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Upgraded equipment helps Roby VFD fight fires safely

ROBY, Texas – An \$18,000 grant helped Roby Volunteer Fire Department feel more confident in fighting fires.

The grant provided through the Texas A&M Forest Service Rural Fire Department Assistance Program enabled Roby VFD to purchase a new skid unit, replacing an older unsafe model.

“We built our previous unit from an agricultural tank that made handling the truck difficult, it didn’t compare to a factory built unit, and now we can fight fires more safely,” said Keven Rivers, Roby VFD fire marshal.

TFS strives to help increase the capacity of VFDs through this grant program. Local VFDs respond to 90 percent of wildfires in Texas, and are staffed primarily with volunteers who operate with little to no money.

“To help Roby outfit their truck with a new unit, is great. They will now have more versatility and can go out to help on more fires both locally or in a mutual aid event,” said Charles Tice, TFS regional fire coordinator.

The Roby VFD award is among the \$12.8 million passed through TFS to Texas volunteer fire departments each year.

To learn more about this program visit texasfd.com.

