

2020/2021

annual report





OUR PURPOSE

Enhance the Lives of
Our Community

OUR VALUES

Integrity
Humility
Compassion
Family
Trust



South County Fire

2020/2021 annual report

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South County Fire at a glance



Established by voters in 2017, South County Fire is a regional fire authority dedicated to protecting life, property and the environment.

We serve nearly 270,000 residents

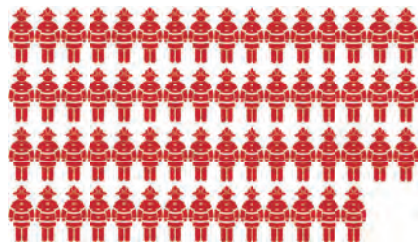
in south Snohomish County, including the cities of Brier, Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace.



14 neighborhood fire stations

are staffed 24/7 by professional firefighters to provide fire and emergency medical services.

283 uniformed personnel are employed by South County Fire.



62 firefighters

are on duty during the day and 56 overnight across our 53-square-mile service area.



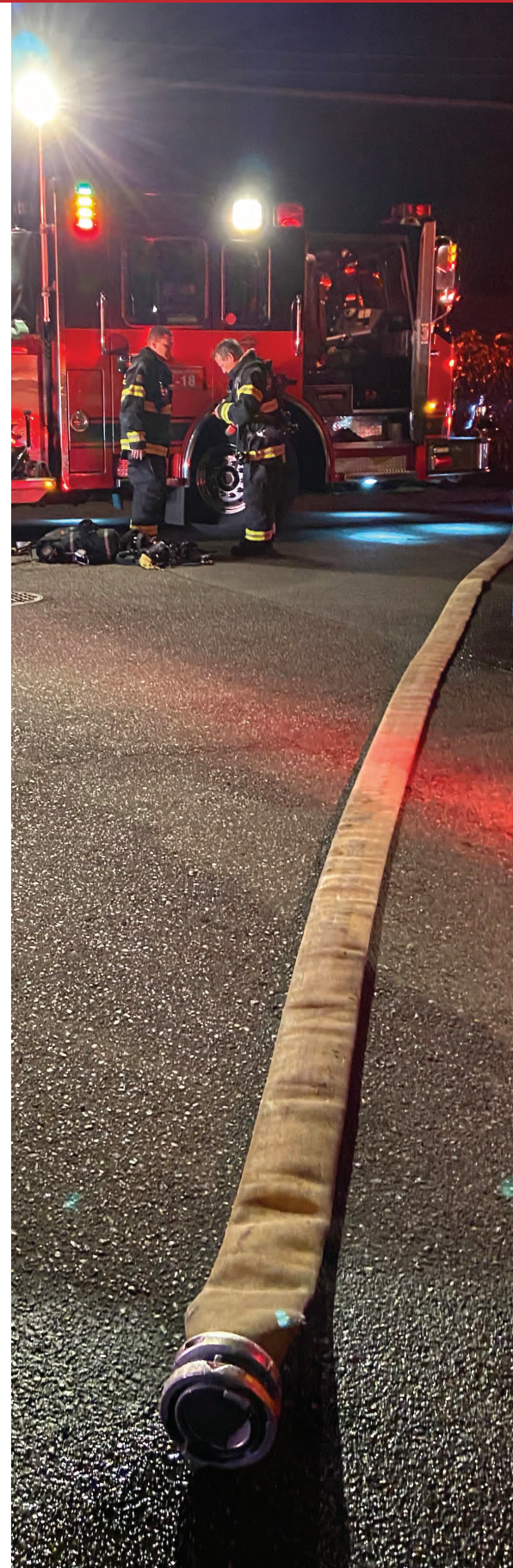
84% of 911 calls are EMS

(emergency medical services) and all of our firefighters are certified as either emergency medical technicians or paramedics.



Preventing emergencies

from happening in the first place is crucial to our mission of protecting those we serve. Fire inspections and investigations, public education and community outreach programs enhance life safety and reduce risks in our communities.



From the Fire Chief



Fire Chief
Thad Hovis

As we present this combined report for the years 2020 and 2021, I want to acknowledge the unwavering dedication and significant amount of hard work that has taken place at every level of our organization during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Your hardworking first responders transported the first known COVID-19 patient on January 20, 2020. They have been undaunted in their mission to serve you safely and effectively. As their fire chief, I could not be prouder of the excellent care they are providing to our community and the support they are providing each other during this unprecedented time.

I want to thank Fire Chief Doug Dahl, who was at the helm of our regional fire authority at the start of the pandemic. He retired on March 31, 2020 after devoting 34 years of his life to the fire service. As our Fire Chief, he rose to the challenges of this position by providing strong leadership to keep our organization moving in a positive direction. I am humbled to follow in his footsteps.

The people of South County Fire are our valued partners in providing high quality emergency services to our growing community. Our regional fire authority voters in November 2020 took the important step of approving a benefit charge, a new and more fair way to fund these essential services. On behalf of all of us at South County Fire, I want to thank you for your support.

We are grateful, too, for your words of encouragement and the many ways you have shown your support for your firefighters throughout the pandemic. We recognize the sacrifices you are making and appreciate the steps you have taken to stay safe and help slow the spread of COVID-19. We are all stakeholders in the health of our community, and working together we have clearly made a difference.

Board of Commissioners



Greg Urban, Board Chair Jim Kenny, Chris Teofilak, David Chan, Mark Laurence, Drew Burnett and Vice Chair Bob Meador

COVID-19 pandemic

Your firefighters have been on the front line since Day 1 of the pandemic, transporting the first known COVID-19 patient in the United States in January 2020.

In the days of uncertainty that followed and throughout the pandemic, the men and women of South County Fire have risen to the challenge.

Even in those early days when little was known about the virus, firefighters at our neighborhood fire stations continued to respond to 911 calls around the clock, donning layers of protective gear and taking other precautions to protect the public and themselves.

