

MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT



2022

DISTRICT OVERVIEW

Board of Directors &
Organization

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Reflecting Upon 2022 &
Looking Ahead

OPERATIONS REPORT

Incidents, Responses &
Training

PREVENTION REPORT

Projects & Accomplishments

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Education & Connection

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Revenues & Expenditures





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DISTRICT OVERVIEW

The Montecito Fire Protection District (MFPD) is an independent service district that provides fire, rescue and emergency services to the Montecito community.

The District is approximately 21.7 square miles in size and serves about 9,000 residents.

The MFPD is funded by a portion of general property tax revenue collected within district boundaries, which covers the costs of all services. The MFPD is governed by a five-member board of directors who are elected by public vote, each serving four-year terms.

STATIONS

We currently have two fire stations:

- **Station 91- 595 San Ysidro Road**
- **Station 92 - 2300 Sycamore Canyon Road**

Our fleet includes structural and wildland fire engines, a paramedic squad, an ambulance, a specialized Urban Search & Rescue vehicle, a mechanic's vehicle and Battalion Chief vehicles.

Our South Coast Dispatch Center is located at Station 91 and provides dispatch services for the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District and Montecito Fire Protection District.

To shorten response times and upgrade capability, we have partnered with Carpinteria-Summerland Fire to study and develop a joint fire station. A Fire Station Location Study found response-time service gaps in both fire districts and therefore, suggests gaps would be reduced with the establishment of a joint fire station in the eastern part of Montecito.

Thanks to our Board's wise planning and foresight in setting aside funds to finance the development of a new station someday, no additional taxes or revenues will be required. Details about the new station, including location and timeline, will be provided to the community as they become available.

PERSONNEL & SERVICES

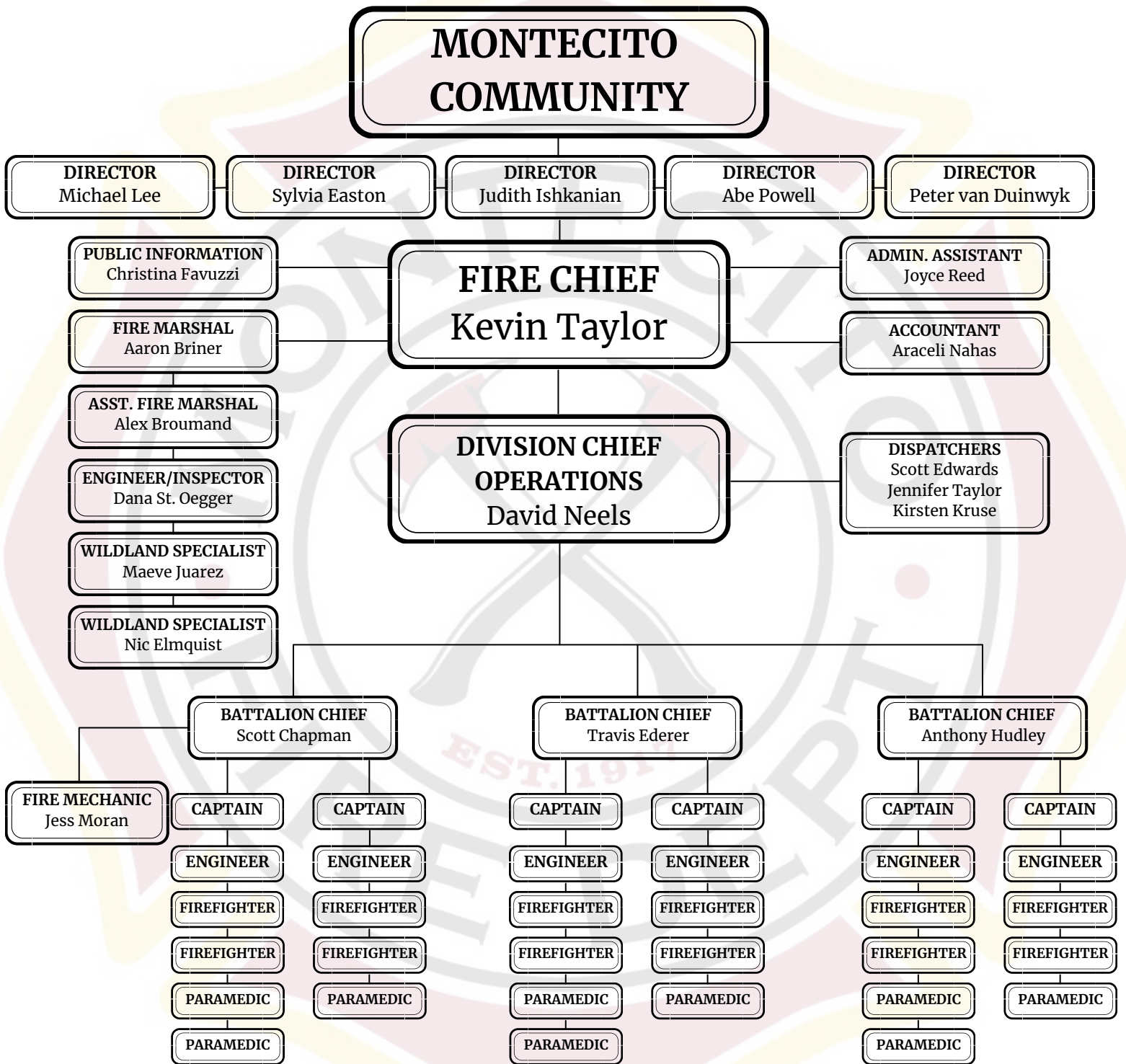
Our organization is comprised of 51 employees who work together to serve the Montecito community.

