



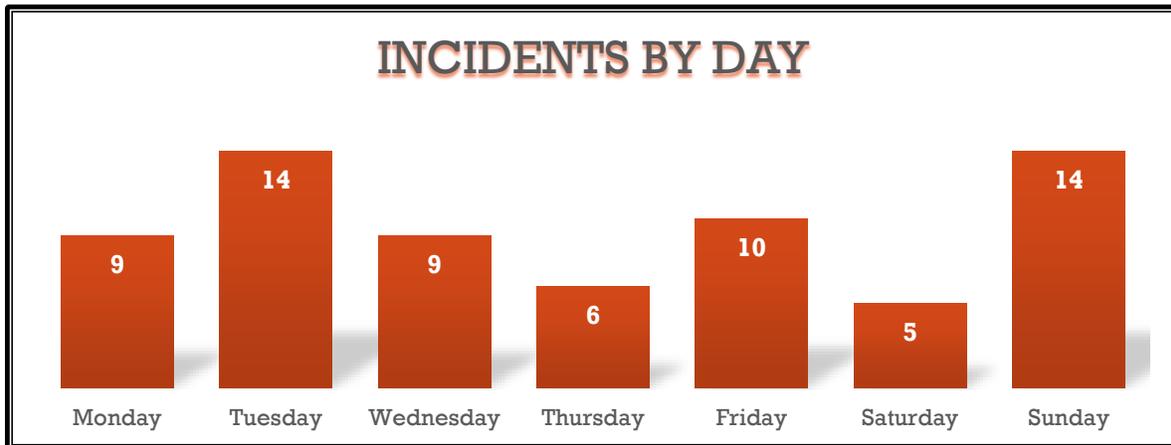
AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- **OES Strike Team Deployments:** Winters firefighters continue to be busy serving the wildfires throughout the State of California. Today, a crew rotation is underway to rotate personnel in/out. Captain Mendoza, Driver Operator Alfonso Mederos and Firefighter Cameron Simental will be coming home from the Dixie Fire this evening. Captain Schechla, Driver Operator Luis Herrera and Firefighter Miquel Zaragoza will be replacing them.
- **COVID 19 Testing:** The fire department has exhausted all of its BinaxNOW COVID-19 antigen tests that was made available from Yolo Emergency Medical Services Agency (YEMSA). These kits are no longer being provided from the State to Yolo County. We are exploring partnerships for testing with other organizations. However, Healthy Davis Together has expanded to Healthy Yolo Together and is working with local organizations and officials in Yolo County to expand access to COVID-19 testing and vaccines. More information found [here](#). Testing information found [here](#).
- **AlertWildfire Camera:** Some good news to share! We have received final approval to execute a contract with University of Nevada (UNR) to install a camera at the Public Safety Facility communications tower. Should expect to see installation within the next 3-4 weeks.

JULY EMERGENCY INCIDENTS

Fires	3
Rescue & Emergency Medical	46
Hazardous Conditions	1
Service Calls	6
Good Intent	2
False Alarms	9
Other	0
TOTAL FOR MONTH	67



FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

- **Inspections**

Fire Department conducted 16 residential fire sprinkler inspections for the month.

- **Air Quality**

With yet another busy fire season among us, it is important to protect ourselves from smoke and unsafe air quality indexes. Be sure to keep time outside to a minimum when there is a poor air quality and wear face coverings to help maintain clear airways. Visit the link to [California Air Resources Board](#) for more information.



Smoke Ready California

 <p>Check Local AQI</p> <p>Check local air quality index levels and listen to local officials.</p>	 <p>Avoid Breathing Smoke</p> <p>Smoke can hurt eyes, irritate lungs and worsen chronic heart and lung disease.</p>	 <p>Use N95 Masks</p> <p>Use N95 masks marked NIOSH for the best possible protection.</p>
 <p>MERV 13+ Air Filters</p> <p>Install a high-efficiency filter with a MERV 13 rating or higher.</p>	 <p>CARB-Certified Air Cleaners</p> <p>Using CARB-certified air cleaners can greatly reduce indoor particle levels to further reduce impacts from smoke.</p>	 <p>Clean Air Space</p> <p>The best way to avoid wildfire smoke is to stay indoors.</p>

Protect Your Home: 7 Ways to Reduce Risk to Your Home Before a Wildfire

1. Clear leaves and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks. This prevents embers from igniting your home.
2. Remove dead vegetation and other items from under your deck or porch, and within 10 feet of the house.
3. Remove flammable materials (firewood stacks, propane tanks) within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. If it can catch fire, don't let it touch your house, deck or porch.
4. Wildfire can spread to treetops. Prune trees so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground.
5. Keep your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to reduce fire intensity. Dry grass and shrubs are fuel for wildfire.
6. Don't let debris and lawn cuttings linger. Dispose of these items quickly to reduce fuel for fire.
7. Close any windows, doors and cover vents, if possible, to prevent embers from finding a way inside of your home.

