

2024 Annual Newsletter

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NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District mails a newsletter at the end of each year to registered voters, property owners, and businesses within the District's boundaries. The District is a single purpose (fire and emergency services) government agency funded by property and sales tax. The District is governed by a five member Board of Directors, all of whom live in the District. and are not under the jurisdiction of county, state, or federal government.

The District is proud to report the following improvements in services made in 2024:

- Additional ambulance staffed during predicted "busy" times
- Additional firefighter staffing
- Renovation of the Alexander Valley Fire Station
- Initiated a digital newsletter and associated email distribution list
- Updated the District's strategic plan
- Obtained grants for extrication equipment, personal protective equipment, and vegetation management

The District's priorities continue to be the prevention of emergencies, individual and community preparedness for when emergencies do occur, and to provide the highest level of response. We continue to experience more structures burning from wildfires than any other cause. Our most common calls for service are medical aids, traffic accidents, fire alarms, and trees that fall near/into roadways.

Northern Sonoma County Fire Foundation P.O. Box 1042 Geyserville, CA 95441 info@northernsonomacountyfirefoundation.com

December 7, 2024

Dear Community Member,

I'm writing to you on behalf of the Northern Sonoma County Fire Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the capabilities of our local fire district by funding upgraded equipment and advanced training opportunities. Thanks to the generosity of community members like you, we've been able to provide enhanced resources such as new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), advanced training for fire district personnel, and upgraded vehicle extrication equipment. These contributions ensure our firefighters have access to the latest tools and knowledge, helping them perform their duties with greater safety and efficiency.

Donations can be made directly on our website at <u>northernsonomacountyfirefoundation.co</u>m or use the QR code. As a 501(c)(3) organization (EIN: 23-7054738), your contribution is tax deductible, and every dollar helps us make a lasting impact. We sincerely appreciate your support. Together, we can continue to provide our fire district with the tools they need to serve our community at the highest level.



Sincerely,

Joseph Young, President

SAVE THE DATES

19th Annual Bucket Brigade Challenge Blood Drive

Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at the Geyserville Fire Station

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Wine Country to the Rescue

Saturday, July 19, 2025 at Trentadue Winery

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POINT FIRE

The "Point Fire" started on June 16, 2024 and burned in the northern Dry Creek Valley between Lake Sonoma and Bradford Mountain. The Point Fire provided an example of how the District provides services. <u>BEFORE</u> the fire, the District worked with individual property owners regarding defensible space, address signs, and structural hardening. The District also worked

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with neighbors and communities as part of COPE (Communities Organized to Prepare for Emergencies) to implement grant funded roadside vegetation management by the District's "Fuels Crew", conduct prescribed burns, and to create "pre-attack" maps. <u>DURING</u> the Point Fire, firefighters utilized dozer lines constructed during the 2020 Walbridge Fire, which affected the same area. COPE-established communication methods and information sharing were used between responders, property owners and residents. Pre-attack maps were used by responders from the District and other agencies.

CAL FIRE produced a video of the <u>2024 Point</u> <u>Fire</u> which highlighted wildland fire mitigation collaboration between the District and its residents. There is a link to the video on the District's website.



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FIRE ALARMS

Very few of our fire alarm responses are fires. Most are related to smoke from cooking or a scheduled testing procedure. Please call your alarm company to cancel our response.

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DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

This year, we started sending <u>digital newsletters</u> straight to your inbox. Topics covered in our digital newsletters included the free chipper program, defensible space, Alexander Valley Fire Station remodel, trainings, CPR and First Aid classes, expanded medical services, staffing updates, Fuels Crew hiring, school visits, and Fire Risk Reduction Communities. To sign up, visit our <u>website</u> and click on "Join our mailing list".

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Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District PO Box 217 Geyserville, CA 95441

This newsletter is a collaboration between the Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District and the Northern Sonoma County Fire Foundation. It is published annually and is intended to provide information to the community about news and events as it relates to the Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District. If you are receiving this newsletter then our records show one of the following: You live within the fire district, you own property within the fire district, you are a registered voter, or you have donated money to the Northern Sonoma County Fire Foundation. If you think that you have received this newsletter in error or would like to be removed from our mailing list please contact us at (707) 857 - 4373.



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