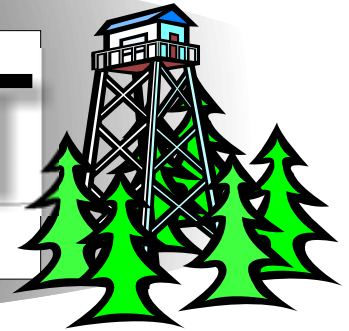


# THE LOOKOUT



A publication of the Groom Creek Fire District



Proudly Serving Groom Creek Since 1970

## Groom Creek Halloween Festival

**Sunday, October 29th 2pm-8pm at the Sky-Y Camp**

**5725 S. Senator Highway**

Our next community park fundraiser for the Park Committee will be the Groom Creek Halloween Festival on Sunday, October 29th from 2:00pm to 8:00pm at Sky Y Camp. This event is open to the general public.

- Free activities include:
- Kids crafts
- Trick-or-treat Stations
- Games with prizes
- Puppet shows
- Haunted hayride
- Costume contest (for kids 10 years and younger)
- Jump house



An archery range and a climbing wall will be available for use for \$3.00 per person.

Hot dogs, chips, beverages, cotton candy, popcorn and baked items will be available for purchase.

Admission will be:

\$5.00 for adults

\$3.00 for kids ages 6 - 18

Free for kids 5 and under

### **Volunteers and Donations Needed:**

Donations of individually wrapped candy for our trick-or-treat stations are needed. The donation box is at the Groom Creek Fire Station. If you want to help on the day of the event, please contact Ginger Bentley at 925-8964.



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The Groom Creek Fire District Board meets in regular session on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at station 41 on Friendly Pines Rd and Spur Lane. Public attendance is encouraged and welcome.

Volunteers are always needed. See our website for more information.

# 2006 Wildland Fire Season

This year's wildland season has been one of the worst on record. More than 1,000,000 acres have burned nationally and the year is not over yet. The Groom Creek Fire District was able to support the efforts of fire suppression in 4 western states (outside of Arizona).

Our participation in this year's fire season has brought in much needed income to the fire district. This was the first year that our budget required an income amount of \$40,000 for responding to fires out of the fire district. This was a necessary step in order to maintain a low tax levy rate and provide the full-time staffing at the fire station throughout the year.

We were also able to provide training to our members that we can not provide at home. We were able to work on the qualifications of our wildland fire team members that will help them to respond to fires in our area in the future. We do not send anyone out of the area until the severity of our season has diminished.

## Annexation

The annexation of the Mt. Tritle area was unable to be successfully completed at this time. One signature on a qualified electors petition was unable to be submitted to the County within the time frame allowed by statute.

Significant changes in the law will make it easier to bring these residents into the fire district in the future if they still desire to be annexed (no qualified electors petitions will be necessary - only 51% of the property ownership must be in favor of annexation). A six-month waiting period must be observed prior to resubmitting the request for annexation and presentation of an impact statement to the fire district Board.

This will be the last area that we believe is in the best interest of the fire district to have within our legal boundaries. We are the closest agency to respond to these areas and we would respond there in the event of an emergency regardless. It makes sense that if we are to provide services here that they should share the costs and benefits of our operations.

The fire season began this year in February with a response to the Payson area in our new engine. This gave us the hands-on experience of working on this apparatus on a wildland fire assignment and helped us to configure the layout of tools and equipment. We are now assisting with the prescribed fires in the greater Prescott area and have completed the burning in the Groom Creek area.

When this year is complete, we will have generated over \$150,000 in revenue (about 50% of that amount is paid to our personnel in wages and benefits) that will be used to improve our financial position as we look forward to building a new fire station.

Our thanks go out to our members who have spent time away from their families and jobs to assist the fire district in our endeavors to make Groom Creek the best trained and equipped fire district we can be. Without the support of these members and their families we would not be able to increase our levels of service while maintaining our desired tax levy rate.