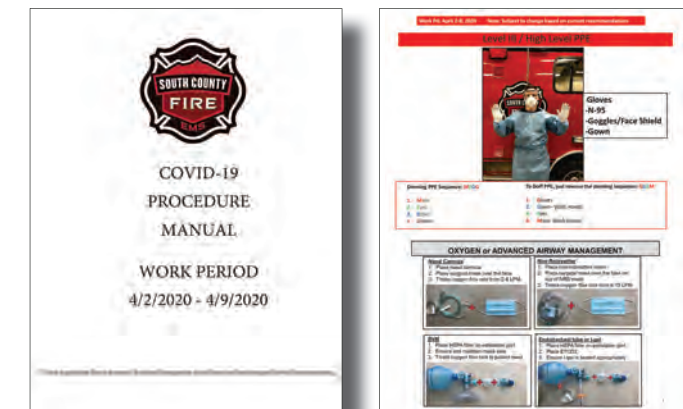
Our chief officers and administrative staff worked behind the scenes to secure resources and develop plans to keep responders healthy and our emergency services up and running. For many, this has been like having another job on top of their regular duties.

Here's a look back at how we worked closely with local, state, national and international public health experts to keep our community and first responders safe.



Charting a course

In early 2020, little was known about the new coronavirus and how it was spreading. Our region was quickly becoming the epicenter of the outbreak in the United States. Before most states even recorded their first COVID-19 case, the challenges of maintaining emergency services during a pandemic were all too real for South County Fire and other local agencies: How do we protect patients? How do we protect our first responders and keep them healthy so they can continue to serve the public?



For answers, we turned to health officials at the highest levels and tracked the latest research. From this, South County Fire collaborated with other county agencies to develop what came to be known as the COVID-19 Playbook, a procedure manual establishing safety and response protocols. This includes fire station and crew protective measures, personnel protective equipment levels and checklists for different types of medical emergencies, safety guidelines for transporting patients and instructions for decontaminating personnel, apparatus and equipment. The playbook is updated regularly as we learn more about the coronavirus.

At the end of April 2020, we presented the manual at a webinar hosted by the Paramedic Chiefs of Canada and the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch. Following the webinar, we started posting updated versions of the manual online. The manual now serves as the basis for protocols used by many fire and emergency medical services agencies across the United States and internationally.

Working together with our partners

Fire Coordination Center

Snohomish County fire agencies quickly recognized the best way to meet the emergency medical services needs of the public was with a united front.

The collaboration started with fire chiefs sharing information in daily video calls with key staff, Snohomish County 911 and Dr. Eric Cooper, Medical Program Director for Snohomish County Emergency Medical Services.



By March 2020, a Fire Coordination Center had been established at South County Fire Headquarters to provide unified tracking, planning and response to the outbreak. This unprecedented cooperative effort included:

- Collaborating on contingency plans for interagency cooperation to maintain a bare-bones level of emergency services in a worst-case scenario of widespread sickness among the public and first responders.

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- Coordinating information with local, regional and state sources to provide surveillance and monitoring of COVID-19 in our service area and region.
- Providing health guidelines and messages to staff and the public.
- Implementing enhanced hygiene, cleaning and social distancing to minimize the spread of COVID-19,

Snohomish County Emergency Coordination Center

South County Fire also supported the regional COVID-19 response at the Snohomish County Emergency Coordination Center. Our staff played a key role in securing much needed supplies, including personal protective gear for first responders throughout the county. Our public information and education staff supported the operation of the joint information center.



Reaching out to serve our most vulnerable residents

Throughout the pandemic, our community paramedics and outreach team have helped older adults and others considered most vulnerable to the coronavirus. With many social services on hold and limited in-home options, they found ways to bridge the gap for these residents and connect the with community resources to help.

We set up a call line to connect residents who needed extra help with services including food, transportation, doctor visits, prescriptions and more. We implemented telehealth to safely connect with residents enrolled in our community paramedic program. Our Connect Calls program provides a weekly check-in phone call. Early in the pandemic, our community paramedics were also part of a SAFE Team coordinated by Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management to slow the spread of COVID-19 among people experiencing homelessness in our community.

Vaccinations

The dawn of 2021 found South County Fire on the front line of a new challenge: vaccinating our community against COVID-19. Getting hundreds of thousands of people vaccinated as safely and quickly as possible was a huge undertaking and the fire service played a lead role.

Recognizing the demand for vaccine would exceed the capacity of doctors, pharmacies and other healthcare providers, the fire service started working with the Snohomish County Vaccine Task Force in the fall of 2020 to develop plans for mass vaccination sites to handle the surge. Our firefighters became a key part of

this effort when the state Department of Health approved emergency medical technicians and paramedics to provide inoculations during a declared emergency.

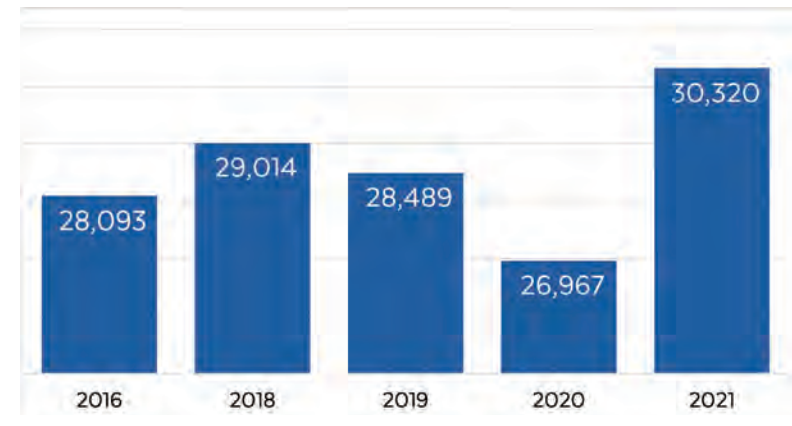
When vaccine became available, the county's 23 fire agencies were ready to support the task force in operating drive-thru sites with the capacity to provide 2,000 to 4,000 vaccinations a day. Our mobile vaccination teams serve homebound residents, senior communities, adult family homes, nursing home and other high-risk populations.



