

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2017

Eden VFD receives \$200,000 grant for new brush truck

June 5, 2017 — EDEN , Texas — Eden Volunteer Fire Department purchased a new, large brush truck with a grant from the Texas A&M Forest Service Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program. The new truck has a 2,500-gallon water tank, foam capability, scene lighting and 42 inch railing for the safety of the firefighters.

Eden VFD covers a 900-square-mile protection area where they encounter rolling steep slopes, flat farm and ranch land and steep creek beds.

“One of the advantages of this truck is that it has six-wheel-drive which will allow access to fires in the many types of terrain we encounter,” said Eden VFD Fire Chief Art Fuentes. “It will enable a fast, initial attack for a longer run time because it can carry a large amount of water. Having the ability to add foam helps to make the water more effective and will allow us to fight a fire for a couple of hours before we would have to refill the tank.”

Firefighting foam is used for fire suppression. It cools the fire and coats the fuel, preventing contact with oxygen. The firefighter spreads a blanket of foam on the area involved, smothering the fire and decreasing the possibility of it reigniting.

“This truck is not only a great benefit for Eden VFD but also for Concho County because it helps to increase the firefighting capacity of the department,” said Texas A&M Forest Service Resource Specialist Cody Lambert.

The primary purpose for the truck is wildland firefighting but the department will also use it as a mini-pumper to draft and shuttle water, traffic control and structure fires.

Eden VFD was established in 1928. There are 14 volunteers that currently serve the people of Eden and the surrounding area. The department has open enrollment for individuals who would like to commit their time and give back to the community. To apply contact Fire Chief Artis Fuentes at (325) 869-0138 or the Volunteer Fire Department Secretary at (325) 869-0137.

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 VFDs 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>.

