



LACEY FIRE DISTRICT THREE

Community Dispatch

Volume 23 (revised), September 2011

9/11 Remembered

On September 11, 2001, terrorists attacked the United States; nearly 3,000 people lost their lives in the attacks including 343 firefighters.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the tragedy. The community is invited to join Lacey Fire at the main headquarters station at 1231 Franz St on the morning of the 11th. **We will assemble near the flag at the front of the station about 6:50 AM.**

A brief ceremony will take place, with county-wide dispatch tones sounding at 6:59 AM and 7:28 AM, the times the towers collapsed.



Please join us in remembering the fallen on this date.

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District History Preserved

Board of Fire Commissioners' meeting minutes and resolutions from the inception of the District in 1948 forward will be professionally preserved thanks to a Local Records Grant from the State Archives.

The grant, valued at approximately \$6,000, covers collecting the documents, professional scanning and permanent preservation in the State archives vault of the actual documents. The electronic version of the records will be stored in the State electronic archives, and the District will receive a hard drive copy for public and District access.

Look for access to these documents via our website, www.laceyfire.com, later this year.

Community Dispatch is the public newsletter of Lacey Fire District 3. It contains information on District news, events and happenings, as well as providing safety, emergency preparedness and health information you may find helpful. Let us know what you think – email us at info@laceyfire.com
Want your own copy electronically? Click [HERE](#). If you like it, pass it on!

YOU Can Help Us Win \$10,000!

Liberty Mutual Insurance has a competitive online pledge program that awards fire service agencies \$10,000 for having the most citizens pledging their commitment to fire safety.



Their *Be Fire Smart Fire Safety Pledge Program* has \$100,000 available for fire service agencies across the country; the program deadline is October 31st.

1. Just visit www.BeFireSmart.com and click "Take the Quiz"
2. At the next screen, again select "Take the Fire Safety Quiz"
3. Take the quiz (good luck!)
4. When prompted, select the State (WA) and the City (Lacey)
5. Then be sure to scroll down to the bottom of the screen to ensure "**Thurston Cnty Fire District #3**" is displayed before you select the department you are voting for.

Take the quiz, have everyone in your household take the quiz, facebook your friends and neighbors to take the quiz – **YOU** can help us win \$10,000!

Last year, winners were from Maryland, Texas, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Tampa, Michigan and three agencies from Massachusetts. This represents an alarming lack of representation from the Pacific Northwest. Let's show them what we can do by having over 10,000 pledges by October 31st!

Levy Lid Lift Information Meetings

- Monday, September 26, 2011** 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Meadows Elementary (Art Room)
836 Deerbrush Drive, SE, Lacey
- Tuesday, September 27, 2011** 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Evergreen Forest Elementary (Library)
3025 Marvin Road SE, Lacey
- Thursday, September 29, 2011** 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Lydia Hawk Elementary (Library)
7600 5th Ave SE, Lacey
- Monday, October 3, 2011** 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Olympic View Elementary (Library)
1330 Horne NE, Lacey
- Tuesday, October 4, 2011** 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Chambers Prairie Elementary (Library)
6501 Virginia SE SE, Lacey

Sparky at the Fair

Sparky is one tough firedog, and that's no bull.



At the Thurston County Fair this last August, Sparky showed his mettle with a ride on the mechanical bull. He apparently also did well on the arcade, as he demonstrated with his new green friend below.



Ken Roberts, an LFD volunteer firefighter for 19 years, is the athlete behind the mask. Thanks, Ken for your service!

Lacey Firefighters Charity Pancake Breakfast a Success

On August 27th members of Lacey Firefighters Charity gathered in the pre-dawn hours to pack up the griddle, pancake mix, and sausages to bring a great breakfast event to Cabelas.

In addition to the breakfast, citizens could meet firefighters, tour the ladder truck, greet Sparky and have their picture taken with an antique fire engine. A good time was had by all, and the group raised nearly \$1,000 to support their charitable functions for the community of Lacey Fire District.

The funds raised support the Make-My-day and the Thanksgiving and Christmas Adopt-A-Family programs. Each Thanksgiving and each Christmas, the District receives the names for 26 families (2 from each school in the district) who are in need of additional assistance during the holiday times. Thanksgiving families receive a full thanksgiving meal, and Christmas families receive a meal and gifts. The Make-My-Day program provides for small immediate needs of our citizens throughout the year when firefighters discover a problem while on a call.

A big **Thank You** to our sponsors:

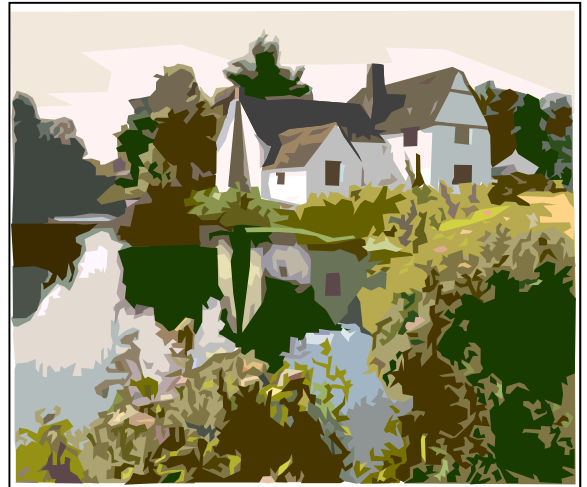


The Fire District Levy Lid Lift Issue on the Ballot – what is the impact to me?

It may seem like smoke and mirrors, but until the Thurston County Assessor determines the Districts’ assessed valuation, the numbers can only be *projected, or estimated*. Until then, the Fire District can only provide you with our best estimate of the impact.

Several factors are in play:

- the total value of property in the District as set by the County Assessor
- the tax levy as set by the District Board of Fire Commissioners
- statutory limits as set by State law and the voters



Overall property values in Fire District 3 were down from 2010. Decreasing property values has the mathematical effect of increasing the levy rate. In 2011, the levy rate for Fire District 3 property owners was \$1.18 per thousand of assessed value of your property. For a \$220,000 home, this means you paid **about \$260 in fire district taxes in 2011**. (note – this amount is a generalized calculation – the assessor determined actual values).

At this time, the Assessor has not released figures for property for 2012 assessments, but there is a projection that values will again decrease. Remember, decreasing property value generally increases the levy rate; the projection for 2012 is that the rate may rise to \$1.30 per thousand of assessed valuation. Your \$220,000 home at \$1.30 per \$1,000 would be about \$285 for 2012. Remember, these are generalized calculations; actual values may differ. The table below demonstrates the effect on a \$220,000 assessed property at the current rate, the projected rate for 2012, and the proposed levy rate for 2012.

	2011 Current	2012 <i>Projected</i>	2012 with Levy Lid Lift
Levy Rate	\$1.18	\$1.30	\$1.50
Example property value	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$220,000
Monthly cost to homeowner	\$21.63 per month	\$23.83 per month +\$2.20 per month over 2011 cost	\$27.50 per month +\$5.87 per month over 2011 cost

All values are for example purposes only, actual values may differ.

If you have questions about the levy lid lift, please attend one of our public information meetings (schedule on page 2 and at www.laceyfire.com). If you have questions about your specific property taxes, please contact the Thurston County Assessor’s Office at 867-2200 or check out their website at <http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/assessor/>.