Response data

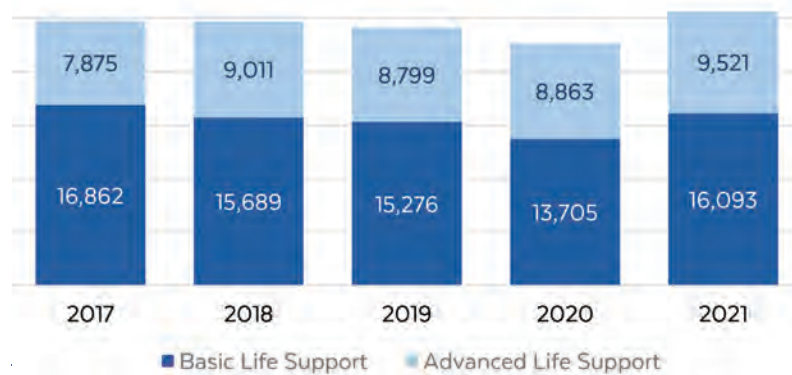


Call volumes

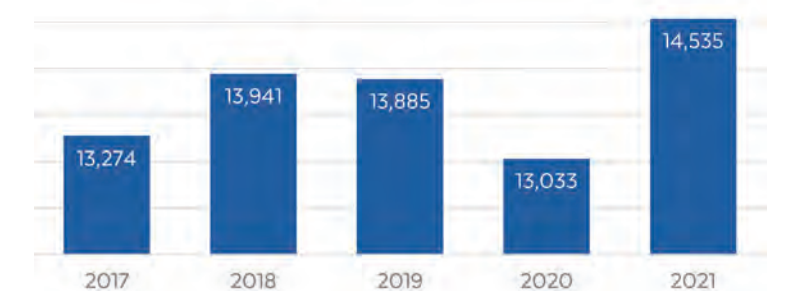


Emergency medical services

Responses by EMS call types

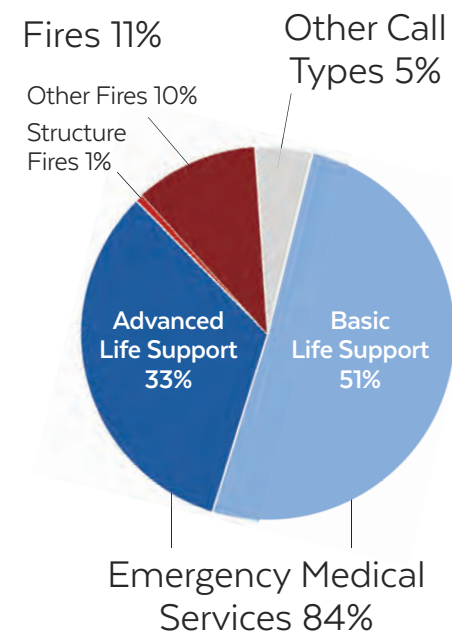


EMS transports by South County Fire units

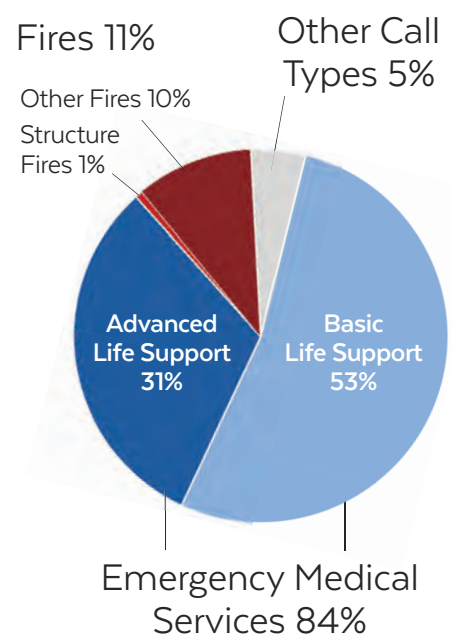


911 calls by type

2020



2021



Emergency response times



8 minutes on 90% of emergency calls

South County Fire's emergency response is built to get you the help you need as fast as possible.

The goal is to get the right resources of firefighters and equipment to your emergency in time to make a lifesaving difference.

A number of factors enter into this equation including:

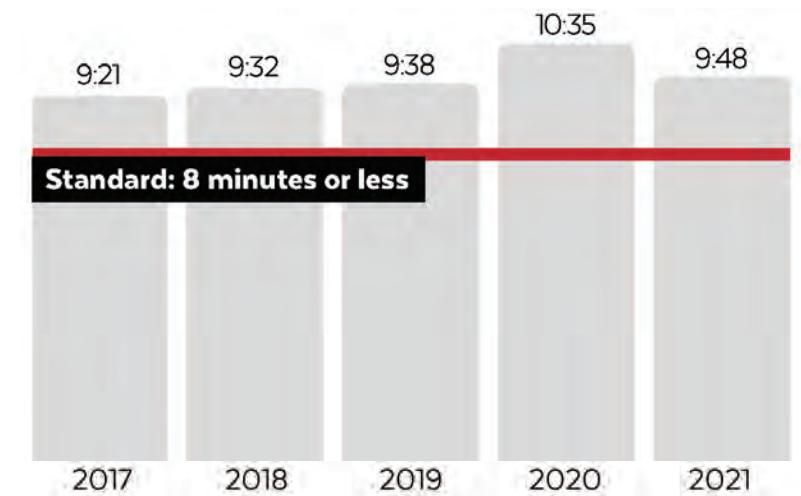
- Station location and design
- Traffic and travel times
- Staffing levels
- Dispatch time
- How quickly the emergency is reported

Guided by national standards, South County Fire has established benchmarks reported annually.

Our goal is to arrive in 8 minutes or less on 90% of emergency responses. That's measured from time of dispatch to the arrival of the first fire unit. Here are two ways to look at the numbers:

Total response time on 90% of 911 calls

This chart shows the actual total response time achieved on 90% of 911 calls, compared to the 8 minute standard.



Why every second counts

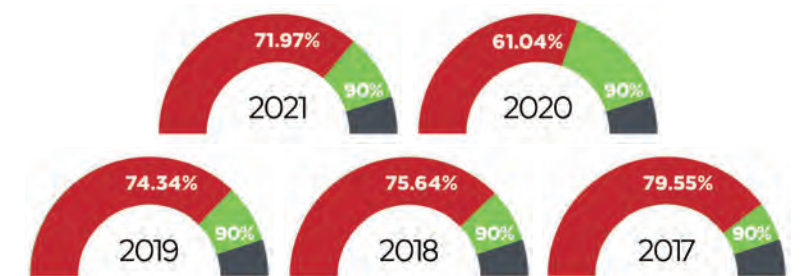
House fires: Fire can double in size every minute. Today's house fires burn faster than ever. Modern furnishings, more open spaces and lightweight construction all contribute to an increased rate at which home fires burn.

