

Munford-Atoka Fire Department

Munford-Atoka Fire Department
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FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE – July 2014

On June 25, 2014, the Town of Atoka advised the City of Munford that Atoka intends to have in place its own independent fire department by July 2015 (twelve months from now). This transition follows many decades of fire protection and medical response services by the joint Munford-Atoka fire department, which served the citizens of both communities and has often come to the aid of nearby county residents. Our two municipalities have always worked closely together in this way, and we will continue to do so during and after this transition.

Over the next 12 months, there will still be a joint Munford-Atoka Fire Department providing the same services long provided to both communities. At the same time, there will be planning and cooperation as we transition to two independent fire departments, side by side, providing automatic aid to each other, along with coordinated training and support. We will draw on our past experience from 1996, when Atoka created its own Police Department apart from the (previous) Munford-Atoka Police Department. And we'll draw on eighteen years of support and close cooperation between our two excellent police departments.

Below are several questions and answers regarding this upcoming transition. As we continue with the process, we will update this section to keep you informed.

Q. What is the immediate impact to fire protection in Munford and Atoka?

A. Nothing will change in the immediate future. The staffing plan for both the Munford fire station and the Walker Parkway fire station remains in place and fire protection services will continue to be provided under the existing contract for fire services. Rest assured, when a call is received for emergency fire or medical assistance, the partnership that has provided that protection for the past decades will be there to swiftly answer the call.

Q. What will happen after July 1, 2015 and how will we continue to work together?

A. Our two communities care about each other and are closely tied together, so there is absolutely a need for cooperation and coordination going forward. The Munford and Atoka Police and Public Works Departments cooperate and coordinate today - and the Fire Departments will tomorrow. Joint training, equipment sharing, mutual automatic aid and more will all be a part of working together in the future.

Q. What's the next step? Where do we go from here?

A. For the next 12 months, the existing joint fire department will continue to provide – to both Munford and Atoka -- the full range of fire and medical response services it has long provided. Over the next twelve months, the City of Munford will participate with the Town of Atoka and their new Fire Chief on a smooth transition to two independent fire departments, working together in cooperation. Also, both communities are reviewing a formal agreement for automatic aid and coordinated training and support, as appropriate. When Atoka's new fire department assumes responsibility for services in their town (on or about July 1, 2015) the existing Munford Fire Department personnel will perform their duties from their headquarters at the current fire station on 1375 Munford Avenue.