

# Mosier Fire Log

August 2013

## CALL SUMMARY

	AUG	YTD	8/12	12 YTD	8/11	11 YTD
MEDICAL:	<b>5</b>	<b>38</b>	3	30	8	50
FIRE:	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>	3	12	3	11

## **Medical calls** in August:

- **False alarm**, due to incomplete 911 call, off Huskey, staged in six minutes.
- **Back and leg pain**, downtown Mosier, on scene in four minutes.
- **High blood pressure**, downtown Mosier, on scene in ten minutes.
- **Altered mental status**, downtown Mosier, on scene in four minutes.
- **Difficulty breathing**, downtown Mosier. No EMT response, ambulance only.

## **Fire calls** in June:

- **8/13: Fire alarm activation**, Further Valley Road, on scene in thirteen minutes. Turned out to be a false alarm, but house guests did not have the code to cancel.
- **8/16:** Report of a "**large diesel spill**" at Memaloose rest stop eastbound, on scene in six minutes. Turned out to be a gallon or two. Contained using a spill kit and advised on-site manager to arrange clean up.
- **8/17: Motor vehicle crash with injuries**, I84 eastbound milepost 75.1, on scene with a blocking engine in seven minutes.
- **8/17:** Request to provide a **brush truck and two fire fighters** to the Government Flats Complex. Unable to provide due to short staffing.
- **8/20:** Report of **smoke** on Carroll Road. Resolved in ten minutes as a mistaken sighting of the Blackburn Fire ten miles south.
- **8/22: Roll-over motor vehicle crash with injuries**, I84 eastbound milepost 73, on scene with engine in ten minutes.
- **8/28: Motor vehicle crash with injuries**, Dry Creek Road, on scene in six minutes.

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## **BLACKBURN FIRE**

The threat to Mosier from the Blackburn Fire appears to be over, thank goodness.

This was one of three fires collectively known as the Government Flats Complex, caused by lightning on the afternoon of Friday, August 16 southwest of The Dalles.

**Blackburn Fire (continued)**

The other two fires were controlled quickly, but due to difficult access, steep terrain, and very dry fuels, the one fire which began in Blackburn Canyon grew into a monster before crews were able to engage. Over the next week, a very challenging suppression effort saw several setbacks, notably a shift in the wind from the east which pushed the fire several miles uphill into Hood River County. We came very close to seeing the fire spread north into the Mosier Creek and Rock Creek drainages. Thanks to very hard work by about a thousand fire fighters, and also thanks to pure luck, Mosier was spared all but about one square mile at the highest and southernmost end of Mosier Creek, many miles from the nearest homes, and over twelve miles from town.

Mosier Fire did not participate in the fire fight, other than staying in contact with incident management. We do not have enough personnel to spare, and if the fire had turned our way we would have needed all hands to be rested and ready.

We did, however, make a concerted effort to keep the community informed, mainly on our web site, [www.mosierfire.com](http://www.mosierfire.com). Please visit the site for detailed maps and information on closures. Many thanks to all who made comments and suggestions.

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**Major Donation of Medical Equipment:**

Huge thanks to Portland Fire for donating not one but TWO electrocardiogram (EKG) defibrillators to Mosier Fire, adding to our four automatic defibrillators.

In addition to shocking (defibrillating) certain heart rhythms back to normal, EKG's mainly allow immediate diagnosis of some heart attacks, meaning faster treatment, and an ability assess the quality of a person's breathing by measuring exhaled CO2.

The equipment is not yet complete, and we will need training before we can use the EKG's. But this is a big step forward in our ability to serve all of you.

**BURN BAN IN EFFECT!**

**As of July 1, all outdoor burning is banned until the arrival of fall rains.**

The July 1 cutoff was established by Oregon Department of Forestry in 2007, in consultation with local fire agencies.

The ban is lifted by announcement in the fall when conditions allow, not on a fixed date.

Please call the Fire Chief with any questions or concerns. 541-478-3333.