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November 8, 2018

Teague Volunteer Fire Department enhances fleet with new truck

TEAGUE, Texas — Teague Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) added a new, large brush truck to their fleet thanks to a \$198,000 Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance grant through Texas A&M Forest Service.

“This brush truck will be beneficial to the department because it can fill several roles,” said Teague Fire Chief Jody Bodine. “It gives us another tool helping with faster knock down of grass fires and a better defense for structure and vehicle fires. The sooner we can get a wet line down the quicker the fire is extinguished.”

The truck will carry 500-gallons of water and 20-gallons of foam. The foam is a fire retardant that increases the effectiveness of water and can help to quickly extinguish a fire, limiting damage. It is also equipped with front bumper spray nozzles that are controlled from inside the cab. Bodine said the four-wheel drive will be a great benefit when trying to reach fires on ranch lands and during floods when high water rescue may be needed.

The volunteers received special training on the operation of the truck to help familiarize them with the vehicle and it has already been out on several response calls.

“The department is very thankful for the backing of the community, Freestone County and the County Commissioner,” said Bodine. “The Texas A&M Forest Service grant and the help from the local supporters made this purchase achievable. It would be impossible for a lot of the volunteer fire department’s to have up-to-date firefighting equipment without grant assistance and community support.”

Teague VFD has been operating since 1907 and is an all-volunteer department. Anyone wishing to join may come by the fire station at 400 Cedar Street or City Hall during regular business hours.

Texas A&M Forest Service is committed to protecting lives and property through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program, a cost-share program funded by Texas State Legislature and administered by Texas A&M Forest Service. This program provides funding to rural Volunteer Fire Departments for the acquisition of firefighting vehicles, fire and rescue equipment, protective clothing, dry-hydrants, computer systems and firefighter training.

For more information on programs offered by Texas A&M Forest Service, please visit <http://texasfd.com>.

