



## Community Events:

**First Aid/CPR Class**  
Nov 4, 9am—4pm

**Daylight Savings Ends**  
Nov 5, 2017

*Time to set your clocks  
back!*

**First Aid/CPR Class**  
Nov 18, 9am—4pm

**Thanksgiving Break**  
Nov 22—25

**Christmas Tree Lighting**  
Nov 28, at 6:30 pm

**Winter Break**  
Dec 17—Jan 2

## Volunteer Spotlight



Lindsay Taylor is the newest member of Philomath Fire & Rescue. She has joined the ranks of on-site personnel as a Resident Volunteer. She has completed her Emergency Medical Technician training and is currently taking the fall Fire Academy course.

# Hot off the Press

Fall 2017

## A Letter to Our Residents—Driveway Access

It has become apparent over the last few years that some of the private roads and driveways in the area may not be accommodating to Philomath Fire District apparatus and other emergency vehicles. This letter is a reminder to our valued residents of the importance of maintaining clear and unobstructed access to all structures within the district. It is also a reminder of the importance of having access bridges evaluated for weight capacity to accommodate the emergency vehicles that may be needed to respond to your residence.

The purpose of emergency service access is to allow emergency vehicles to approach a building as close as practical in order to deploy hoses, ladders and other equipment necessary for fire control and other operations. Firefighters are asked to respond to a multitude of emergencies at various types of buildings and locations, in all hours of the day and night, and in all types of weather conditions. Emergency responders try their best to respond to calls in a timely manner, often while negotiating narrow, winding roads and difficult terrain. Fire trucks are likely to be the largest, longest, widest and heaviest vehicles that will be driven on private road

and driveways. Planning for emergency vehicle access improves safety for homeowners and their families by providing a

more efficient response by firefighters and other emergency personnel arriving on scene. This is especially important in the more outlying areas where response times may be considerably longer due to increased travel times. Driveways that are not wide enough to accommodate emergency vehicles, that have low lying branches or are unable to accommodate fire apparatus weight and believed to be hazardous will not be accessed by fire department vehicles. This can result in significant delays in response by first responders which may lead to disastrous results in the event of an emergency. It is in hopes that this notification will assist landowners, caretakers and property managers in providing the information needed to meet the requirements for fire department and ambulance access.

If you have any questions or concerns about emergency access to your home or business, you can contact us or you can request a site visit be conducted by fire department personnel. You also may want to consult with your insurance company for more information.

Help us help you by keeping your driveways well maintained and clear of overhanging limbs.



## Philomath Fire & Rescue

1035 Main Street, P.O. Box 247  
Philomath, OR 97370  
Phone: 541-360-0030

Visit our website: [www.philomathfire.com](http://www.philomathfire.com)  
and like us on Facebook!

### *Our Mission:*

*The preservation of property through the  
extinguishment and prevention of fires.*

*The protection and care of human life through  
education and treatment.*

*The development of character through  
commitment and teamwork.*

PRSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

Local  
Postal Customer

## Chimney Sweeps Available

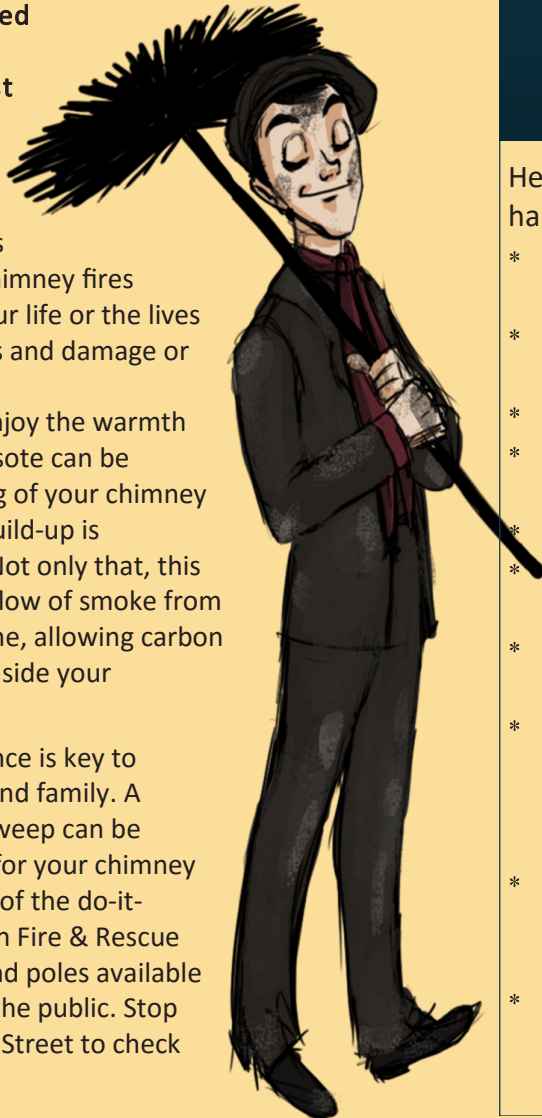
With the temperatures dipping into the 30s and 40s, many of us are turning to wood-based heating sources; pellets and logs. As you load up your fireplace or wood-burning stove, however, there are a few things you should consider:

- **What condition is your chimney or flue in?**
- **Has it been cleaned recently?**
- **When was the last time you had your chimney or flue inspected?**

The fact of the matter is dirty chimneys cause chimney fires which can endanger your life or the lives of your family members and damage or destroy your home.

While you sit back to enjoy the warmth of your home fire, creosote can be building up on the lining of your chimney or flue. This creosote build-up is extremely flammable. Not only that, this build-up obstructs the flow of smoke from the fire out of your home, allowing carbon monoxide to build up inside your residence.

Preventative maintenance is key to protecting your home and family. A professional chimney sweep can be employed to help care for your chimney or flue. If you are more of the do-it-yourself type, Philomath Fire & Rescue has chimney brushes and poles available to loan to members of the public. Stop by Station 201 on Main Street to check out a set today!



## Holiday Decoration Fire Safety Tips Christmas Tree

Here are some safety tips to practice when you deck the halls this holiday season:

- \* Choose a fresh-cut tree, one whose needles don't readily fall off.
- \* If you opt for an artificial tree, select one that is labeled "Fire Resistant".
- \* Keep your live tree well-watered.
- \* Keep your tree at least 3 feet away from any heat sources.
- \* Make sure your tree is not blocking an exit.
- \* Do not use lit candles on or near your tree.
- \* Check your strings of lights for damage, replace as needed.
- \* Don't overload your outlets. Plug no more than one heating source or 3 strands of lights per outlet.
- \* Turn off your lights before bed and while you're away from home.
- \* Dispose of (don't burn) your Christmas Tree.

