



Hot weather = Fun times Don't let it end badly

Hot weather means more of us seek the water for relief and to enjoy the outdoors. Living on an island means there are plenty of opportunities. Please... take some time for important safety measures!

1.) Know the Tides

Especially on those beaches like Iverson where the shallow, sandy shore carries warm water for swimming, it's tempting to play for hours. But tides change, and you need to be prepared for the water returning and stranding you or your loved ones.

TIP: Check the Tide Schedule before you go.

2.) Wear a lifejacket

Lifejackets are crucial safety equipment this summer. There are FREE life jackets for your use at four of the island's public boat launches: Cavalero, Utsalady, Camano Island State Park, and Maple Grove boat launches. Please bring your own or borrow one of these. Life jackets save lives.

TIP: Learn water safety. Red Cross has more information for you here.

3.) Practice Boater Safety

Did you know boater safety education is a

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Summer 2014 Hot News

Our newsletter is hitting the presses this week and will be mailed to all our constituents. CIFR is committed to open communication with the residents of Camano Island and hope you find this newsletter helpful. In this issue you will find information on:

• **Chief Mike Ganz** 38-year firefighting career

Safety tips, including information on free lifejackets, and the dangers of sky lanterns.

Our New Commissioners, Erik Shouse and Paul Williams reflect on their new posts.

And some fun

requirement to operate a vessel? AND, our law enforcement officers travel the waterways to keep us safe and enforce the laws.

TIP: Get a boater guide here.

4.) Restrict your outdoor burning

Right now, recreational fires are OK. But conditions are dry, and even your campfire comes with some restrictions.

TIP: Learn what is and isn't OK in the current burn ban.

CIFR hires a new Chief

Michael Schick of Louisville, Colorado has been hired as CIFR's next Chief. The Commission offered Schick the post, which he accepted, noting he is excited to be moving to the Camano Island Community. Look for more information on Schick on our website, www.camanofire.com.

community stuff, like fire truck rides, and our scholarship winner.

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Chief Ganz retires, reflects on 38-year career

The glue that holds Camano Island Fire and Rescue (CIFR) together — that's how Chief Mike Ganz is described by retired Stanwood Mayor Dianna White. We asked Chief Ganz to talk about the trials of running the District through the Great Recession, to be clear that the so-called "glue" of the District has been the "hand-in-hand" teamwork of the administration and the Board of Fire Commissioners.

After a 38-year career, Chief Ganz reflected recently on his start in the fire service: "I took a job as a Seattle medic unit in the mid 1970s and knew at that point that it was what I wanted to do." He was hired by the Bellevue Fire Department in 1977, and later went to medic school, training as a paramedic for his paramedic certification. Promoted to Lt. Paramedic, captain, and battalion chief, the young medic

Reflections of Colleagues:

"Chief Ganz has the institutional knowledge. The glue that has held CIFR together is Chief Ganz."
Retired Stanwood Mayor Dianna White

"He is the consummate professional."
City of Arlington Fire Dept.
Chief Bruce Stobben

"He is probably the best Chief we could ever have... the Board worked extremely well with him."
CIFR Chairman Steve Lich

"We have been through some really tough times, especially the last couple of years. I think we come out the other side in pretty good shape. We have done a real good job because of Mike's work."
CIFR Commissioner Pat Mabe

New Chief: The Board of Fire Commissioners followed the recommendation of stakeholders and staff who conducted candidate interviews, selecting Michael Schick from Louisville, Colorado as CIFR's next Chief.

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