



VOLENTE ESD 14 NEWSLETTER

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

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

A TRULY COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED FIRE DEPARTMENT

By Lonnie Moore, ESD14 President

At the groundbreaking ceremony for the new station building, my VFD counterpart, Z Smith, and I got the chance to thank the ones responsible for making this important project possible. And that is you, the greater Volente community. Without you, we would not be able to build this much-needed station building; in fact, without your support we would not even have a Volente Fire Department.

Over 63 years ago, it was Volente area residents and “weekenders” who decided our area needed a fire department and made it happen. With volunteer labor and donated equipment and supplies, they created the Volente Volunteer Fire Department. They fought the fires and the Ladies’ Auxiliary, as it was known then, held the fundraisers. Volunteers constructed the first portions of the existing station building and then added on and modified it over the years. Volunteers from the community served

as first responders and as fire chiefs and officers, as well as serving on the VFD board and ESD board.

Our entire community supported the fire department from Day One and the support continues to this day. When it became clear that donations, memberships and fundraisers were not enough, the voters in our community went to the ballot box multiple times over the years. The voters created and approved the mechanisms to provide funding through property tax and sales tax to allow us to steadily improve. Today we have a complement of excellent career firefighters staffing our department 24 hours a day and we are on our way to creating a modern, efficient station building.

So again, on behalf of all of us associated with the Volente Fire Department and ESD14, Thank You!



EMERGENCY? CALL 9-1-1

The administrative phone number for Volente Fire Dept. is for non-emergency calls only, such as requests for burn permits or Firewise assessments.

To prevent delays, always call 9-1-1 to report an emergency.

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

WHERE WE SERVE



ESD No. 14 serves a 16 square mile area including 10 sq miles of Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, the Village of Volente, and surrounding communities.

CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

VOLENTE FIRE STATION #1



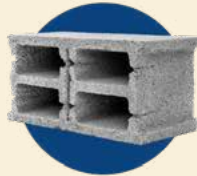
GROUND BREAKING

Project Start:
October, 2024



EXCAVATION

Site-Work, Utilities:
Winter 2024 - Spring 2025



FOUNDATION & SLAB

Completed and ready for building construction:
Spring/Summer 2025



EXTERIOR & INTERIOR

Construction:
Summer/Fall 2025



FINAL LANDSCAPING

Hoist the flag!
Estimated completion:
December 2025



FULLY OPERATIONAL SERVICES

Targeted January 2026

ELECTRIC GATE?

YOU NEED KNOX!



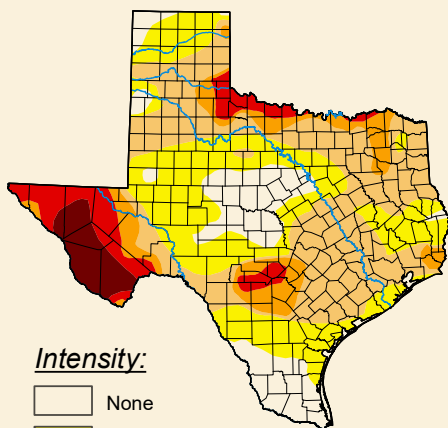
All electric gates need to have a Knox Key Switch that allows emergency services access to your property in a fire or medical emergency. The key switches can be ordered directly on knoxbox.com or through your gate company.

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.



