

# GREER RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

Community Newsletter  
Volume 2, Issue 1

We live in one of the most beautiful places on earth, surrounded by trees and open spaces. It's a blessing but it comes with some unique challenges.

Greer Rural Fire District (GRFD) is here to support the residents of the area. It is one of the smallest fire districts (of 12 total) in Clearwater County and simply can't afford to run its own volunteer fire department, even if we had people willing and able to run a truck and fight a fire.

We contract out the actual firefighting to Orofino & Weippe Volunteer Fire Departments for structure and wildland fires and rely on CPTPA (Clearwater Potlatch Tree Preservation Association) for specialist wildland fire support. Should the worst wildland fire threaten our area, then resources come from all over to assist our local firefighters.

We all need to know though.....

Our **nearest fire-fighting resources are at least 15 minutes away** from our homes.

Every one of those fire department firefighters are volunteers. Both Orofino and Weippe are **short of volunteers** and are struggling to recruit them.

We have **significant wildfire potential predicted from July to September this year.....**

In the right (or is that wrong?) conditions **a home can be rapidly consumed by fire and totally destroyed in just 15 minutes**—ask the people in Orofino who lost their home in 2015.

Bottom line – **first response is down to us** as homeowners! **Prevention is better than cure.** We can go it alone or we can combine as a community to improve our collective chances. That is what our Rural Fire District is all about. We provide and support fire safety in our area—supporting the firefighters and supporting the community to be fire-wise and ready.



*Living with the trees brings special challenges and responsibilities*



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## ABOUT GREER RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

### COMMISSIONERS:

- Linda Beard  
(208) 660-6261
- Bill Miller  
(208) 816-1041
- Lynn Monger  
(208) 553-1888

### SECRETARY:

- Christine Betts  
(208) 553-7365

### TREASURER:

- Connie Miller  
(208) 553-0484

Call any of us with your questions, concerns or ideas. If we don't know we will gladly direct you to someone who does.

## 2017-18 ACTIVITY

### Supporting the firefighters – CPTPA, Orofino FD and Weippe FD

Paid OFD \$1,636 and WFD \$600

Installing a water tank project at the site of the Grain Silos in Greer—thank you, Corey Brown for your generous support!

Have 2 more water sources in the district – one on the White property, available all year round; one by the Miller property, available June to October

### Supporting the community to be fire-wise and ready

Got to know our community on paper and created a contact database

Re-drew sub-district boundaries to recognize the growth of population on the hill and decline of residents in Greer township

Started a community newsletter

Trained 6 people in CPR

Ham Radio training planned 8/11 and 8/25 as start of a private network for the district

## 2018-19 PLANNED ACTIVITY

### Supporting the firefighters – CPTPA, Orofino FD and Weippe FD

Secure skilled resources: Continue contracts for fire response; Help secure resources as needed; Encourage GRFD residents to sign up as volunteers

Provide resources relevant to our district: Install another water tank in Greer Park?; establish routines and maintenance plans for water tanks; Identify and map other water resources in the district

Increase active collaboration at county level and with other volunteer fire districts

### Supporting the community to be fire-wise and ready

Know our community: keep the database fresh to support good communication

Engage our community: Commissioners work with residents; grow attendance at meetings and trainings; share information and self-help content; connect residents to specific training opportunities

Involve the community – Build and grow our private Ham Radio network; train residents on creating and maintaining defensible space for their specific properties; create a Welcome Pack and site survey offer for new residents

Research grant opportunities to accelerate our ability to do more for our community

Below are the details of finances for discussion at our Annual Budget Meeting in Greer Park on 28th July, 2108. Please come along!

