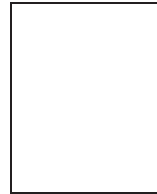


The Geyserville Volunteer Firefighters' Association
PO Box 1042
Geyserville CA 95441

The Geyserville Fire Protection District
PO Box 217
Geyserville CA 95441

GVFA
PO Box 1042
Geyserville CA



UPCOMING EVENTS:

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS
JANUARY 19, 2019

“CRITICAL” FIRST AID & CPR
JANUARY 26, 2019

WINE COUNTRY TO THE RESCUE
JULY 20, 2019

This newsletter is a collaboration between the Geyserville Fire Protection District and the Geyserville Volunteer Firefighters' Association. It is published annually each Fall. It is intended to provide information to the community about news and events as it relates to the Geyserville Fire Department. If you are receiving this newsletter then our records show one of the following: You live within the Fire District boundaries, you own property within the District boundaries, or you have donated money to the GVFA. 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.

2019 SEMINARS

We are planning to host a series of seminars at different days and times of the week to support citizen empowerment and community preparedness. The schedule will be announced in early 2019 and will include the following topics:

- 1) “Critical” First Aid,
- 2) Wildland fire preparedness including defensible space, structural hardening, and what to do if you become trapped at your residence,
- 3) Understanding earthquake and flood hazards,
- 4) Workshops to have an address sign made, sign up for alerting systems,
- 5) Fire extinguishers, gas/electricity shut-off, and wood stove safety

SoCoAlert

For emergency alerts and updates in Sonoma County visit
<https://socoemergency.org>

RED FLAG WARNING

The red flag is shown raised at Station #1. As part of our preparedness efforts, we now raise a “Red Flag” on high hazard wildfire days.



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GEYSERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PROTECTING WINE COUNTRY FOR OVER 100 YEARS

DECEMBER 2018

20975 GEYSERVILLE AVENUE • POST OFFICE BOX 217 • GEYSERVILLE, CA 95441 • (707) 857-4373

Over the past five years the Geyserville Fire Protection District (GFPD), to achieve improved fire prevention and emergency response, has attempted to annex adjacent unincorporated areas of Northeast Sonoma County that are not within another fire district. Though these efforts are supported by our neighboring fire departments, we have been unable to gain support from the County of Sonoma. We believe this is directly related to the fact that over a million dollars of property tax from Northeast Sonoma County allocated for fire and emergency services are utilized in other parts of the county. Geyserville Fire is committed to keeping this portion of local taxes earmarked for fire protection in our area. The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors is currently considering to implement a half-cent sales tax countywide to fund fire protection. Though we support the idea of sufficient and sustainable funding there is no guarantee that these funds will be utilized in Northeast Sonoma County. We are very concerned that our community based fire delivery model is in jeopardy if the GFPD is forced to make changes solely to obtain needed funding from the County of Sonoma. Our vision and plan is to work in cooperation with Healdsburg and Cloverdale fire departments to utilize funding from Northern Sonoma County to improve our level of service responding to emergencies and for prevention and preparedness.

The GFPD is moving forward with merging with the Knights Valley Volunteer Fire Company to better serve the Knights Valley and Franz Valley areas. We then plan to change our name to better reflect the large and geographically diverse area we serve.

COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS

Preparing for the next emergency is a shared responsibility between each individual landowner, neighbors, community, and your public safety agencies. **The Geyserville Fire Protection District believes what we do before the next emergency, in preparedness, is more important than what we do during or after the emergency.** The October 2017 Sonoma County fires have made us realize that more preparation and collaboration among public safety agencies and citizens before an emergency can reduce the chaos, provide first responders with information to make decisions, and allow citizens to make decisions to reduce the loss of life and property. We continue to support neighbors organizing into groups to help one another and partnering with public safety agencies including the GFPD. We plan to host several preparedness seminars and presentations during 2019 to promote individual and community preparedness starting with a community preparedness meeting on January 19, 2019.

CITIZENS ORGANIZED FOR POTENTIAL EMERGENCIES (C.O.P.E.)

The GFPD has embraced the C.O.P.E. model for public safety agencies and citizens working together. C.O.P.E. is based upon neighbor helping neighbor. Our largest group, C.O.P.E. NE Geyserville, has formed east of the Russian River and north of Moody Lane. This group is lead by dedicated community leaders whom provide a direct connection between the GFPD and residents of the area. Smaller groups are also forming and we will do our best to help them move forward.

INSIDE: MAP SHOWING PROPERTY TAX MONEY GENERATED FOR FIRE PROTECTION IN NORTHEASTERN SONOMA COUNTY



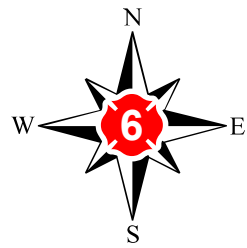
PROPERTY TAX MONEY GENERATED FOR FIRE PROTECTION IN NORTHEASTERN SONOMA COUNTY

How is Fire Protection Funded?

Fire Districts are Primarily Funded by Property Taxes Based on Assessed Value and Some Have Special Taxes.
Geyserville Does not Have a Special Tax.

Clverdale Fire Protection Distirct
\$1,138,525 of Property Taxes and SPECIAL TAX was Collected in fiscal year 17/18. All Remained in the Area.

The Geysers, Geysers Road, Pine Flat Road End of Mill Creek Road, Briggs Ranch Road, and End of Thomas Road
\$770,617 of Property Taxes was Collected by Sonoma County in fiscal year 17/18 and **NOT ALL REMAINED** in NE Sonoma County. Geyserville Received Less Than \$10,000 to Provide Emergency Response for the Area



Geyserville Fire Protection Distirct
\$926,642 of Property Taxes was Collected in fiscal year 17/18. All Remained in the Area. NO SPECIAL TAX

Fitch Mountain
\$243,072 of Property Taxes was Collected by Sonoma County in fiscal year 17/18 and **NOT ALL REMAINED** in NE Sonoma County. Healdsburg Will Recieve \$41,697 in fiscal year 18/19 to Provide Emergency Response for the Area. NO SPECIAL TAX

The Geyserville Fire Protection District Encompasses 217 square miles of Northeastern Sonoma County. The District covers an additional 102 square miles via a Contract with Sonoma County.

Knights and Franz Valley
\$120,938 of Property Taxes was Collected in fiscal year 17/18. All Remained in the Area. NO SPECIAL TAX

CAL FIRE has jurisdiction for wildland fires in area designated as "State Responsibility Area" Shown in Gray Hatch Lines. CAL FIRE is funded by the State.

Lower Dry Creek Valley, Mill Creek Road
\$516,994 of Property Taxes and SPECIAL TAX was Collected by Sonoma County in fiscal year 17/18 and **NOT ALL REMAINED** in NE Sonoma County. Healdsburg Will Recieve \$119,532 in fiscal year 18/19 to Provide Emergency Response for the Area.