DROUGHT MONITOR

OCTOBER 15, 2024



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

SEE MORE

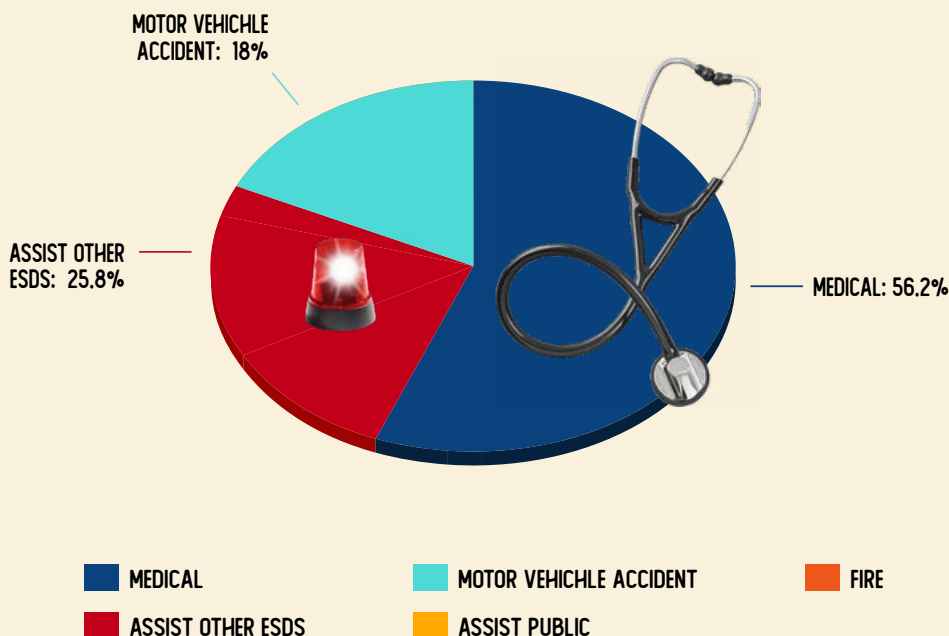
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out on October 1st at the fire hall featured the station groundbreaking ceremony, wildfire simulation demonstration and, of course, free hot dogs, shaved ice and other refreshments. The sheriff's department and VFD got a chance to show off their high-tech vehicles and equipment to the community. Thanks to all who were able to come out and participate!



VOLENTE CALL REPORT

Q3 2024



BURN PERMITS



1. CALL 512-258-1114 TO REQUEST A BURN PERMIT. (PLEASE ALLOW 2 DAYS TO SCHEDULE ON-SITE VISIT.)



2. FIRE DEPARTMENT CONDUCTS AN INSPECTION AT YOUR PROPOSED SITE



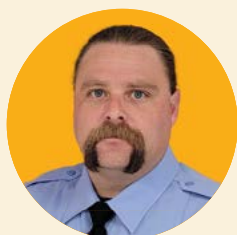
3. MUST CALL 512-258-1114 THE DAY YOU BURN, BEFORE YOU BURN.

The purpose of a burn permit is to help ensure that the residents understand the guidelines for burning in the District and to assist the resident in having a safe burn site.

To burn in the ESD 14, you must **first** call to request a burn permit (at no cost). The Fire Department will come out and inspect your proposed site. Then **call us at 512-258-1114** the day you want to burn. This is to confirm that conditions are favorable for that particular day. Humidity, wind conditions, Red Flag Warnings, and Ozone Action Days are items that are considered for daily burn/ no burn determination.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

FIND US AT ESD14.ORG



FEATURED FIREFIGHTER

MICHAEL TEAGUE



Prior to joining the fire service in 2019, Michael served in the Marine Corps. His hobbies include racing cars, brewing beer, making wine, and hanging out with his wife and dogs. Michael currently resides in Buda. He is studying to become a fire inspector and arson investigator.

WILDFIRE

ARE YOU PREPARED?

The terrain and vegetation of Volente enhance its beauty but also create an extreme fire hazard. Consider the safety tips below:



BEFORE A WILDFIRE:

STAY INFORMED

- Register for Reverse 9-1-1 emergency notifications via WarnCentralTexas.gov. In the event of an emergency, local officials will be able to contact you with the latest information via text, email, or phone.
- Follow @TravisCountyES on social media

PREPARE YOUR HOME

- Schedule a free, confidential Firewise Risk Assessment from ESD 14/VFD to have a Firewise home.
- Have a prepared Go Bag ready to go. Arrange your Go Bag with prescription medication, emergency supplies, important documents, and other essential items. Find more information at www.esd.org.
- Remove combustible materials near your home.



CREATE AN ACTION PLAN:

- Create and discuss an Action Plan with your family and neighbors that includes evacuation meeting locations and communication plans—rehearse it regularly.
- Designate an emergency meeting location outside the wildfire hazard area, in the event that you do decide to evacuate.

WILDFIRE NEARING:

STAY INFORMED

- Stay tuned to your local TV and radio stations for updates on potential shelter-in-place or evacuation recommendations.

IF TIME ALLOWS

- Close all doors and windows.
- Pull rugs, chairs, tables, etc. away from points of entry to your home.

DURING A WILDFIRE:

IF YOU DECIDE TO EVACUATE

- Do not wait to be advised to leave if there is a possible threat to your home and/or evacuation route.
- **There are only 2 roads in and out of Volente and its surrounding areas.** Consider all of your evacuation options. Follow any directions given by local authorities.