Cardiac arrest: Without treatment, death occurs within minutes.

Traumatic injuries: Survivability decreases significantly if the patient isn't in the operating room within one hour.

Percentage of calls at 8 minutes or less

This graphic shows the percentage of 911 calls with a total response time of 8 minutes or less.



The National Fire Protection Association 1710 Standard for Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations and Emergency Medical Operations was used as a guideline in the development of South County Fire's response standards.

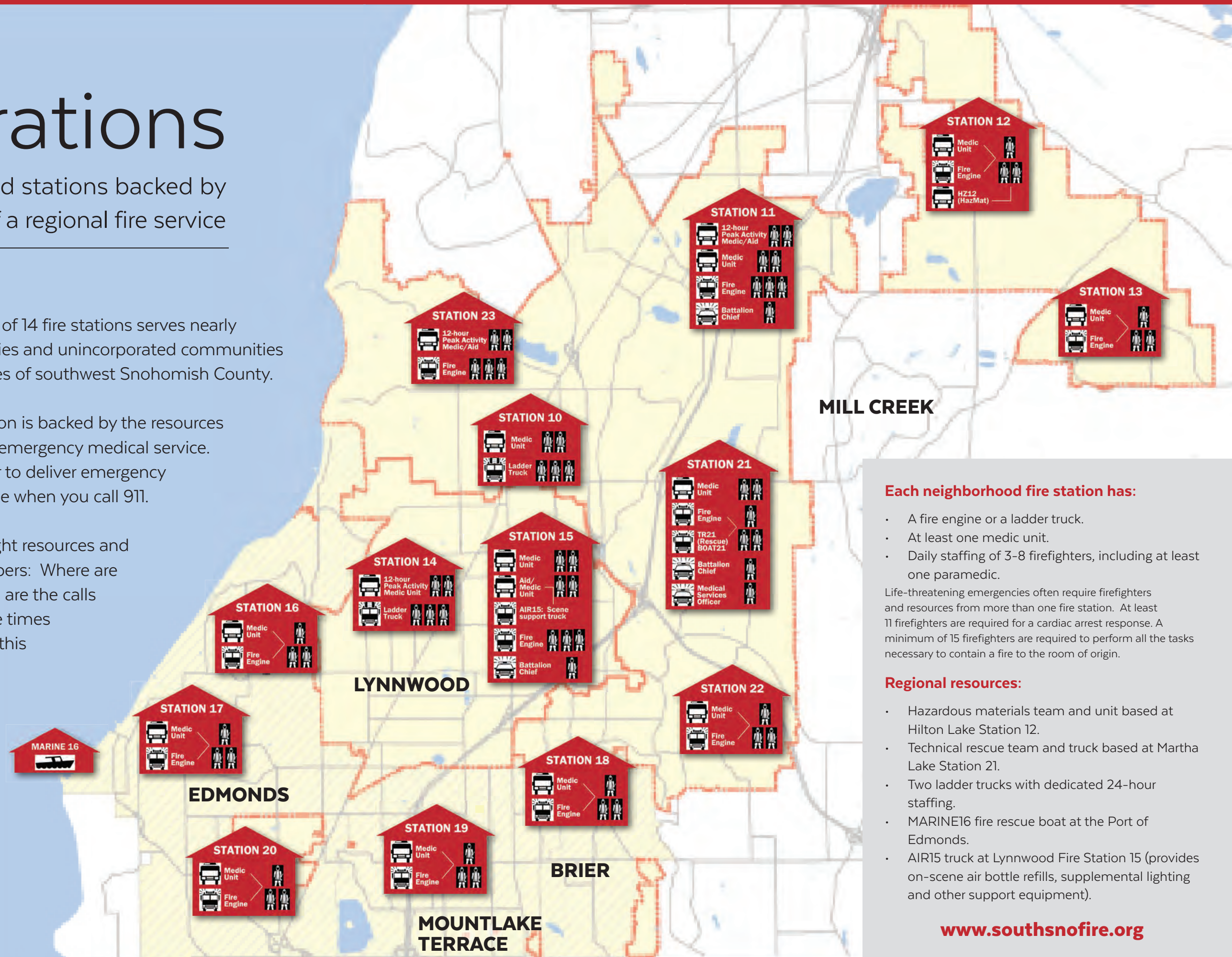
Operations

14 neighborhood stations backed by the resources of a regional fire service

South County Fire's network of 14 fire stations serves nearly 270,000 residents in four cities and unincorporated communities spread across 53 square miles of southwest Snohomish County.

Each neighborhood fire station is backed by the resources of an entire regional fire and emergency medical service. These stations work together to deliver emergency services as quickly as possible when you call 911.

To make sure we have the right resources and staffing, we look at the numbers: Where are the 911 calls occurring? When are the calls occurring? What are the drive times and traffic patterns? We use this comprehensive analysis to make data-driven decisions to guide and improve our emergency response system to better serve you.



Each neighborhood fire station has:

- A fire engine or a ladder truck.
- At least one medic unit.
- Daily staffing of 3-8 firefighters, including at least one paramedic.

Life-threatening emergencies often require firefighters and resources from more than one fire station. At least 11 firefighters are required for a cardiac arrest response. A minimum of 15 firefighters are required to perform all the tasks necessary to contain a fire to the room of origin.

Regional resources:

- Hazardous materials team and unit based at Hilton Lake Station 12.
- Technical rescue team and truck based at Martha Lake Station 21.
- Two ladder trucks with dedicated 24-hour staffing.
- MARINE16 fire rescue boat at the Port of Edmonds.
- AIR15 truck at Lynnwood Fire Station 15 (provides on-scene air bottle refills, supplemental lighting and other support equipment).

www.southsnofire.org

Significant incidents

2020

January 6, 2020

Fatal car crash and house fire: A woman died after the car she was driving went off the road, crashed into a house and caught fire in the 21900 block of 44th Ave. W in Mountlake Terrace.



March 13, 2020

Colonial Pantry restaurant fire: A two-alarm fire caused more than \$400,000 of damage to the Colonial Pantry restaurant in the 9700 block of Firdale Avenue in Edmonds. One employee was exposed to smoke, and as a precaution, was transported by firefighters to a hospital. There were no other injuries. Fire investigators determined the fire started in the restaurant kitchen.



