



FULLY INVOLVED

ADAIR RURAL FIRE & RESCUE

Newsletter Fall 2026



Letter from the Chief: Ballot Measure 2-158

This fall, ballots will be mailed to registered voters in the Adair Rural Fire Protection District in mid-October. On that ballot is Measure 2-158, a general obligation bond measure related to our department's emergency apparatus. I want to take this opportunity to make sure every resident has clear, factual information about what the measure is, what it would fund, and what it would cost.

In my last letter, I described the condition of our current fleet in detail. To briefly recap: all four of our primary apparatus have exceeded the recommended service life of 25 years established by the National Fire Protection Association. Our water tender is 43 years old. Our frontline structural fire engine is at 25 years of service. Our reserve engine is 33 years old. The district currently has no up-to-date wildland-urban interface engine, despite growing fire risk in our region. Maintenance costs have grown significantly as these vehicles age, and replacement parts are increasingly difficult to source.



Chief Aaron Harris EMT/RN

Measure 2-158 would authorize up to \$1,860,000 in general obligation bonds to fund the replacement of aging apparatus and equipment. If approved, bond proceeds would be used to acquire a structural fire engine, a wildland-urban interface engine, a water tender, and associated firefighting equipment, based on the district's most critical needs. The bonds would be repaid over 25 years through a dedicated property tax levy.

The estimated tax rate associated with the bond is \$0.40 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value per year. It is worth noting that taxable assessed value in Oregon is often significantly lower than a property's real market value. The Adair Rural Fire Protection District has an average taxable assessed property value of about \$200,000. For a property with a taxable assessed value of \$200,000, the estimated cost would be approximately \$6.70 per month. . As new properties are added to the district over time, the per-property cost is expected to decrease.

I want to be straightforward about something. As fire department personnel, we are not in a position to tell residents how to vote on this measure. What we can do is provide factual information and answer your questions as completely and honestly as possible. That has always been our commitment to this community.

If you have questions about the measure, the apparatus, or how a general obligation bond works, I encourage you to reach out to me directly. You can also find information on the district website and social media channels. An independent community group called Friends of Adair Fire has also formed to share information and answer questions from the public. They are community volunteers, not department personnel, and they welcome your questions as well.

Adair Rural Fire and Rescue will continue responding to every call in this community with the dedication and commitment our volunteers have always brought to this profession.

Thank you for your time and have a fantastic day.

Always check our website before backyard burning

When burn season is open, anyone planning a backyard burn must check the daily ODF/DEQ advisory before lighting their fire.

- Go to Adair Fire's website www.adair-rural-fire.com
- Click the "Burn Info" on the website's homepage.
- Check to see if burn season is open or closed.
- If burn season is open, click the ODF/DEQ smkmgmt.com link on Adair's website for the Willamette Valley Open Burning Announcement.
- Find "backyard burning inside special control areas" to see if burning is allowed that day and if so, during what times.
- No additional phone call to Adair or ODF is required for backyard burns within Adair's district.

Escaped debris burning is the number one human-caused source of wildfire in Oregon. Please burn small, burn legally, and burn smart. Thank you!



Live Fire Training in Adair

This summer, Adair hosted the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) mobile live-fire training trailer. This 53-foot, two-story training prop features interior doors, closets, two sets of stairs, and three propane-fueled fire zones simulating a burning bed, kitchen stove, and ceiling rollover. It provides a challenging, yet controlled environment for improving firefighting and command skills.

Adair crews capitalized on the trailer during four weekly drills. Neighboring departments from Benton and Polk counties also visited Adair to sharpen their skills and benefit from the same high-level training. Thank you DPSST!

Who are your Adair Firefighters ?

Our vision is simple: we are a dedicated group of volunteer professionals serving our community's fire and rescue needs through swift emergency response, public education, and proactive safety standards.

Our Team & Capabilities

- **18 Personnel:** 2 part-time paid staff, 1 OSFM seasonal hire, and 15 volunteers = 1 Chief, 4 Lieutenants, 6 Apparatus Operators, 6 Firefighters, and 1 Junior Cadet.
- **Medical Certifications:** 1 Paramedic, 1 EMT/RN, 1 EMT-Intermediate, 5 EMTs, and 9 Emergency Medical Responders.
- **Our backgrounds:** Software Systems Analyst, Construction Cost Estimator, Purchasing Contract Negotiator, Engineering Project Manager, Nurse, Lab Technician, Landscape Business Owner, Retired Professor, Engineering Facilities Manager, Pharmacist, High School Student, Clinical Technician, Firefighters with other departments, Civil Engineering Designer, Training Specialist, and a future firefighter.
- **Ready 24/7/365:** While our main station is staffed 35-45 hours a week and hosts drills every Wednesday night, a majority of our volunteers respond from home the moment an alarm sounds.
- **3,500+ Hours:** The total time our crew invested last year in drills, training, community outreach, and service calls.

2025 Incident Response

Last year, we responded to 207 alarms, marking our second consecutive year exceeding 200 calls. Our responses included:

- **118 Medical emergencies, 16 Motor vehicle collisions, 21 Public assistance calls.**
- **52 Fire calls** (70% within our district; 30% providing mutual aid to Albany, Corvallis, Polk County Fire District #1, Philomath, and Hoskins-Kings Valley)

Statewide Aid & Local Readiness

Adair regularly participates in State Conflagration Act deployments. We help others in need and bring critical wildland and urban interface experience back to our district. Adair crews spent 30 days on fire deployment in 2025 and 24 days in 2026.

We are your neighbors, proudly serving the community.

ADAIR RURAL FIRE & RESCUE

OPEN HOUSE & DUCK RACE

Oct 3. 11:00am - 1:30pm



- Kids Activities • Free Hot Dogs
- 12:30 Extrication Demo. 1:00pm Free Duck Race for all

T-Shirts available for sale.

At the Main Station in Adair Village

Adair Rural Fire and Rescue
6021 NE Marcus Harris Ave.
Adair Village, OR 97330

