Changes to Protection Classes:

• Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB) is revising protection classes in Washington State to more accurately classify fire protection capabilities that reduce fire loss.

• Through ongoing research in loss experience and fire department capabilities, we have identified the need for changes to WSRB’s public Protection Classification manual.

These changes affect dwelling property only.

What are the changes?

• Currently a Protection Class (PC) 9 rating applies to dwelling properties within five (5) road miles of only a recognized Class B fire station. Class B fire stations meet only the minimum requirements for staffing, apparatus, and equipment.

• Protection Class 9 classification will continue to apply to the above current situations and will also apply to dwelling over five (5) road miles but within seven (7) road miles of a Class A fire station with a standard fire hydrant within 1,000 feet or the community receives WSRB Tender Credit. Class A fire stations are staffed and equipped at a higher level than Class B fire stations.

What is the effect?

• These changes give Protection Class 9 credit to dwellings over five (5) road miles but within seven (7) road miles of a recognized responding Class A fire station and within 1,000 feet of a creditable water supply. This class is property specific; not all properties in the 5 to 7 road miles area will qualify.

• Dwellings not qualifying under these new rules will continue to be rated PC 9A.

• Protection Class 10 applies to dwelling property outside the boundaries of any recognized fire district or city.

When will these changes be effective?

• These changes have been filed and approved by the Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner and were effective on November 1, 2014. WSRB’s website have reflected these changes to Protection Classes on that date.

Check with your insurance provider to see how these changes will effect you.

Our Mission:

Fire District 10 is dedicated to serving the West Plains by:
Protecting life, property and the environment.
Presenting education and prevention.
Meet Lt. Galtieri

Richard Galtieri is the new Training Lieutenant for the Fire District 10 and has over 20 years of experience in the fire service. After he retired from Fairchild Air Force Base as an Assistant Chief of Operations, he accepted a contract position working for the US Army as an Assistant Chief of Training for Camp Basra, Iraq. After his contract he was offered a position as a Deputy State Fire Marshal for the Washington State Fire Training Academy, where he was a Program Coordinator for the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting programs for the Pacific Northwest Region. Richard received an M.A. degree in Human Resource Development and an M.A. in Leadership and Management from Webster University as well as a B.S. Degree from Southern Illinois University in Workforce Education and Development.

Richard has been a part of the Spokane community for over 10 years and loves the area. He absolutely enjoys spending time with Robyn, and 4 children, Jorden (23), Tailor (21), Gabriella (14), Mitchell (12) doing everything that our community has to offer. Together they also enjoy volunteering their time to the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery, Habitat for Humanity, and a few other charitable organizations.

SCFD 10 Adopts a Family

This Christmas the volunteer members of SCFD 10 decided to participate in the Adopt-a-Family program for the American Childhood Cancer Organization of the Inland Northwest (www.acco.org/inlandnw). This program helps families during the holiday season with children who have been diagnosed with cancer. The kids are from Eastern Washington, North Idaho and Western Montana and are all currently in treatment here in Spokane. We were assigned a family who provided us a “wish list” of Christmas presents they wanted. Thanks to the generosity of our members we were able to raise almost $1000.00 for the gifts! We invited the family to Station 10-1 for a tour and gave them their gifts. We all had a really great time participating in the event!
Spokane County Fire District 10 offers a **FREE** Home Safety Survey. This service identifies risks in and around your home and offers suggestions to mitigate them.

Please contact us directly at **(509) 244-2425** to set up your appointment!

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**A Public Safety Message from the Spokane County Commissioners**

How will you be notified if there’s an emergency in your neighborhood?

**Through ALERT Spokane – a Spokane County emergency notification system!**

ALERT Spokane has been in operation since 2010, and is used to inform citizens about emergencies in their area. The ALERT Spokane system can be activated by law enforcement, fire service, water districts, etc. Once activated, a recorded message is sent to landline telephones with information about the emergency and what actions to take. For example, if there’s a wild fire in your area, you might be told to evacuate, or you might receive boil order from your drinking water provider.

It’s important to note that the recorded message will be sent to **landline telephones** in the affected area. If you have discontinued your landline telephone service and are relying on a cell phone or VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) phone, you will not receive an emergency message from ALERT Spokane – unless you register your cell phone in the system! Even if you still have a landline telephone, it’s a good idea to register your cell phone with ALERT Spokane.

In the interest of public safety, the Spokane County Board of Commissioners is urging the public to register their cell phones, VoIP phones, and email addresses with ALERT Spokane. It’s easy to do. Just go to [www.alertspokane.org](http://www.alertspokane.org) and enter the information. You can also register more than one cell phone number and request email notification.

Stay informed – stay safe – register with ALERT Spokane TODAY at [www.alertspokane.org](http://www.alertspokane.org)!
PUT A FREEZE ON WINTER FIRES

Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, **be fire smart!**

**Half of all home heating fires** occur in the months of December, January, and February. Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and **as far away as possible from your house.** Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.

**Heating equipment** is involved in 1 in every 7 reported home fires and 1 in every 6 home fire deaths. Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year.**

Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters. Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings.

Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter/ and www.nfpa.org/winter/
Spokane County Fire District 10 holds two joint recruit academies per year in order to train new volunteer firefighters for the district. The academy is an extensive process that includes a written test, physical ability test, and a panel interview. After they have completed those three things, the recruits move on to the 216 hour academy which consists of two evenings a week in the classroom and every Saturday outside doing practical evolutions on what they learned in class. While in the academy the new recruits learn the basics of firefighting, this includes health and safety, fire behavior, building construction, firefighting tactics and hose streams and other tasks associated with the fire service.

The recruits are trained up to the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) Firefighter I and IFSAC hazardous materials awareness and operations level. The new recruits are then able to take the IFSAC tests that are nationally accepted certifications. At the end of their academy, the recruits go to the Washington State Fire facility at North Bend to do their final practicals of fire attack and search and rescue.

In addition to our volunteer fire fighters we are also looking for folks to volunteer for our Support Services program. Applications for volunteering at Spokane County Fire District 10 can be picked up at our main station at 929 S Garfield Road, Airway Heights WA or downloaded from our website at www.scfd10.org under the “Join our Team” tab. If you have questions please contact us at 509-244-2425.
Volunteer Firefighter Spotlight— Gordon Hester

Where were you born and raised?
I was born in Emmett, Idaho and raised through junior high in Horseshoe Bend, Idaho. I moved to Kettle Falls, Washington in 7th grade and that is where I graduated high school, and where my parents still live.

When did you begin volunteering for SCFD 10?
I began volunteering about six years ago after we had a brush fire burn between my house and Captain Sayer’s house. We were both out working to save our houses and found the volunteers of District 10 to be such an amazing group of people. A few months after the fire was out, we both decided to volunteer and help repay the kindness and hard work that the district showed us. It has been one of the best decisions I have ever made.

What is your favorite part of the fire service and why?
The selfless concern to help your neighbors and fellow firefighters is the most gratifying part of the job for me. People toss around phrases like commitment and brotherhood in other professions, and you get to live it in the fire service.

What do you do for fun on your days off?
I like to camp and fish, and like to drive my old Pontiac when the weather is nice. That and volunteer at the fire department.

What is the first thing you would buy if you won the lottery?
I would probably pay off all my bills and fully fund my kids college funds.

Who is your favorite band/musician?
I like so many different types of music that it is hard to pick one. Merle Haggard for country, Van Halen for classic rock, Shinedown for new rock and Dean Martin for Christmas music. Probably not a big hip hop or pop fan.

What is your favorite meal?
Any meal with family and friends. I like the social aspect of cooking and eating, and the company is more important than the food.