



## From The President

Hello everyone. Spring 2021? Where does the time go? I hope you and your families are doing well during these strange times.

By the time you receive this, we will have held our first Pancake Breakfast since 2019. We are anxious to return to normal, as best we can, in the new era of changing norms.

If you aren't signed up to receive our emails make sure you check [walkerfire.org](http://walkerfire.org) for our calendar of "Upcoming Events".

The Annual Meeting will be held on May 29th. Again, back to normal, but normal will mean many of you will not come because of the continuing Covid threat and some will come in spite of it. We will

accommodate any and all of you who just want to drop off a proxy at the Firehouse or just to get a ballot to vote but not stay for the meeting. We will be spread out and recommend masks be worn to be safe.

Because this Newsletter has Candidate Bios, I've been asked to shorten my usually rambling talk about the good old days here in Walker.

Roger and his crew of Volunteers are constantly working. Training twice a month and responding to a variety of calls. They are the lifeblood of our Association.

Your Board has also been hard at work. The effort in recent months has been to find a couple of trucks to beef up our fleet. One has turned out to be what Roger is calling a "Unicorn". We just can't find it, (A decent





As a real estate agent, I see a lot of marketing tools come and go, so, at first, I was sceptical of 3D virtual tours.

What I've found is that they are actually effective at selling property faster, and for more money. Buyers love them.

I've also learned that Zillow and realtor.com rank listings with 3D virtual tours higher than others. The Matterport company says 95% of people are more likely to call about properties with 3D virtual tours.

I know two thirds of Walker buyers are from out of the area. With a 3D virtual tour, they can see your property, and fall in love with it, before they even set foot on it.

Because they are so effective, I have decided to have 3D virtual tours built for every property I list, from the lowest priced lot to the highest priced home.

I can also build a custom, stand alone web site for your property to show off that 3D virtual tour for you.

Here are the last three property sites I built:  
<https://www.6631keystone.com>  
<https://www.3295walker.com>  
<https://www.silverjuniper.com>

Each site has a 3D virtual tour for you to look at and play with.

The last two properties I put in escrow had offers accepted for more than asking price.

If you are thinking about selling your property in Walker, now is the time to sell.

Please give me a call.  
 Thanks.

## THINKING ABOUT SELLING YOUR HOUSE, CABIN, OR VACANT LOT? CALL ME! 928-925-4428

**Conrad Walton**

conrad@prescottrealestate.com

**928.925.4428**

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 Mountain Desert

100 E Sheldon Street Suite 200  
 Prescott, AZ 86301



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used 1-ton short bed short cab 4WD Pickup truck to replace an older vehicle in the fleet. A new one is in the \$75,000.00 neighborhood and a used one is very scarce).

We are also concentrating on an addition to the fleet of a used 3/4 ton 4WD Expanded Cab pickup to be used as a utility/ transportation vehicle.

This will be used to move volunteers, equipment, supplies, and anything else we need back and forth from a fire without taking firefighting equipment off the line or using someone's personal vehicle.

You, the Community, continue to support us financially and we always seem to have just the right number of dollars and volunteers to get the job done.

I encourage you to get involved with us. We exist because people are willing to help. We can use your skills...whatever they are. It doesn't take much. Every shovelful you lift saves someone else from having to do it, (That's Rhetorical, we don't lift

many shovelfuls of anything, but do flip a lot of hamburgers, pancakes, move tables, chairs, merchandise, sweep and take pride in our Fire House.)

It's fun, rewarding and needed, so please let us know if you have some time to lend a hand.

Thanks much and be safe.

Bill Loughrige  
WFPA President

## From The Fire Chief

We certainly had a strange winter, weather-wise. After no precipitation for weeks early on, we finished with several storms including the big one in late January. Our area is still in a drought and that is likely to persist.

On the positive side though, we are seeing long range forecasts calling for a strong monsoon season which would be welcomed relief after having essentially no summer rains in 2020.



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One issue we need to address from last season is the “confusion” over what is and is not allowed during the fire ban.

Once burn restrictions are announced, usually this occurs in May, there is no activity allowed outside involving any sort of flame or sparks or an activity that could potentially cause sparks. This includes warming (camp) fires, work like welding, cooking with charcoal, smoking outside; about the only activity allowed in this context is cooking with propane.

It is the county that determines when restrictions are imposed so that means we, on our private property are beholden to these restrictions.

