



Est. 1925

# WESTMORELAND CITY V.F.D.

## NORTH HUNTINGDON TOWNSHIP

8650 BROADWAY, WESTMORELAND CITY, PA 15692

PHONE: (724)863-9088

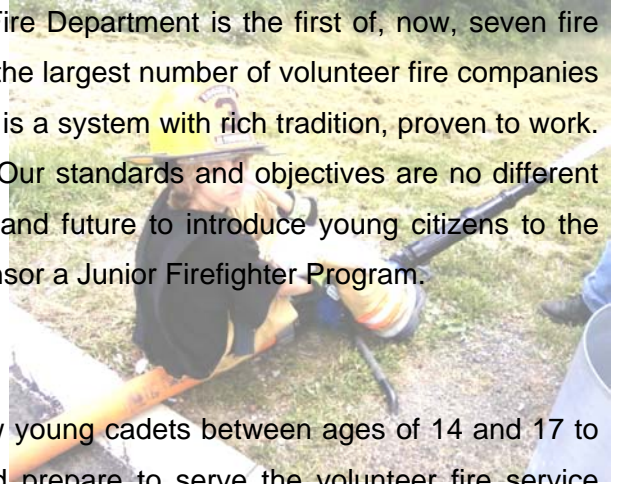
[www.wcvfd3.org](http://www.wcvfd3.org)



## Jr. Firefighter Program

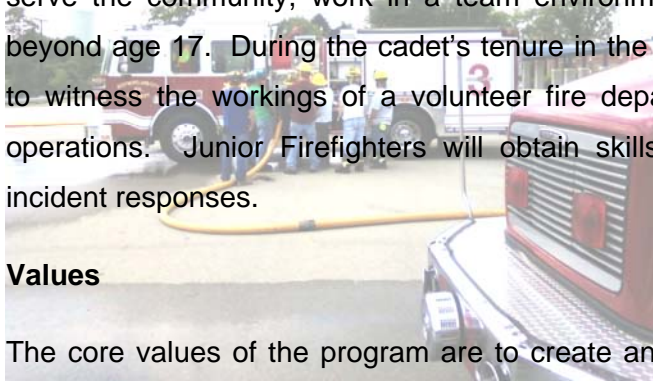
### Introduction

Established in 1925, the Westmoreland City Volunteer Fire Department is the first of, now, seven fire companies in North Huntingdon Twp. Pennsylvania has the largest number of volunteer fire companies that protect its population dating back to Ben Franklin. It is a system with rich tradition, proven to work, and can only exist with dedicated professional people. Our standards and objectives are no different than a paid department. It is vital to this rich tradition and future to introduce young citizens to the volunteer fire service. In an effort to achieve this we sponsor a Junior Firefighter Program.



### Purpose

The purpose of the Junior Firefighter Program is to allow young cadets between ages of 14 and 17 to serve the community, work in a team environment and prepare to serve the volunteer fire service beyond age 17. During the cadet's tenure in the Jr. Firefighter Program they will have the opportunity to witness the workings of a volunteer fire department from administrative to emergency response operations. Junior Firefighters will obtain skills through organized classes, training sessions and incident responses.

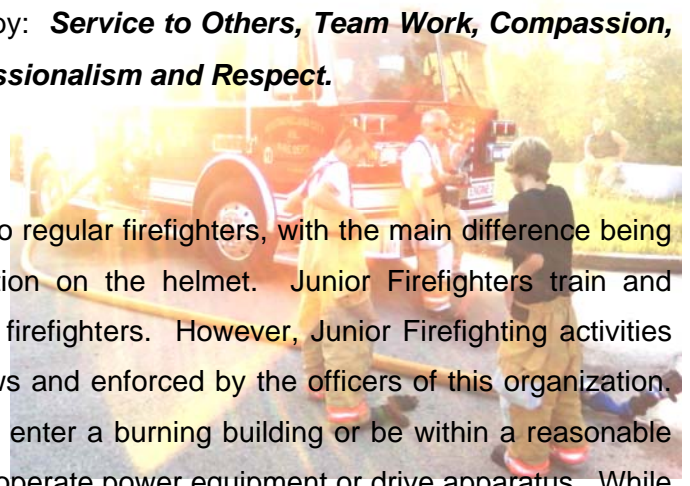


### Values

The core values of the program are to create and maintain an environment of individual safety, well-being and trust. Our entire organization is guided by: ***Service to Others, Team Work, Compassion, Integrity, Safety, Honesty, Accountability, Professionalism and Respect.***

