



Winslow Township Fire Department

9 Cedar Brook Road
Sicklerville, NJ 08081

www.winslowtwpfd.org

Phone 609-561-4225
Fax 609-561-5823

INFORMATION RELEASE

Date: 12Apr22

Contact: Chief Marc S. Rigberg
marcr@winslowtwpfd.org

Subject: Temporary Shutter of Station 25-3 (Cedar Brook)

This notice is being provided to all residents and the commercial community here in Winslow Township. We are a combination Fire Department made up of dedicated Volunteer and Career Firefighters serving this large and busy community. As is the case throughout the United States, we have been experiencing a sharp decline in volunteerism to sustain our roles of Volunteer Firefighters. We provide many incentives and free training for those that desire to meet this challenge, however the times and budgetary constraints have caught up with us. As I am sure you can relate, our Volunteer Firefighters also have many competing and often at times higher priorities, such as family, employment, education and the like, which makes it an incredible task to maintain the hours of training, incident response (which our call volume is increasing), station/equipment maintenance and general commitment needs required of them many of which are local, State or Federally mandated.

With this in mind, we always look at our ability to properly maintain life safety service delivery. It is our goal to ensure that a properly staffed and properly trained crew respond to your emergency needs. In an unfortunate sign of the times our staffing level of Volunteer Firefighters has fallen below acceptable numbers at our Station 25-3 (Cedar Brook) and we will be relocating the remaining firefighters to other stations here in Winslow Township. The Cedar Brook Fire Company has had many proud years of serving the community with their dedicated members. We hope this will be a temporary measure and, in the future, to reopen the station again as an operational facility. In the interim, Station 25-3 will still serve as our Headquarters, administrative office and primary training center. We will continue to strongly pursue and recruit persons interested in becoming Volunteer Firefighters.

I can assure you that all necessary steps have been taken to adjust our response protocols to meet the needs of the community and your safety and this will be continuously evaluated. We have Career Firefighters, On-Duty Volunteer Firefighters and traditional come from home Volunteer Firefighters able to effectively address our calls for service. However, as stated we are seeing a critical impact and decline in the number of personnel able to dedicate themselves as Volunteer Firefighters. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Volunteer Firefighter, our program and what we offer, please review our website at www.winslowtwpfd.org, our Facebook site "Winslow Township Fire Department" or call and ask to speak with Fire Chief Marc Rigberg at 609-561-4225. In addition, if you have any questions or concerns on this matter, please feel free to contact me. There is a planned meeting to answer questions or concerns from the community on Thursday April 21st, 2022 at Station 25-3 (Cedar Brook Fire Station) 9 Cedar Brook Road, Sicklerville, NJ 08081 at 7:00 PM.

We take the delivery of Fire and Rescue service extremely serious and our goal is to deliver that service in the best, safest and most effective means possible. We hope you understand this difficult decision and please continue to support your Fire Department. Together, we can continue to make Winslow Township a safe community to live and work in.

Sincerely,


Marc S. Rigberg
Chief of Department