

WHAT SERVICES DO WE PROVIDE TO OUR CUSTOMERS?

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE

We are a member of the Tri-County Hazardous Material Response Team.

FIREFIGHTING

We provide fire suppression to all types of fires including vehicle, structural, and wildland fires.

RESCUE

We provide vehicle, low angle, building, swift water & rescue boat, services.

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS

We provide members who help manage large and complex, All-Hazard incidents within our region and throughout the entire State.

AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

Advanced, Intermediate, and Basic Life Support. We have a 12-lead ECG Heart Program in our EMS protocols. Our agency piloted this program for the Tri-Cities area. This system has detected heart attacks in the field, and transferred that information to the hospital, where cardiologists are awaiting patient arrivals to the hospitals teamed up with Kadlec Medical Centers Heart Program. This service, provided by our EMT's, saves lives annually. Our ambulances are equipped the same as Richland, Kennewick, and Pasco Ambulances, proving effectiveness and seamless operations in mutual aid situations.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

We host community CPR Classes. Deliver Fire Safety Education to schools and participate in other community events throughout the year.



BENTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #2 FIRE LEVY LID

We now respond to 1,300 calls annually, all the while providing a better-equipped and trained fire department. This is accomplished by smart management of our budget, grant awards and the hard work and dedication of our volunteers and career staff. See more about what we do for our community and how to volunteer here at ...

WWW.BCFPD2.ORG or **STOP BY THE STATION TO CHAT WITH US!**

BENTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #2 FIRE LEVY LID

WHAT IS THE LEVY LID FOR AND WHY DO WE NEED IT?

When State Initiative 695 and 747 passed, it caused our fire district to only be eligible for a 1% increase above the last year's budget, plus new construction, unless voted upon for an increase. Prior to these initiatives, we were able to take up to a 6% increase above the previous year's levy to help maintain our levy rates. When calculated out, this 6% did not put excess money in our pocket, but it did allow us to maintain service levels, while providing safety for our firefighters, and meeting state and federal laws.

Without the continuation of the LID, we will be held to a 1% annual increase. This will cause a reduction of our budget every year, compounding the decrease in operating funds. Although the reduction seems small at first, over several years it will become a serious shortfall. After exhausting all other means possible, we are forced to go back to the public, and ask you to help support us so we can continue to provide you with the same level of service. We are not asking for a new tax increase, but to **CONTINUE our funding to where it currently is**. The issue we face, is that everything we are required to purchase to continue serving you, has increased way above the 1% allowed. For example: one set of firefighter turnouts and related equipment for one volunteer firefighter, now costs over \$3,500, whereas five years ago, they only cost \$1,600. Our 911 dispatch costs have risen to more than 55%, ambulances and fire trucks have increased over 25%, and we know what fuel costs have done. These are just a sampling of our cost increases. Future purchases are expected to continue to increase.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.BCFPD2.ORG OR CALL (509) 588-3212**

Benton County Fire District #2 (Benton City) has been providing fire and emergency medical ambulance services to Benton City, and the greater area around Benton City, for over **75 years**. The Fire District responds to over 1,300 emergency calls every year in our community. This number has increased 25% over the last 6 years.

HOW IS OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNDED?

We are funded primarily through property taxes.

FIRE: We receive a maximum of **\$1.50** per \$1,000 of assessed value.

EMS (Ambulance): We receive a maximum of **\$.50** per \$1,000 of assessed value.

Currently we have been prorated and only receive \$1.47 PER \$1,000. We are not allowed to collect more than the amount shown above, per State Law, ensuring you will not see an added increase above the \$1.50. **THIS IS NOT A NEW TAX** but the current tax structure we have had for 20 + years. The LID expires every 6-years.



Benton County Fire Protection District #2
PO Box 719
Benton City, WA 99320

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Local
Postal Customer