






O'Fallon Fire Protection District
 111 Laura K Drive
 O'Fallon, MO 63366
 ofallonfire.org • 636.272.3493

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O'FALLON

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Committed to protecting our community

What Do You Think?

As part of our accreditation process, we are reaching out to the community to learn what you think about OFPD. Please take a few minutes to complete our online survey before September 15, 2025.



To take the survey, visit ofallonfire.org/survey or scan this code with your smartphone and visit the link provided.

PROUDLY SERVING:



This information was prepared and paid for by the O'Fallon Fire Protection District, 111 Laura K Dr., Thomas Vineyard, Chief, O'Fallon, MO 63366. This information is intended solely to educate and inform residents. The O'Fallon Firefighters Community Outreach team provides fundraising, donations and manpower to citizens and organizations in need within the OFPD boundaries. This not-for-profit organization is made up of members of the O'Fallon Professional Firefighters Association IAFF Local 2665 and the administrative staff who are dedicated to making a difference in their community even while off duty.

UPCOMING EVENTS

O'Fallon Firefighters Community Outreach Golf Tournament
 September 9, 2025

Safety Day
 October 5, 2025 —10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
 Kohl's parking lot

District Details

Total 2024 Numbers:

| | |
|---|--|
| 6,079 Total Calls | 410 Motor Vehicle Accidents |
| 333 Structure and Fire Incidents | 2,287 Citizen-Assist Occurrences |
| 3,049 Emergency Medical Service Incidents | 151 People Who Were Taught CPR |

Be In The Know!

For safety tips, event updates, and CPR class information, visit ofallonfire.org or follow [@ofallonfire](https://www.instagram.com/ofallonfire) on Facebook and Instagram.

Beyond the Call: Outreach Team Builds Wheelchair Ramps for Residents in Need

Long after the emergency lights fade, the dedication of our OFPD firefighter/paramedics continues. Members of O'Fallon Firefighters Community Outreach, an independent nonprofit organization led by OFPD personnel, recently installed wheelchair ramps at several homes across the District, helping residents regain mobility and independence.

The projects are funded through donations and completed by off-duty first responders. While separate from the Fire Protection District, the Outreach organization reflects the same values of service, compassion, and connection to the community. Whether installing accessibility ramps, delivering food during the holidays, or raising funds for families in need, the Outreach team's motto is simple: *if someone needs help, we show up.*

"It's about taking care of people, not just in a crisis, but every day," said Captain/Paramedic Jeff Smith, a longtime Outreach volunteer. "This is our community too."



A New Lifeline: Safe Haven Baby Box Installed at Station 3

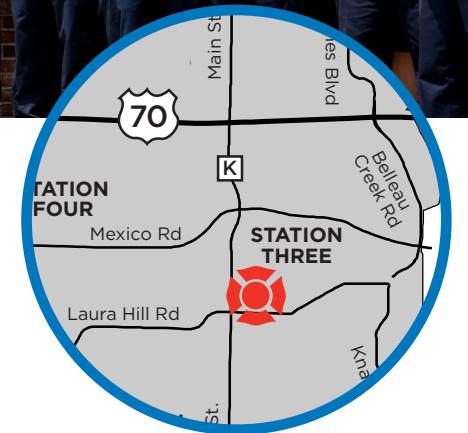
At first glance, it looks like a small door on the side of Station 3 at 600 Laura Hill Road. But for a parent in crisis, it could be the most important door in the world.

This spring, the O'Fallon Fire Protection District activated its first Safe Haven Baby Box, a secure, temperature-controlled device where a newborn, 45 days old or younger, can be safely surrendered, no questions asked. Once the door is opened and closed, an internal alarm notifies crews inside the station, who respond within moments to ensure the child receives immediate medical attention. The alarm is also monitored by an alarm company and will dispatch a truck, ambulance, and police. The box was funded through the generous donation from the O'Fallon Knights of Columbus and the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary.

"Fire districts are built to respond to emergencies—but we also respond to people," said Chief Tom Vineyard. "For a parent in crisis, having a secure and anonymous option like this can make all the difference. It allows us to provide immediate care to the infant while offering a compassionate solution during an incredibly difficult time."

Missouri law permits anonymous infant surrender under Safe Haven guidelines, but the Baby Box adds privacy, security and peace of mind to an already life-saving law. Installation required meeting rigorous standards set by the state and the national Safe Haven Baby Boxes organization. With this step, OFPD joins a growing network of fire districts nationwide, offering parents a safer option in the most challenging moments of their lives.

To learn more about Safe Haven Baby Boxes, visit shbb.org.



