



# CRYSTAL PARK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT MAY 2010 MONTHLY UPDATE

[www.crystalparkvfd.org](http://www.crystalparkvfd.org)

**1. Training:** Training continues to be intense for the month of May. Chief Welsch successfully completed four months of Colorado State Certified "Firefighter I" training. Andra Martin successfully completed her National Registry Exam and is a new EMT-Basic on the Department...congrats to both Chief Welsch and Andra. All Wildland FFs completed their 45 lb Pack Test and have been issued their Red Cards for this 2010; EMT-B Floyd O'Neil and FF/EMT-B Susi Hennessey are the newest Wildland FFs on the Department...congrats Floyd and Susi; both completed

"live fire" training where 30 acres were burned allowing Floyd and Susi to work with wildland fire handcrews from numerous other departments including DoD.

Two FFs initiated Technical Rescue training this last month and will join the MSFD-CPVFD High Angle Rescue Team in July. Finally, Chief Welsh is currently enrolled in Colorado State Certified "Hazardous Materials Operations" training which is a rigorous 2-weeks of training followed by a State exam. We conducted "Live Fire" training at Ft Carson Fire Tower this last month where, using Engine 910 and Engine 1, several FFs from CPVFD along with MSFD FFs

conducted realistic "fire attack", "search and rescue", "hoseline advancement", "Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC)" and "fire control". Temperatures in the tower exceeded 1000deg ... this is the most realistic fire training we can get besides a real structure fire. All FFs performed well and successfully met all training objectives. Finally, we continued to have Rapid Training Evolutions (RTEs) every Tuesday evening at the station and attended weekly MSFD EMS and Fire Operations training.



**2. Incidents:** There were three incidents in the District this last month. CPVFD supported the wildland fire at the Cog Railway where several departments (C. Springs Utilities, C. Springs Fire, El Paso County Wildfire Suppression Team, and Crystal Park Fire) provided Mutual Aid to Manitou Springs Fire Dept. The fire was started by a transformer which exploded starting a fire at the hydro-plant which then set 7 other smaller spot fires. The winds that day were severe and there was great concern that the fire would spread significantly. CPVFD was toned out to provide structure/EMS protection in the Manitou Spring District. In addition, CPVFD provided "Lookout" support to the wildland FF handcrews on the ground suppressing the fires. In addition, there were two HAZMAT incidents that CPVFD responded too that will remain confidential per Emergency Reporting SOP. The CPVFD volunteers continued to support numerous other medical and fire related calls in Manitou Springs this last month to help maintain our proficiency as a **Fire•Rescue•EMS** organization.

**3. Cookbook Fundraiser:** The CPVFD Auxiliary continued with the "Cooking with Fire" cookbook fundraiser. The team spent many hours at Walmart this past month. These funds will help the CPVFD sustain Department operations



and maintain equipment. There are over 200 recipes in the cookbook from Crystal Park residents, members, friends and family. Folks can sign up in the mailroom or contact the CPVFD Auxiliary at [auxiliary@crystalparkvfd.org](mailto:auxiliary@crystalparkvfd.org)

**4. 2010 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG):** The CPVFD submitted this year's grant to FEMA this month. The grant is very minimal asking only for 5 sets of turnout gear and a Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC). Results for the grant will likely not be known until November/December of this year. There are no other grants in 2010 that have been submitted.

**5. Fire Danger in Crystal Park District:** The Fire Danger has been "HIGH" for the last couple weeks of the month with dry conditions starting to dominate. Winds have been excessively high which adds to the increased danger of extreme fire behavior even though much of the fuel on the ground appears green. Check the CPVFD website and the Fire Danger signs for latest Fire Danger conditions.

**6. CPVFD Joins "South Central Colorado Training Consortium":** The CPVFD is now part of a new training consortium where all of the departments in El Paso County will try to benefit from each other's training. Each department will share training opportunities to ensure that all departments, especially "volunteer" departments, get access to advanced training. This includes the various DoD departments and facilities. Chief Hennessey is also a member of the Colorado Fire Training Officers Association and will work with other departments to ensure CPVFD volunteers have every opportunity to take advantage of these new training events.