



FIRE 3 Insider

Clark County Fire District 3 Newsletter

SUMMER 2025

Message from Chief Chris Drone



As your new fire chief, it's an honor to introduce myself and share my gratitude for the trust you place in Clark County Fire District 3.

An example of this is community support for the fire levy lid lift in August 2024. We are hiring new firefighters

and moving toward staffing all five of our fire stations 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to improve our response capabilities as our district grows.

Short term, we are approaching completion of our 2025–2030 Strategic Plan. This community-driven roadmap reflects the voices of residents and staff alike. It outlines our approach to improving staffing, training, emergency response, and facility readiness while ensuring financial sustainability.

Looking ahead, we need to address our facility issues, such as replacing our aging fire station in Battle Ground. The building was never designed to serve as a fire station.

There is not enough space for firefighters to respond, nor does it meet earthquake/seismic standards, which puts our community at risk.

Firefighter health and safety is also an issue. The facility does not have an adequate exhaust removal system, or decontamination facilities for firefighters returning from calls where cancer-causing carcinogens and chemicals are present.

Adequate facilities are just as important as firefighters to providing a fast and effective response. Our fire levy funds daily operations, but a voter-approved bond is required for capital projects, like fire stations. There is no firm date for this request, but we will approach this process with transparency and community input.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to the journey ahead together. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions at chris.drone@fire3.org or 360-892-2331.

Make a Splash the Smart Way

Whether you're boating, swimming, or just dipping your toes in, we want you to have fun and stay safe! Here are a few water-wise tips to keep in mind:

- Wear a lifejacket. Yes – even if you are a strong swimmer! Lifejackets save lives whether you're on a boat or in the water.
- Never swim solo. Bring a buddy! It's safer and way more fun.
- Watch for hazards. Stay clear of strong currents, deep drop-offs, and hidden obstacles.
- Be wary of cold water. Lakes and rivers can be icy cold – even in summer! Cold shock or hypothermia can sneak up fast.
- Designate a water watcher. Drowning is quick and silent. Always have someone keeping an eye on swimmers.

Let's make every summer adventure a safe one!





Fire District 3

CLARK COUNTY WASHINGTON

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Переклад на сайті

Перевод на сайте

Wildfire Readiness Starts at Home

As summer approaches, Clark County Fire District 3 is asking residents to help reduce wildfire risk by practicing fire safety—both at home and while enjoying the outdoors.

Grills, campfires, and fireworks can all spark wildfires if not handled responsibly. Barbecues should be kept away from structures and overhanging branches and never left unattended. Coals must be fully extinguished before disposal. And while fireworks are a seasonal tradition, the safest option is to attend a public display—especially during dry weather.

Homeowners also play a key role in wildfire prevention by creating defensible space around their homes. This involves managing vegetation in zones: the first five feet near your home should be clear of flammable items and materials, including firewood and mulch. From five to thirty feet, trim trees and shrubs, remove dead plants, and maintain a clean, well-spaced landscape. Out to 100 feet, reduce vegetation density and keep grass mowed short to slow fire spread and improve firefighter access.

If you're updating your yard, consider fire-resistant plants and noncombustible materials like rock, gravel, or stone paths to reduce ignition risk. Even small changes—like clearing debris from gutters and trimming branches—can make a big difference.

Request a free fire risk assessment by contacting Fire District 3. And don't forget to sign up for local emergency alerts through the Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency by using the QR code at the right or by visiting www.clarkpublicalerts.org. A few simple steps now can help protect your home and your community.