Our skilled personnel train throughout the year, often receiving specialty certifications that qualify them for specific roles serving on Incident Management Teams locally, and on state and federal incidents. These qualifications and skillsets enhance the capability and experience of our staff while building goodwill and reciprocity with other departments.

Here are some of the important emergency services your fire department is trained and equipped to perform:

- **STRUCTURAL FIRE PROTECTION**
- **WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION**
- **PARAMEDIC SERVICES**
- **VEHICLE ACCIDENTS & FIRES**
- **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MITIGATION**
- **TRENCH RESCUE**
- **CONFINED SPACE RESCUE**
- **BUILDING COLLAPSE RESCUE**
- **TRAIL RESCUE**
- **TECHNICAL ROPE RESCUE**
- **SWIFT WATER RESCUE**

ORGANIZATION



CHIEF'S MESSAGE

YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

On behalf of the Montecito Fire Protection District, it is a pleasure to share our 2022 Annual Report with our community. Over the past year, our organization experienced meaningful growth, identified opportunities for improvement and realized significant accomplishments.

A noteworthy change in 2022 was the full return to engaging with our community in person after the pandemic. In 2022, we prioritized revitalizing our public education and outreach programs by visiting every school in Montecito to teach children about fire safety, hosting an in-person Wildfire Preparedness Community Meeting and resuming one of our favorite traditions – our Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast. The past year provided us countless opportunities to be together with you again, from serving lunch to Montecito Beautification Day volunteers to decorating the Hathaway Tree during the holiday season. We were reminded daily of how fortunate we are to have the responsibility and privilege of being your fire department.

Behind the scenes, your fire department has been busy developing plans to best serve you. In March, we convened a strategic planning committee representing all areas and levels of Montecito Fire to review community input and develop goals to carry the department through the next five years. The committee's dedication to having reflective, difficult and nuanced conversations about our organization's strengths, weaknesses and opportunities to improve resulted in refined mission, vision and values statements. Our community is the driving motivation for all our five-year goals for the department. We look forward to achieving those goals for you and have already made significant progress.

In July, our forward-looking Board of Directors approved the results of a comprehensive, scientific analysis of Montecito's unique evacuation challenges. The evacuation study by Fehr & Peers took hundreds of hours over 10 months and proves what we have known to be anecdotally true. Our task now is to carefully consider the study's findings as we evaluate our evacuation procedures and implement changes to evacuate our community most efficiently and safely in the event of a wind-driven wildfire. Look for substantial updates to our evacuation processes in 2023 and beyond.

Your Fire Prevention Bureau built upon our holistic approach to fire preparedness and prevention in 2022. The Bureau expanded our popular Neighborhood Chipping Program to additional neighborhoods and retrofitted more homes in Montecito with ember-resistant vents through our Vent Retrofit Program. Our Wildland Fire Specialists worked with partnering fire agencies to add new wildfire detection cameras across the South Coast that are capable of alerting firefighters of new fire starts using artificial intelligence. This multi-faceted approach to wildland fire prevention bolsters Montecito as a wildfire-resilient community.



Montecito firefighters responded to dozens of incidents across the West during the 2022 fire season. Each assignment provided didactic challenges and valuable experience that our personnel now bring back to Montecito to better respond to emergencies at home and ensure your safety.

The faces of Montecito Fire are changing as we grow and evolve to best serve you. In May, three experienced firefighters joined the organization, bringing our daily staffing to optimal levels for emergency service. We also celebrated the outstanding careers of three senior members who retired in December.

In Montecito, the winter months bring a perennial concern for debris flow. Five years have now passed since the catastrophic 1/9 Debris Flow. Early winter storms thus far in 2023 have already caused significant impacts across the community due to extreme saturation and our unique topography. The most recent storm, which eerily coincided with the 1/9 anniversary, did not cause nearly the same level of devastation that occurred in 2018, but the storm's potential and our risk for debris flow impacts warranted a full evacuation of the community. Thanks to the watershed's recovery, outstanding improvements to our flood control system and our community's attentiveness to disaster preparedness, we did not suffer another tragedy.

