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### **Sanger VFD receives grant from Texas A&M Forest Service for new equipment**

**SANGER, Texas** — Texas A&M Forest Service recently awarded Sanger Volunteer Fire Department a \$9,200 grant through their Rural VFD Assistance Program. The cost-share grant went toward purchasing a new thermal imaging camera.

Fire Chief David Pennington said the new camera will be used in structure fires and smoke investigations.

“This camera has the capability to detect hot spots and cold spots in a room,” Pennington said. “Sometimes people smell smoke but can’t find the source. It can be used to locate the hot spot and can also invert and show the cooler spots in a room. It gives us the advantage of being able to detect where an individual is when trapped in a smoke filled room.”

The new thermal imaging camera replaced a 12 year old camera. The technology of the newer camera has increased dramatically, according to Pennington.

“Our county has both gas and oil pipelines and Lake Ray Roberts State Park, which can keep us busy,” Pennington said.

Over 85 percent of fire departments in the state of Texas are either completely or mostly operated by volunteers. TFS passes approximately \$12.8 million along to volunteer fire departments across the state every year, helping them purchase equipment to better protect lives and property.

“[These programs] allow departments to [receive equipment that is vital for the safety of the firefighters,” Pennington said. “We utilize as many of the grant programs as possible. The equipment gives departments the tools to protect life and property in their communities.”

To learn more about this program visit [texasfd.com](http://texasfd.com).