	Oct 2017 to Sept 2018			Notes	Oct 2018 to Sept 2019		Notes
	Budget	Forecast	Variance		Budget		
<b>Income:</b>							
Tax Income	\$ 6,188.00	\$ 6,188.00	\$ -	Final balances of \$2k still to come in	\$ 5,200.00		Foregone \$1,471 from max possible increase to \$6,671
Carry Over Funds	\$ 11,212.00	\$ 4,032.33	\$ (7,179.67)	No well required in water solution	\$ 2,856.00		Balance from bank account to cover expenses
Bank Interest		\$ 225.67	\$ 225.67	New CD earning better interest	\$ 200.00		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 17,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,446.00</b>	<b>\$ (6,954.00)</b>		<b>\$ 8,256.00</b>		
<b>Expenses:</b>							
Maintenance			\$ -		\$ 300.00		Maintenance on pumps for water resources
Bonds	\$ 120.00	\$ 100.00	\$ (20.00)	Treasurer Bond	\$ 120.00		Treasurer Bond
Advertising	\$ 100.00	\$ 60.00	\$ (40.00)	Required advertising of budget hearing mtg	\$ 100.00		Required advertising of budget hearing meeting
Office/Miscellaneous	\$ 144.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 56.00	Survey and newsletter mailings and supplies	\$ 200.00		Newsletter and correspondence mailing and supplies
Water System Project	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ (7,000.00)	No well reqd for final solution	\$ 5,000.00		Second water resource or other project
Building Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	Deferred to find water project	\$ -		None, pending plan review
Training	\$ 300.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 50.00	First Aid & CPR training; Ham Radio training	\$ 300.00		Ham Radio and other TBD
Contract Services to Orofino FD	\$ 1,636.00	\$ 1,636.00	\$ -	Contract fee to Orofino Fire District	\$ 1,636.00		Contract fee to Orofino Fire District
Contract Services to Weippe FD	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ -	Contract fee to Weippe Fire District	\$ 600.00		Contract fee to Weippe Fire District
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 17,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,446.00</b>	<b>\$ (6,954.00)</b>		<b>\$ 8,256.00</b>		

## Ham Radio Training

Ham Radios become real assets in crisis situations

GRFD is sponsoring a private network for the district and will help residents of the district to earn a Technician's License.

**It's not too late to get involved!**

**Class is scheduled in 2 parts—Aug 11th and Aug 25th — all day both days.  
It is Free-of-Charge to GRFD residents.**

**Contact Linda Beard (208) 660-6261 to register interest.** Leave a message if necessary

## BECOMING A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

If you want to become a volunteer firefighter both Orofino and Weippe teams could use your help. They will provide the necessary training and equipment. Please contact:

**Orofino Volunteer Fire Department** 217 1st Street Orofino ID 83544 208-476-9335  
<https://www.facebook.com/OrofinoFire>

### WE NEED YOUR HELP:

Do you want to be a part of something great? Joining the fire department is an exciting way to help others and serve your community in your spare time. We provide all the necessary training and you are compensated for the time you spend.

We are in need of volunteers. The summer months are one of the most crucial times of year, and at our current numbers we are stretched dangerously thin in the ability to provide adequate protection to the community we love.

Our community depends on the volunteers of the Orofino Fire Department in their greatest times of need - emergency situations. We respond to structure and wildland fires in the greater Orofino area, as well as responding to nearly all vehicle crashes in a much larger area.

We don't ask for a lot of your time; 1 meeting and 1 training per month (about 8 hours total), and respond as needed to calls for service when you are available.

All ages are welcome! We have a cadet program for high school ages, and Basic Firefighter/Rescue positions for 18+. Experience is helpful but not required, we'll provide quality training as needed.

Help us make Orofino a better, safer place to live. Message us to get started today!

**Weippe Rural Fire Department** 114 Pine Street Weippe ID 83553 208-435-9015

<https://www.facebook.com/Weippe-fire-department-485909731586563/>

## GETTING INVOLVED IN GRFD

You may be surprised what you can do to help. See page 1 for contact information for your district Commissioners and see over (page 4) for the meeting information to enable you to meet them face-to-face and maybe jump into a project or activity now

**SAVE THE DATE & HAVE  
YOUR SAY!**

**Annual Budget  
Meeting**

**AGENDA**

- Review 2017/18 activity and expenditure
- Discuss 2018/19 priorities and plans
- Sign off on 2018/19 budget
- Meet your neighbors; learn how to get involved

**Greer Rural Fire District**

**Greer Centennial Park**

Share in the decision-making for  
Greer Rural Fire District for 2018/19

**Your opinion counts!**

Bring a chair and a dish and beverage to share

**Saturday, July 28th, 2018**

**Noon to 2:30pm**

Greer Rural Fire District  
PO Box 708  
Orofino  
ID 83544

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Mailing Label Here