We would again ask that if you rent out your cabin, that you please take extra time to explain the ordinances and the dangers to your renters.

Last summer, the fire department was called out numerous times to vacation rentals where the renters did not know about the restrictions despite the many signs posted.

The department will again post the signs pictured below for the fire season that say Fire Ban! No Burning!



If you live on a relatively busy street, or on the way to some sort of popular destination up here (like the Charcoal Kiln as one example) we’re hoping you’d take a sign or two and post them strategically when the fire season starts.

Please take advantage of the Chip ‘n Haul opportunity to clean your property and take wood, slash and other forest debris to the station house for the duration of the event.

As has been the case for the last few summers, your best source for reliable and current information during an incident is the department’s Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/walkerfiredept/>

As most of the community knows, Walker Fire is a donations-based (non-profit organization) fire department. We rely on donations to support for the costs of training, equipment and all other expenses incurred in running a fire department. We receive no tax revenue and our non-profit status makes it very difficult to find grants for which we are eligible to apply.

Like just about every other aspect of life, the fire service is becoming increasingly complex and increasingly expensive. If you are not already doing so, please consider making a donation to Walker Fire today.

Thank you,  
Roger Nusbaum



## THINKING ABOUT SELLING YOUR PROPERTY?



The year so far is proving to be a busy one for the housing market. The Walker and Potato Patch areas are no exception to that. As of April 2021 I have sold 6 cabins and 7 parcels of land in the Walker area already along with also having several active “for sale” listings. Area inventory is low while prices continue to rise and I have buyers ready to purchase.

When it comes to buying or selling a property having a personal approach to each customer is important. I make sure I go the extra mile with every customer, every time, in all matters. Being a full time Walker resident allows me to service both buyers and sellers quickly and efficiently.

Please give me a call or send me an email whether you are looking to sell your property or purchase a property. We can discuss property availability and/or property values and formatulate a plan that works best for you.



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## From The Secretary

“Spring is when life’s alive in everything.”  
– Christina Rossetti

Hello community and welcome to the spring edition of our Walker Newsletter. Let me first say a warm welcome to all of our new residents in the area. And to all of our long time residents, I am glad to welcome you to another newsletter.

As secretary for the WFPA I can report to you that it has been a busy year thus far for your WFPA Board and Fire Chief. We have maintained a consistent schedule of meetings throughout this tough year and very productive ones I might add. There have been so many new ideas on how to best serve WFPA and the community and many discussions and reviews relating to our current procedures and systems that are in place and working to make them work even better for us and you. Good communication is the foundation to success. And being well informed helps everyone. One of the things I am most excited to report is that going forward we are expanding our communications with the community. WFPA will be making more efforts in 2021 to share more information with you including, announcements, ideas/tips, fire and/or hazard warnings, etc. And all this sharing is GOOD NEWS for all of us! Regardless of how you personally obtain information whether that is print, this newsletter, Walker Fire Facebook page, etc. it is important that we/WFPA takes the steps to share as much as we can with you. As we move along in 2021 one of those contact formats we will be utilizing much more is email. Some of the topics to look forward to hearing more about in the future will be:

- \* Learning more about WFPA.
- \* How to become a Walker Fire volunteer.
- \* Property Cleanup opportunities/Firewise
- \* How you can get the highly sought after Walker Merchandise.
- \* Burn restriction updates (these are a MUST for cabin owners and for anyone renting out their property).
- \* Fire condition awareness.
- \* Preparing for winter. (Hint: start chopping wood now! HAHA!)
- \* What to do with your fireplace ashes.
- \* What is a Red Flag Warning? And what should I do?
- \* Looking out for your neighbors.
- \* Who to contact for emergencies.
- \* Information on Generators.
- \* AND MUCH MUCH MORE!

This is just one of the new things we have coming your way and hope that you find these helpful. The Walker Fire Board is such a hard working and dedicated group and I am grateful to work with them. Meetings are always open to the community and I would encourage you to come, listen, participate and really learn about what is happening and what work we are doing. We are stronger when we all help one another.

Kind regards,  
Clyde McKay  
WFPA Secretary



## From The Treasurer

Hello again my fellow Walkerites.

Hope all have been enjoying the winter in Walker. For me, I'm about done with the mud and ready for spring!

I'm looking forward to eating some pancakes and refreshing my summer wardrobe with some new Walker Fire merchandise.

