



Greater Naples Fire Rescue

JULY // 3RD // ISSUE 11

THE BOTTOM LINE



KEEPING YOU INFORMED.



June 9th Vehicle fire on Collier Blvd.

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COMMUNITY**

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SPOTLIGHT**

**HEALTH
UPDATE**



GNFD IN THE COMMUNITY



The Max Hasse Community Park Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) students learning about Fire Safety in April!



CPR training at Golden Gate High in April!

Last Day of School Hose Down

Shadowlawn Elementary

05.26.23





EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Recruit class 23-01 officially pinned in May!





EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Fire and Life Safety



Congratulations Captain Inspector Michael Cruz on receiving the award for Fire Investigator of the year in June at the FAFLSE and FFEIA joint conference in Orlando! We are so proud of your hard work and dedication to the residents of Collier County!



Congratulations to Inspectors Joel Glover & Aaron Stewart (Not pictured) on their promotion to Lieutenant in June!



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Promotions



Congratulations Matt Nixon on your promotion to Battalion Chief in April!



Congratulations to newly promoted Driver Engineers Soto, Tomaselli and Contreras in April!



Congratulations to our newly promoted Lieutenants, Palmateer, Perez, Youngsman and Stoller who were pinned in April!



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Phoenix Award



Congratulations to the recipients of the Phoenix Award in June! This award recognizes first responders who, through their skills and knowledge, have brought back to life individuals who have died. One of those individuals is pictured with the first responders who saved him!



EMS NEWS

Dr. James Augustine

Health Update from the Associate Medical Director

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Welcome Summer! And all that comes with it. Less traffic, warm waters, long days of sunshine, travel, and memorable times with the kids.

This is the time of generally good health, and less medical problems. But a couple issues are really timely as we enter the warmest months of the year.

Infections this time of year are different than in the winter. We worry most about those associated with ticks, mosquitos, and warm waters. Sure, respiratory infections, urinary tract infections, and GI illnesses occur year round. But bugs are most active when temperatures are warm. Ticks cause a variety of problems seen across the body. Children should be screened for ticks when they come in from activities in long grasses and the woods. So should pets (and you can put tick protection on the animals but not the kids). The intent is to remove them before they embed in the skin. Once they have burrowed into the skin, removal is more difficult, and they can spread their diseases. Tick diseases depend on the area of the country where the tick is living, but the worst diseases have a fever and a rash. The CDC website has good information on tick removal, if they do get embedded. It also lists the diseases by the area of the country, and has pictures of the rashes that occur.

Mosquitos are obviously much more numerous in the warm moist months. There are many more viruses spread by bites in the summer months, and many of them cause humans to be very sick. High fevers are a common symptom, and a rash that is beyond the simple mosquito bite. We were just advised of the presence of malaria in Florida and other southern United States. Patients with mosquito borne illnesses like West Nile can have infection around their spinal cord and brain with ominous names like meningitis and encephalitis. A high fever in the summer months is a much more worrisome issue, and should prompt a visit to your doctor, or site for emergency care.

Warm water allows many organisms to flourish. Those bugs can find a ready place to infect in the ear canals, wounds, and other dark moist places. Swimmers' ear is a painful condition, and must be treated with prescribed ear drops. Open wounds can get a number of infections that are very serious. They have really varied organisms that cause the wound infections, with names like vibrio, pseudomonas, MRSA, and strep. There is also an ameba named Naegleri that lives in warm freshwater and enters the body through the nose.

In the patient groups that we deal with in EMS, a patient with a high fever or chills at this time of the year will benefit from a full evaluation, and transport to a full-service emergency department for diagnostics and care. The patient should be checked for any obvious site of infection, for ticks, and for rashes. The most concerning rashes are the ones where the blood vessels are breaking down. Those patterns are called petechiae when they are small red dots, and purpura when they form larger purple, red, and gold lesions. When dealing with infected patients, it is always wise to use PPE that includes at least gloves, an N95 mask, eye shields, and a gown if the patient is losing body fluids. With a patient that is coughing, please also have the patient wear a mask.

Clean yourself and equipment after the patient is transitioned in care, and safely dispose of any dirty gear.

Stay safe and healthy this season!





THE BOTTOM LINE

OPERATIONS

Welcome to the Fleet!



May 15th: Battalion 73 in service



May 19th : Engines 24, 73, 74, 75 & 90 in service

Car fire 6.8.23

