Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue

SSFR SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

March 2016

Safety Around Emergency Vehicles (CRS 42-4-705)

For the safety of the public and Emergency Response Personnel please pull to the right when you see a Fire Truck, Ambulance or Police car responding with lights and sirens. Per CRS 42-4-705 the driver of every vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to emergency vehicles and where possible shall immediately pull to the right…and shall stop and remain in that position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

On a highway with at least two adjacent lanes proceeding in the same direction on the same side of the highway where a (stationary Emergency vehicle or Towing carrier vehicle) is located, the driver of an approaching or passing vehicle shall proceed with due care and caution and yield the right-of-way by moving into a lane at least one moving lane apart from the (emergency/towing vehicles) unless directed otherwise by a peace officer or authorized emergency personnel.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of SSFR is to serve the City of Steamboat Springs and the surrounding community by reducing human suffering and property loss, protecting the environment, and promoting life safety through incident response, public education, and fire prevention programs

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Agricultural Burn

Open Burn Permits

Open Burn season is nearing its end. The season runs from November 1st through April 15th as long as there is at least 6 inches of snow covering the ground in the burn area. In addition to the above parameters an individual must obtain a "Routt County Application for Air Quality Open Burning Permit," from the Routt County Department of Environmental Health, 879-0185. Burning for agricultural reasons is not restricted to these dates but must meet the specific parameters of an agricultural burn.

Open Burning is defined as the burning of materials wherein products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. Open burning does not include road flares, smudge pots and similar devices associated with safety or occupational uses typically considered open flames or recreational fires.

Agricultural burning is defined as the burning of coverage vegetation for the purpose of preparing the soil for crop production, weed control, maintenance of water conveyance structures related to agricultural operations, and other cultivation purposes. Open burning of animal parts of carcasses is not agricultural burning (unless the state agricultural commission declares a public health emergency that requires the burning of diseased animal carcasses). Open burning of household trash, wood and yard debris on agricultural land is not agricultural burning and is not exempt from State permitting requirements and season restrictions.

Certifications Received Second half 2015

Hazmat Operations - Dane Visnick, Russ Sanford, Nick Kuchulis

Fire Officer I - Joe Oakland

Fire Instructor I - Marnie Smith

FireFighter I - Dane Visnick, Russ Sanford, Nick Kuchulis

Firefighter II - Isaiah Hartman, Nick Brookshire

EMT Paramedic - Tony DeRisio

Live Fire Training Evolution Instructor - John Rockwood

CPR Instructor - Isaiah Hartman

Car Seat Technician - Isaiah Hartman

NRP - Marnie Smith

S.T.A.B.L.E. - Marnie Smith

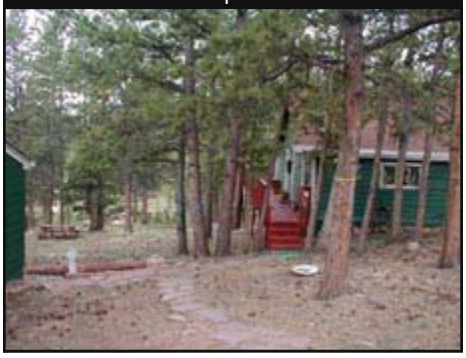
What is Defensible Space for Wildland Fire?

Defensible space is the area around a home or other structure where fuels and vegetation are treated, cleared or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire. Creating Wildfire-defensible zones reduces the chance of a structure fire spreading to neighboring homes or the surrounding forest. Defensible space also provides room for firefighters to do their jobs when fighting wildfire.

Your house is more likely to withstand a wildfire if grasses, brush, trees and other common forest fuels are managed to reduce a fire's intensity. The following are a few key steps to creating a defensible zone, but is not a comprehensive list.

