

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 10, 2018

### Groveton Fire Department receives \$100,000 grant

GROVETON, Texas — Groveton Fire Department Association (FD) accepted a Texas A&M Forest Service Rural Volunteer Fire Department cost share grant to help purchase a 2018 F550 small brush truck.

“This new truck is replacing an older vehicle and will be a very versatile, dual function apparatus,” said Groveton Fire Chief Glenn Hammond. “It will not only be used when responding to wildland fires but also structure fires and traffic control.”

Groveton Fire Department’s coverage area includes the Davy Crockett Forest and ranch land.

“Groveton Fire Department’s commitment to protecting their community is demonstrated by the addition of a more advanced apparatus,” said Texas A&M Forest Service Regional Fire Coordinator, Ricky Holbrook. “The 400-gallon water tank and 10-gallon foam tank, along with the bumper nozzles will help increase the department’s capacity for a fast knock down of fires.”

The Fire Department has been serving their rural community since 1919. The 10 volunteers provide fire service to 2,000 residents in their 156 square mile area.

“At times volunteer fire departments can’t always be manned with a full staff, so having the capability to start fighting a fire with just a couple of volunteers is beneficial, this truck allows that,” said Hammond.

The department is grateful for the grant programs that are made available to help keep volunteer fire departments more current with equipment and training.

Volunteer Fire Departments play a vital role in the protection of the rural areas of Texas. They are the first line of defense against wildland fires threaten homes and forests. The Groveton FD also planted a tree as a symbol of continued partnership with those who help to protect forests and related natural resources against wildland fires.

Texas A&M Forest Service is committed to protecting lives and property through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program, a cost-share program funded by Texas State Legislature and administered by Texas A&M Forest Service. This program provides 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, please visit <http://texasfd.com>.