The WFPA financial status has been very stable in spite for the lack of fundraising activities thanks to your continued support. Planning has begun to restart some of our normal events.

We are also working on improving the



# WCAA

Proud sponsor of Chip & Haul,  
Walker Firewise, Sundae Saturdays,  
Walker Adopt-A-Road, and more...

Join now at

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

Walker Trash Collection Service renewal process to help get the new codes out faster. In the mean time I am happy to help and can be contacted at [treasurer@walkerfire.org](mailto:treasurer@walkerfire.org).

As always there are financial reports posted on our website along with my activities noted in the monthly meeting minutes.

The Annual meeting is only a few months away, I will be up for reelection this year and I am willing to continue to serve so your vote is appreciated.

Hope to see you all there.

Thanks,  
Lance  
WFPA Treasurer



**Steven Martin**  
Wildlife Biologist

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# WFPA Board Of Directors Candidate Bios

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## John Ohanesian

Janet and I have lived in Walker full time for almost 14 years. I have been on the board for 12 of them. I am currently the fund raising and Walker Day chairman, co-chair of the annual firefighter appreciation day, coordinate our insurance services, act as liaison between the WCAA and the WFPA.

I retired 20 years ago as an insurance and financial agent for the Prudential. I started my own small business from home and am active at my Church. I understand the importance of having a strong fire department here in the mountains. I believe it's a good use of my time and skills.

I am happy to stay on as senior BOD member for the WFPA.

John Ohanesian, (AKA Johnny O)

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## Lance Gilbert

I have been your treasurer for the last two years. In that time I have established a good working relationship with the other board members, accountants, and fire fighters. I have done my best to organize and provide transparency of the WFPA's financial activities. I am happy to to continue serving.

Thank you for your vote.  
Lance Gilbert

## Rudy Erdmann

I'm a current board member and hope to continue in that service. I've been a Walker home owner for 50 (1971) years and am currently a full time resident.

In that time I served as Fire Chief, rode patrols with our volunteer retired sheriff, Al Powell, watched us grow from party phone lines, CB radios, TV antennas and dirt road from the cattle guard to the mailboxes to satellite service, paved roads and an unmatched fire and EMT department.

I have a Bachelor's from Michigan State Univ and a Masters from ASU in construction management and have managed up 150 people which taught me that things get done best when you get along and earn respect.

I'm still working as a Construction Manager and spend my free time managing my art career and am currently displaying my wood carvings in 4 galleries in AZ.

Living in Walker, seeing it grow in a positive way and contributing to the betterment of our community is very rewarding. It's a special place where old and new friends, family and neighbors can enjoy each other as well as a place where solitude can be found.

Thank you,  
Rudy Erdmann

## **Walker Fire Protection Association, Inc. Proxy and Instructions**

As provided for in the bylaws of the Walker Fire Protection Association, Inc. ("WFPA"), proxy voting is permitted for the Annual Meeting which will be held at the WFPA Fire Station located at 4980 E. Walker Road, Prescott, AZ 86303, at 9:00am, Saturday May 29th, 2021. Proxies are available upon request by email at [secretary@walkerfire.org](mailto:secretary@walkerfire.org), or by phone request at 480-329-8443 or available for download on the WFPA website at [www.walkerfire.org](http://www.walkerfire.org). A proxy for each person voting must be correctly completed, signed and returned either by mail to WFPA, PO Box 10174, Prescott, Arizona 86304 or emailed to [secretary@walkerfire.org](mailto:secretary@walkerfire.org), attention WFPA Secretary no later than Thursday May 27<sup>th</sup> 2021, or can be physically delivered to the WFPA Secretary at the Annual Meeting between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m., on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

WFPA Member eligibility to vote is defined by the WFPA bylaws, Article III "Members" and summarized as; 1) owning or participating in the ownership of property within a three mile radius of the Fire Station, property included in the Potato Patch Area Association or otherwise accepted as a Member under guidelines/criteria adopted, from time to time, by the WFPA Board of Directors and 2) consent by State Statute as defined in section 3.1.1.2 through 3.1.1.2.2.6.

The number of total votes eligible by Members shall not exceed one vote per Member and no more than two votes for property ownership held in "joint" ownership interest as defined in Section 3.4 through 3.4.6 of the WFPA bylaws. The total votes eligible are limited as defined, regardless of the number of parcels owned or ownership participation as defined in section 3.9 of the WFPA bylaws.

