

## **Eighth St. George Station in Operation**

The St. George Fire Department placed its eighth fire station in service this morning. At 7AM a shift, consisting of a captain and two firefighters, reported to the District Chief who is now housed at the new station and St. George Engine Company 643 came to life. A formal dedication ceremony for the station will be held at an, as yet, undetermined date and time.

The new station is located at 17575 Hoo Sho Too Rd. It is designated as Station 64, the location designation that once identified a storage barn where a reserve engine was kept on Hoo Shoo Too many years ago, when the St. George Fire Department was a volunteer organization.

The station was been placed into service as soon as it was practical to do so. In fact, the day room furniture was expected to be delivered today. The station also has a spacious kitchen and crew sleeping quarters and rest room / shower facilities to ultimately accommodate eight firefighters and officers in addition to the district chief. There is office space for the district chief and a separate office for the captain of the engine company serving there.

In addition to the engine that is currently based there, Station 64 will also house the tanker truck that is currently based at the Antioch Road station.

The station's completion extends full benefit of the St. George Fire Department's Class 2 Fire Rating to those residents who previously lived beyond seven road miles from a manned fire station. Those citizens, living in the lower Hoo Shoo Too / Kendalwood / Horseshoe Bend area will see a significant drop in their homeowner's insurance premiums. It is recommended that they notify their insurance agents of this development.

In addition to the benefit outlined above, the station will reduce response times in the Azalea Lakes, Pecan Creek, Vignes Lake, areas as well as along the lower Jefferson Hwy, Tiger Bend Road, and Elliot Road corridors. A domino effect of improved response times will be felt as units that would otherwise have been called to respond in these areas will be more readily available for emergency needs within their own primary response zones.