



Benton County Fire District 4 NEWS

SUMMER 2024

Message from Fire Chief Paul Carlyle



I want to start with the good news. Benton County Fire District 4 is not asking taxpayers for a funding increase this year. Emergency service costs continue to increase so it is inevitable that we will require an increase in the future. In the meantime, enjoy this reprieve.

The other good news is about a “new” ambulance we have thanks to community funding. The refurbished ambulance is now in service for emergency medical service calls.

On a more serious note, our community has had some tragic and challenging times recently. The first incident is well known to everyone. We lost two community members due to gun and domestic violence.

Sign up for Code Red

Residents were asked to shelter in place during the recent incident at Wiley Elementary School. When you shelter in place, it protects people in case a live shooter is still active. It also reduces the number of vehicles on the roads to help emergency responders get where they need to be quickly.

During a wildland fire, we ask residents for a different action: evacuate. There were two wildland fires in the Finley area in two weeks. It’s a good reminder that wildland fires impact everyone regardless of where you live. If a wildland fire is expected to impact your property, you will be given notice to be on alert, prepare to evacuate and then evacuate if there is an imminent threat. Learn more about defending your property against wildland fires at <https://bcfd4.org/fire-prevention-and-safety/>.

Please sign up for Code Red, a free service from Benton County Emergency Management. It will alert you about what to do to keep your family safe during an emergency: <https://www.bces.wa.gov/emergency-management/code-red>.

The National Hotline for Domestic Violence (800-799-7323) says that over 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the U.S. have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. If you or someone you love is in an abusive relationship, there is hope. Start by contacting Domestic Violence Services of Benton and Franklin Counties 509-735-1295 or www.dvsbf.org. All services are free and confidential.

The next incident involved a 77-acre wildland fire along Finley Road. We’ve had wildland fires threaten suburban developments as much as agriculture fields. No property is immune to this type of emergency nowadays.

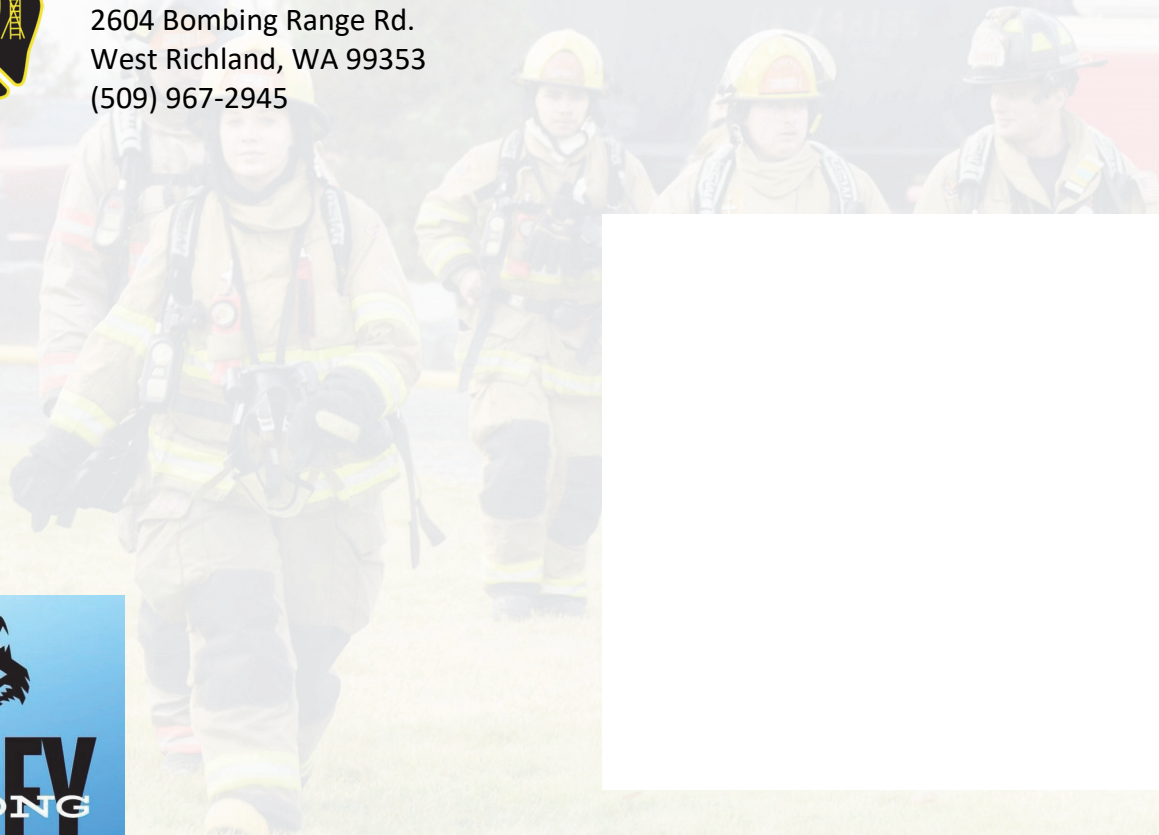
Read on to learn more about how to protect your family during these types of incidents. Thank you again for supporting Benton County Fire District 4.



**Benton County
Fire Protection District No. 4**

2604 Bombing Range Rd.
West Richland, WA 99353
(509) 967-2945

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There is new, and there's "new"

A new ambulance can cost taxpayers as much as \$450,000. Benton 4 recently took delivery of a "new" ambulance. We refurbished the ambulance "box" and replaced the chassis underneath it. This saves our taxpayers up to 30% per unit (\$135,000).



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