Anonymous surrender option provides a safe place for newborns in crisis.

O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

PROP-F

UPDATE

PROP. F INVESTMENTS IMPROVE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

When voters approved Proposition F in April 2023, they chose to invest in the safety of our community without changing the tax rate. Nearly two years later, the results of that decision are becoming more and more visible throughout the District.

The District expects delivery of two new brush trucks later this year. These versatile, four-wheel-drive vehicles will replace models that are more than 25 years old. The old brush trucks were built for a single purpose: extinguishing grass and brush fires. The new units do far more. They are equipped to assist in water rescues, rope operations, and confined-space emergencies and are built to navigate off-road terrain, steep roadways, and areas affected by flooding or severe weather.

"These trucks give us faster, safer access to emergencies in places that were once difficult or even impossible to reach," said Chief Tom Vineyard.

Three new pumper fire trucks are also on order and are scheduled to arrive later this year, and a new ladder truck is scheduled to arrive in 2026. These vehicles will replace aging trucks that have become increasingly costly to maintain and have reached the end of their life cycle.

The new vehicles feature easier access to equipment and a lowering mechanism that allows the truck to sit closer to the ground. This reduces strain and helps prevent injuries when crews enter, exit, or retrieve gear.

The new pumpers will also standardize equipment across stations, making daily operations safer and more efficient for personnel who rotate throughout the District.

Proposition F, a zero-tax-rate-change bond issue, authorized general obligation bonds to replace aging fire trucks and equipment, upgrade fire station infrastructure, and enhance training and safety. The improvements funded so far include new thermal imaging cameras; HVAC and roofing upgrades; other station updates; new rescue tools; and upgraded hoses and nozzles.



Look Inside

Take a virtual tour of the updated fire station #3 at 600 Laura Hill Road. by scanning this code with your smart phone.



In May, a pinning ceremony welcomed OFPD's newest firefighter/paramedics and recognized recent promotions. The traditional ceremony marks a significant milestone as each member receives their badge, symbolizing their official place within the fire district.



Service, Dedication and New Beginnings

As summer ushers in change, so too does OFPD. We are welcoming new members, recognizing promotions, and honoring retirements that reflect decades of dedication to the community.

Joining the Ranks

Since March, 14 firefighter/paramedics have joined the District to fill the roles of those who recently retired and to continue working toward National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards.

Eric Balmes
Brandon Brooks
Dan Fitzgerald
Joseph Fister
Michael Hampton II

Zac Keeven
Matt Leinberger
Nick Mayer
Corbin McCarty
Brenden Rydberg

Jake Schneider
Logan Shine
Matt Whitener
John Youngblood

Each arrives with strong credentials, experience and a commitment to providing top-notch fire and rescue services and advanced emergency medical care from day one.

Promoted to Lead

Among those moving up the ranks are **Chad Vesely**, now serving as battalion chief, and new captains **Doug Ellis, Cody Wills, Levi Ammons, Paul McReynolds** and **Jeff Woodson**. Their leadership and institutional knowledge reflect the District's continued investment in training and development.

A Salute to Service

This season also marks the retirement of 11 long-serving firefighters and leaders, including **Tom Vogelgesang, George Toelke, Ron Ormsby, Mark Livingston, Eric Johnston, Kern Swafford, Tim Janes, Jim Castello, Shawn Sides, Vernon King** and **Matt Chapman**.

"These are the firefighters who helped shape our fire district into what it is today," said Chief Tom Vineyard. "We are better for their leadership, and we thank them for the example they've set. As we welcome new hires and celebrate well-earned promotions, we're building on that foundation with the same commitment to service and excellence."

Celebrating Dedicated Service — Retirements



Tom Vogelgesang



George Toelke



Ron Ormsby



Mark Livingston



Eric Johnston



Kern Swafford



Tim Janes



Jim Castello



Shawn Sides



Vernon King



Matt Chapman

Ask The Board:

Why is it important to keep our facilities and equipment up to date?

William "Bill" Laughlin
Our top priority is the safety of our residents and first responders. Every call depends on reliable equipment and well-maintained stations. When something breaks down, seconds are lost—and seconds matter. We owe it to our community to be ready every time.



Matt Simmons
Our community expects and deserves fast, effective emergency response. Aging equipment puts that at risk and increases long-term costs. By making smart, proactive investments, we keep our residents and their property safe while supporting the firefighters/paramedics who serve them.



Matt Gober
As our community grows, so do the demands on emergency services. Investing in updated stations and equipment ensures reliable responses, safer conditions, and greater efficiency. It's how we can continue to provide the level of service residents expect.