### Operations

Each cadet will receive protective clothing, similar to regular firefighters, with the main difference being the orange reflectors, orange crest and designation on the helmet. Junior Firefighters train and respond to emergency incidents alongside regular firefighters. However, Junior Firefighting activities are restricted by the Pennsylvania Child Labor Laws and enforced by the officers of this organization. For example, Junior Firefighters are not allowed to enter a burning building or be within a reasonable distance of it. Junior firefighters are not allowed to operate power equipment or drive apparatus. While



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on scene of an emergency incident, Junior Firefighters work under the direct supervision of a senior member and often an officer.

### Participation

We encourage as much participation as possible but recognize young adults have other schedules and interests. At minimum, each Jr. Firefighter is responsible to participate to the level of obtaining the minimum annual point requirement. The minimum annual point requirement is 15 points per calendar year. One (1) point is awarded for participation in any function that includes, but not limited to emergency responses, training sessions, organized classes, work details, etc. Failure to comply with this point requirement will terminate membership in the Junior Firefighter Program. When a member joins the annual point requirement is modified for the first year only (calculated by taking (13-Month Number Joined)\*(15/12)

### Participation Hours

Junior Firefighters will be limited to the activities and time frame dictated by [Act 1915, P.L. 286, No. 177 Section 7.3](#) of the Pennsylvania Child Labor Laws. Unless the times below conflict with the Pennsylvania Child Labor Laws, Jr. Firefighters may respond to emergencies and participate in department functions as follows:

Participation Hours		
Age	14-15	16-17
School Nights (Sun-Thur)	7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.	6:00 a.m.-11:59 p.m.
Non-School Nights (Fri-Sat) with Written Consent	7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.	6:00 a.m.-1:00 a.m.
School Vacations June to Labor Day	7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.	6:00 a.m.-1:00 a.m.

### School

Our first priority is given to education; therefore, during school a grade point average of 2.0 must be maintained during a grading period to be eligible for participation. In the event that a 2.0 g.p.a. is not maintained, the Jr. Firefighter will be suspended until next grade period. A Jr. Firefighter may appeal a suspension only by having a consultation between Fire Chief, Jr. Adviser and Guardian(s). In the event that a 2.0 g.p.a. is not achieved in the final grading period of a school year, suspension will be waived





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with written consent of guardian. It is the responsibility of the Jr. Firefighter to provide the Jr. Adviser a copy of the report card after each grading period.

### Insurance

When participating in activities for the organization, members are covered by Workmen's Compensation Insurance provided any injuries are reported in a timely basis.



### Other Benefits

As a member of this organization college tuition discounts are available at Westmoreland County Community College and other participating colleges in the Commonwealth. Often universities are covered by near by volunteer fire companies that offer a "live in" program for students. In exchange for training and emergency responses, students receive free room and board at the firehouse while attending classes at a university.

Each member also receives death benefit coverage through various associations our department belongs to. The forms are provided after the applicant has been accepted and beneficiaries can be changed at any time.

### Getting Started

- Complete Application and have it signed by Parent/Guardian and return to fire company.
- Consultation between Fire Officer and Parent/Guardian.
- Application will be voted on at regular meeting (typically first Monday of month)
- After Acceptance:
  - Complete Working Papers (obtain from school district) which include Physician Signature and then Fire Chief. Return to School District and copy must be provided to fire department.
  - Complete Death Beneficiary Forms
  - Complete Department Orientation
  - Receive assigned Protective Clothing
  - .....Participate in Training and Emergency Responses

