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Natalia VFD receives \$36,000 grant from Texas A&M Forest Service

NATALIA, Texas — The Natalia Volunteer Fire Department received a Rural VFD Assistance grant that helped purchase a slip-on unit with a compressed air foam system.

"This unit is replacing an older one that we had," said Fire Chief Chuck Brown. "The new unit is larger, has a better compressor, holds 240-gallons of water and has a 5-gallon foam reservoir. We will have more firefighting power, but use less water."

The foam unit will be a valuable asset when it comes to protecting this rural area. When used in fire suppression its role is to cool the fire and coat the fuel, preventing its contact with oxygen, resulting in suppression of combustion.

Established in 1946, Natalia VFD continues to progress in their role of fire protection and better serving its community and surrounding area.

"Volunteer fire departments across Texas can benefit from the grant programs that TFS offers," Brown said. "The grants help with training and equipment so that the VFDs can be better prepared to respond to calls in their service areas."

Volunteer firefighters operate 85 percent of the fire departments in Texas. This year TFS will pass approximately \$24.3 million along to VFDs across the state. The grants aid them in purchasing equipment and obtaining vital firefighter training, giving them greater capabilities to protect life and property in their communities.

To learn more about this program visit <u>texasfd.com</u>.