- *Clean pine needles, leaves and other debris from roofs and gutter at least twice a year.* This eliminates an ignition source for embers, especially during hot, dry weather.
- *Stack firewood away from your house.* Locate firewood at least 30 feet uphill from your home. Do not stack firewood under the deck.
- *Remove unhealthy vegetation.* Trees and shrubs that are stressed, diseased, dead or dying should be removed so that they do not become a fuel source for potential fires.
- *Create defensible space at a minimum of 100 feet around a home.* Increase this distance if the structure is located on a slope.
- *Thin out continuous tree and brush (shrub) cover around structures.* Remove flammable vegetation from within the initial 15 feet around structures.
- *Beyond the initial 15-30 feet, thin trees to achieve a 10-foot crown spacing.* Occasionally, clumps of two or three trees are acceptable for a more natural appearance, if additional space surrounds them.
- *Mow grasses and weeds to a height of six inches* or less for a distance of 30 feet from all structures.
- *Prune tree branches* within the defensible space up to a height of 10 feet above ground.
- *Dispose of all slash and debris* left from thinning by chipping, hauling away or piling for burning later. For information about burning slash piles refer to the Open Burn Permits Article. Contact your local CSFS District or Field Office for information regarding chipping and other removal options.
- *Remove shrubs and small trees* or other potential ladder fuels from beneath large trees. Left in place, these fuels can carry a ground fire into tree crowns.
- *Trim any branches extending over roofs,* and remove branches within 10 feet of chimneys.
- *Place liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) containers at least 30 feet from structures.* Clear anything flammable, including vegetation from within 10 feet of all tanks.

