DISTRICT BACKGROUND

The Deer Springs Fire Protection District (FPD) provides structural fire protection and advanced life support-level (ALS) emergency medical services (EMS) within approximately 44 square miles in unincorporated north county. The District is located generally north of the City of Escondido and northeast of the City of San Marcos.

The Deer Springs FPD was formed in 1981 to provide a volunteer fire protection operation with public governance and access to public funding. As a post-Proposition 13 agency, the Deer Springs FPD was not entitled to a share of property tax revenue; nonetheless, the Board of Supervisors voluntarily transferred an increment of county property tax revenue to the new agency. District voters subsequently approved special assessments to fund increased levels of service and assessments funded approximately 90 percent of district operations.

Deer Springs FPD stations were staffed by a combination of career and volunteer personnel until the late 1990s when the district implemented a Schedule A contract with CAL FIRE. The FPD operation is currently staffed by CAL FIRE personnel. District residents receive additional service from CAL FIRE through an Amador Contract that extends the service season for the CAL FIRE Station on West Lilac Road. CAL FIRE services in Deer Springs FPD are subsidized with County Fire Enhancement Program funds.

LAFCO approved a sphere-of-influence for the Deer Springs FPD in 1983 that is smaller than the district boundary. The smaller than district sphere acknowledges that some district territory is contained in the spheres for the City of San Marcos and City of Escondido. The sphere was last affirmed in 2014.

DISTRICT CHARACTERISTICS

Principal Act: Health and Safety § 13800 et seq.
Services: Structural fire protection
           Advanced life support EMS
Fire Stations: (1) 8709 Circle R Drive;
               (2) 1321 Deer Springs Road;
               (3) 10308 Meadow Glen Way East;
               CAL FIRE: 1127 West Lilac Road
Dispatch: CAL FIRE
Ambulance Transport: Mercy
Population: 12,039 (2012 SANDAG)
ISO Rating: 6 and 9 by area (1998)
District Area: 44.16 square miles
Sphere of Influence: Smaller than District
Sphere Adopted: November 7, 1983
Sphere Affirmed: March 3, 2014
Revenue Sources: Property tax, voter-approved assessment,
                 County Fire Enhancement Program
Governance: Elected 5-member Board of Directors
Board Meeting: 2nd Tuesday: 3:00 p.m.
              8709 Circle R Drive
              Escondido, CA  92026
Contact: deerspringsfire.org
         8709 Circle R Drive
         Escondido, CA 92026
         760/749-8001
View Map: sdlafco.org/Webpages/agency_maps_links.htm

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