



FORSYTHCOUNTY
Department of Communications
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FORSYTH COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN
2012 FIRE/EMS SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK**

Focus of initiative is safety and health of firefighters

FORSYTHCOUNTY, Georgia – The Forsyth County Fire Department will participate in the 2012 Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week during the week of June 17, 2012. Safety and Health Week is an event sponsored by the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), and is supported by a network of fire service, health and safety organizations.

This annual event aims to improve firefighter safety and health to give all a better chance of survival during emergencies and in the long-term. Fire departments across the world, including the Forsyth County Fire Department, will take time during the week to focus on the messages and resources that will help achieve that goal.

“The Forsyth County Fire Department is looking forward to participating in Safety and Health Week again this year,” Captain Jason Shivers said. “During Safety Week, all Forsyth County firefighters will be training on the objectives outlined as a part of this initiative. It is important to note, however, that our daily response will in no way be impacted. Responding to the citizens’ request for assistance will, of course, remain job number one.”

The theme for Safety and Health Week this year is “Rules You Can Live By.” The effort captures the importance of responders taking care of themselves both on and off the emergency incident scene.

With heart attacks the leading cause of on-duty firefighter fatalities; around 81,000

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firefighters injured each year; and a number of safety and health concerns facing first responders every day, it is especially important that each responder is prepared in every way when they answer each call for assistance.

“Safety is, without question, a priority of the Forsyth County Fire Department,” Fire Chief Danny Bowman said. “While rendering assistance to those in need during times of an emergency, our profession requires that we respond aggressively and efficiently. We recognize that such response must also, of course, be carried out in a safe manner. Initiatives such as Safety and Health Week underscore our commitment to doing so.”

Safety and Health Week provides a time for all department members to focus on the safety and health measures they need to take both on and off duty to make sure they stay strong and ready to serve the community at a moment’s notice. The event brings together the entire fire service community to help prevent line-of-duty deaths and injuries.

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