Before Defensible Space

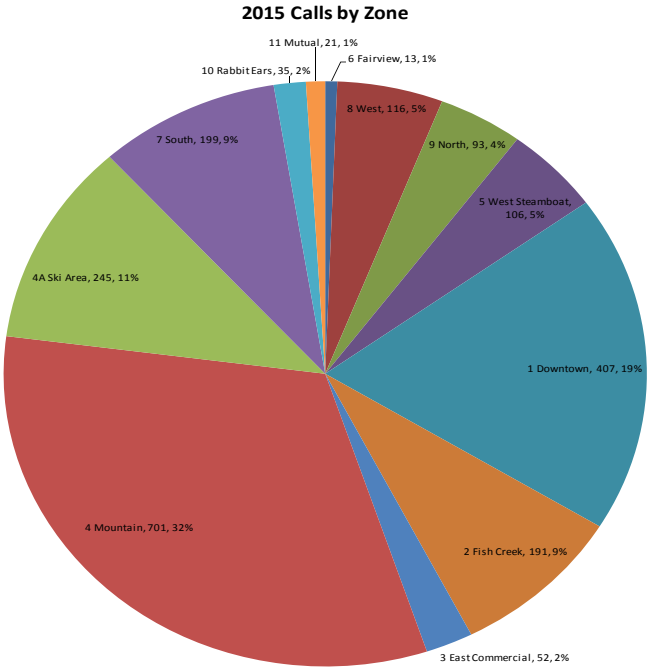


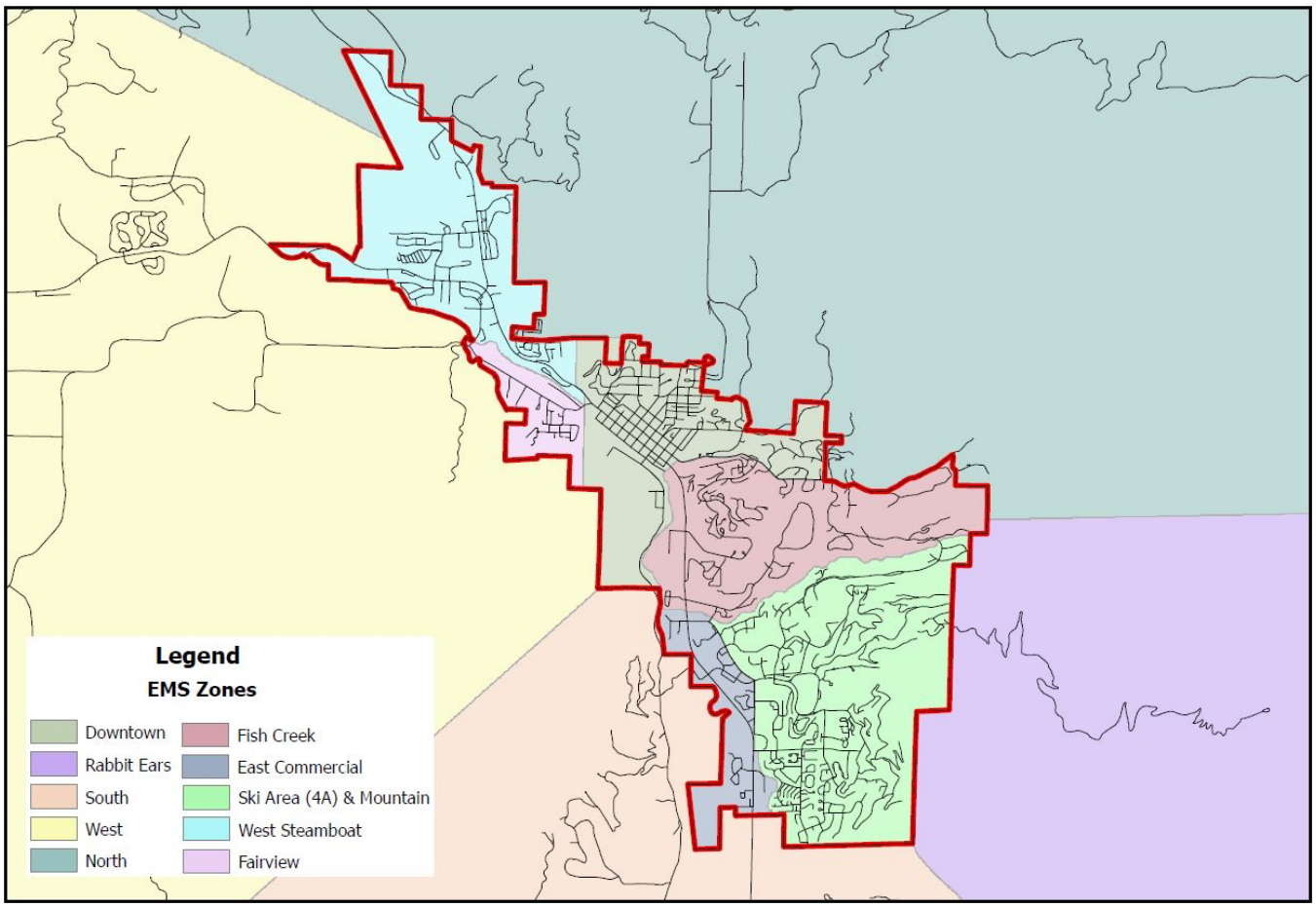
After Defensible Space

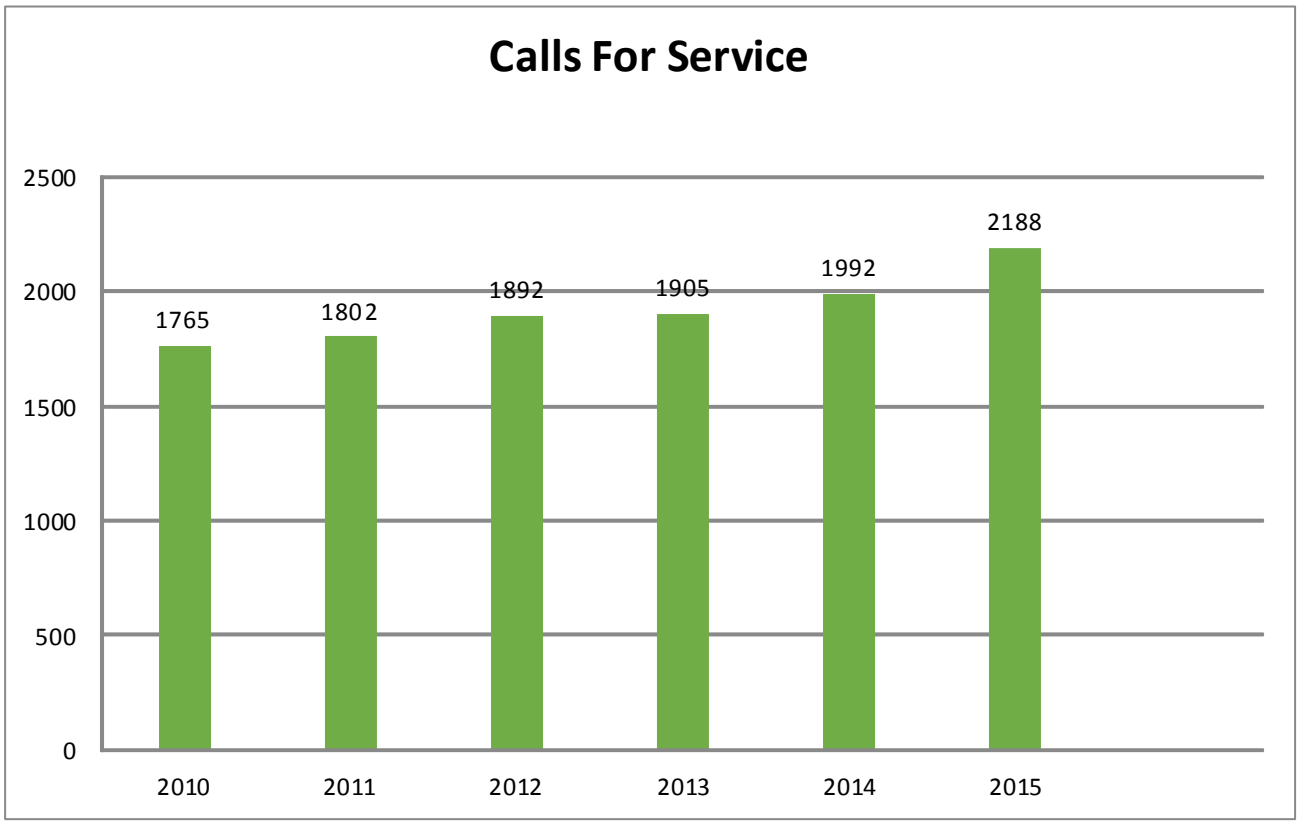
The article and pictures were taken from CSFS website.