Through the pages of this report, we hope you will learn more about your fire department, our strong financial picture as a community-established independent fire district, and the many ways we carry out our mission of providing you with exceptional service. We are thankful for our independent, elected Board of Directors' guidance and prioritization of funds to empower your fire department to offer excellent emergency response and fire prevention services.

It is our greatest honor, duty and privilege to serve this community. We promise to be steadfast in our commitment to you in 2023 and deeply appreciate your enduring support.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K. Taylor".

Kevin Taylor
Fire Chief

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Board of Directors is responsible for governing the Montecito Fire Protection District. The Board currently consists of five members, each of whom serves a four-year term.



**FROM LEFT TO RIGHT
JOHN ABRAHAM POWELL, PETER VAN DUINWYK, SYLVIA EASTON, JUDITH ISHKANIAN, MIKE LEE**

Michael Lee - President
Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Sylvia Easton - Vice President
Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Judith Ishkanian - Secretary
Term of Office: 11/10/2020 - 12/2/2022

John Abraham Powell - Member
Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Peter van Duinwyk - Member
Term of Office: 10/2/2018 - 12/2/2022



We thank Judith Ishkanian for her service as a Board Member of the Montecito Fire Protection District. On Nov. 8, 2022, our community re-elected Peter van Duinwyk to the Board and elected Stephen Dougherty to join the Board.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

MIKE LEE, STEPHEN DOUGHERTY, PETER VAN DUINWYK, SYLVIA EASTON, JOHN ABRAHAM POWELL

Peter van Duinwyk - President
Term of Office: 11/8/2022 - 12/4/2026

Michael Lee - Vice President
Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Sylvia Easton - Secretary
Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

John Abraham Powell - Member
Term of Office: 11/3/2020 - 12/6/2024

Stephen Dougherty - Member
Term of Office: 11/8/2022 - 12/4/2026

MISSION, VISION, VALUES

Mission

The Montecito Fire Protection District is a progressive organization committed to the protection of people, property, and the environment. As part of the community, we exist to provide professional and timely service through preparation for, response to, and recovery from emergencies.

Vision

- We will serve our whole community with an innovative approach to preparedness, response, and recovery.
- We will enhance our relationships through collaboration to resolve all challenges our community may face.
- We will lean forward with intent in the pursuit of advancing technology and industry best practices.
- We will develop exceptional leaders in our organization supported by a culture of empowerment.
- We will enhance mental, physical, and spiritual health within our organization.

Values

We value community through:

- Respect
- Relationships
- Approachability
- Public outreach
- Transparency

We value service through:

- Commitment to excellence
- Competence
- Preparedness
- Collaboration
- Integrity
- Professionalism

We value our people through:

- Our culture of empowerment
- Mental, physical, and spiritual health
- Personal and professional experience
- Training and education

OPERATIONS REPORT



OPERATIONS REPORT

INCIDENTS & RESPONSES

Montecito Fire utilizes the following National Fire Incident Reporting System's (NFIRS) incident typing categories to organize response data.

FIRE

Structure fire, vehicle fire, vegetation fire, other fire categories

RESCUE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

EMS, medical assist, lock-in, search for lost person, extrication, water and ice-related rescue, standby

HAZARDOUS CONDITION

Combustible/flamable spills and leaks, chemical release, electrical wiring/equipment problem, vehicle accident debris removal, attempted burning, overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat (no fire)

SERVICE CALL

Person in distress, water problem, smoke/odor problem, animal rescue, public service assist, unauthorized burning, cover assignment, severe weather and natural disaster, special incident type

GOOD INTENT CALL

Dispatched and cancelled enroute, no emergency found, controlled burning, steam mistaken for smoke, EMS call where party has been transported

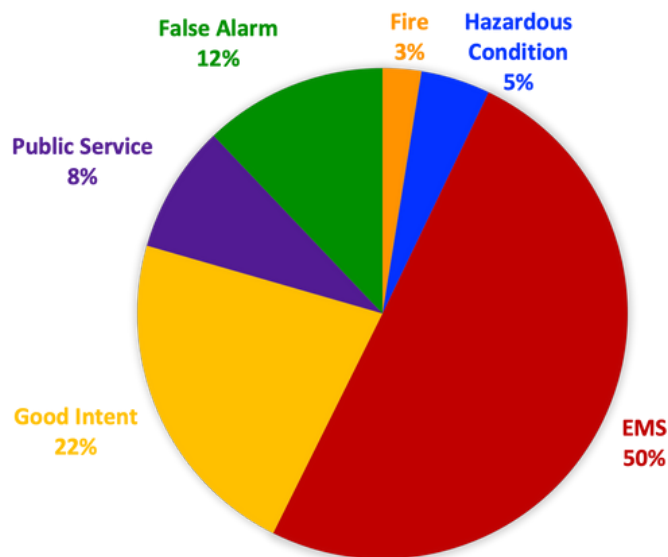
FALSE ALARM

System or detector malfunction, unintentional system activation, sprinkler activation

