



Lake Stevens Fire Dispatch

Volume 3 Issue 2 / May 2017

Serve People, Save Life, Protect Property & Safeguard the Environment

Message from the Chief

Thank you for supporting Lake Stevens Fire! We have spent the first quarter of 2017 finalizing our Strategic Plan to meet the emergency service needs of our growing community. This plan represents countless hours of gathering and analyzing data, taking community input, and planning for the personnel, apparatus and facility needs to save lives and property. You can view the plan on our website at www.lakestevensfire.org.



The Strategic Plan also addresses revenue requirements to maintain emergency service levels as our community grows. In 2016, EMS accounted for 76% of all emergency calls we received and that number is holding strong. Fire and EMS calls have increased 35% alone in the past six years.

State law limits our revenue increases to 1% per year, but the costs to provide service are often higher than that. In addition, our EMS levy that funds this program has fallen from 50 cents to 32 cents per \$1,000 as property values rise.

One way we have to restore funding for emergency services is by asking our community to approve a levy lid lift. Our Board of Fire Commissioners will consider a resolution asking the community to return the EMS levy to the previously voter-approved amount of 50 cents during the November election. This "lid lift" would restore funding for our most widely used emergency service, and cost \$54 per year (\$4.50 per month) for a property valued at \$300,000.

The Board will meet on this issue June 1 and June 15 at 5:30 p.m. in our Headquarters Boardroom, located at 1825 S. Lake Stevens Road, Lake Stevens, WA 98258. The public is encouraged to attend, learn more about the proposal and share their thoughts.

I also want to personally invite you to our Open House on Wednesday, June 28. This event is an important way we say thank you to the community, and show your tax dollars in action. It's also a fun and educational evening out for families, so we hope to see you there!

Take Care & Stay Safe,
Chief Kevin O'Brien

National EMS Week - May 21-27, 2017

National EMS Week began in 1974, and raises awareness for the important role emergency medical service plays in saving lives. The celebration brings together local communities and medical personnel to honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line."

The adjacent photo shows our paramedics who meet monthly with Dr. Ryan Keay and Deputy Chief Huff to review cases and participate in continuing education.



In 2016, 76% of all emergency calls received by Lake Stevens Fire were EMS-related. Our EMS program provides Basic and Advanced Life Support with 14 full-time and part-time firefighters and paramedics responding 24 hours a day. In addition to emergency personnel, EMS levy funding is used to replace ambulances, maintain existing apparatus, training and certifications, medical equipment, and first aid supplies.



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@LakeStevensFire

**Enjoy the summer breeze
while keeping your child
safe from accidental
window falls.**

Window screens are meant to keep bugs out, not children in. Call us today for SafeKids Grant provided window guards and locks.

**Give your child a safe ride
while in the car!**

Call today to schedule an appointment for us to check your child's car seat for proper fit and installation.

Come See EMS in Action!

Open House Planned for June 28

Lake Stevens Fire invites community members to its Open House on Wednesday, June 28. The event takes place from 6pm - 8pm at our downtown Fire Station 81, located at 12409 - 21st Street NE, Lake Stevens. The fire district will have a ceremony to welcome a new engine, recognize accomplishments of members, and provide ambulance and station tours. There will also be firefighters and paramedics providing demonstrations of emergency equipment used to save lives and property.

Additionally there will be fire prevention activities for children, and a brief CPR training for adults. The brief training will teach chest compressions to help cardiac victims until emergency help can arrive on scene. Our goal is to train 50 people in chest-compression CPR that day. Partner with us on this important life-saving project and come have some fun in the process!

Upcoming summer events for Lake Stevens Fire include:

Health & Safety Fair
Saturday, June 10 from 10am-2pm
Market Place Parking Lot

Firefighters' Pancake Breakfast during Aquafest
Saturday & Sunday, July 29 & 30 from 6am-Noon
Downtown Fire Station 81

Guns 'n Hoses Softball Challenge & BBQ
Tuesday, August 8 with 5:30pm BBQ & 6pm Game Time
Lake Stevens High School Baseball Field



We hope you can join us!