## Groom Creekers

**The Groom Creekers met on Mon. 10-2-06 for their monthly meeting. This is a group of friendly Groom Creek Women of all ages who like to meet socially once a month to visit and volunteer to do things to support our Groom Creek Community. We would love to include you in our membership if you are available the first Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m.**

**If you have questions, please call Mary Lou Hodgeson at 443-8654. During the 10-2 meeting, we discussed our Christmas Luncheon at the Victorian Tea Garden, the upcoming Fall Festival at the Sky Y Camp on Sun. 10-29, the sale of Groom Creek T-Shirts and our ongoing used book and canned food collections. We would love to see you at our next meeting on Nov. 6.**

**If you have questions about our community T-shirt sale, call Claudia Starr at 776-7451. Long and short sleeve shirts available - great idea for holiday Gifts!!**

**Be sure to come join the fun at our 1st annual Fall Festival at the Sky-Y Camp on 10-29 at 2:00 p.m.**

# Fuels Management Projects

The hazardous fuels programs of the Groom Creek Fire District have been a great success so far. The support of the community has been the major factor in this success. Our fuels crew has performed treatments on approximately 80% of the private parcels in the district. We have recently received new grant funding for the continuation of our Fuels Management Programs for the next two years.

This time, we will focus on including the private parcels in the Spruce Mountain/Upper Groom Creek area as well as continuing our treatments in Groom Creek. An additional focus of our project this time will be to maintain the properties we have treated in the past.

With the moisture we have received, there has been a lot of vegetation re-growth. This growth will become ladder fuels for a wildland fire in the future. Groom Creek's fuels crew can mitigate those fuels in order to help prevent catastrophic wildfires. Creating and maintaining defensible space is vital to keeping us safe.

Under our current project we will provide the following services:

- ▶ Chipper Service
- ▶ Dumpster Program
- ▶ Prescribed Fire Assistance
- ▶ Hazardous Fuels Reduction
- ▶ Overstory Fuels Reduction
- ▶ Emergency Access Route Clearing

The fee schedule for this program has changed. Please visit our website for a list of the current fees at [www.groomcreek.org](http://www.groomcreek.org)

To participate in the projects, or if you have any questions or comments please call Colin Port, Field Supervisor at the fire station (778-6519).

***A public meeting will be held Saturday, November 4th at 10:00 a.m. at the fire station to present information about our fuels project. Hotdogs and other refreshments will be provided.***

## Groom Creek History

Excerpts paraphrased from "Echoes of the Past - Tales of Old Yavapai Vol. 2" by Evelyn Mackin Zuchero - published 1964 by The Yavapai Cowbells, Inc.

"It has often been said that the second Senator Road was built "by the mile" as this meant more money for the builder, the Aubrey Investment Company. With Jack Trenberth in charge, the road was constructed between Prescott and Groom Creek during the years 1912 to 1914. There were two hundred and forty curves in the road owing to the rough terrain. Equipment in those days consisted of mules, scrapers, fresnos, picks and shovels. The Indian laborers simply followed the contour of the

area, having none of the modern-day earth-moving equipment. The road leading out of town veered to the right at a spot now known as Juniper Heights. Later, the third Senator Road shortened the distance between Juniper Heights and Wolf Creek Junction. In 1941, the road was paved to upper Groom Creek by the Pierson-Dickerson Company of Prescott. The old road today is still much like a cow trail from the Junction to the new Senator Road. It is to be hoped that this portion will one day be paved also, inasmuch as the scenery in that area would be greatly appreciated by many."

(This book is available at the Sharlot Hall museum Bookstore).



## Groom Creek Fire District

1110 E friendly Pines Rd  
Prescott, AZ 86303

Phone 928.778.6519  
Email [gcfid@cablone.net](mailto:gcfid@cablone.net)

[www.groomcreek.org](http://www.groomcreek.org)

## CPR Classes

Thanks to all members of the community who have attended one of our CPR and First Aid classes. We will continue to offer these classes to all residents of the fire district and their families at no cost. The curriculum includes CPR for adults, children and infants, environmental emergencies, basic first aid skills and use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Our next class is scheduled for Saturday, November 4th from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. and will include lunch. If

you are interested, please call the fire station at 778-6519 and speak with Todd Bentley. Leave a message if we are not available and we'll get back with you to confirm your attendance.

Class space is limited to 8 people so reserve your place as soon as possible.



## Groom Creek Run

**The 2nd Annual Groom Creek Community Classic was held on Saturday, September 16th. It was another very successful event for the community.**

**Net Profit: \$2194.85**

### **Profit Split:**

Proceeds were split between Yavapai Humane Society and the Groom Creek Park fund at 67% / 33% respectively.

*Park Fund: 724.30*

*YHS: 1470.55*

We wish to thank all of the sponsors and volunteers who have made this event such a success.

Please check our website for the race results and list of the sponsors. Anyone interested in helping with next year's event can contact the fire station for more information.