

Mosier Fire Log

September 2012

CALL SUMMARY

	<u>SEP</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>9/11</u>	<u>11 YTD</u>	<u>9/10</u>	<u>10 YTD</u>
MEDICAL:	7	37	2	52	6	32
FIRE:	1	13	3	14	1	15

SELECTED CALL DETAILS

Medical calls in September:

- Altered mental status, downtown Mosier, on scene in three minutes.
- Assist an uninjured invalid who fell and couldn't get up, outside District on Osburn Cutoff, on scene in six minutes.
- Chest pain, downtown Mosier, on scene in eight minutes.
- Pneumonia, difficulty breathing, downtown Mosier, on scene in six minutes.
- Low blood oxygen, downtown Mosier, on scene in three minutes.
- Implanted defibrillator activation, Dry Creek Road, on scene in ten minutes.
- Suicidal person, off State Rd., staged on scene in ten minutes.

Fire calls in September:

- **9/9:** Called to a report of a lightning-caused fire on Marsh Cutoff. While en route, the caller informed our dispatch that the "fire" was in fact the rising moon as seen from Carroll Road.

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On September 25, the Milepost 66 Fire started between Mosier and Hood River. Mosier Fire was not mobilized because the fire was out of our District and well staffed. Chief Appleton assisted the incident commanders through the first fifteen hours of the fire, and developed contingencies in case the fire grew to threaten Mosier Fire District. Fortunately, calm winds allowed crews to tame the fire quickly.

At press time on Saturday, 9/29, incident commanders are cautiously optimistic that the fire is controlled, although high winds are now testing it for the first time. Its potential to relight and cause problems will continue until snow falls.

The Milepost 66 Fire started at about 8PM on Tuesday, 9/25. The origin is immediately adjacent to the railroad tracks, although as yet the cause is undetermined and under investigation. The fire ran uphill and crossed the old highway at about 2AM on 9/26. As of 9/29, a total of seventy acres have burned. There are currently 65 personnel on the ground, down from a max 125 fire fighters, mainly Oregon Department of Forestry and US Forest Service, and air support.

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Two days after the Milepost 66 Fire started, there were two small fires on Elder Road about a mile west of Rock Creek and three miles due south of the Microwave towers. Chief Appleton and a State Forestry helicopter arrived at about the same time, just ahead of ODF and USFS engines which had no trouble putting the fires completely out. Once again, the fires were well outside our District, slow-moving and well staffed, and Chief Appleton elected not to call for Mosier units, keeping them rested and in reserve in case the Milepost 66 fire went south.

Investigators are calling the Elder Road fires “suspicious”, unable to determine a cause but concerned that they could have been intentionally set. Stay tuned ...

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. You'll know when ODF's sign's no longer say “All Burning Prohibited”.

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

Volunteer News:

Ron Carroll continues to improve following a lengthy bout with respiratory issues. He's back to responding on most calls.

Please welcome new Volunteers **Mary Sather** and **Brittnie Aponte**, both of them new to town and newly enrolled in the Community College EMT class.

Ellen Dittebrandt has resigned from the Department. We thank her for three years of dedication and very hard work, and we wish her well.

Fire Fighter Training Academy:

Mosier Fire will cover tuition and expenses for new Volunteers who wish to enroll in the basic Academy, beginning the first week of January. The Acedmy is the first step toward State qualification as a structural fire fighter. Anyone interested should call the Fire Chief at 541-478-3333.