RESPONSES BY CATEGORY

Fire	39
Hazardous Condition	70
EMS	768
Good Intent	338
Public Service	129
False Alarm	185
Total Calls for Service	1,529

RESPONSES BY PERCENTAGE



TOTAL CALLS PER YEAR

2022	1,529
2021	1,539
2020	1,426
2019	1,340
2018	1,291

OPERATIONS REPORT

EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN 7 MINUTES OR LESS

Board Policy: Total Response Time of 7:00 minutes, 90% of the time

Total Response Time = Call Processing + Turnout Time + Drive Time

(1:00)

(2:00)

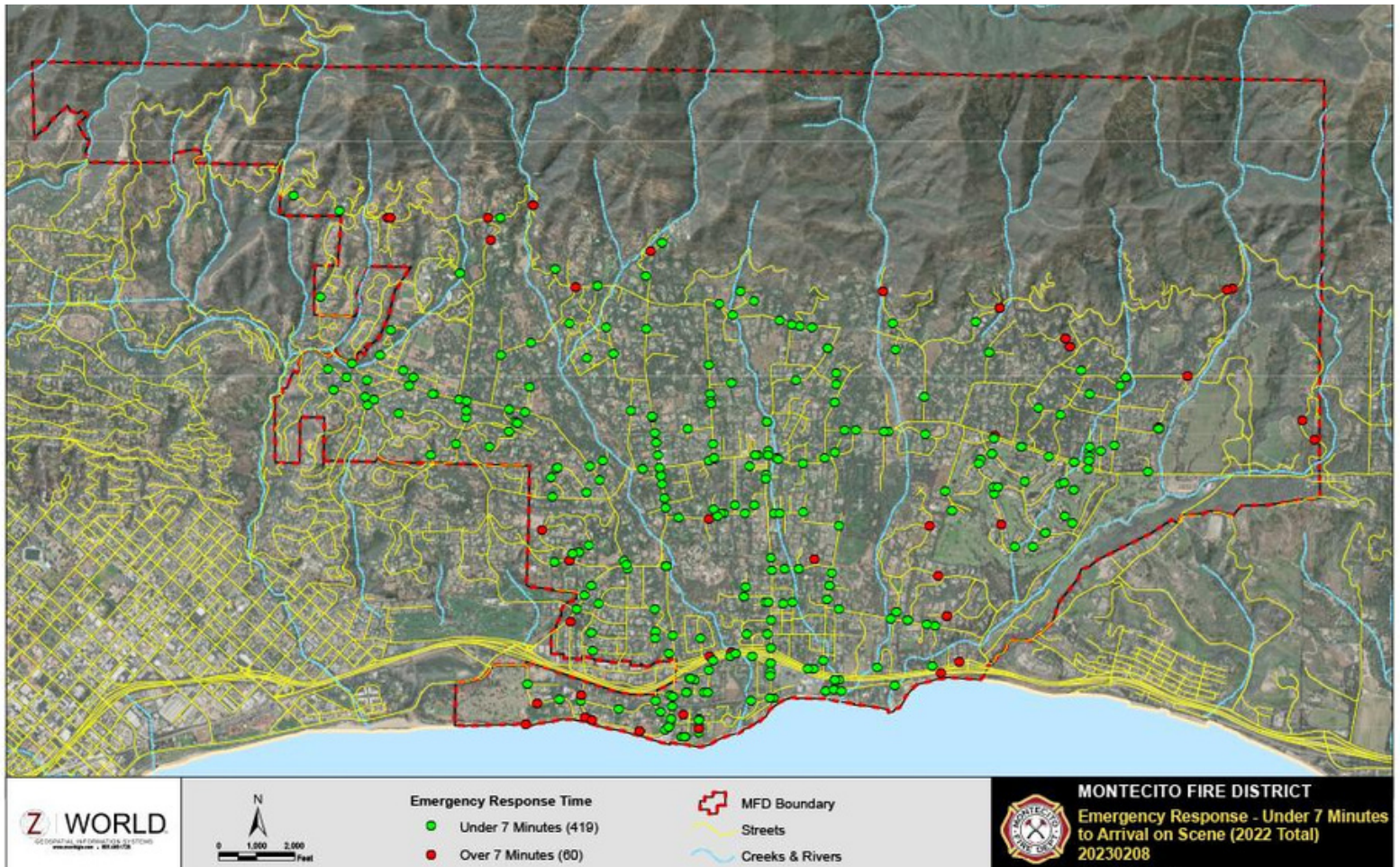
(4:00)

TOTAL EMERGENCY CALLS IN MTO DISTRICT = 479

Total Response Time \geq 7:00 = 60 Calls = 13%

Total Response Time \leq 7:00 = 419 Calls = 87%

7:00 minutes or less, 87% of the time for Emergency Response in 2022



OPERATIONS REPORT

SOUTH COAST DISPATCH

SOUTH COAST DISPATCH IN 2022

In 2022, our Dispatchers and Dispatch Cadre answered both emergency and business calls for service from South Coast Dispatch.

