



Standing: L - R. Matthijs Uijterschout, Wade Colvin, Chuck Hall, Miles Kimber, Anneke Uijterschout, Randy Stark, Karin Deneke, Bill Mitchell, Chuck Reel; Kneeling: Anne O'Keefe, Ron Rapper, Shawna Rapper, Mitch Montville. A number of First Response Fire Team members are not pictured. Photo credit: Mary Kimber

Forbes Park First Response Fire Team



Our Forbes Park community is fortunate to have willing volunteers to help keep us all safe. Below is a summary of the accomplishments of the revival of the First Response Fire Team, initiated by concerned Forbes Park residents on September 2, 2015 after a fire on Walker Place on August 30, 2015, that demonstrated that the existing First Response Fire Team was not operational.

1. Mission Statement of Forbes Park First Response Fire Team:

"The First Response Fire Team is an organized effort by resident Forbes Park land owners to respond to the growing and imminent threat of wildfire in a timely, efficient, and capable manner while always keeping safety a primary concern. The First Response Fire Team's core mission is to be the first response to any wildfire threat, to mitigate the beginning fire as soon as possible, secure the site and alert the professional firefighters to the location and nature of the fire."



2. Team meetings: a total of 22 volunteers have signed up as of 5/7/16. Team activities included training, Wildfire awareness and creation of an information package. National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) on-line courses are being pursued (S-110, S-190, L-180, S-130). These courses result in a NWCG Official Certificate.
3. Fire posters were designed, printed (and laminated) and distributed in the Park. Paid for by volunteers.
4. Low-cost radios (\$25) with communication possibility to Forbes Park repeater were tested, purchased and distributed.
5. Information Package: A wildfire information package is being developed, which will be distributed to every resident, rental home, and available to campers and visitors at the Forbes Park Office.
6. PPE: An inventory of PPE equipment was made. PPE equipment was ordered and is being distributed. These items include: Fire extinguishers; hoses; connectors; adaptors; Brush pants & shirts; helmets; and safety glasses. Racks were added to the fire truck and it and the Tender were repaired.
7. IRPG – Incident Response Pocket Guide: 20 of these were ordered and distributed to the First Response Fire Team.
8. 3-Ring Binders were put together & distributed, including the current list of part-time and full-time homeowners, phone numbers and locations. Maps of all sections of Forbes Park were included in the binder, showing the location of all homes within the park.
9. First Response Fire Team roles and job descriptions have been created and those will be distributed in the near future.
10. Ongoing training will include mock fires, practice fire line building and procedures; updating of the website and distribution of the Information Packets. Training is every 1st and 3rd Saturday at 9:00 a.m. the Forbes Park Center.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! Please contact co-chairs Matthijs Uijterschout at 379-2525 or Miles Kimber at 379-3802 if you can help.

IF YOU SEE A FIRE, CALL 911. Then call Anneke at 379-2525; if no answer, call Shawna 379-4143 or Anne 379-3583. Management will be called 379-3000. The First Response Fire Team will respond accordingly, until the professionals arrive.