April 7, 2020

Abandoned warehouse fire: A two-alarm fire heavily damaged an abandoned auto parts warehouse in the 18100 block of Highway 99 in Lynnwood. Witnesses and arriving firefighters observed transients running from the burning building.



April 17, 2020

Fires in neighboring houses: No one was injured in a two-alarm fire that caused more than \$600,000 in damage to two neighboring homes in the 22900 block of 49th Pl. W in Mountlake Terrace. Fire investigators determined this was an accidental fire started by spontaneous combustion of sawdust from wood that had recently been treated with an oil-based stain.



July 28, 2020

House fire: A fire at a house in the 22100 block of 39th Ave. W in Mountlake Terrace caused more than \$425,000 of damage. No one was injured. The cause of the fire is undetermined.



September 7, 2020

Water rescue: Five people and two small dogs were rescued after a 17-foot aluminum boat capsized off the shoreline of Edmonds. The crew of MARINE16 (fire/rescue boat) rescued two of the victims. Two other victims were rescued by a Washington State Ferry rescue boat. A private boat rescued the fifth victim. All victims were wearing life jackets and were transported by medics to Swedish Edmonds Hospital for evaluation.



October 6, 2020

Fatal mobile home fire: A man died in a mobile home fire in the 3800 block of 164th Street SW in Lynnwood. Two other residents – a man and a woman – safely escaped.

December 23, 2020

Firdale Market fire: A two-alarm fire caused heavy damage to the Firdale Market in the 9600 block of Firdale Avenue in Edmonds. Two people got out safely before firefighters arrived. Investigators determined the fire was intentionally set.



Significant incidents

2021

March 24, 2021

Two-alarm house fire: A two-alarm fire caused more than \$300,000 worth of damage and displaced four adults from their home in the 3900 block of 237th Pl. SW in Brier. All residents safely exited the house. One firefighter sustained a minor injury. Investigators determined this was an accidental fire that started in the garage.



April 15, 2021

Fatal house fire: Firefighters responded at 3:25 a.m. to a house fire at the end of a long driveway in the 2800 block of York Road in unincorporated Everett. When they arrived, the house was engulfed in flames and the structure was in danger of collapse. A man and his 7-year-old daughter died in the fire.



April 17, 2021

House fire with injuries: Firefighters responded at 2:15 a.m. to a house fire in the 5800 block of 152nd St. SW in the Meadowdale area. Medics transported a man and a woman who were seriously injured as they escaped the fire. Three other residents safely escaped. The house was a total loss.



August 20, 2021

Fatal house fire: Firefighters responded at 2:51 a.m. to a house fire in the 5300 block of 134th Pl SW in the Lake Serene area. They rescued a woman with life-threatening injuries. She was transported by medics and died at the hospital. Fire damage totaled more than \$225,000. The Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office determined this was an accidental fire.



September 3, 2021

Two-alarm house fire: Firefighters responded at 9:06 a.m. to a house fire in the 4900 block of 140th St. SE in the Silver Firs area. The resident safely escaped. The Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office determined the fire started in a laundry room fan.



September 11, 2021

Three-alarm fire at Plum Tree Plaza: A three-alarm fire heavily damaged 14 businesses in the Plum Tree Plaza building in the 23000 block of Highway 99 in Edmonds. All businesses were closed at the time of the fire and no one was injured. Investigators determined the fire was intentionally set.



December 8, 2021

Commercial fire: A fire caused more than \$200,000 damage to a commercial building at 220th Street SW and Highway 99 in Edmonds. The building was being remodeled for use as a church. No one was inside when the fire broke out. Investigators determined the fire was accidental.



December 14, 2021

Residential fire: A fire caused more than \$400,000 worth of damage to a large garage and its contents at a Mountlake Terrace home the 21700 block of 48th Avenue W. No one was injured. Firefighters kept the flames from spreading to the main residence. The cause is undetermined.



Special operations

Firefighters respond to a wide range of emergencies. Some hazards require advanced skills and specialized equipment. South County Fire has firefighters on duty daily with extra training and certifications to respond to these incidents.

Hazardous Materials: This team responds to intentional or accidental release of toxics, combustibles, dangerous chemicals or biological or nuclear agents. Team members are trained to detect, identify and contain the release of hazardous materials while safeguarding the public, responders and environment. South County Fire's team is part of the Snohomish County Hazardous Materials Team, which provides regional response and sharing of resources.

Technical Rescue: Team members respond to complex emergencies requiring advanced rescue skills. This includes collapsed buildings, urban search and rescue, trench cave-ins, confined-space rescues, ice and surface water rescues and high- and low-angle rope rescues. South County Fire's team is part of the Snohomish County Technical Rescue Team, which provides regional response and sharing of resources.

Marine/Water Response: South County Fire has three vessels available for these types of response.

- **MARINE16** is a 28-foot fire/rescue boat. A bow door allows for beach landings. A side door accommodates in-water patient assistance. MARINE16 is based at the Port of Edmonds. Firefighters certified as Marine Operators respond from Stations 16, 17 or 20 to staff the boat for emergency response. Capabilities include fire suppression, search and rescue, emergency medical transports and dewatering.
- **BOAT19**, based at Lake Ballinger, is a 9-foot inflatable boat equipped with an outboard motor. Its main use is for water rescues on the lake. BOAT19 also is used for emergency access to Lake Ballinger Island. Firefighters from Mountlake Terrace Fire Station 19 or another nearby station are dispatched to staff BOAT19 for emergency response.
- **BOAT21** is a 10-foot inflatable rescue boat powered by a 9.9-horsepower outboard motor. Carried on TR21, South County Fire's technical rescue truck, BOAT21 can be quickly inflated and rapidly deployed to serve all area lakes.

Wildland Firefighting: Firefighters with special wildland training respond to fires in greenbelts and undeveloped wooded areas in our service area. They are also deployed as needed to wildfires in the state and region.



Engine 21 Push-In Ceremony



Engine 16 Push-In Ceremony



Engine 19 Push-In Ceremony

Fleet and equipment

New engines

South County Fire held traditional push-in ceremonies to welcome three new fire engines to service: Engine 21, June 10, 2020, Martha Lake Fire Station 21; Engine 16, June 18, 2020, Maplewood Fire Station 16; and Engine 19, June 10, 2021, Mountlake Terrace Fire Station 19. Thanks to community support, these engines will protect and serve our residents for years to come.