Our personnel effectively dispatched and tracked resources for a total of 3,658 incidents for both the Carpinteria-Summerland and Montecito Fire Protection Districts.



TRAINING WITH DISPATCH PARTNERS

In June, South Coast Dispatch and Santa Barbara County Dispatch coordinated a training evolution to practice the receipt, call processing and dispatch of a vegetation fire in the South Coast Dispatch area.

Over two days of training, a total of five scenarios were completed with test calls through the 911 system. Cellular calls were transferred through the California Highway Patrol call center as well as the County Dispatch 911 center.

These drills helped us streamline the assignment of operational frequencies for proper communications between fire personnel, aircraft and dispatch. It also allowed us to streamline the time needed to notify stations and resources on the initial alarm.



South Coast Dispatch dispatched and tracked

3,658

incidents for both Carpinteria-Summerland and Montecito Fire Protection Districts in 2022

OPERATIONS REPORT

MUTUAL AID RESPONSES

MUTUAL AID

In 2022, Montecito Fire responded to incidents across California and the western United States. Sending our members out on these regional assignments allows them to assist other communities in need and gain valuable experience that they can apply to future incidents here at home. Our stations in Montecito remained fully staffed at all times.

- CALF CANYON FIRE - NM
- COLORADO FIRE
- CROOKS FIRE - AZ
- HOLLISTER FIRE
- PIPELINE FIRE - NM
- SWCC SUPPORT - NM
- CAMINO FIRE
- MCKINNEY FIRE
- MOSQUITO FIRE
- OAKS FIRE
- OES PREPOSITION XSB
- ONC PREPOSITION
- RTF PREPOSITION
- SRF LIGHTNING COMPLEX
- WASHBURN FIRE
- WISHON FIRE



OPERATIONS REPORT

TRAINING & UPSTAFFING

TRAINING

In 2022, Montecito Fire personnel and Board Members logged 15,250 training hours.

Our average is 407 hours of training per person in the ranks of Firefighter, Firefighter Paramedic, Engineer, Captain and Battalion Chief.

Our department was fortunate to recognize the California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) qualifications of several of our members in 2022. We recognize their completion of training task books and significant time spent on incidents to gain experience and expertise in specific disciplines.

15,250

Training Hours in 2022



WEATHER UPSTAFFING

In 2022, Montecito Fire Department staffed additional apparatus and personnel for a total of 10 days on four separate occasions due to critical wind and weather events in the District and Santa Barbara County operational area.

PERSONNEL WHO COMPLETED TRAINING TASK BOOKS IN 2022

Travis Ederer

- Operations Section Chief Type 2
- Operations Branch Director

Maeve Juarez

- Operations Section Chief Type 1

Araceli Nahas

- Equipment Time Recorder (EQTR)
- Personnel Time Recorder (PTRC)

Evan Skei

- Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL)
- Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Andy Rupp

- Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL)
- Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Billy Wrenn

- Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)

Daniel Arnold

- Critical Incident Stress Member (CISM)



OPERATIONS REPORT

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

SYCAMORE CANYON ACQUIRED STRUCTURE

In early May, Montecito Fire hosted structure fire training at a residence on Sycamore Canyon Rd. The three-day training allowed all three shifts, plus Santa Barbara City Fire and Carpinteria-Summerland Fire, the opportunity to practice fire ground scenarios under realistic, smoky conditions. Crews practiced fire attack, hose deployment on multiple floors, search, rescue and MAYDAY drills.

We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to train at structures within our community when they are slated for demolition or remodel. Many thanks to the Prevention Bureau for their assistance in acquiring structures for training.

BRAEMAR DRIVE TRAINING

Santa Barbara City Fire invited us to participate in structure fire training evolutions on Braemar Drive. All three shifts from Montecito participated in fire control, search and incident command.



OPERATIONS REPORT

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

STRUCTURE FIRE TRAINING AT MONTECITO UNION SCHOOL

At the end of July, Montecito Fire hosted structure fire training at Montecito Union School. School administration contacted the department to allow us to train prior to a significant remodel of the school's interior. The three-day training allowed all three shifts, Carpinteria-Summerland Fire and Santa Barbara City Fire, the opportunity to practice fireground scenarios.

Crews practiced securing a water supply from a hydrant, spotting apparatus, forcible entry, communications, hose deployment, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) use and search. Firehose was deployed on multiple levels of the main administration building under heavy smoke conditions. Training with our partner agencies who comprise our first alarm assignment has made us more efficient and effective with our fireground operations.



