



VOLENTE ESD 14

NEWSLETTER

TRAVIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 14 • VOLENTE FIRE DEPARTMENT

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

UPDATES AND LOOKING AHEAD

By Lonnie Moore, ESD14 President

NEW STATION BUILDING

The Building Committee is pleased with the progress and quality of work so far by our general contractor, Trimbuilt Construction. The metal roof is being installed, curbs and gutters are completed, and driveway work has begun. We are on track for the construction to be completed by mid-December 2025. Our firefighters are excited and anxious to move into their new home!

PERSONNEL MATTERS

We have two additions to our team of full-time firefighters, Jonathan Hester and Jack Shafer. More about Jonathan and Jack can be found in this newsletter, and all our full-time FFs are featured at www.esd14.org/about. For those that aren't familiar, we run 3 shifts (Shifts A, B and C) of 3 firefighters per shift. That's nine full-timers, but we also have a number of part-timers that fill in for vacancies and when we need additional



support. Among those part-timers is our first female career firefighter, Joanny Rodriguez.

VOLENTE FIRE WATER TANK

At this writing, work is continuing on this 50,000-gallon fire water storage system on Lime Creek Road. During trial operation, it was determined that changes to the pumping system design would improve efficiency and compatibility with the equipment and operating procedures of our various automatic aid partners. This is important because during any major or extended fire incident, we would depend on our auto-aid partners to shuttle water to the scene from the Village's storage tank.

CONSIDER SERVING WITH US

Emergency Services Districts, such as ESD14, are served by five commissioners, each appointed by the Travis County Commissioners Court to two-year terms (Jan-Dec). To serve, you need to live in and/or own

property within ESD14's boundaries, be willing to attend monthly meetings at the station, and have a sincere interest in serving the public. If you would like to know more or to be considered for appointment, reach out to info@esd14.org or directly to our Precinct 3 County Commissioner, Ann Howard, 512-854-9333 or Ann.Howard@traviscountytexas.gov.

Another opportunity to serve is with the Volente Fire Department. The VFD operates with its own 5-member board. Board members are elected to two-year terms by the community during the VFD annual meeting, held in the Spring of each year. If interested, reach out to the President, Z Smith, zsmith@vvfd.net, or any current VFD board member for information.

FEATURED FIREFIGHTERS

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR TEAM



**JONATHAN
HESTER**

Jonathan was born and raised in Austin and has served as a firefighter for more than a decade. He previously played college football and later competed professionally in fighting, experiences that built his discipline, resilience, and sense of teamwork. Today, he takes the most pride in being a husband and father, drawing daily inspiration from his family. Outside the fire service, he pursues his passion for pickleball, valuing both the competition and the friendships it brings.



**JACK
SHAHER**

At 21 years old, Jack hails from Montgomery, Texas, and brings fresh energy and commitment to the Volente Fire Department. He graduated from the Fire Academy in May 2025 and is eager to begin serving the community. Outside of work, he enjoys fishing, spending time with his girlfriend, and caring for their dog. Looking ahead, he's excited for the opportunity to grow in his career and make a lasting, positive impact on those he serves.

10 TIPS TO STAY READY

1. Clear your roof, gutters and eaves of leaves and debris.
2. Space out trees and plants, and plant away from structures.
3. Install or repair metal screens on attic and foundation vents.
4. Check fire extinguishers and make sure everyone in your house knows how to use them.
5. Create and discuss an evacuation plan with your family.
6. Talk to your children about fire safety and not playing with matches.
7. Compost leaves and organic waste instead of burning.
8. Clear dead wood and dense flammable vegetation from around your home.
9. Clear vegetation around the base of trees, and prune trees away from your home.
10. Stay informed of weather conditions, area wildfires and burn bans.

Remember, only
you can prevent
wildfires.



STAY ALERT

SIGN UP
FOR REVERSE
9-1-1

CLICK HERE

to sign up to receive
emergency notifications on
your cell phone or mobile
device.

warncentraltexas.org

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out on October 7th featured participation by the Austin Wildfire Division and Travis County Sheriff's office, along with live music, hot dogs with the trimmings and ice cream provided by Village of Volente. Tours were conducted of the new fire station building. Thanks to all that were able to come and participate!



JOIN US FOR HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK

OCT 26TH 1-3 PM

📍 STEICHEN PARK

LEARN MORE

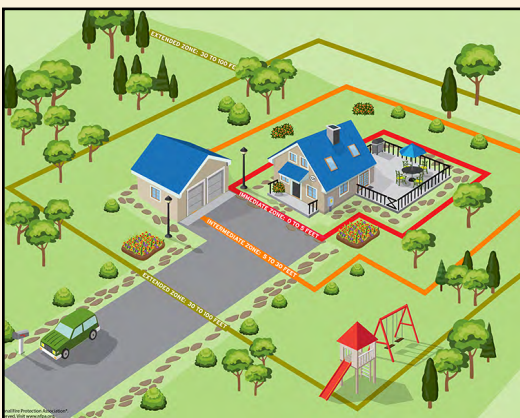
Bring the kids for an afternoon of fun at Steichen Park, just across the street from the Volente Fire Hall! The Village of Volente will have the park transformed into **Halloween Magic** with tables and areas setup for Trick or Treaters!



PROGRESS SNAPSHOTS FROM YOUR FUTURE FIRE STATION



FIREWISE RISK ASSESSMENT



1. CALL **512-258-1114** TO REQUEST YOUR HOME FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT.
(PLEASE ALLOW 2 DAYS TO SCHEDULE ON-SITE VISIT.)
2. FIRE DEPARTMENT CONDUCTS AN ASSESSMENT AT YOUR HOME
3. WE'LL REVIEW OUR FINDINGS AND EMAIL YOU A REPORT

ELECTRIC GATE? YOU NEED KNOX!



All electric gates need to have a Knox Key Switch that allows emergency services access to your property in a fire or medical emergency. The key switches can be ordered directly on knoxbox.com or through your gate company.

Do you have a Knox key switch and want us to test it? Contact the Volente Fire Department at info@esd14.org or 512-258-1114 and arrange for us to come by and verify operation. See knoxbox.com for more information.

BLUE SIGNS HELP US FIND YOU!



If you need a sign installed or replaced, contact us at info@esd14.org or call the station at 512-258-1114. Please keep existing signs clear and readable.