Equipment

Air packs: South County Fire replaced aging air packs in July 2020. These packs provide firefighters with clean air to breathe in a fire. Neighboring fire agencies have the same models, which provides interoperability when crews are working together at fires. The new models are expected to last 10 years.



Hose and nozzles: All engines were equipped with new hoses and nozzles in 2020, allowing for the implementation of a new fire attack model. Other considerations were simplicity of use and versatility to meet firefighting needs.



Personal thermal imaging cameras: These compact, lightweight cameras use infrared technology to detect heat and convert it to a visual image to help firefighters locate victims and fires hidden in walls or attics.

Ballistic vests and helmets: 70 sets were purchased and put in service in 2020 with another 24 sets on order to go in service in early 2022.

Emergency Medical Services

Emergency medical aid is South County Fire's most requested service. All firefighters are either emergency medical technicians or paramedics.

Our commitment to providing the best possible care means we are constantly scrutinizing our work, exploring the latest advances in EMS and applying what we've learned to enhance patient care.

Our efforts have earned national accolades in recent years, but more importantly they've improved service to our residents.



EMS Academy: New firefighters participate in an EMS Academy focused on South County Fire protocols and hands-on training in our medic unit and its equipment.

Sudden cardiac arrest survival

Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death in the United States. South County Fire is working to improve survivability with:


High-performance CPR: Firefighters work as a team to provide high-performance CPR. This requires an initial response of seven firefighters and transitions to a minimum of 11. Firefighters take turns providing high-quality compressions at a rate of 100-120 per minute.



Training more lifesavers in our community: South County Fire launched ACT First Aid, an innovative one-hour class that focuses on teaching three first aid skills that can make a lifesaving difference in the crucial minutes before firefighters arrive — including hands-only CPR. We've trained more than 10,000 people to date.



PulsePoint: PulsePoint is now available in our county thanks to a grant from the Medic One Foundation. The app uses location-based technology to alert CPR-trained users to a nearby cardiac arrest. App users can voluntarily respond to the alert and start CPR in the critical lifesaving minutes before firefighters arrive. PulsePoint also directs potential rescuers to the location of the nearest Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

 South County Fire's cardiac arrest survival rate is consistently well above the national average.

Community Paramedics

Our Community Paramedic Program provides non-emergency assistance to help frequent 911 callers access social services and resources.

The goal is to reduce calls and emergency room visits. Patients who have called 911 two times in 24 hours or three times over 30 days are automatically referred to the program. Firefighters often call for a community paramedic to assist them on a scene or may refer a patient for follow-up services. Hospital and social service staff may also make referrals.

South County Fire has two paramedics and a captain, all with specialized training, dedicated to the Community Paramedic Program. A mental health counselor and a peer counselor from Compass Health assist in responding to behavioral and social service needs. Veterans In Prevention help with home safety assessments and follow-up with at-risk falls patients.

During the pandemic, our community paramedic team has provided an important link to connect clients with vaccinations, social services, healthcare providers, transportation, meal programs and other vital services.



48% reduction in 911 calls
49% reduction in ER visits



Community Paramedic Craig O'Neill at a porch visit to check in with a client during the pandemic.



Community Paramedic Captain Nicole Picknell meets with a client using Zoom.

Training

The Training Division provides training and education to more than 300 employees of South County Fire. Specialized training for first responders is required by Washington State law, conforms to industry standards and is essential to the safety of our staff and residents in the communities we serve.



Snohomish County Training Consortium

This multi-jurisdictional regional approach offers training with common instruction throughout the county using the same lesson plans and same instructors. Participating agencies are South County Fire, Everett Fire Department, Marysville Fire Department, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue and Snohomish Fire District 4.

Snohomish County Fire Training Academy

A total of 52 South County Fire recruits graduated from academy sessions held in 2020 and 2021: 10 in Class 2020-1, 17 in Class 2020-2, 13 in Class 2021-1 and 12 in Class 2021-2. This regional collaboration provides local training for recruits from fire departments throughout Snohomish County and promotes uniformity in training practices. Most training occurs at the South County Training Tower. Recruits in the academy earn certification in Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Hazmat Operations and Rescue Systems I.



Professional development



Task Books

South County Fire's employee development task

books incorporate performance, leadership, and education.

TASK BOOKS COMPLETED:

2020: 40 Probationary Firefighter, 29 Captain, 13 Medical Services Officer and 12 Battalion Chief.

2021: 26 Probationary Firefighter, 3 Ladder Operator,, 11 Engine Operator, 4 Paramedic Integration Program, 26 EMT Integration Program, 13 Acting Captain, 3 Captain, 7 Acting Battalion Chief and 1 Battalion Chief.

College enrollment



2020: 35 employees enrolled

2021: 30 employees enrolled



Fire Prevention

Firefighters are ready to assist you 24/7, but we would rather prevent an emergency before it happens. The Fire Prevention Division provides a coordinated, data-driven community risk reduction effort. The goal is to identify, prioritize and strategically plan to reduce risks and build healthy, safe and resilient communities.

Fire marshals conduct fire inspections, plan reviews and investigations to protect people and property from fires and other hazards. In the cities of Brier, Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace, these services are provided by South County Fire. In our unincorporated service area, these services are provided by the Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office.



City of Lynnwood

2020

1,054 plan reviews 1,054
296 resubmitted plan reviews
865 permit inspections

2021

1,062 plan reviews
190 resubmitted plan reviews
80 predevelopment plan reviews
1,178 permit inspections
1,129 fire marshal inspections

City of Mountlake Terrace

2020

236 business license inspections
306 construction inspections
6 operational permits
155 plan reviews

2021

232 business license inspections
278 construction inspections
5 operational permits
235 plan reviews



City of Brier

2020

69 contacts with Brier City Staff or contractor inspections including home occupations, solar installation, storage tank decommissioning, home fire sprinklers, operational permits, fire Code amendments and Fire Station 18 special dignitary tour.

2021

73 contacts with Brier City Staff or contractor inspections including home occupations, solar installation, storage tank decommissioning, home fire sprinklers, operational permits, fire code amendments and weekly Brier staff meetings.

