

As the Fire Chief of the local all-volunteer fire and rescue department that serves you, I solicit your personal donations once per year to enable us to continue to respond to your emergency calls. This year I have included **Distracted Driving** information which I encourage you to carefully review with your family and others. **Safe Alert driving** is very important. Vehicle accident injuries are often very serious, and recognition of the potential results of distracted driving may help you avoid a real tragedy.



Many of you or your neighbors have been direct recipients of our aid. Our two emergency transport ambulances respond to some 800 calls per year and our fire engines are dispatched on another 350 plus calls that include fires, motor vehicle collision, gas leaks, carbon monoxide alarms, and various other emergency situations when you dial 911. Through June this year CVFD has responded to over 500 emergency calls. Our response district includes the James River Bridge and many of our calls are also for mutual aid assistance to neighboring districts.

The income for our annual operation budget comes from several sources: the citizens of Carrollton, Isle of Wight County, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and federal grants. Of all these sources, you are the most important. Money received from outside of Carrollton provides only about half of the funds we need each year and you, the people we serve, provide the rest.

This is why I contact you by mail each year about this time to ask for your contributions to help us maintain the quality of service you expect. To make your donations go further this year I am sending you only this flyer and not the return envelope.

Thank you for considering this request to you for a donation.

Joel C. Acree
Fire Chief
Carrollton Volunteer Fire Department

To donate please mail to:
Carrollton Vol Fire Dept.
C/O 2012 Fund Drive
P.O. Box 77
Carrollton, VA. 23314-0077

Or you may make a secure donation online through paypal from our home page
www.carrolltonfiredept.org

United Way

#9084



Distracted Driving

The responsibility of operating any vehicle in a safe manner ultimately lies with the individual driver. Be aware of potential distractions while driving. These may take many forms, including:

◆ eating and drinking	◆ using a wireless device
◆ conversing with passengers	◆ reading or writing
◆ adjusting in-car stereos and electronics	◆ minding children
◆ minding pets	◆ smoking
◆ grooming	

When using your phone on the road, remember that your first priority is to **FOCUS ON DRIVING.**

The following points are stressed:

- ***Always buckle up***, keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road.
- ***Never use wireless data services such as text messaging, web browsing or e-mail while operating a vehicle.***
- Avoid using any wireless device while driving, only use cautiously in an emergency.
- Let voice mail pick up your calls when it's unsafe to answer the phone or driving conditions become hazardous.
- If you do have to make or receive a call, use a hands-free device to make it easier to keep both hands on the wheel.
- Advise the person to whom you are speaking that you are driving and, if necessary, suspend the call or safely pull off the road.
- When dialing manually, dial only when stopped. Or, have a passenger dial for you.
- Do not engage in stressful or emotional conversations, either on your mobile or with a passenger, that may divert your attention from the road.
- Program frequently called numbers into the speed dial feature of your phone for easy, one-touch dialing, or use auto answer or voice-activated dialing services (when available).
- Never take notes while driving. Pull off the road to a safe location if you need to write something down.
- Be a Wireless Samaritan. Call 9-1-1 to report any crimes, life-threatening emergencies, accidents or drunk drivers.

As the Fire Chief of the local all-volunteer fire and rescue department that serves you, I solicit your personal donations once per year to enable us to continue to respond to your emergency calls. This year I have included a home fire safety checklist which I encourage you to carefully review with your family and others. Fire safety is extremely important, fire injuries can be very serious, and a little pre-planning can help you avoid a real tragedy.

Many of you or your neighbors have been direct recipients of our aid. Our two emergency transport ambulances respond to some 700 calls per year and our fire engines are dispatched on another 350 plus calls that include fires, motor vehicle collision, gas leaks, carbon monoxide alarms, and various other emergency situations when you dial 911. Through June this year CVFD has responded to over 500 emergency calls. Our response district includes the James River Bridge and many of our calls are also for mutual aid assistance to neighboring districts.

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Checklist re-print courtesy of University of
Oklahoma Police Department,
<http://www.ou.edu/oupd>

HOME FIRE SAFETY CHECKLIST		
PRE-FIRE PLANNING	YES	NO
Have you planned at least two ways to get out of every room in your home?		
Do you keep exit routes clear in your home?		
Do you know how to notify your fire department quickly and correctly in case of fire?		
ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN	YES	NO
Do you make it a rule never to leave small children alone or unattended?		
Do your baby-sitters (<i>and you</i>) know the first rule of safety in fire emergencies? —Get everybody out fast, and don't go back in.		
Do you show your baby-sitters the escape routes from your home, and give instructions on the correct way to report a fire?		
GOOD SMOKING HABITS	YES	NO
Is smoking in bed strictly against the rule in your home?		
Do you always make sure that cigarette, cigar and pipe ashes are completely extinguished before you dispose of them? Before going to bed, be SURE there are no cigarettes still burning.		
Are matches kept out of the reach of children? Keep matches and lighters above the "strike zone" (<i>too high for children to reach</i>).		
HEATING AND COOKING	YES	NO
Are furnaces, stoves and smokepipes kept in good repair and located far enough away from combustible walls and ceilings so that they do not create a hazard? Use a fireplace screen to prevent sparks from flying.		
If you have portable space heaters in your home do you see that they are properly maintained and located? Keep portable space heaters away from people, curtains, and furniture.		
Do you have an annual inspection of your heating system? Have heating equipment checked and cleaned each year.		
Do your sleeves get into things when you cook? Wear tight-fitting clothing when you cook.		
Can you stop a cooking fire safely? Smother a pan fire with a lid. Never use water. If cooking oil starts to smoke, turn down the heat. Don't throw whatever's handy on the counter, such as dumping flour from the bag, on the fire (<i>explosion!</i>)		
ELECTRICITY	YES	NO
Do you see that extension cords are never run under rugs or hooked over nails? Avoid using extension cords wherever possible (<i>especially small-wired cords use with high-wattage appliances.</i>)		
When the breaker "trips" or a fuse blows, do you investigate WHY it happened? If a fuse blows (<i>or a breaker "trips"</i>), find the cause. Remove excess appliances (<i>lamps, stereo components, space heaters, etc.</i>) from a breaker circuit that frequently "trips".		
Is the right size fuse (<i>20 amps for lighting circuits</i>) in each socket in the fuse box? Replace the fuse with one of the correct size.		
Is your TV well ventilated? Allow air space around the TV to prevent overheating. If it doesn't work right, it can be a fire danger.		
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING	YES	NO
Do you keep rubbish cleaned out of the attic, basement, closets, garage and yard? Sort and remove rubbish. Don't store things near the furnace or heater.		
Are gasoline and other flammable liquids stored in safety cans, and kept well away from both heat and children? Move flammable liquids away from heat. Do not store flammable liquids in the home. Keep them stored outside and away from the house in a separate storage building. Don't fill a hot lawn mower or other motor; let it cool first.		