

# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

## RETIREMENTS:



Congratulations to **Deputy Chief Scott Dorsey** on his retirement after 32 years in the fire service. Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue thanks him for his leadership.



Congratulations to **Lieutenant Bryan Hunt** on his retirement after 32 years in the fire service.



Congratulations to **Assistant Chief Jamie Silva** on his retirement after 34 years in the fire service. Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue thanks him for his many years of leadership, service, and dedication to the district and the community.



Congratulations to **Firefighter/Paramedic Jim Gilden** on his retirement after his many years in the fire service.

## PROMOTIONS:



Congratulations to newly promoted **Driver Operator Mike Thomas!**



Congratulations to newly promoted **Driver Operator Bill Gunterman!**



Congratulations to newly promoted **Payroll Benefits Specialist Erick Ramirez!**

## NEW HIRE:



Join us in welcoming our new **Administrative Assistant, Karli Morrison**. She now supports the district and residents in the front office at our Administration Building.



## PREVENTION CORNER: DRIVING IN WET WEATHER

As residents of western Washington, we are no strangers to the many forms of rain. In the Pacific Northwest, the winter months are often filled with more rainy days than snowy ones. Even though rain is more familiar than snow or ice, it requires just as much caution when we are out on the road. According to the American Automobile Association (AAA), "wet pavement contributes to nearly 1.2 million traffic crashes each year." Surprisingly, rain is the deadliest weather related hazard in the U.S. and surpasses snow, ice, and sleet by almost 40%. Because of this, it is important to practice safe driving when the roads are wet.

**Washington State Department of Transportation & Snohomish County PUD** provide the following tips to remember the next time you're caught driving in the rain or wind.

### Wet Weather Driving Tips

- Slow down.
- Leave extra room between cars.
- Allow extra time to reach destinations.
- Turn on headlights.
- Watch for water pooling on the roadway.
- Turn off cruise control.

### Flooding: Turn Around Don't Drown

- Obey detour and closure signs. Never drive around a barricade.
- Do not drive or walk through standing water if you can't tell how deep it is.
- Six inches of water is enough to knock a person down and will stall most vehicles.
- One foot of water can make you lose control of your vehicle.
- Two feet of water can sweep a vehicle away, even SUVs and trucks.

