

Lakewood Fire Department Ride-Along Program

General Information

The following information will acquaint you with your responsibilities as a ride-along participant with the Lakewood Fire Department.

1. Dress appropriately. Long pants or slacks are acceptable; shorts or dresses are not. Casual clothes, which are appropriate, clean, and suitable for the weather, are recommended.
2. Body-piercing jewelry is not permitted. Earrings that are in good taste are permitted.
3. You must utilize all protective and/or identification equipment provided.
4. Our personnel will instruct you as to what you are to do and where you are to stay at emergency scenes. If you are assigned to an officer, they will serve as your primary mentor.
5. You must be seated with your seatbelt secured at all times when vehicles are in motion.
6. You will be informed regarding use of fire department facilities such as kitchens, physical training equipment, and showers. Plan to bring your own food and personal items during your ride-along.
7. Lakewood Fire District 2 is a tobacco free workplace. *Smoking is not permitted.*
8. You will be subject to all rules and regulations of our department regarding safety and reasonable conduct, whether you are aware of them or not.
9. Please be on time! We usually have training and work schedules to keep.

Department Biography

The Lakewood Fire Department is also known as Pierce County Fire Protection District 2. Currently, the department protects approximately 22 square miles and 65,000 residents. We respond to 9000 calls annually, from five fire stations. We are a fully paid, professional fire department, as opposed to a volunteer or combination paid/volunteer fire department.

We provide a full complement of services, including emergency medical treatment and transport, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, business inspections, fire prevention services, public education, along with fire suppression. Approximately 80% of our total emergency activities involve emergency medical responses.

Our firefighters work 24 hour shifts, 8am to 8am. The daily routine during business hours includes routine duties, business inspections, training assignments, and other work details. Evening activities are reduced to emergency response and repairs. A Lieutenant supervises each company (apparatus) and a Battalion Chief supervises each shift. An Assistant Chief, who reports directly to the Fire Chief, supervises the Battalion Chiefs.

Even though the Lakewood Fire Department is not funded at a level that always allows for the newest equipment and facilities, we take pride in our ability to maintain a well-trained, adequately staffed, professional organization. This allows us to keep fire losses to a minimum and always keep our community safe.