Proxy will be verified for eligibility and against a Member roster with a record date of May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Proxy qualification will be reviewed and verified with final eligibility determined by the WFPA Secretary. Any proxies not signed, not in proper order or not matching the Member roster will be set aside and considered invalid.

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### **Walker Fire Protection Association, Inc.**

#### **Proxy Form**

#### **Know All Men By These Presents:**

The undersigned owner, or their voting representative, at the Walker address of:

\_\_\_\_\_ or parcel # \_\_\_\_\_, hereby constitute and appoint the Secretary of the association, his designee, or \_\_\_\_\_, as nominee, and proxy with powers of substitution for and in the name and place of the undersigned, to appear, represent, and cast votes matters to come before the Walker Fire Protection Association, Inc., Annual Meeting to be held on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 9:00AM at the Walker Fire Station located at 4980 E. Walker Road, Prescott, AZ, 86303.

The undersigned ratify and confirm any and all acts that this proxy may do or cause to be done in the premises, whether at the meeting referred to above or at any change, adjournment, or continuation, and revoke all prior proxies previously executed.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

# About the WFPA and How You Fund Our Services

We are a Member funded/driven, not for profit, section 501(c)(3) volunteer organization formed 50+ years ago by Walker Members like you.

The WFPA provides the first line of defense between hazard and safety for the Walker community.

The WFPA receives minimal to no funding from the government and has historically had to rely on 35% to 40% of the Walker Membership to donate 100% of it's annual operating budget.

Fire department volunteers and your Board are extremely frugal and have managed the department's finances prudently in both good and bad times and through several challenging recessions.

The department has no debt and a reasonable

cash reserve to insulate it from any unforeseen events.

However, without increasing the financial participation of our Members, equipment upgrades or additions will be out of reach and added services out of the question.

We need your help.

Participating Walker Members that have already made their 2021 donations reward our hard working volunteers with funds to provide insurance protection, safe equipment and continuous training in order to serve you better... a handsome return of your investment dollars.

Any one of the many calls each year could have become a much more serious incident to a Member's well being or property.

Please review the following donation information and consider the significant community benefits provided by your volunteers at the WFPA... and contribute!

## DONATION PAYMENT METHODS:

**1. Check** - Make checks payable to the WFPA, complete the donation slip and return to:

Walker Fire Protection Association P.O. Box 10174, Prescott, AZ 86304

**2. PayPal** - Use the PayPal link on our website at [www.walkerfire.org](http://www.walkerfire.org). If you use PayPal, you do not need to send in the donation slip. Keep a copy of your receipt because your donation to the WFPA is tax deductible.

You can also update your personal information on our website by selecting the "Contact Us" form.

.....  
Please note any changes below. Insert form and donation in the enclosed envelope.

## Walker Fire Protection Association - 2021 Annual Donation Drive

Name:

Donation Amount  \$300.00 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

Check enclosed

Walker Address:

Visa:  Master Card:

Phone:

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_

Email:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV # \_\_\_\_\_

- Please include me in all WFPA emails and news  
 No change in any of my contact information



# Walker Firewise

## WILL THIS BE THE LAST YEAR FOR CHIP & HAUL?

It all boils down to money.

This year we depleted the funds that WCAA has been able to raise and save in the past through donations from Walker calendar sales and social functions. We received a \$5,500 grant from Yavapai County this year that put us over the top, but there is never a guarantee of future grants. COVID-19 has prevented social activities and the associated fund raising during years 2020/21.

To continue Chip & Haul, we as a community need to raise at least \$13,000 per year at today's cost figures.

If you feel this is a worthwhile activity and would like to see future Chip & Haul events, please consider making a donation. We will continue to strive for grant funding and any surplus donations will be carried forward and reserved in the Chip & Haul account. <http://www.walkercaa.org/>

Last year, the overgrowth of dry foliage and a nonexistent monsoon season led to fire activity seen across the state that saw a total of 2,520 wildfires, 82% of which were human-caused. Burned were 978,519 acres of land, more than was burned in years 2018 and 2019 combined. 2020 was the most destructive year for wildfires in Arizona since year 2011 when 1,016,428 acres were burned.

Arizona officials predict an early and widespread wildfire season in 2021!

What can we do ourselves? Plenty! We in Walker are all "Tree Huggers". After all, isn't that one of our main reasons to be in Walker? The Trees.