OPERATIONS REPORT

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

SANTA BARBARA AIRPORT DISASTER DRILL

Montecito Fire participated in the Triennial Full-Scale Emergency Exercise at the Santa Barbara Airport in September with our ambulance, Medic 91.

The simulated disaster drill provided local first responders and airport mutual aid partners with an opportunity to train for an aircraft emergency in a safe and controlled environment.



SPAULDING/MIDLAND PRESCRIBED BURN

In October, Montecito Fire assisted Santa Barbara County Fire with a prescribed fire operation in the Santa Ynez Valley. Both Engine 691 and Engine 692 were assigned to firing operations, then transitioned to holding resources. Personnel worked alongside other engines, crews, dozers and overhead personnel. We appreciate the opportunity to work alongside our operational area partners and accomplish strategic fuel reduction to decrease future wildfire risk.



OPERATIONS REPORT

NEW HIRES, RETIREMENTS & PROMOTIONS

WELCOME CLASS 124

We are pleased to welcome three firefighters to our organization following their successful completion of a 10-week fire academy. Our three recruits trained with Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District's two recruits in a joint fire academy. Class 124 graduated May 31, 2022.



LEFT TO RIGHT - Jess Gilkey (MTO), Mike Medina (CRP), Justin Pickens (MTO), Pat Ruiz (MTO), John Weber (MTO)

RETIREMENTS

In December, we celebrated the outstanding careers of three of our members and their well-deserved retirements.

- Firefighter Paramedic Kurt Hickman - 21 years
- Engineer Keith Powell - 20 years
- Engineer/Inspector Dana St. Oegger - 25+ years

We are deeply grateful to each of them for their service to our community and their lasting impact on our fire family.



LEFT TO RIGHT - Kurt Hickman, Keith Powell, Dana St. Oegger

PROMOTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

In December, David Johnson and Daniel Arnold were promoted to Fire Engineer and Billy Wrenn was appointed to Fire Engineer-Inspector. Their new positions became effective in January 2023. We are grateful for their dedication to Montecito Fire and congratulate them all on this significant professional achievement.



Fire Engineer David Johnson



Fire Engineer Daniel Arnold



Fire Engineer-Inspector Billy Wrenn

OPERATIONS REPORT

2022 STAFFING

A SHIFT

Battalion Chief
Scott Chapman

Captains
Jeff Villarreal
Ben Hauser

Engineers
Eric Klemowicz
William Wrenn

Firefighter/Paramedics
Kurt Hickman
Ryland McCracken
Garet Blake

Firefighters
Nicholas Eubank
Daniel Arnold
Dustin Barthel
Patrick Ruiz

Dispatcher
Kirsten Kruse

B SHIFT

Battalion Chief
Travis Ederer

Captains
Jordan Zeitsoff
Robert Galbraith

Engineers
Rodney Walkup
Lucas Grant

Firefighter/Paramedics
Brandon Bennewater
Kevin French
Shawn Whilt

Firefighters
Steve Cochran
Charles Spencer
Tyler McManigal
Jess Gilkey

Dispatcher
Jennifer Taylor

C SHIFT

Battalion Chief
Anthony Hudley

Captains
Evan Skei
Shaun Davis

Engineers
Loren Bass
David Johnson

Firefighter/Paramedics
Andrew Rupp
Trevor Burch
Jared Gamm

Firefighters
Evan Hamaker
Jered Walberg
Justin Pickens
John Weber

Dispatcher
Scott Edwards



FIRE PREVENTION REPORT



FIRE PREVENTION REPORT

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPING

- 50 days
- 225 participants
- 175 tons of vegetation removed

NEIGHBORHOOD TAG & TRIM

- 8 days
- 10 miles of roads completed
- 15 tons of vegetation removed

FUEL TREATMENT NETWORK

- 29 days
- 130 tons of vegetation removed

DEAD TREE REMOVAL

- 10 days
- 18 dead trees removed
- 80 tons of vegetation removed

ROADSIDE WEED ABATEMENT

- 36 days
- 23 miles of road completed



194

Days of Vegetation Management Projects across the District

400

Tons of Vegetation Removed from Very High Fire Severity Areas

\$407,166

Total Cost to Implement Vegetation Management Projects

\$110,000

Funded by California Climate Investment Fire Prevention Project

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT

PROJECTS

NEIGHBORHOOD CHIPPING

Now approaching 14 years running, the Neighborhood Chipping Program asks residents to cut down overgrown vegetation within 100 feet of their homes and pile it on their curb to be chipped and hauled to a recycling center by our contractor. Montecito Fire contracted with Eco Tree Works to complete the chipping work. Eco Tree Works devoted 50 days of hard work to chip 500 piles of vegetation and haul away 175 tons of chipped material out of Montecito.

