

## Expanded Service Coverage and Annexation Options

The Board of Directors of the Applegate Valley Rural Fire Protection District #9 (Applegate Fire District) recently passed Resolution 2024/20252, expanding our Service Coverage Area to include properties within 7 miles of Station 54 at 12188 Williams Hwy and Station 56 at 1076 Kubli Rd., in line with ORS 478.702. This step helps enhance community safety and emergency response.

Important Note: Being in our Service Coverage Area is not the same as being annexed. Your property is *\*not\** automatically part of the district. However, you may choose to annex your property if desired, or opt out of annexation. Watch for notification letters coming soon with instructions on how to respond.

We're working on an agreement with Rural Metro Fire Department to ensure that properties opting for annexation will have fire protection through them until Applegate Fire District has full capacity to cover the area.

Key Details on Annexation:

If you choose to annex your property:

- You'll receive fire protection services from Applegate Fire and/or Rural Metro Fire.
- A certification letter will confirm your fire protection status.
- Annexed properties will have Applegate Fire District tax rates:
  - Permanent Rate: \$1.6787 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.
  - Temporary Levy: \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value, ending June 30, 2029.
- There is no fee for the annexation process.

If you choose not to annex:

- Insurance companies might not offer property insurance discounts without annexation (per ORS 478.702(7)(b)).
- You'll need a subscription with Rural Metro Fire Department for fire protection services.
- Your property will automatically be annexed if any of the following occurs:
  - The property changes ownership.
  - New structures are built on the property.
  - A building permit is issued for the property.

If you choose not to annex and don't subscribe to Rural Metro:

- Applegate Fire and Rural Metro are not obligated to respond to emergencies at your property.
- If they do respond, you may be billed three times the service cost as per ORS 478.702 and the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Cost Schedule. Rural Metro may also issue their own bill for services provided.

If you have additional questions, please email [admin@applegatefd.com](mailto:admin@applegatefd.com) .

We're here to help you understand your options and make an informed decision.