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Hilltop Lakes Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. is equipped with a new brush truck

HILLTOP LAKES, Texas — Hilltop Lakes Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. recently received a small brush truck cost-share grant through Texas A&M Forest Service. Members of the VFD said that this new addition to their department will increase their fire suppression capabilities, enabling them to have a more powerful response for their community.

A big check presentation was held for the department on March 23 to commemorate the new addition to their fleet.

"Volunteer firefighters play a large and prominent role in rural areas, and they are doing so without many of the resources of larger agencies," Texas A&M Forest Service Regional Fire Coordinator Justin Graf. "I am proud to see Hilltop Lakes VFD protect and serve their community. They are extremely dedicated, working tirelessly to protect and serve residents."

Hilltop Lakes VFD would like to thank Steve Halliburton, their former chief, for helping facilitate the grant, their community for their donations, and the Texas A&M Forest Service for administering the grant award. They also said they always welcome new members who would like to serve their community.

As a member agency of the Texas A&M University System, Texas A&M Forest Service administers the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program and is committed to protecting lives, property and natural resources. The Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program is funded by the Texas Legislature and provides cost-share funding to rural volunteer fire departments for the acquisition of firefighting vehicles, fire and rescue equipment, protective clothing, dry hydrants, computer systems and firefighter training.

For more information on programs offered by Texas A&M Forest Service, visit texasfd.com.