# Tuolumne County Fire Department Monthly Activity Report



## November 2019

## **Tuolumne County Fire Department**

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www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/717/Fire-Department



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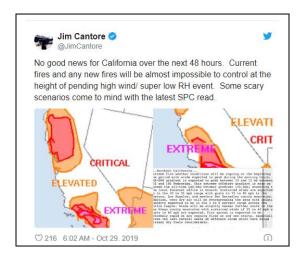


## **MONTH IN REVIEW**

#### November 2019

November is a month when we honor US Armed Forces Veterans and celebrate their service and is also the month when we take special time out give thanks. We would like to take special time this month to thank our Veterans for their service and wish all those who have served and are serving a happy holiday season.

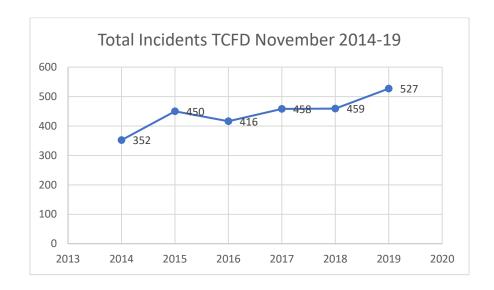
November had opposing extremes of weather as fire season continued into the first weeks of the month with strong winds and extremely low humidities, at times prompting several Red Flag Warnings. Then to close out the month, a reported "bombogenesis" was anticipated into early December. As the storm windows opened and much rain and snow began to fall throughout much of California, the fire season began to wane and, thankfully, an end of the fire danger for the season was in sight.



Also, during the month, Mr. David Rodgers, owner of the Mono Village Apartments, graciously donated and installed 10 Deodar Cedar trees to line the Southwest property line of Mono Village Station 51 along Lolly Lane. The trees that these new ones replaced had to be removed due to disease several years ago. The Department would like to thank Mr. Rodgers for the generous donation to help beautify the busiest station in the County.

Team members from Tuolumne County Departments were busy planning community open houses to connect and educate the public about County services. Come out and meet us at one of the many locations starting in January and carrying on through April throughout the County. For more information visit <a href="https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/forums">www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/forums</a>. #WeAreTuolumneCounty

There was a total of 527 calls for service in the TCFD jurisdiction in November, a 12.9% increase from 459 incidents during the same period in 2018, and 33.2% increase above the 352 incidents in 2014. Of the 527 incidents this month, there were 338 medical aids, 73 fire calls, 85 public assists, and 31 other calls.



### **Station Responses**

#### Station 51 Mono Village

Station 51 responded to 150 calls for service in November including 89 medical aids, 20 fires, 31 public assist or fire menace standbys, 2 alarm soundings, and 8 motor vehicle collisions. Through the County automatic aid agreement, Station 51 provided automatic aid to one agency a



total of two times and received aid from five agencies a total of 11 times. Of the 150 incidents, volunteers also responded 48 times. 140 incidents were within Station 51's primary response area and 10 incidents were not.

#### Station 76 Jamestown

Station 76 is staffed in cooperation with the Jamestown Fire Protection District (FPD). Engine 761 responded to 134 calls for service during the month including 65 medical aids, 23 fires, 23 public assists or fire menace standbys, 13 motor vehicle collisions, and 10 other incidents. Through the County automatic aid agreement, Station 76 provided automatic aid to two agencies five times and received aid from one agency seven times. 108 incidents were within their primary response area and 26 were not. There was one response from Station 76 volunteers during the month.

#### Station 78 Groveland CSD

Tuolumne County Fire enjoys an excellent relationship with the Groveland Community Services

District with a similar cooperative relationship for fire protection that it has with CAL FIRE. In November, Groveland CSD Station 78 responded to 28 incidents including 22 medical aids, 3 fires, and 3 other type incidents. Twenty-seven of the incidents were within the District boundaries and one was in the County area.

Additionally, the station hosted the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Photos with Santa. The Kiwanis Club of Groveland sponsored the event in conjunction with the Groveland Craft Fair and provided an opportunity for families to take photos with Santa on his sleigh inside the station. This is a very popular annual event and over 100 different family photos were taken.



