

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE _____

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Contact:

Diana L. Klink
(Office) 757.514.4104
(Mobile) 757.359.1845

Tim Kelley
(Office) 757-514-4103
(Mobile) 757-871-3039

SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE ANNOUNCES THEIR 2ND ANNUAL CITIZENS' FIRE & RESCUE ACADEMY

SUFFOLK, VA (June 22, 2018) Suffolk Fire & Rescue is pleased to announce they are now taking applications for their 2nd Annual Citizens' Fire & Rescue Academy this fall.

The Academy is a wonderful opportunity for citizens to learn firsthand about the inner workings and operations of Suffolk Fire & Rescue, or for those possibly interested in a career in the Fire Service. Sessions will provide an overview of Fire Administration, Support Services Division, Technical Services Division, Operations Division, Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services, Technical Rescue, Search and Rescue, Fire Prevention, and Emergency Management. Sessions will involve not only classroom instruction, but also practical, hands-on lessons.

The Academy will be held for five (5) weeks from November 5, 2018, through December 6, 2018, on Mondays and Wednesdays unless otherwise noted due to holidays, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Fire Station #6, located at 300 Kings Fork Road. Sessions will be held on Tuesday, November 13th due to the Veteran's Day

Holiday, and Monday, November 19th and Tuesday, November 20th, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

An optional Saturday session for Heart Saver CPR Certification will be offered at no cost to the student, and individual students may opt out if they wish. This optional class will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2018 at Fire Station #6 provided that there are an adequate number of students that wish to attend.

The Academy will conclude with a Graduation Ceremony on Thursday, December 6th, is free to attend, and is open to citizens of Suffolk age 18 or older that have applied and are accepted to attend.

Applications can be downloaded from their website at <http://www.suffolkva.us/DocumentCenter/View/2904/Citizens-Fire-Academy-2018-Application> or can be obtained at any Suffolk Fire & Rescue location. The application process includes a background check which would be completed on all persons applying to participate.

Applicants can complete their application and signed waiver and submit in person or mail to: Suffolk Fire & Rescue, Attn: Captain L. A. Ratliff, 300 Kings Fork Road, Suffolk, VA 23434. Applications may also be submitted via email to Captain L. A. Ratliff, lratliff@suffolkva.us, or Fire Training Officer Mary Riddick, mriddick@suffolkva.us. All applications and signed waivers are due no later than Friday, September 7, 2018. The class size is limited, so register early. Applicants selected to attend the Academy will be notified of their acceptance no later than Friday, October 5, 2018.

Questions can be directed to Captain Ratliff or Fire Training Officer Riddick at the Fire Training Bureau at 757.514.4544.

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