

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Woodville Volunteer Fire Department receives grant for new tools

WOODVILLE, Texas —Woodville Volunteer Fire Department received a \$16,000 cost share grant through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program administered by Texas A&M Forest Service. The department purchased a variety of firefighting and rescue tools to enhance their capacity.

Having the right tools is half the job.

“We appreciate the grant that we received for tools that will help when fighting everything from wildland and structure fires to vehicle fires,” said Fire Chief Alan Gartner. “The tools are in service and we have already had the occasion to use some of them. The scene lights were very beneficial recently when we had to do an extrication from a bus.”

According to Gartner, they received take down lighting that will illuminate the complete area around the fire truck and also lights to attach to the firefighter’s bunker coat to help with entering a structure at night, both types of lights will help increase the safety of firefighters.

“Also included in the grant was a very important device to help replenish water for our fire engines,” said Gartner. “It is a floating pump that will pump water from a natural source or swimming pool and will help keep the water flowing, giving us more firefighting capability.”

Fund raising is a crucial part of helping to meet the needs of any volunteer fire department.

The Woodville Volunteer Fire Department has a fishing tournament scheduled for June 29, 2019, call the department for information, (409) 283-2103.

They also have open enrollment for volunteers. To apply come to one of their meetings held the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the station, 400 West Bluff in Woodville.

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>.