City of Edmonds

2020

216 business license inspections
800+ maintenance/follow up inspections. Because of COVID-19 the crew inspections ended in January, but the division did COVID-19 compliance inspection for the City, per state mandate.
415 construction inspections
138 compliance inspection, including public reports of non-compliance.
4 special event inspections
56 COVID-19-related business inspections
804 plan review hours
85% of single-family homes constructed had sprinkler systems installed

2021

850+ maintenance/follow up inspections
216 business license inspections
421 construction inspections
144 compliance inspections, including public reports of non-compliance
3 special event inspections
66 COVID-19-related business inspections
654 plan review hours
89% of single-family homes constructed had sprinkler systems installed

Community Outreach

When the pandemic limited in-person contact, South County Fire's outreach team adapted and found new ways to continue to provide and even expand education and services to the community.

Online classes

All regular classes were adapted to an online format in 2020. We reached nearly 2,000 residents through virtual classes from April to December of that year.

All classes are free and just one hour. Class offerings include ACT First Aid, Disaster Preparedness, Child Car Seat Safety, Virtual Car Seat Checks, Home Fire Safety, Workplace Safety and Introduction to Zoom.

In 2021, more than 3,000 registered for online classes and we reached 37,420 through events, group presentations, trainings, school visits, car seat checks, falls prevention, veteran outreach, Community Connection Calls, new partnerships and other public outreach.

FREE 1-HOUR ONLINE CLASSES

APRIL CLASS SCHEDULE

Follow us: [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)
@SouthCountyFire @SouthSnoFire

APR. 7 CAR SEATS	APR. 14 FIRE SAFETY	APR. 28 CHILD SAFETY
APR. 21 DISASTER PREP	ACT CPR & FIRST AID	

REGISTER AT: SOUTHSNOFIRE.ORG/CLASSES

Vaccination outreach

Outreach staff members and Fire Corps volunteers participated in community vaccination efforts, supporting operations at drive-thru sites and mobile vaccination delivery to our most vulnerable and underserved residents.



EMS WEEK Online Virtual Open House
www.southsnofire.org/EMSWeek

Online KIDS FIRE CAMP
July 13-17
Camp is **FREE**

Fun, educational online activities for all members of the family

Registration: www.southsnofire.org/education
For questions, contact: Outreach@southsnofire.org

VIRTUAL NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT
AUGUST 13, 6PM
FACEBOOK LIVE

Virtual events

EMS Week Online Open House

Videos shared on our website and social media highlighting our emergency medical services including a tour of a medic unit, high-performance CPR demonstration, training with SIM-MAN and more.

Kids Fire Camp and Kids Fire Academy

Web-based learning, activities and resources for families and kids to do at home.

Virtual Fire Prevention Week

Videos shared on social media and our website featuring cooking safety.

9/11 Memorial Ceremony

Video commemoration including a flag ceremony performed by the South County Fire Honor Guard at the Edmonds 9/11 Memorial.

Falls Prevention Week

Video messages shared on social media and our website.

Virtual Neighborhood Night in Edmonds

Facebook Live video presentation focused on Edmonds fire stations and services.

Staying connected

Newsletters

Our Sirens newsletter is mailed to more than 100,000 households. We also send mailings to neighborhoods following fires or other emergency incidents.

Website

www.southsnofire.org

Residents can sign up to receive e-notifications about news and events.

Social media



Classes | Join Our Team | Request Records | Board Meetings | Staff Directory

South County Fire launched a new website in 2020. With an updated, modern color scheme and graphics, the site features mobile-friendly buttons and design to help you access our most requested services and resources.

Our people



New hires

Firefighters

Tyler Ackley
Jenine Adam
Brittany Adkison
Peter Anderson
Monica Bagnall
Jeff Bair
Daniel Benson
Aaron Boede
Kody Borden
Markus Brookhyser
Thomas Brownell
Sergio Carrillo
Socrates Chan
Ryan Clancy
Jacob Crain
Kris Cruse
Nick Davey
Erik DeRoche
Ian Dootson
Brent Dubay
Brayden Engler
Alex Furlan
Jonathan Herbig
Korey Herman
Danielle Hill
Luke Hoffman
Brian Jacobson
Jessica Jelcick
Isaac Johnson
Britton Kinder
Carlos Manzanaras
Brady Manz
Steve Matadobra
Kristen Mathers
Michael Mazur
Rick Neumann
Patrick McGarry
Riley Oakes
Steven Ohm
Dahlton Osborne
Eric Paige
Christie Pater
Austin Portis

Leo Rosa
Jessica Scheuerman
Eric Shaeffer
Colton Segle
Chad Stutzman
Joseph Wakefield
Nick Welch

Administration

Susan Bjorling
Maria Blanco
Daina Mereness
Shane Jensen
Hedy Lavinsky

Commissioners

Mark Laurence
Chris Teofilak
Greg Urban

Promotions

Fire Chief

Thad Hovis

Assistant Chief

Michael Fitzgerald
(Prevention)
Jason Isotalo *(Operations)*

Deputy Chief

John Chalfant
(Operations)
David Wells *(Training)*

Battalion Chief

James Curtis
Rob Gullickson
Joe Hughes
Devon Ogurkow

Medical Services Officer

Deanna Herbert

Captain

Brent Allen
Rod Handly
Kurt Hilt
Kyle Havens
Eric Johnson
Neil Kelly

Jason Mathews
Kyle Mayfield
Jesse McCormick
Justin Pickens
Derek Roberts
Greg Rudiger
Scott Russell
Matt Wier
Craig Willis

Paramedic

John Dorsey
Ben Ostrander
Henry Patterson

Hazardous Materials

Zach Cash
Thomas Fitchett
Everard Lewis
Karl Long
Pat Moore
Jonathan Perkins
Steve Varden
Matt Wier

Rescue Technician

Jeff Brown
Jason Shield
Mark Valdez
Matt Armstrong
Jeff Schwab

Special Assignments

Jed Golder *(Training)*
Clayton Smith *(Training)*
Devon Ogurkow
(Hazmat Lead)
Andy Irish *(Fire Academy)*
Nate Crawford
(Fire Academy)
Besty Bankson
(Fire Academy)
Kyle Mayfield
(Fire Academy)

Scott Russell
(Fire Academy)

Outreach Manager

Shawneri Guzman

Retirements

Captain Tom Campbell
FF/PM Bryan Collins
Fire Chief Doug Dahl
FF/PM Kristina Forbes
FF Les Fredrickson
MSO Dan Grantier
Renee Hayter
Gary Kaufmann
Battalion Chief Gary Kestle
Captain Chuck Maddox
Battalion Chief Steve Mason
Captain Matt Moritz
Captain Buck Preuninger
Captain Paul Rice
FF/PM Vincent Schweitzer
Captain Keith Shaw
Assistant Chief Kevin Zweber
FF/PM Justin Steinbach
Battalion Chief Scott DiBenedetto
FF/PM Thomas Flett
Community Paramedic Devin Haas
FF Bryce Jacobson
FF/PM Shane Cooper

In Memoriam

FF Les Fredrickson
Captain Dan Olson

Awards

2020

Pandemic Response Recognition

Plaques placed at Headquarters and all fire stations to recognize the tireless efforts, collaboration and dedication of employees within all levels of the regional fire authority to prepare and to protect each other and the public.