In 2022, Montecito Fire offered the program to approximately 1,500 residences in 10 neighborhoods within the fire district boundary. These areas are identified as part of the Very High Fire Severity Zone and therefore, are prioritized for brush clearance. A total of 225 properties participated in the Chipping Program this year.

This program is always expanding. In 2023, we are adding 91 residences to the program by expanding to include Picacho Lane, Stone Meadow Lane, Green Meadow Road, Alcalá Lane, Delzura Drive and Camino Viejo.



VENT RETROFIT PROGRAM

To reduce the impacts of future wildfires on our community, Montecito Fire's Board of Directors voted to allocate funds from the Fire Defense Zone Budget to initiate a Home Hardening Assistance Program. This program focuses on upgrading homes with ember-resistant vents capable of preventing flames and embers from entering a residence. This helps prevent structural ignitions during a wildfire.

In 2022, we retrofitted six homes in the district with new vents. The program has gained national attention and due to a high number of applicants, we have focused our efforts on prioritizing homes within the Very High Severity Zones of the district. We have an additional 10 homes scheduled for retrofit in early 2023.



FIRE PREVENTION REPORT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FIRE PREVENTION GRANTS

The Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council (FSC) was awarded two multi-million dollar grants in 2022 promoting wildfire prevention. Montecito Fire will be the beneficiary of \$496,250 in grant funding through the FSC. The Santa Barbara County Community Chipping Program Grant awarded Montecito Fire approximately \$350,000 for fiscal years 2024-25 to pay for the Neighborhood Chipping Program. Our current program is funded through June 2023 by a \$452,760 Cal Fire Grant that was awarded to Montecito Fire in 2020.

The Santa Barbara South Coast Herbivory Grant will award Montecito Fire approximately \$146,000 to graze 325 acres in fiscal years 2024-2026. We expect to start the first project in May 2023 as a joint effort between the Ennisbrooke Homeowners Association, Montecito Fire, Regional Wildfire Mitigation Program, Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens, Santa Barbara Land Trust and Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council. Montecito Fire has previously identified sheep as the most effective means of completing prescribed herbivory, or grazing, work.

The project aims to reduce invasive species and break up the fuel load throughout the project area. This work will reduce the intensity of future wildfires that may occur there, improve the safety and defensible space of nearby residents, and increase the efficiency of fire suppression actions. The project will help restore the open space to a more natural oak and riparian woodland, supporting a diverse population of native plants and animals. We look forward to starting work on this project and welcoming community members to come to watch the sheep graze and see fire prevention in action.

CALIFORNIA VEGETATION TREATMENT PROGRAM

To enhance community preparedness and increase landscape resilience by expanding treatment areas within our Vegetation Management Program, Montecito Fire hired an environmental consultant, Dudek, to complete an environmental review and ensure compliance with the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) during project implementation.

In 2019 Cal Fire completed a Statewide Environmental Impact Review (EIR) addressing vegetation treatment and fuels reduction projects throughout California for its Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP). This provided a powerful tool and a process for Montecito Fire's Prevention Bureau to expedite CEQA review and increase the pace and scale of vegetation treatments to reduce wildfire risk while conserving natural resources.

The Montecito Vegetation Management Program's Project Specific Analysis took approximately seven months to complete. It includes all projects that could possibly be completed within the district over the next 10 years and analyzed the potential impact of completing 938 acres of prescribed herbivory, and 316 acres of mixed treatments (such as cutting, stacking, chipping, burning, etc.) for a total of 1,140 acres.



FIRE PREVENTION REPORT

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ALERT CALIFORNIA CAMERAS

Montecito Fire now has access to two new ALERT California cameras that are part of a growing network of cameras across the United States that help local, state and federal agencies detect and watch wildfires. In December, a camera was installed on TV Hill and another was installed on Ortega Ridge in early 2023. Together, the cameras provide coverage of the Santa Barbara front country, including Montecito's wildland areas. We also have access to cyberinfrastructures that harness emerging artificial intelligence technology to offer us wildfire detection and modeling within seconds of smoke being detected. The cameras can be viewed online at <https://alertca.live/>.



FIRE CODE ADOPTION

Every three years, the California Fire Code (CFC) is amended and adopted. The 2019 CFC was superseded by the 2022 version and became state law January 1, 2023. The Montecito Fire Protection District adopts the CFC, California Residential Code and California Building Code with amendments that address the geologic, topographic and climatic conditions specific to Montecito. Together, these codes and amendments create the Montecito Fire Protection District Fire Code.

The intent of the 2022 amendments for Montecito was simplification, consistency and collaboration with surrounding agencies. We worked with agency partners, contractors and designers to implement their suggestions and determine where agency amendments could be standardized. The Montecito Development Standards were developed to assist owners, contractors, planners and architects with the practical application of the Fire Code.

The Montecito Fire Protection District Fire Code simplified the CFC and brought it into alignment with our neighboring jurisdictions, ensuring projects within Montecito can be completed in a manner that best serve the community.

