



County of Powhatan, Virginia



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Powhatan Fire & Rescue receives Extrication Equipment Funded by Federal Grant

POWHATAN, VA – Powhatan Fire & Rescue Department received three sets of battery-operated extrication equipment from a FEMA Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant. Grant writer, Gene Reams who formally worked in the fire industry, was contracted by the County to help orchestrate a successful grant application as he has done for the department several times in the past. The FEMA Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant is a federally backed grant given out to supplement fire and rescue equipment. Powhatan Fire & Rescue, Fine Creek Volunteer Fire Department and Huguenot Volunteer Fire Department have received this grant in previous years since its inception in 2001.

The \$98,000 awarded to Powhatan Fire & Rescue Department was used to purchase three sets of battery-operated extrication equipment from Interstate Rescue. One set will be kept on each of the new fire engines housed at Deep Creek Volunteer Fire Department and Macon Volunteer Fire Department. The third set will be kept at Fine Creek Volunteer Fire Department. All currently have older extrication equipment run by power units and hose attachments which can be cumbersome and less portable due to attachment restrictions.

Chief Warner stated, “We are excited to be awarded this grant and have the opportunity to purchase new Hurst extrication tools. The selection committee, headed by District Chief Will Hendel, and comprised of members of all five volunteer fire departments and career staff, did a very thorough job evaluating numerous battery-operated extrication equipment vendors, scoring each before finally choosing Hurst. I am thankful for the hours they dedicated to choosing the right equipment for Powhatan and its citizens. Having battery-operated equipment will enable us to respond quicker and easier in situations that require emergency extrication.”

Interstate Rescue will provide continued training to all three volunteer fire departments receiving the equipment which will be placed into service May 2020.



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