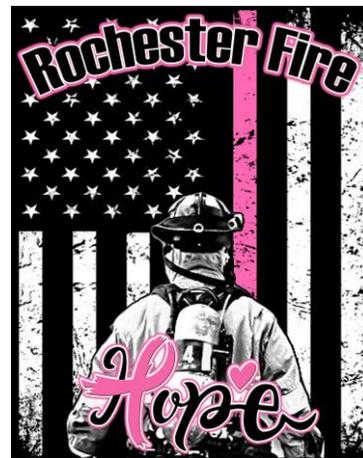


Rochester Fire Department Media Blast



October 2020

- **In the Fight Against Breast Cancer:** In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Rochester firefighters will be seen wearing special uniform shirts throughout the month of October. The shirts will have specially designed pink graphics that include the breast cancer pink ribbon. RFD is also selling the T-shirts and sweatshirts with this year's design to the public. The shirts are for sale [online](#) for the first time ever and will be available to purchase through October. All proceeds from the sales of the shirts will be donated to Join the Journey, a local organization that supports local individuals on their breast cancer journey.



- **Fire Prevention Week:** The annual October fire station open houses are unfortunately cancelled this year due to Covid, but the importance of promoting fire safety remains. This year's national Fire Prevention Week theme focuses on preventing kitchen fires, as cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries annually. There are a lot of helpful tips for preventing kitchen fires, including:
- ✓ Don't leave the kitchen when preparing food. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of kitchen fires.
 - ✓ Keep a proper sized lid nearby. If a small grease fire occurs, carefully slide the lid in place and turn off the heat source. NEVER throw water onto a grease fire, as this can result in catastrophic injuries and fire spread.



- ✓ Keep anything that is flammable away from a stovetop, including towels, cookbooks, and even loose clothing that can hang down and catch fire.
 - ✓ Have a 3-foot kids-free zone to keep children away from hot surfaces. Make sure there are no handles pointing out from the stove that children could grab. And keep pets secure while cooking so they are not running through the kitchen.
- **Fall Rookie Academy:** RFD will welcome three new recruits this fall to fill vacancies left by recent retirements. The recruits will undertake a 10-week Rookie Academy beginning Thurs., Oct. 8, under the direction of RFD Captain Dave Worstman. The new recruits all have their state Firefighter 1 and 2 certifications, as well as national EMT certification. During the academy, they will be trained on the operational strategies and practices utilized by RFD. Due to Covid-related restrictions, media access to the academy training will be limited. Please contact Captain Worstman at Dworstman@rochestermn.gov to discuss possible access.



Training Calendar

Regularly scheduled RFD training has been modified and closed to media coverage due to the pandemic and social distancing.

Requests for comment or information on safety topics or RFD incident response can be sent to **FirePublicRelations@rochestermn.gov**