forward to continuing to work together to meet the needs and challenges of the future.

As with everyone, we are adapting to the changes in our economy. The district had a loss in tax revenue of approximately 7% in the last year. To compensate for these changes, we reduced the 40-hour administrative staff by 25% and shift personnel by 9%. We are in the process of bringing 12 volunteers on board to assist with staffing needs.

This year the district completed most of the purchases that were approved in the 2008 Bond. Remaining items requested in the bond will be purchased by the end of 2011.

My goals for the organization are to maintain excellent customer service to our patrons, quality personnel and equipment, and financial responsibility.

I am looking forward to continuing to serve our community to meet their emergency needs.

John E. Yocum, CFO, EFO  
Fire Chief

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Larry Deaton- Chairman ♦ Doreen Scarborough-Treasurer ♦ Kirk Kellough-Secretary**

In the last year, Fort Osage Fire Protection District has seen many changes. New Board Members, a new Fire Chief, a new Deputy Fire Chief, new leaders throughout the team, District tax boundary changes, rising expenses, tighter budgets and so on. It is important for you to know that during this time of rapid changes, the Board of Directors, and the leaders of FOFPD have the district resident's best interests in mind. We are continually attempting to offer the best quality services to you while being fiscally responsible with the taxpayer's dollars. All of this takes time and continual management. We thank you for your support in the past and continual support in the coming months ahead in our efforts to provide you, the taxpayers, with quality service in what is most often your highest time of need.

## District Highlights

- Fort Osage Fire Protection District employs 30 full time employees and 9 volunteer firefighters and emergency medical personnel
- The District has four (4) fire/rescue engines, three (3) ambulances, one (1) ladder truck, two (2) water tanker trucks, and two (2) brush trucks.
- There are three (3) fire stations throughout the District.
- The District boundary starts at the Lafayette County line to the East, Truman Road to the South, Missouri River to the North, and Kentucky Rd. and 291 Highway to the West. To include: Buckner, Village of River Bend, Levasy and Sibley.
- Fort Osage Fire Protection District provides services for approximately 13,500 citizens within 110 square miles
- All firefighters and officers are certified by the State of Missouri Division of Fire Safety, and all firefighters and officers are either Emergency Medical Technicians or Paramedics certified by the Missouri Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.
- The District responded to 1,448 calls in 2010

## Services

The Fort Osage Fire Protection District serves the community in a variety of ways including:

- Structural and Urban Wildfire Suppression
- Emergency Medical Services – Advanced Life Support
- Extrication of victims of automobile accidents
- Rescue Operations and Response
- Hazardous Materials Response
- Life Safety Education
- Pre-fire planning
- Inspections of businesses and multi-family residential occupancies

The need for broad expertise is why our firefighters continuously train. In 2010, District firefighters accumulated over 5,300 total training hours dedicated to skill maintenance and improvement.

## Summary of Fire Responses

Fort Osage Fire Protection District responded to a total of fifty-eight (58) fires in 2010. Of this total, twenty-nine (29) occurred in structures.

The average response time to structure fires in 2010 was six (6) minutes and thirty-nine (39) seconds.

Forest, vegetation and grass fires accounted for thirteen (13) fires. All of these fires were suppressed prior to damaging real property.

An additional eight (8) fires were related to dumpsters or rubbish, and eight (8) fires were from vehicle or equipment fires.

## Emergency Medical & Rescue

The District responded to 1,241 calls related to medical emergencies, accidents, rescues and other similar types of assistance.

1,001 responses to medical emergencies

34 responses to motor vehicle accidents with injuries or where extrication of the vehicle occupants was required

8 responses to vehicle accidents – no injuries

8 responses for law enforcement assistance

122 responses to assist other fire or emergency medical agencies

68 responses to assist the public

### **Public Education:**

Public education is provided yearly in an effort to help citizens make informed decisions regarding safety in their homes and workplace.

We cater to the public and civic organizations in providing fire safety and health education which includes: fire station tours, fire safety talks, public events, fire extinguisher training and CPR classes.

This year our crews provided nearly 50 presentations involving over 100 hours of public education.

The District will provide a free American Heart Association Heartsaver CPR course to District patrons on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Contact our office at 816-650-5811 to register.

### **Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors:**

These safety devices can save your life by providing an early warning of a life threatening problem. A working smoke detector can increase your chance of survival in a fire by over 50 percent.

Through grant funding we were able to provide free smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors to residents of our district this year. We distributed or installed 56 smoke detectors and 37 CO detectors.

We also received a grant from Interstate Batteries for 9 volt batteries to assist in the Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery campaign. The firefighters installed over 60 batteries in detectors for residents in 2010.

### **VISION STATEMENT:**

We are positioning ourselves today and for the future to be a responsible leader in emergency services through proactive training, education, risk assessment, employee and community involvement.

**Chief- John Yocum**

**Deputy Chief- Jeremy Young**

**Assistant Chief- A Shift-Keith Vollrath**

**Assistant Chief-B Shift-Harold Hollingsworth**

**Assistant Chief-C Shift-Greg Daugherty**

If you have questions or concerns please contact us at  
816-650-5811

### **Fort Osage Fire Protection District Volunteer Program**

The Fire District started a Volunteer Firefighter / EMS program at the beginning of 2010. Currently, up to nine (9) volunteers help staff the Fire District. In lieu of career pay and benefits, the volunteers receive education, training and experience; supplementing career firefighter staff at a fraction of the cost of additional career positions. This innovative program saves taxpayers approximately \$360,000 each year, while still providing our community with emergency response professionals trained and nationally certified.

For more information on what services are provided by your Fire District and to stay up to date, visit our webpage at [www.fortosagefire.org](http://www.fortosagefire.org) or you can find us on Facebook® as Fort Osage Fire Protection District.



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NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION U.S.  
POSTAGE PAID  
BUCKNER, MO  
PERMIT NO. 06

## Postal Patron



### **Post Your Address:**

When someone has a heart attack or a house fire, SECONDS can make a difference! Firefighters and Paramedics depend on clearly marked address numbers when responding to emergencies.



### **Fire Safety Inspections:**

In order to provide a safe environment for district residents the Fire District performs safety hazard inspections to all businesses, churches and schools. This year the crews conducted over 120 inspections.

### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

The Fort Osage Fire Protection District, Sni-Valley Fire Protection District and Central Jackson County Fire Protection District are the three fire districts that make up our Tri-District Hazmat Team.

The Tri-District Hazmat Team has 28 members that are all certified to a minimum level of Hazardous Materials Technician. The team completes training on a monthly basis consisting of both classroom lecture and practical exercises. The members of the team train over 100 hours a year.

For routine types of hazardous conditions, the Fort Osage Fire District responds with its fire/rescue engines. These types of hazards range from accidental gasoline and natural gas releases, downed power lines and oil and coolant releases from automobile accidents.

In 2010, the Fort Osage Fire Protection District recorded 57 responses to hazardous conditions.