



# Lake Stevens Fire Dispatch

Volume 3 Issue 6 / March 2019

*Serve People, Save Life, Protect Property & Safeguard the Environment*

## Message from the Chief

Thank you for supporting Lake Stevens Fire. Our success is a direct result of community support for emergency services and programs that we provide. We could not save lives and property without your help. It's truly a partnership, and we are grateful.

Daily operations are made possible by two voter-approved levies paid through property taxes for fire and emergency medical service. Voters returned our fire levy to \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value last year. Our EMS levy was renewed the year before at 50-cents per \$1,000.

This combined total of \$2 per \$1,000 is the maximum amount a fire district can levy for emergency services by state law. As our population grows and the demand for emergency services continues to increase in Snohomish county, we are exploring ways to improve emergency services and be more efficient.

Many fire districts have merged, or are looking at merging as a way to accomplish this. Lake Stevens Fire and Snohomish County Fire District 7 share fire marshal services, training programs, and a community resource paramedic. We are working towards integrating our management and administrative teams to reduce those costs, as well.

We are stronger working together. Operating as one agency would allow us to better deploy personnel to improve our emergency response. The combined financial strength of both agencies also improves our ability to fund capital needs, such as apparatus, equipment, and stations. We would still have local stations, professional firefighters and there would be elected representation on a Board of Fire Commissioners.

Lake Stevens Fire Commissioners will discuss a resolution asking voters to consider a merger with Snohomish County Fire District 7 on Tuesday, April 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the Conference Center, 10518 – 18<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Lake Stevens. If approved, voters would see the measure on their ballots later this year. Additional information can be found on our website at [www.lsfire.org](http://www.lsfire.org).

Everything we do is guided by our vision to provide the highest level of service possible to our community. A potential merger with Snohomish County Fire District 7 is something we should explore further to improve our service and we look forward to your feedback. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the people of Lake Stevens.

Take Care & Stay Safe,  
*Chief Kevin O'Brien*



## Lake Stevens Fire Improves Insurance Rating

Lake Stevens Fire has improved its insurance protection class rating with the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB). The WSRB rating is connected to the amount property owners pay for fire insurance as part of their overall premiums. Lake Stevens Fire improved from 4 to 3 in the City, and from 5 to 4 in its unincorporated areas. The new rating will take effect on June 1, 2019.

"This improvement is a direct result of the support we receive from the Lake Stevens community," commented Fire Chief Kevin O'Brien. "Our community has agreed to fund a level of service that reduces risk to lives and property and this is what companies look at when setting insurance premiums." A detailed WSRB report has been posted on the website at [www.lsfire.org](http://www.lsfire.org).





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US POSTAGE  
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IQ DIRECT  
98201



@LakeStevensFire



@LKStevensFire



#lakestevensfire

### Give your child a safe ride!

Call today to schedule an appointment for us to check your child's car seat for proper fit and installation.

### Fire Safety

Warmer weather means nights by the fire pit. Keep fire at least 25' from structures, have water on hand, and don't leave it burning unattended.

## Reducing Risk Within Our Lake Stevens Community

Earlier this month we changed our clocks in observance of Daylight Saving Time. This is also the time of year we encourage you to check your smoke alarm batteries and practice your fire escape plan. Batteries should be changed in your smoke alarms at least once a year, unless you have 10-year lithium batteries.

Do you have a meeting place outside the home in case of an emergency? Please make sure that every family member knows how to get out of every room and knows where your family meeting place is located outside. Take time to practice your fire escape plan and be prepared.

When your smoke alarm sounds or a family member has a medical emergency, you want to be assured that first responders are able to get into your home quickly. The Knox HomeBox program helps us do just this. The Knox HomeBox is a high-security keybox that you can purchase from the Knox Company. The box holds your house key and can be accessed by our firefighters and police officers.

If you are interested in purchasing a Knox HomeBox for your home or a loved one, please contact our Community Risk Reduction Division at 425.334.3034.



***We invite you to join us!***

### Health & Safety Fair

10am - 2pm Saturday, June 8  
Saar's Super Saver Foods Parking Lot  
303 - 91st Avenue NE, Lake Stevens

### Firefighters' Pancake Breakfast

6am - Noon Sat & Sun, July 27 & 28  
Downtown Fire Station 81  
12409 - 21st Street NE, Lake Stevens