Well maybe, just maybe, we have too much of a good thing. Too many trees to hug. If we don't take steps to protect our forest from fire and beetle infestation by thinning and cleaning our forest floor, we could easily end up with black sticks instead of beautiful trees.

Who wants to hug a blackened tree?

Take advantage of "Chip & Haul" until the week ending May 20. Walker Firewise will pay the costs to chip and haul material you deposit.

## HAS WALKER A BEETLE PROBLEM?

When you see ponderosa pine trees turning yellow, it could be caused by pine engraver beetles. These are the most important tree killing agents in southwestern pine forests and are usually associated with drought.

These insects are native to the Southwest and they normally play a beneficial role in pine ecosystems. They act as natural thinning agents preying upon widely scattered trees that have been weakened or recently killed by other factors. They are among the first organisms to attack pines

damaged by fires, severe windstorms, or heavy snowstorms. Nevertheless, they are considered pests when they kill trees people want to preserve.

As of March 2, 2021, our area, Walker, was still in an “Extreme Drought” condition.

Recent snowfalls will help, but will it be enough to ward off further beetle attack(s)?

High value trees can be watered, but not over watered because that can also damage a pine tree’s health. Remember to water at the tree’s drip line, not at the base.

There are certain pesticides that may help along with certain annually applied plant foods. Bark spray such as carbaryl (Sevin) or permethrin have been suggested, but these must be re-applied as the need is perceived.

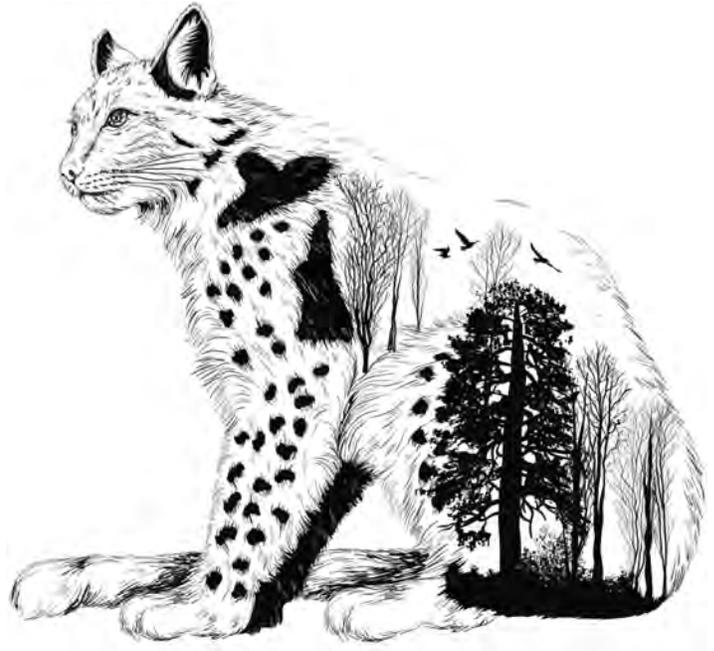
Thinning our overcrowded forest will not only provide more nutrients per tree, but can also lower the chance of wildfire spread and will add to the beauty of the overall forest. Always remove dead trees ASAP and either debark the trunk or remove the tree from the forest as soon as possible.

If you choose to chip the branches and broadcast, send the chips away from the base of live trees, keep the chips at a minimum depth so they will dry out rapidly.

Fall and winter is generally the best time for this activity.

Loren Bykerk  
Walker Community Action Alliance  
Firewise Representative  
walkerfirewise@gmail.com





# WALKER, AZ



**Rudy Erdmann**  
Inspector/ Project Manager

**Construction Management, Inc.**  
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# Walker Estate Attorneys

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(928) 445-1911**

## Walker Merchandise

Hey everyone, WERE BACK!!!

I'm so excited to let you know that our fabulous Walker Merchandise will be available again to purchase this summer at our monthly Pancake Breakfasts as well as the Annual meeting in May.

This is a great way to support our wonderful volunteer firefighters (all proceeds benefit the WFPA). I always have new items, colors, logos, etc so please stop by.

This year I am introducing a new Lynx logo, isn't it cool? You will see it on many of the apparel items. In addition to apparel, come see our coffee mugs, knitted beanie caps, Walker coasters (hand made by Marti), kids plastic firefighter hats, Walker face masks, Historic Walker License Plates and many more items, come check us out.