EVACUATION ANALYSIS

To enhance community emergency preparedness, Montecito Fire hired consultant Fehr & Peers to conduct a Community Emergency Evacuation Analysis. Innovative software makes it possible to improve evacuation planning through the integration of spatial analytical methods, including Geographical Information System (GIS), spatial statistics, critical cluster optimization and traffic simulations.

By simulating emergency evacuations, analysts identified vulnerabilities specific to Montecito and provided recommendations on how to improve and increase efficiency in future emergency evacuations. Montecito Fire is currently considering the results of the analysis and evaluating our evacuation procedures. We will inform the community of updates to our evacuation processes in 2023.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

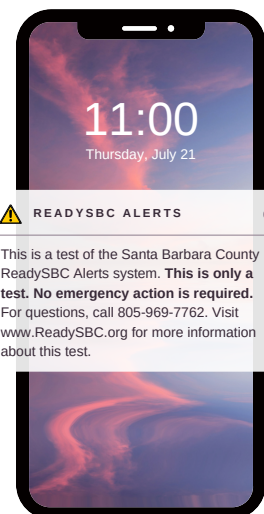
WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS COMMUNITY MEETING

On July 7, we hosted a Wildfire Preparedness Community Meeting at Westmont College. We were fortunate to have MERRAG, the Red Cross and the Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management join us to share preparedness resources with the community.



READYSBC ALERTS TEST

On July 21, Montecito Fire and Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management conducted a test of the ReadySBC Alerts emergency notification system. The purpose of the test was to update contact information for all Montecito residents and verify that opted-in community members receive ReadySBCAlerts without issue.



More than 6,300 Montecito community members participated in the test. Over 300 people with Montecito addresses signed up for ReadySBC alerts for the first time as a result of our test. ReadySBC Alerts is utilized to notify community members of emergent, protective actions such as to shelter-in-place or evacuate. The success of our July test helps to ensure our community's preparedness to respond effectively during an emergency.

FOURTH OF JULY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the Montecito Firefighters Association's July 4th Pancake Breakfast returned! Hundreds of community members kicked off their Independence Day festivities with breakfast at Fire Station 91. We were fortunate to have volunteers from the Montecito Rotary Club who helped prepare the pancakes.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

During the first two weeks of October, Montecito firefighters visited eight schools within the district to teach fire safety to students. Our school visits are part of the 100-year tradition of National Fire Prevention Week.



MONTECITO BEAUTIFICATION DAY

In November, many people in the community volunteered their time on a beautiful Saturday morning to collect trash and improve areas around Montecito. Montecito Firefighters Association resumed our tradition of serving the volunteers a well-deserved lunch in the Upper Village.



LIGHT UP A LIFE & HATHAWAY HOLIDAY TREE DECORATING

As Montecito got into the holiday spirit, firefighters pitched in to help decorate the Hathaway Holiday Tree on San Ysidro. Montecito Fire also dedicated 23 stars to Hospice of Santa Barbara's Light Up A Life Tree in the Lower Village, in remembrance of the 23 community members we lost in the 1/9 Debris Flow.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

CONNECT WITH YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

SOCIAL MEDIA

Montecito Fire continues to grow our social media followings and better connect with our community members through these platforms. We encourage all community members to follow us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter for both critical information related to emergency situations and feature posts to help them become more familiar with Montecito Fire.



[instagram.com/montecitofire](https://www.instagram.com/montecitofire)
[@montecitofire](https://www.instagram.com/montecitofire)



[facebook.com/MontecitoFire](https://www.facebook.com/MontecitoFire)



[twitter.com/montecitofire](https://www.twitter.com/montecitofire)
[@montecitofire](https://www.twitter.com/montecitofire)



FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

FISCALLY STRONG IN 2022

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

The MFPD has remained financially healthy in 2022. The leadership and oversight of the Board of Directors has allowed the MFPD to continue to provide a wide range of services within its operating budget, while also preparing to remain healthy and resilient in the future.

The MFPD takes great pride in making fiscal transparency and accountability a high priority. The Finance Committee reviews monthly reports and an independent auditor produces an annual report, all of which are accessible on our website, www.montecitofire.com.

REVENUES & FINANCING SOURCES

Property Taxes	\$20,240,498
Interest/Rental Income	64,970
Fire Assignments	3,981,863
Disaster Aid	91,767
State Fire Prevention Grant	150,048
Charges for Services	213,152
Miscellaneous Revenue	99,330
TOTAL	\$24,841,628

EXPENDITURES & FINANCING USES

Salaries & Employee Benefits	\$17,891,059
Services & Supplies	2,608,370
Capital Assets	107,933
Pension Obligation Bond Repayments	1,245,682
Transfer to Capital Reserves Fund	450,000
Increase to Residual Fund Balance	2,538,584
TOTAL	\$24,841,628





MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