OPERATIONS & TRAINING

Winters Fire Department staff completed 138.5 hours of training in the following areas.

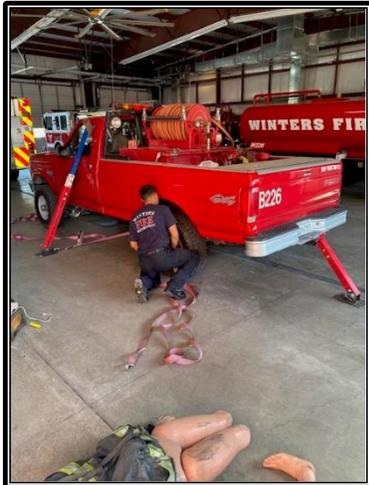
- Firefighter Skills
- Fire Prevention
- Physical Fitness
- Wildland Firefighting
- Ladders and hose deployment
- Management and Leadership



Captain Schechla, Firefighters Mederos and Tscherner assisted a citizen with a dog rescue in Putah Creek. The dog was stuck in the weeds on the edge of a steep drop off, unable to get out on its own. The owner was not comfortable rescuing the dog himself. The dog was returned to his owner without injuries.

OPERATIONS & TRAINING CONTINUED

Firefighter Zaragoza inspects and prepares a Swiftwater suit for gasket replacement. It is not uncommon for firefighter to inspect and make repairs. In fact, doing repairs in-house is cost effective and returns gear to back to service faster. Know how to take care of the equipment is just as important as knowing to put it on and use it.



Vehicle stabilization

Winters Fire Department carries an assortment of tools for different types of emergencies. We typically use them periodically in the training environment to stay proficient.

Right: A firefighter applies “Rescue 42” vehicle stabilization struts to a FD pickup. These struts are normally used on vehicle accidents to keep firefighters and victims safe from vehicle movement.

OES DEPLOYMENTS

Winters firefighters have served four separate fires in the State of California totaling 53 days. Personnel are still currently serving on the Dixie Fire.

- Beckwourth Fire 7 Days
- Tamarack Fire 8 Days
- Monument Fire 10 Days
- *Dixie Fire 28 Days

*(Personnel still present)



Daily Staffing

The Winters Fire Department is largely supported by Volunteer Firefighters to supplement daily staffing. The chart here demonstrates average daily staffing levels for the month of August. Our goal is to maintain a 4-person engine company to include one career Company Officer and up to three Volunteer/Reserve firefighters 24/7.



EMS, FLEET & FACILITIES

- **EMS Equipment and testing**

The Winters Fire Department is taking precautions pertaining to the threats of COVID 19, and the additional variants. Personal Protective Equipment has been purchased or acquired from Yolo County EMS to ensure our members are able to continue serving the community in the safest way possible. Department personnel have also been busy performing rapid covid tests on department and city employees to ensure that when exposures occur, cases are isolated as quickly as possible.

- **Fleet Maintenance**

Utility Pickup was sent in for annual maintenance. Maintenance included tire rotation and replacing engine fluids This vehicle is primarily used to travel across the state when we switch out members of our department deployed on OES. The summer is a busy time for this vehicle, as it is expected to get our crew to and home from fires and has already made four trips this season. Grass 26 was also sent in for maintenance and repairs that resolved issues that hindered its ability to perform in some operations related to wildland firefighting.

- **Facility Repairs**

The air compressor that supplies the station was serviced and repaired. This compressor plays a vital role in keeping vehicles charged with air overnight and while not running. Almost our entire fleet utilizes an air brake system, which means if their air pressure drops below a certain amount the brakes will remain activated and the vehicle cannot move or respond until an onboard system recharges the system.

EMS, FLEET & FACILITIES CONTINUED

- **Apparatus Spotlight**

Type III Engine

Featured this month is Grass 26, a 2003 International 4400 chassis with a 500-gallon tank, 1000 gallon per minute fire rated pump. The primary mission of this unit is responding to wildland fires and is equipped with Emergency Medical equipment including an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Because of its shorter wheel-base and design it is very effective in off-road applications where many wildland fires tend to be.



UNDER THE HELMET

Under the Helmet is an opportunity to highlight the firefighters who serve and protect our community.



LEFT: Reserve Firefighter Bryce Crawford, began with the WFD in mid-2021 as a volunteer. Crawford graduated from the Solano Community College Fire Academy #101 this and lives in Davis Ca. He became inspired to pursue a fire service career through a program called Adventure Treks where he participated in back packing trips. He enjoys swimming, spending time with family and movies.

RIGHT: Reserve Firefighter Patrick

Catabay is also new to WFD and graduated from the Solano College Fire Academy #101 this year. Catabay lives in Fairfield Ca and served four years in the United States Army right out of high school. He is a huge fan of the Los Angeles Clippers basketball team. He says what inspired him to become a firefighter is fulfilling my commitment to helping my country and community to the best of his ability.