#### **TCFD Station Responses**

Tuolumne County fire stations are located in the following communities\*:

Mono Village Station 51 (6 career / 6 volunteers) 183 incidents

Ponderosa Hills Station 53 (3 volunteers) 34 incidents

Long Barn Station 54 (no volunteers) 6 incidents

Pinecrest Station 55 (8 volunteers) 12 incidents

Mono Vista Station 56 (6 volunteers) 90 incidents

Crystal Falls Station 57 (1 volunteers) 58 incidents

Cedar Ridge Station 58 (16 volunteers) 13 incidents

Chinese Camp Station 61 (1 volunteer) 39 incidents

Smith Station Station 63 (no volunteers)

Don Pedro Station 64 (2 volunteers) 14 incidents

Jamestown Station 76 (5 career / 6 volunteers) 139 incidents

Columbia College Station 79 (4 student firefighters) 44 incidents

So far in 2019, TCFD has had 5,458 incidents within its jurisdiction.

\*Incident numbers above may not match actual engine responses. These numbers above indicate calls that the station was dispatched to, but another resource responded or were in other jurisdictions.

## Significant Incidents

#### November 1, 2019 - Vehicle Accident, Preston Lane

A vehicle ran off the roadway and into a residence. This resulted in minor injuries to the driver and minor damage to the building. No one inside the residence was injured.

#### November 6, 2019 - Vehicle Fire, 9th Avenue

Firefighters were dispatched to a fire that was quickly contained with minimal extension into the wildland. The recreational vehicle that burned was used as a residence and was destroyed. The Red Cross was called to assist in temporary lodging for the single occupant.



#### November 7, 2019 - Residential Structure Fire, 8th Avenue

Firefighters arrived on scene to a residential structure fire in Jamestown. The fire was contained without any damage to exposures.

#### November 11, 2019 - Vegetation Fire, Highway 120

When firefighters arrived on scene, they found a vehicle accident with power lines down and resulting vegetation fire. The fire was contained to less than half an acre and there were no reported injuries.

#### November 11, 2019 - Vegetation Fire, Golf Links Road

Firefighters responded to two more small roadside vegetation fires near the intersection of Golf Links Road and Rawhide Road later on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Both fires were quickly contained to less than 1/10<sup>th</sup> of an acre.



November 20, 2019 - Multi-Family Structure Fire, Chukar Circle Firefighters arrived on scene to find a working fire in a two story six-unit apartment building with one unit well-involved with spread to an adjacent unit. Damage was limited to two units due to a coordinated and aggressive fire attack involving several agencies. All residents were safety evacuated and no injuries were reported. The Red Cross provided temporary shelter for the displaced occupants.

#### November 20, 2019 - Residential Structure Fire, Hidden Valley Road

Firefighters responded to a second working fire within a few hours and arrived on scene to find a detached garage fully involved with fire, threatening the adjacent occupied residence. A quick attack prevented the fire's extension into the residence and other nearby structures.

## November 21, 2019 - Residential Structure Fire, Lower Hillview Drive

Responding to their third working structure fire in less than 24 hours, firefighters encountered heavy fire showing from the front of the structure upon arrival at scene. Interior and exterior firefighting operations held the fire to the building of origin with no extension to surrounding vegetation or nearby structures.



#### November 27, 2019 - Vehicle Accident, Lyons Bald Mountain Road

Firefighters responded to a vehicle 30 feet over the side with occupants trapped inside. Fire personnel secured a 24-foot ladder to an anchor to provide footing and were able to safely extricate two uninjured occupants and two canines.

#### **Fleet**

After 14 days assigned to the Kincade Incident in Sonoma County, the county funded Heavy Equipment Mechanic returned and completed preventative maintenance on the fleet of 23 engines and six water tenders and completed all 90-day inspections. The Jamestown Station 76 primary Engine 761 was placed out of service due to a problem with the transfer case. The transfer case was rebuilt however two other issues are being investigated in the rear-end and a head gasket leak. In the meantime, reserve Engine 901 is in service in place of E761. Engine 511 received new rear tires and all six tires on Engine 583 and Rescue 565 were replaced.

