DISTRICT BACKGROUND

The Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Protection District (FPD) provides structural fire protection, advanced life support-level (ALS) emergency medical service (EMS), rescue services, and hazardous materials response within the unincorporated south county community of Bonita.

The District was formed in 1950 to establish governmental structure for the Upper Sweetwater Valley Volunteer Fire Company that had provided emergency services to the unincorporated Sweetwater Valley area since 1939.

The FPD covers approximately seven square miles and includes residential and commercial development in the community of Bonita; County and Regional Parklands; and conservation areas overseen by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in collaboration with the Sweetwater Unit of the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge.

Bonita-Sunnyside FPD is a member of the Heartland Communications Authority Facility JPA for dispatch and is a founding member of the Regional Cooperative Care Partnership (RCCP), a consortium of emergency service agencies, which provides administrative oversight for ALS and paramedic ambulance transport services.

LAFCO approved a sphere-of-influence for the Bonita-Sunnyside FPD in 1985 that is larger than the district boundary. The sphere is essentially coterminal to the district boundary on the west but includes significant additional territory to the east of the District. Unincorporated territory in the FPD sphere is included in an area, which has been identified as a service island, where no agency is responsible for providing emergency services. The last sphere was affirmed in 2013.

DISTRICT CHARACTERISTICS

Principal Act: Health and Safety § 13800 et seq.
Services: Structural fire protection
Advanced life support EMS
Fire Station: 4900 Bonita Road; Bonita
Population: 13,303 (2012 SANDAG)
Dispatch: Heartland Communications Authority JPA
District Area: 7.004 square miles
Sphere of Influence: Larger than District
Sphere Adopted: July 1, 1985
Sphere Affirmed: December 2, 2013
Revenue Sources: Property tax, voter-approved assessment
Governance: Elected 3-member Board of Directors
Board Meeting: 2nd Tuesday: 9:00 a.m.
4900 Bonita Road
Bonita, CA 91902
Contact: bonitasunnysidefire.org
4900 Bonita Road
Bonita, CA 91902
619/479-2346
View Map: sdlafco.org/Webpages/agency_maps_links.htm

Updated 1/8/14