Volunteer of the Year

Betty McAulay

Lifesaving Award

Lydia and Madeline Hostetler

Meritorious Service Award

Captain Todd Wigal

Meritorious Service Award

Public Information Officer
Leslie Hynes

Distinguished Service Award

Assistant Fire Marshal
Aaron Huckstep

Distinguished Service Award

Firefighter/Paramedic Ted Martin
Firefighter Jake Hepper

Distinguished Service Award

Battalion Chief Mike Vanderpoel
Battalion Chief Steve Mason
Captain Moi Castellon
Captain Neil Young
Firefighter/Paramedic Corey Dowell
Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Larson
Firefighter/Paramedic Blake Watt
Firefighter Eric Anderson
Firefighter John Dorsey
Firefighter David Erickson

Special Unit Citation

Captain Sean Torey
Firefighter/Paramedic Monte Pfeil
Firefighter Kyle Almeida

Civilian Employee of the Year

Facilities Specialist Seth Kurtz

Firefighter of the Year

Captain Derek Roberts

2021

Lifesaving Award

Edmonds Police Department
Sgt. David Machado
Honorable Mention:
Edmonds Police Department

Distinguished Service Award

Deputy Chief Bob Eastman

Distinguished Service Award

Firefighter/Paramedic
Boris Fayerberg

Honorable Mention: Captain Kevin Fetter, Captain Scott Williams,

Firefighter/Paramedic Aaron Williams, Firefighter Darrel Gray, Firefighter Scott McGinnis

Community Service Award

Deputy Chief Karl Fitterer

Meritorious Service Award

Firefighter Brad Cheek

Special Unit Citation

Captain Nicole Picknell
Community Paramedic
Janette Anderson
Community Paramedic Craig O'Neill
Community Outreach Manager
Shawneri Guzman
Falls Prevention Specialist
Larry Hadland
Volunteer In Prevention Kim Sharpe
Outreach Team Member
Laurell Sprague
Medical Services Officer Jay Ford
Medical Services Officer
Deanna Herbert
Medical Services Officer Tom Keene

Civilian Employee of the Year

Human Resources Specialist
Laurie de Leon

Suppression Employee of the Year

Captain Nicole Picknell



Funding emergency services

Where funding comes from . . .

South County Fire's funding comes three primary sources:

Property taxes: Taxpayers within the regional fire authority boundaries (unincorporated south Snohomish County and the City of Lynnwood) pay a fire levy and an emergency medical services levy.

NEW in 2021—Benefit charge: RFA voters in 2020 approved a fire benefit charge based on structure size and use. This takes into consideration that those who benefit more from fire protection services, for example large structures and those with high fire risk, should pay more for that service. More than 95% of property owners paid less for service in 2021 when the benefit charge was implemented than they did in 2020.

Contract fees: The cities of Brier, Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace pay contract fees to have South County Fire provide fire and emergency medical response services to their residents.



and what it pays for ...

Personnel (firefighters to respond to 911 calls): More than 80 percent of the budget goes to staffing costs – wages and benefits for firefighters and administrative staff.

Services and supplies: Supplies include fuel for fire engines, medic units and other vehicles; tools and equipment; and office and operating supplies such as uniforms, smoke alarms, absorbent materials for spill responses, incident command supplies, EMS medications, breathing apparatus and software.

Services include 911 dispatch and radio services; professional services such as legal, tech support and benefits administration; the emergency medical supervising physician and medical program director; insurance costs not related to personnel benefits; utilities; expenditures for travel for training and other fire authority business; rental and leases.

FIRE STATIONS



Station 10 / Keeler's Corner
3922 156th Street SW
Lynnwood WA 98087



Station 11 / Mariner
12310 Meridian Avenue S
Everett WA 98208



Station 12 / Hilton Lake
3525 108th Street SE
Everett WA 98208



Station 13 / Silver Firs
13611 Puget Park Drive
Everett WA 98208



Station 14 / Blue Ridge
18800 68th Avenue W
Lynnwood WA 98037



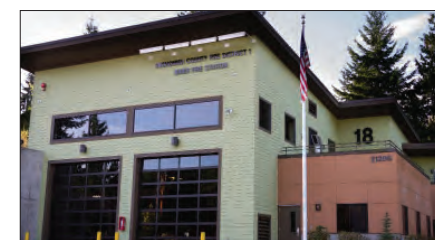
Station 15 / Lynnwood Civic Center
18800 44th Avenue W
Lynnwood WA 98046



Station 16 / Edmonds Maplewood
8429 196th Street SW
Edmonds WA 98026



Station 17 / Downtown Edmonds
275 Sixth Avenue N
Edmonds WA 98020



Station 18 / Brier
21206 Poplar Way
Brier WA 98026



Station 19 / Mountlake Terrace
5902 232nd Street SW
Mountlake Terrace 98043



Station 20 / Edmonds Esperance
23009 88th Avenue W
Edmonds WA 98026



Station 21 / Martha Lake
16819 13th Avenue W
Lynnwood WA 98037



Station 22 / Hilltop
20510 Damson Road
Lynnwood WA 98036



Station 23 / Lake Serene
4323 Serene Way
Lynnwood WA 98087



Thank you from all of us at South County Fire for your words of encouragement and the many ways you have shown your support for your firefighters throughout the pandemic.



South County Fire

Headquarters

12425 Meridian Avenue S

Everett WA 98208

425-551-1200

www.southsnofire.org