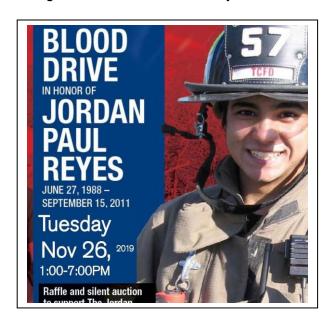
#### **Prevention/Education**

November 6, 2019 - TCFD and CAL FIRE staff attended a fantastic event for high schoolers in Calaveras County at the annual Career Fair, this year held at Calaveras High School. This well attended event provides dozens of employment ideas to youth that will soon be graduating high school to help them get information about possible careers. Staff were able to present information about careers in the fire service, with CAL FIRE, and opportunities for training and experience with TCFD as an Explorer, Resident Volunteer Firefighter, or Volunteer Firefighter.

November 9, 2019 - CAL FIRE Local 2881 IAFF, CAL FIRE and TCFD held its annual Fill the Boot campaign to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association near The Junction Shopping Center. In just four hours, Tuolumne County filled the boot and donated \$12,566.07! The dollars raised here stays here with over \$77,000 being raised since 2012 just in Tuolumne County. These much-needed funds provide camp experiences, medical equipment deliveries, support groups, medical supplies, research, and more. We are so proud to be a part of this wonderful community.

November 25, 2019 - Staff presented the TCFD Volunteer Resident Firefighter program to the Columbia College Firefighter Academy. This is one of several recruitment presentations annually to inform the public about opportunities with TCFD. Volunteer Resident Firefighters are scheduled for one 48-hour shift at Mono Village and Jamestown Stations each week and live and sleep at the fire stations during their shift. Of note, the Groveland Community Services District Fire Department is initiating a Volunteer Resident Firefighter program that will begin after the first of the new year.

November 26, 2019 - County Fire staff joined firefighters from around the county to pay honor and tribute to fallen Firefighter Jordan Reyes at the annual Jordan Reyes Memorial Blood Drive. Jordan was a Firefighter with the US Forest Service and Volunteer Firefighter at TCFD Station 57 Crystal Falls. He passed away in 2011 in an off-duty vehicle accident. The family with the community comes together every year to raise funds to support other's dreams of being a firefighter by providing scholarships at Columbia Community College Fire Academy.

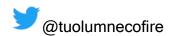


<u>November 29, 2019 - TCFD</u> volunteers and career staff joined CAL FIRE and the community at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Historic Sonora Christmas Parade through downtown Sonora. This annual event is a highlight of the winter holiday season and attended by many residents and visitors in the County.

Social media continues to provide a great opportunity to spread the fire prevention/education message and keep the community informed on events occurring within County Fire's jurisdiction. If you haven't already, follow us:

facebook Tuolumne County Fire Department

## (a) Instagram tuolumnecountyfire



Fire Investigators/Inspectors conducted nine site inspections during the month of November and 50 individual plan reviews and conducted several fire cause investigations.

## **Training**

November 9, 2019 - Firefighters from the area attended a monthly multi-company drill this month on elevator operations with classroom training at the CAL FIRE Standard Station and operations training at Columbia College. This training included elevator safety, parts terminology and identification, and stabilization and emergency rescue. Units from TCFD Station 51 Mono Village, 76 Jamestown, and 79



Columbia College, along with CAL FIRE Twain Harte and Standard Stations attended the training.

<u>November 17, 2019</u> - Staff attended a California Joint Apprenticeship Committee class designed to meet the needs of the Firefighter Type 1 and Incident Commander Type 5 with topics including operational leadership, communications, safety, and tactical decision making.

Resident Firefighters and Volunteers received their annual Emergency Medical Responder training. Twenty-six students attended the 20-hour recertification class held at Mi Wuk Sugar Pine Fire Protection District. Three TCFD volunteers attended State Fire Marshal Driver/Operator 1A class presented by Twain Harte CSD Fire Department that teaches them how to safely operate fire apparatus with water tanks and air brakes and also teaches hydraulics and pumping on fire engines and water tenders. The class was 30 hours in length and will help the Volunteers toward achieving Fire Engineer positions. There were several hundred additional personnel hours of training through a multitude of hands on training with topics covered such as structure fire response, fire attack, large hose deployment and handling, hydrant changeovers, chainsaw use and safety, low angle rope rescue and many other topics.



















