

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jonesboro Fire Department updates equipment through Texas A&M Forest Service grant

JONESBORO, Texas — Jonesboro Fire Department recently received an \$18,000 slip-on unit grant through Texas A&M Forest Service’s Rural VFD Assistance Program.

“We applied for this grant to enable us to add another truck with firefighting capabilities,” Fire Chief Bobby Buster said.

Once paired with a truck, the slip-on unit will replace a 1970 Chevrolet pickup truck that had been serving as a makeshift fire truck.

“With the slip on unit, the added vehicle’s capability to fight brush fires and grass fires as well as service wrecks and blocked roads will serve as an asset,” Buster said.

Responding to calls from a population of 1,200 people, the department puts value in the new slip-on unit’s ability to carry up to 500 gallons of water.

“Our old trucks could carry similar amounts of water, but the new unit’s technology surpasses what we’ve had,” Buster said. “It tells you how much water you have and allows you to adjust the gallons it pumps per minute.”

Over 85 percent of fire departments in Texas are either completely or mostly operated by volunteers. TFS passes approximately \$12.8 million along to volunteer fire departments across the state each year, helping them purchase equipment to better protect lives and property.

“This program is great,” Buster said. “It helps small departments like ours who couldn’t afford up to date equipment without financial support.”

To learn more about this program visit texasfd.com.



Front row: Training Chief Josh Jenkins, Haley Holden, Karlene Buster
Back Row: Captain Chad Treadway, Chief Bobby Buster, David Watson, Assist Chief Roger Hill, Stephen Oglesby