



Benton County Fire District

4 NEWS

WINTER 2024

MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF PAUL CARLYLE



The holidays give us an opportunity to reflect on our blessings, and here at Benton County Fire District 4, we have many. Thanks to past support by voters, we will continue delivering the improvements we promised in 2025.

These upgrades will help us continue to meet the increasing demand for emergency services.

Because of this community's support, we will be hiring three more firefighter/EMTs. A new ambulance and a remounted ambulance will both join our fleet, keeping our response times low. (Remounting involves reusing the box and replacing the chassis, which saves considerable money over replacing.)

To ensure the health and safety of our personnel, we will install a new air compressor and fill station for our firefighters' breathing apparatus, apply upgrades to the exhaust systems at Stations 410 and 420, and create an improved training area at Station 420.

We pride ourselves on stretching tax dollars through partnerships, grants, and relying on a staff that includes many volunteer personnel. Though call volumes and costs continue to rise, our sound financial stewardship meant that we did not need to ask residents for a tax increase in 2024.

I thank you – the 22,000 neighbors we serve – for your ongoing support. All of us at BCFD4 wish you and your family a very merry and safe holiday season.

JOIN BCFD4 AS A VOLUNTEER!

Benton County Fire Protection District #4 is a dynamic team of both dedicated volunteers and career staff. Volunteers play a crucial role in our operations, contributing to firefighting, EMS services, incident response, community events, public education, and much more.

No prior experience? No problem! If you're interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter, we'll provide the training you need through our firefighting academy. If EMS is your calling, we welcome qualified EMTs or those looking to gain qualifications through our Logistics organization. Trainings occur in the evenings and on weekends to allow volunteers to attend.

Applicants must live within a reasonable response time to our district boundaries or stations. While we typically recruit once a year to align with our academy schedule, applications are accepted year-round based on the district's needs.

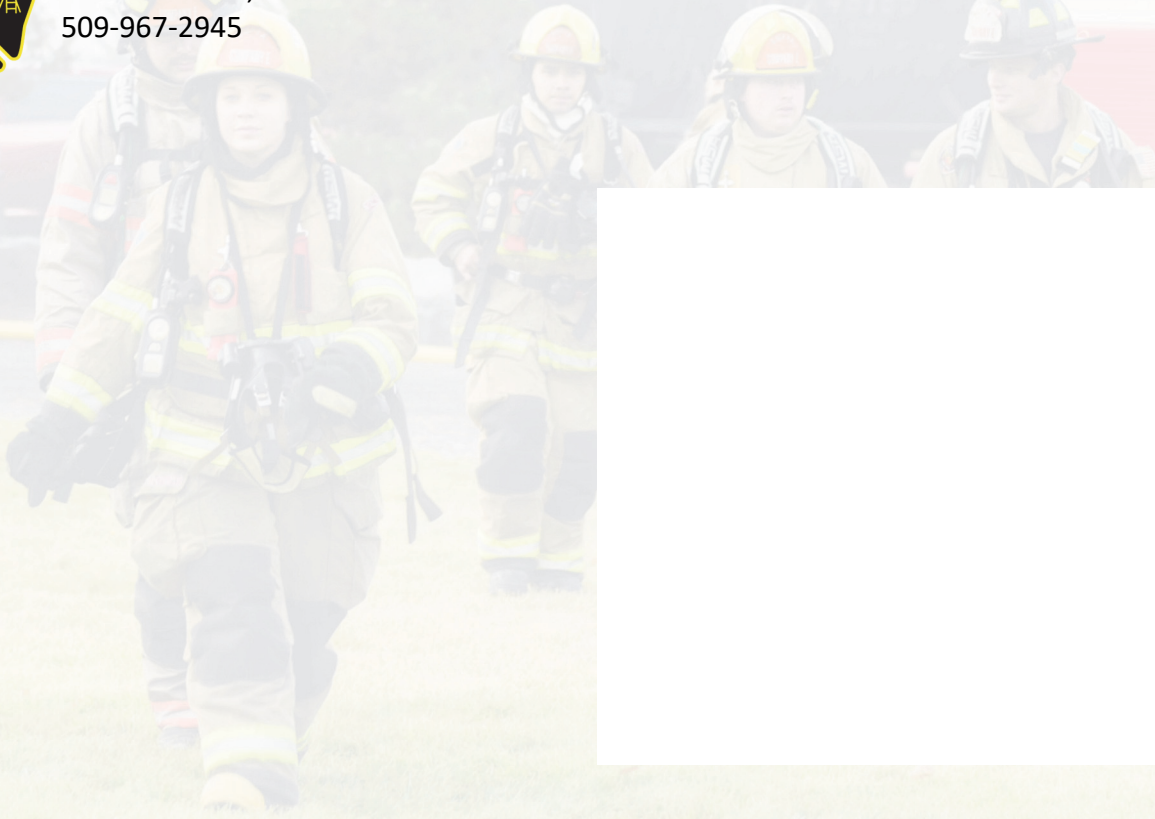
For information or to apply, contact our Volunteer Recruit Coordinator, Captain Bob Shannon, at bshannon@bcfd4.org or visit your local station.



Benton County Fire Protection District No. 4

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HOLIDAY SAFETY REMINDER

We hope our community members fill their homes with holiday cheer this season – and we hope they do it safely. Many common holiday habits and decorations are also hazards. Remember these basic tips to keep you and your neighbors out of harm’s way.

- ◆ Put candles on stable surfaces, and never leave burning candles unattended.
- ◆ Don’t burn candles near trees or other holiday decorations.
- ◆ Replace strings of lights that have worn or broken cords.
- ◆ Turn off decorative lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- ◆ If you have a fireplace, have a professional inspect and clean the chimney annually.
- ◆ Don’t burn trees, wreaths, or wrapping paper in the fireplace.
- ◆ Never leave a fire unattended, and make sure flames and cinders are out before going to bed.
- ◆ Test your smoke alarms and install new batteries if needed.



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