http://csfs.colostate.edu/wildfire-mitigation/defensible-space/

Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue response district is 384 square miles. The response district is divided in to 11 different zones. In 2015 84% of all calls were East of 13th Street and 15% of calls were West of 13th street. The largest number of calls for service was in the Mountain District, 701 or 32% calls which the Mountain District does not include the ski area which resulted in an additional 245 calls or 11% of the overall call volume. The zone with the second most calls for service was in the Downtown area which resulted in 407 or 19% of the calls. Roughly 20% of all calls were outside city limits in the Steamboat Springs Area Fire Protection District last year. SSFR provided assistance to other emergency agencies 21 times in 2015 or approximately 1% of calls through the county wide mutual aid agreement. As a whole the number of calls for service increased by 9.8% over 2014.







2015	
Apparatus Training	46 (Hours)
EMS training	444 (Hours)
Fire Training	557 (Hours)
Station Tours	16
Public Education Event	41
Car seat checks	27
Health and Safety Training	60 (Hours)
Technical Rescue	171 (Hours)
Wildland Training	147 (Hours)
Fire Inspections	204
Officer Development	394 (Hours)

Retiree Jeff “Soda” Davison

Soda started with Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue in 1996 as a volunteer. He continued as a volunteer as Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue transitioned in to a combination full-time/volunteer department eventually working as a part time Firefighter/EMT until 2004. Soda left for Denver, Colorado for several years and then succumbed to the valley curse and moved back to Steamboat. In 2012 after completing his second academy with the Department Soda was promoted in to a full-time Firefighter/EMT position. Soda was a valued member of the department until he decided to pursue his burgeoning metal fabrication business, Elemental Design and Fabrication, in October 2015. Soda fondly recalls his many years working with the members of Steamboat Fire Rescue and serving the citizens of Steamboat Springs and the surrounding community.

Find us at

www.steamboatsprings.net

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Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue

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SSFR Welcomes Louis Gutschenritter

Louis Gutschenritter was born in LaCrosse, Wisconsin and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. After graduating from the University of Georgia, Louis spent two years working as a crew member aboard different luxury yachts on both coasts of the United States and in the Bahamas. Louis moved to Steamboat Springs in 2009 and has worked at Christy Sports as well as One Steamboat Place. Louis completed the Steamboat Springs Fire Academy in 2012 and earned an EMT-Basic certification in 2013. He has been working with Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue since 2013 and was hired as a full-time employee in October of 2015. When not working, he enjoys multi-day whitewater rafting trips in the summer and back country skiing in the winter.