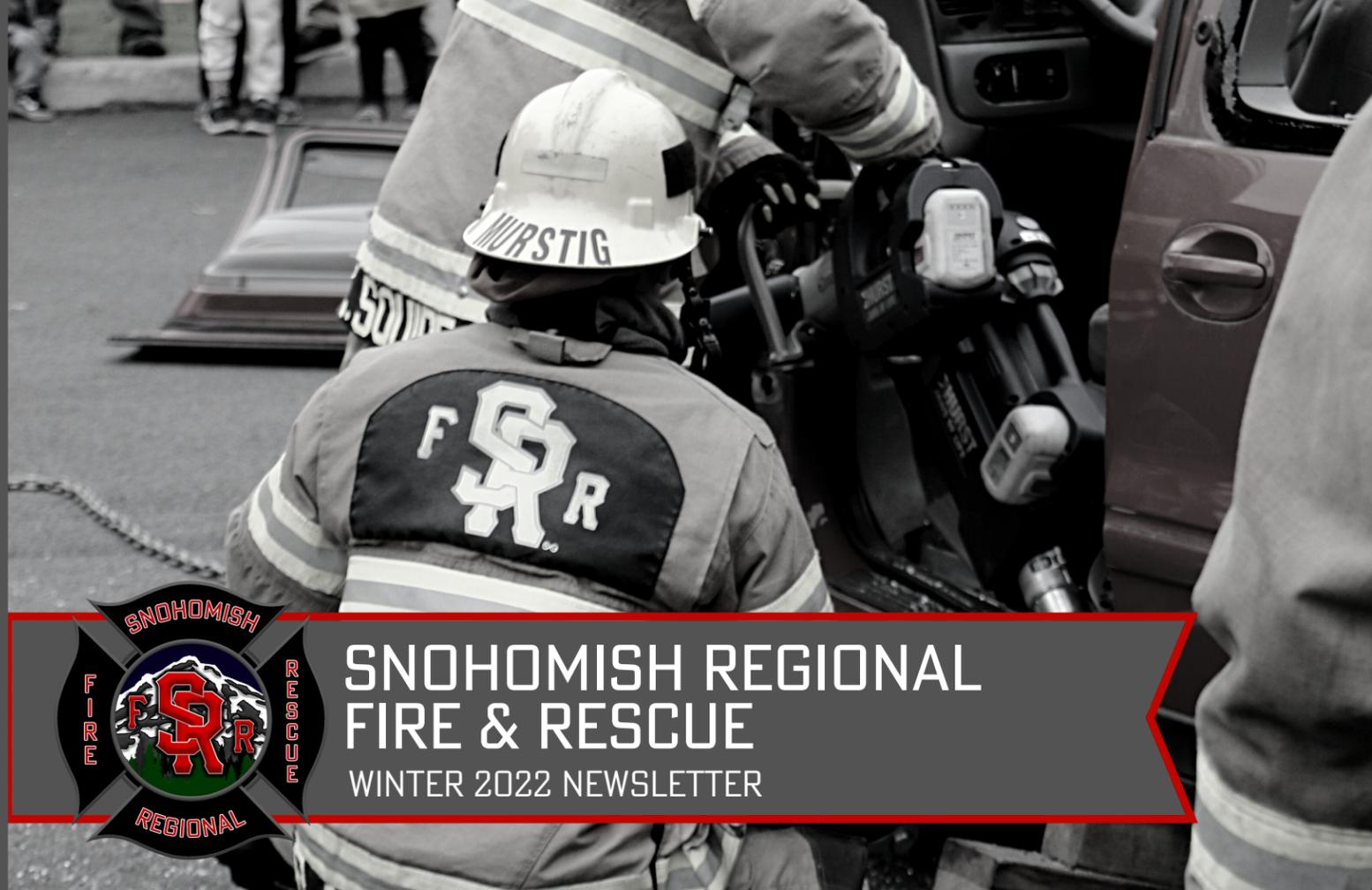
### Hydroplaning Recovery

- Don't panic.
- Avoid hard braking and quick turns.
- Ease off the gas, lightly pump brakes (or use consistent pressure if ABS).

### Downed Power Lines

- Do not approach fallen power lines! They could carry enough electricity to prove fatal. Stay at least 30 feet away, and if you see a fallen power line, call Snohomish County PUD at 425-783-1001 to report the location.
- Always assume a power line is live.
- Do not touch anything or anyone in contact with a fallen power line.
- If a downed power line touches your car, stay inside. Honk your horn, roll down your window and call for help or call 911. Wait for the fire department or utility workers to tell you it's safe to exit.
  - If you must leave due to fire risk, remove loose clothing, and jump clear of the vehicle so you're not touching the vehicle when you land. Shuffle away without picking up your feet.
- If you see a tree that could impact the power line, call Snohomish County PUD at 425-783-1001.

Learn more at: [www.WSDOT.com](http://www.WSDOT.com)





# SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

## WINTER 2022 NEWSLETTER



- ❄️ Even though it's cold outside, it's important to use sunscreen and stay hydrated. Compared to adults, children have higher risk of dehydration.
- ❄️ Make sure to use the proper gear, like helmets, when you are skiing, snowboarding or playing ice hockey.
- ❄️ Wear warm clothing, and come indoors periodically to prevent hypothermia or frostbite.

TIPS TO KEEP SAFE WHILE PLAYING IN THE SNOW



CONNECT WITH US: [SnoRegionalFire](https://www.facebook.com/SnoRegionalFire) @SnoRegionalFire 360.794.7666 or 425.486.1217 [www.SRRF.org](http://www.SRRF.org)

Customer  
Postal  
ECRWSS





163 Village Court  
Monroe WA 98272  
SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Neighbor,

I want to thank voters for approving our recent fire levy lid lift in the November General Election. Your support is critical to help us respond to higher call volumes and inflationary costs (currently 6.5% for our area). I'd like to share how these lid lift funds will be used to provide quality emergency services for you and your family.

First, we plan to welcome a combination of 15 firefighters and firefighter/paramedics over the next year. It can take up to a year to hire for some of these positions, and we will bring them on gradually as funding allows.

Our community and its firefighters also will benefit from improvements to our training program. This includes bringing in specialized instructors who are experts in their fields. We also anticipate purchasing training props and structures for each battalion so firefighters can do more hands on training.

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue is planning to complete two or three station improvement projects with funding from the lid lift. Station 83 is being renovated to add one additional bedroom and bathroom. The district is in the process of evaluating future projects throughout the district.

Your support for Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue makes this possible. We will continue to report back to you as these projects are completed. In the meantime, have a safe and wonderful winter season. We have a lot to be grateful for this year.

Thank you,

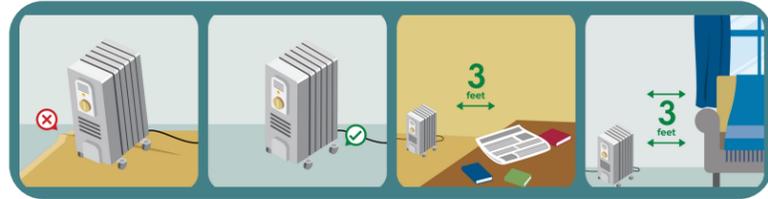
Chief Kevin O'Brien



# HAVE A SAFE, WARM WINTER

Heating Safety

During the winter months, most homes need a little extra help when it comes to heating. Many use fireplaces or space heaters to warm their homes. Taking precautions when using these heat sources can significantly decrease the risk of a preventable house fire. Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue urges residents to keep safe while they keep warm. The following tips are some safety precautions to help you and your loved ones stay warm in the safest way possible.



## FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR HEAT SOURCES

- Change furnace filters to keep equipment running efficiently and safely. Contact the gas company or a heating contractor if you suspect that your furnace is not functioning properly.
- Place all space heaters at least three feet away from furniture, walls, curtains, or anything that burns. Make sure to turn them off when you leave home or go to bed.
- Never install unvented gas heaters in bedrooms or bathrooms, where the small room size poses a risk of rapid carbon monoxide build-up.
- Have your chimneys inspected and cleaned by a professional before each heating season, and have them cleaned regularly.
- Store paper, kindling, and other flammable material at least three feet from the fireplace.
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly sealed metal container. Cardboard boxes, paper bags, and plastic containers quickly catch fire. Even apparently cool ashes may contain enough heat to ignite these containers.
- Never burn trash, paper, or green wood in your fireplace. These materials cause a combustible build-up on the lining of your fireplace that may eventually catch fire, possibly damaging the chimney and threatening your home.
- Remember, never use a charcoal-burning barbecue or heater indoors! When burned indoors, charcoal produces deadly amounts of carbon monoxide gas that is odorless, tasteless, and invisible. Charcoal-burning devices are for outdoor use only!
- Make sure tree branches are cleared at least ten feet from the chimney opening.

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue also reminds you to make sure your home is equipped with working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Don't forget to install, test, and maintain these devices in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In addition, it is important to know two ways out of every room and to plan and practice your escape in case of a fire.

Learn more at [www.NFPA.org](http://www.NFPA.org)



# PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Ring in the New Year with Safety!

In our continued efforts to create a safer community, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue offers a variety of community education and prevention programs to the communities we serve. We believe in preventing injuries and emergencies before they even happen. Learn more by following the QR codes or by visiting our website at [SRFR.org](http://SRFR.org).

## School Visits

Each school year, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue partners with our local schools, from preschool to high school, to deliver age specific fire & life safety lessons to students. Our lessons are fun and engaging, and aligned with the fire safety curriculum designed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). If you would like us to virtually visit a private school or homeschool group, go to our website, [www.SRFR.org](http://www.SRFR.org), and submit a request.

## Home Education Lessons

For those that prefer to learn at home, we have 17 different video lessons that are fun for the whole family.

### VIDEOS INCORPORATE:

- State Learning Standards:
  - Next Generation Science Standards
  - Common Core State Standards
  - Washington State Teaching Standards
- Science, Math, Music, & Social Studies Concepts
- Worksheets & Interactive Experiments & Activities

### VIDEOS HIGHLIGHT:

- Safety Messages
- Firefighter Careers, Special Teams, and Skills

## Adult & Senior Safety Classes

### NEW! Starting this January!

We want to make sure you feel prepared for any emergency or disaster that may come your way. Because of this, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue is now offering virtual adult and senior safety classes on Wednesdays at 6:00PM. Our class schedule is as follows. Use the QR Code, or visit [SRFR.org](http://SRFR.org) to learn more and sign up for a class!

<u>Disaster Preparedness</u>	<u>Aging in Place</u>	<u>Home Fire Safety</u>
• January 12	• February 9	• March 9
• April 13	• May 11	• June 8
• July 13	• August 10	• September 14
• October 12	• November 9	• December 14



## Bike Helmets

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue provides FREE bike and multisport helmets throughout the year at various events throughout our district. Follow our social media pages for updates about the next bike helmet event near you! Need a bike helmet but cannot afford one? Contact us at [CommunityRelations@SRFR.org](mailto:CommunityRelations@SRFR.org), and we may be able to help. Please note that supplies are limited.

## Life Jackets

Need to borrow a life jacket? Free loaner life jackets are available at **Station 31, 163 Village Court, Monroe, WA 98272**. Come to the fire station with the person who needs the life jacket. There, you can get fitted, borrow the jacket, and return it when you are done. Remember, when having fun out on the water, everyone should wear a properly fitted life jacket.

## PulsePoint Respond

In partnership with the Medic One Foundation, Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue now offers PulsePoint Respond to our residents. PulsePoint Respond is an app designed to improve cardiac arrest survival rates through increased bystander CPR performance. This smart phone app empowers the public to provide lifesaving assistance for victims of sudden cardiac arrest before first responders arrive. Download the app today!

## CPR & First Aid Classes

Our CPR and First Aid classes have been on hold throughout the pandemic, and after nearly a two-year break, we are hoping to get classes back up and running in the coming year. Stay updated by following us on social media or by checking our website. In the meantime, use the QR code to find resources that can help you find a certified Red Cross or American Heart Association CPR class near you! You can also review hands-only CPR by watching our home education lesson, "The Heart & How to Help It" at [SRFR.org/education](http://SRFR.org/education).