

Mid-County Fire Protection District

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When The Smoke Clears....

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Join us at the 2nd Annual Crappie Tournament

The 2nd Annual Crappie Tournament is planned for May 14 at the Larry R. Gale Access in Roach. Sign-in starts at 6 a.m. The tournament will begin at 7 a.m. and runs until 3 p.m. Cost is \$25/person (2-man team). There will be 50% payback with 1 place paid for every 10 boats. Teams will weigh a combined 15 best fish. Other prizes will be awarded. For more information or to register, please contact Tisha at (573)216-8527 or Jake at (573)427-9873 or email 9467@mcfpd.org.



Keep an eye on the sky

Thunderstorms are dangerous because they include lightning, high winds and heavy rain that could cause flash floods. Severe thunderstorms can produce tornadoes. By definition, a thunderstorm is a rain shower that contains lightning. A typical storm is usually 15 miles in diameter and lasts an average of 30-60 minutes. Every thunderstorm produces lightning, which on average, kills more people yearly than tornadoes.

A *severe thunderstorm* is one that contains large hail (1-inch in diameter or larger), damaging straight-line winds of 58 mph or greater, and/or a tornado. Rain-cooled air (straight-line wind) descending from severe thunderstorms can move at speeds in excess of 100 mph. There were seven injuries from thunderstorm wind gusts in Missouri in 2010. A *downburst* is a sudden out-rush of this wind. Strong downbursts can produce extensive damage that is often similar to damage produced by a small tornado. A downburst can easily overturn mobile homes, tear off roofs and topple trees.

Severe thunderstorms can produce hail the size of a quarter (1 inch) or larger. Quarter-size hail can cause significant damage to cars, roofs and can break windows. Softball-size hail can fall at speeds faster than 100 mph.

Avoid traveling in a severe thunderstorm – either pull over or delay your travel plans.

When a severe thunderstorm threatens, follow the same safety rules you do if a tornado threatens. Go to a basement if available. If not, go to the lowest level of the building and move to a small interior room or hallway. Stay away from doors and windows.

At any given moment, there are 1,800 thunderstorms in progress somewhere on earth. This amounts to 16 million storms a year! In the United States, there are an estimated 25 million cloud-to-ground lightning flashes each year. While lightning may be fascinating to watch, it is also extremely dangerous.

According to statistics kept by the National Weather Service, the 30-year average for lightning fatalities across the country is 73. Lightning usually claims only one or two victims at a time, and because lightning does not cause mass destruction, lightning generally receives much less attention than the more destructive storm-related events.





Flash Flood Facts

A flash flood is a rapid rise of water along a stream or low-lying urban area. Flash flood damage and most fatalities tend to occur in areas immediately adjacent to a stream, due to a combination of heavy rain, dam break, levee failure, rapid snowmelt, and ice jams. Additionally, heavy rain falling on steep terrain can weaken soil and cause mud slides, damaging homes, roads, and property. Flash floods can be produced when slow moving or multiple thunderstorms occur over the same area. When storms move faster, flash flooding is less likely since the rain is distributed over a broader area.

Flash Flood Risk in Your Car, Truck, or Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV)

Almost half of all flash flood fatalities occur in vehicles. Contrary to popular belief, many people don't realize two feet of water on a bridge or highway can float most vehicles. If the water is moving rapidly, the car, truck, or SUV can be swept off the bridge and into the creek. Water can erode the road bed creating unsafe driving conditions. Underpasses can fill rapidly with water, while the adjacent roadway remains clear. Driving into a flooded underpass can quickly put you in 5-6 feet of water. Many flash floods occur at night when flooded roads are difficult to see.

When you approach a flooded road, TURN AROUND DONT DROWN!



The Bulls are back in town!

The Mid-County Firefighters Association is sponsoring a Bull Blast on **Saturday, July 9** at Hayburner Ranch on P Road in Decaturville. Members of the National Federation of Bullriders will be showcasing their talents against some of the rankest bulls in the country. The fun will begin at 8 p.m. Come early and get your picture taken with a Clydesdale, ride a pony or get your face painted. There will be lots of food, fun and edge-of-your-seat action! Tickets are \$10 in advance for adults and \$5 in advance for children 12 and younger. At the gate, tickets will cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and younger. Tickets can be purchased at Mid-County Station 1 and other locations to be announced. Hayburner Ranch is located about 4 miles down P Road from Decaturville. Proceeds from the Bull Blast will go toward firefighter benevolence funding, purchase of personal protective equipment for our firefighters, the purchase of smoke alarms for community members who need them and for safety programs for youth and other organizations. Sponsorships are still available. For more information, please contact Tisha at (573)216-8527 or tishaholden@hotmail.com.

Support your Firefighters!!

How? Join the Mid-County Firefighters Auxiliary

Where? Mid-County Station 1

What? If running into a burning building or using the jaws-of-life on a car accident doesn't give you an adrenaline rush, but you still enjoy helping people, the Firefighters Auxiliary may be for you. The auxiliary provides support and assistance to our firefighters and the fire department.

Join us and help make a difference.

Contact Kara Johnson at (573)480-6618 for more information.



Join us!

Are you interested in fighting fires or assisting on accident scenes? We are accepting applications for volunteer firefighters. Please contact Deputy Chief Bachman for more information how to become a volunteer firefighter.



Use Caution when Burning

1. Check for – and comply with – all bans for outdoor burning. (Check with your local fire department.)
2. Avoid all outdoor burning, such as trash, brush, leaves, etc. on dry, windy days.
3. Check to see if weather changes are expected. Postpone outdoor burning if wind shifts, high winds or gusts are expected.
4. Keep adequate water and equipment handy.
5. Stay with all outdoor burning until the fire is completely out.



Congratulations to the following Mid-County Firefighters!

The following personnel were promoted:

*Jamie Holden – Fire Inspector
Jeramiah Johnson - Lieutenant*

Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear. – Ambrose Redmoon