Wait, one last item that was such a hit last year, we are bringing it back...the personalized Walker bricks that will be displayed as a memento at the entrance of the firestation (we will have the order forms at our pancake breakfasts, order early!).

You can see samples of some of our merchandise on our [walkerfire.org](http://walkerfire.org) website as well as the calendar of scheduled events. just click on the proper links.

Any questions, feel free to text or call me, Karen, at (623) 521-2092.

Karen Gonzalaz  
WFPA Merchandise Chairman

## TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES

There has been a trash collection service at the Walker Fire Department for many years.

In recent years we have had an increase in dumpster subscribers and at times we have had issues with volume control. How much of that is due to people dumping illegal stuff other than household garbage, dishwashers cabinets even the kitchen sink?

We have shared the education process with subscribers which has slowed the illegal dumping issues quite a bit.

But the increase in subscribers still creates an issue with overall volume at times. As people become more aware/notified of this overall volume issue they have been very good at waiting about holding their trash until after the Monday and Friday pickup and are not leaving stuff on the ground which is appreciated.

One continuing problem for us has been how to effectively get the codes to people as they subscribe since these codes change yearly.

First, every year we must have everyone complete and return the subscriber form regardless of if information has changed or not. Having a yearly completed form is essential for us to conduct business properly and efficiently.

Second, we are working to update our system for receiving and processing payments. By doing this it will help us to get the new code back to subscribers faster.

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We are looking into changes that will better streamline this process and will update the community and subscribers as we implement these processes.

We ask that your bear with us as we refine the process to better serve you.

We do not have a staff that manages this business. It's all done by volunteers.

Your patience is appreciated as these volunteers must take care of these items on their personal time.

One thing that helps us is to send your forms and payments in early, before the deadline to avoid being without the new code. Be advised that our accountant processes the payments once or twice a month to keep our costs down which saves WFPA monies. Knowing this schedule could assist is planning for your subscription purchase/renewal.

We appreciate the support as the trash collection service is very important to us not only as a revenue source but as a fire safety issue to help keep people from burning their garbage.

## FEES

The subscription runs January to December for the 12 months.

Six month subscriptions are generally April-September or May- October.

The rates are \$180.00 for 12 months, \$120.00 for 6 months or \$30.00 for a month.

For those who donate \$1,000.00 or more to the WFPA, we provide a yearly subscription. Donations over \$500.00 receive a six month subscription.

We change the lock combination at the end of each January.

The Walker Trash Collection Service web site is located at:  
<http://walkertrashcollectionservice.com/>

You can find the agreement and more detailed information there.

Bill Loughrige  
President@walkerfire.org  
(480) 223-8034



## WFPA Website

The website is your source for the latest news and announcement of events concerning our Walker Community. See the "Events" page for info.

You can read about upcoming Board meetings, community gatherings and scheduled firefighter training.

The site also contains the community directory, sections for Walker history, forest service issues and more.

To be part of our Community Website Directory and to be included in our e-mail data base, go to [www.walkerfire.org](http://www.walkerfire.org) and click on the "Create an Account" link on the left side of the home page.

You can also visit the Walker Fire Department Facebook page for pictures, posts, and the latest news at:

[www.facebook.com/walkerfiredept/](http://www.facebook.com/walkerfiredept/)

## Code Red Alert System

The Yavapai County Sheriff's Office now utilizes CodeRED® as its Emergency Notification System.

<http://www.ycsoaz.gov/community/emergency-preparedness/ens/>

## System APS Outage Map

<https://outagemap.aps.com/outageviewer/>

## APS - Report An Outage

If you have an electrical emergency please call 800-253-9408

<https://www.aps.com/>

## BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD MONTHLY

The 2nd Saturday of each month at 9:15 AM at the Fire Station.

Everyone is welcome.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

When you are away tell someone to watch and be aware of any unusual activity. Deter theft whatever way you can, light timers, motion detector lighting, etc.

If you see something suspicious call Sheriff's office at 928-771-3260 or dial 911.

## Advertise With Us

Support the WFPA while promoting your own business.

Your ad can appear here in front of the entire community.

Contact [conrad@walkercommunity.com](mailto:conrad@walkercommunity.com) for more info.

Ad pricing:

\$200 - full page

\$100 - half page

\$50 - quarter page

\$25 - eighth page (business card size)





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## WFPA SPRING 2021 Newsletter



The Walker Fire Protection Association (WFPA)  
is a volunteer fire department and a non profit, 501(c) 3 organization