



Fire/EMS and Police Unable to Accept Donations

Community Goodwill Should Be Directed Toward Food Banks and Non-Profits

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-March 25, 2020-During a crisis and unquestionably during this time of uncertainty surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19), citizens of the Yampa Valley come together to support each other and those on the front lines. However, the Steamboat Springs Police Department and Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue are not permitted to accept food donations.

“We’re grateful that the community is always thinking of its first responders especially during a time like this,” said Cory Christensen, Police Chief for the Steamboat Springs Police Department. “As you can imagine, we just can’t accept donations from individuals or businesses for the safety of our staff.”

Several individuals and businesses have offered to show their support of the community’s first responders by wanting to provide meals or having a restaurant deliver meals. While the gesture is very much appreciated by firefighters and police officers, minimizing any chance of exposure to staff is the primary goal.

Instead, public safety personnel are asking individuals to support local non-profits and food banks which are experiencing a tremendous increase in the requests for their services as they support the citizens of Routt County dealing with the consequences of the virus.

“As you can imagine, we’re carefully tracking everything that comes in and out of our stations,” said Interim Fire Chief Chuck Cerasoli. “We’d prefer to be overly cautious and hope the community will understand our position.”

Currently, on shift Fire/EMS staff are preparing all meals internally adhering to strict preparation guidelines and following social distancing during mealtimes. The police department has also reduced the interactions of personnel and staggered schedules inside the Combined Law Enforcement Facility to maintain physical distancing.

It is best to call your local food bank or non-profit organization in advance to see what donations and support they may require or need.

-WeServeTheCity-

Contact

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