

Sugarmill Woods Bulletin

April 28, 2010

Dear Residents,

Recently, I received several calls and some emails voicing a concern that the Fire Rescue Station in our area was closed. I contacted **Fire Rescue Chief Larry Morabito** to get the latest status. It is a fact that Fire Rescue Operations is having a very difficult time getting Volunteers who meet the County's requirements as acceptable, qualified, and reliable candidates for the positions open.

Citrus County Fire Rescue is responsible for providing fire rescue, fire prevention, hazardous materials, and technical rescue services to a county of 660 square miles and over 130,000 citizens. Citrus County has one of the largest combination fire rescue systems in the State of Florida. The agency has over 200 career and volunteer members working out of twenty-two fire rescue stations. Fire Rescue Station # 18 at 5000 West Oak Park Blvd is one of those active fire rescue stations.

Citrus County Fire Rescue is both a Type II Hazmat Regional Response team and a Type II Technical Response Team for the State of Florida. Citrus County Fire Rescue has 23 engine companies, 2 aerial companies, 22 brush trucks, 11 tankers, 11 rescue companies, and a marine unit with 6 boats used to fight marine fires and water rescue in the County's 189 miles of inland waterways and the Gulf of Mexico.

So I asked Fire Rescue Chief Larry Morabito "What is the status of Fire Rescue Station # 18 at 5000 West Oak Park Blvd?" Here is his response.

From: larry.morabito@citruscountybocc.com
To: DuaneDueker@aol.com
Sent: 4/28/2010 7:47:14 A.M. Central Daylight Time
Subject: Fire Rescue Stations

Duane,

The station is still active, although not as active as I would like. We have recently brought on some volunteers for the station, but they need training before they would be considered active. We continue to work towards more personnel (volunteer) for that station, as well as building a new station as discussed in the Cardinal and 19 area.

If anything changes, I will let you know.

Larry Morabito
Fire Chief, Citrus County Fire Rescue
3600 W. Sovereign Path
Lecanto, FL 34461
352-527-5406

The statement in Fire Chief's email refers to the County's proposed plan to build a new "Career staffed" Fire Rescue Station in the area US Hwy 19 and Cardinal to better support Southwest Citrus County.

Please let me know if you have any more questions or feel free to contact Fire Chief Larry Morabito.

Sincerely,

Duane Dueker, President, Sugarmill Woods Civic Association

cc: Cypress Village POA, Oak Village Association, Southern Woods POA