

## **Lake Stevens Fire Historical Timeline**

### **1940's**

Lake Stevens Fire was formed around a vacation lake in Snohomish County. It began as a water tank in the Rucker Mill yard. An electric pump kept the tank filled with water from Lake Stevens. A hose cart and hand propelled pump engine was kept between the bank and Eggerst feed building. Later, a cart with a 50-gallon tank was used that could be towed behind a car.

### **1950's**

Lake Stevens Fire had 15 volunteers and one fire station. In 1950, there were a total of 32 alarms. First new fully equipped fire engine was purchased. Property on Chapel Hill Road was purchased and new station construction began.

### **1960's**

Construction of the fire station on Chapel Hill Road was complete. Volunteer firefighters drilled two hours every Monday evening. Two engines were purchased, and each carried 750 gallons of water. An engine was placed at each station. The Volunteer Firefighters' Association began hosting an annual "Fireman's Ball".

### **1970's**

Purchased first new aid unit for medical emergencies capable of transporting up to three patients at once. Property was purchased in Machias for a future fire station.

### **1980's**

Purchased department's first "heart defibrillator". Many firefighters became Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs). The Volunteer Firefighter Association and Lake Stevens Fire together purchased a Rescue Hurst Tool commonly known as the "Jaws of Life". This tool would help extricate people who were trapped inside crushed automobiles. "Paramedic Service" was introduced. This would provide Advanced Life Support care to the sick and injured. New Headquarters station was built on Chapel Hill Road and a fire station was built in Machias.

### **1990's**

Firefighters began learning the latest technology in "Technical Rescue". A training tower was built in Machias next to the Machias fire station. As training continued in technical rescue, the Machias facility expanded to include confined space and heavy rescue props. Volunteer firefighters became part-paid employees of Lake Stevens Fire. The Risk Watch program was introduced in our school system.

### **2000's**

Due to increasing medical costs, Lake Stevens Fire began charging for ambulance transport services. We replaced two fire engines and the rescue boat for Lake Stevens. We implemented the 800 mhz radio system. In 2005 Lake Stevens Fire responded to over 4,000 incidents. And the fire department officially changed its name from Snohomish Fire Protection District 8 to Lake Stevens Fire.

**We salute all who have served and supported Lake Stevens Fire over the years.  
Thank you!**