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Versatile military vehicle gives VFD a new resource

Feb. 9, 2016 — NEW BOSTON, Texas — New Boston Volunteer Fire Department converted a 1990 5-ton cargo military vehicle into a multipurpose machine, useful in high water rescues and wildland firefighting.

“This is the type of truck that can be used to protect our rural area without any problems,” said New Boston VFD Battalion Chief Ronald Clark. “The vehicle is simple to drive and can be used in all terrain as a tender or a brush truck.”

The VFD painted the vehicle a non-military color, added a 2,000-gallon water tank, a 300 gallon per minute pump, a monitor and a 1.5 inch red line booster hose.

New Boston VFD has served the community and surrounding area since 1870. The converted truck gives them greater capacity to continue to serve and protect life and property.

The DoD Firefighter Property Program, a program managed nationwide by the USDA Forest Service, provides excess military equipment to fire departments and emergency service providers. Launched in Texas in 2005, this program has released over 350 retired military trucks to VFDs across the state. Texas A&M Forest Service picks up the vehicle from a military installation, performs necessary repairs and delivers it to the Volunteer Fire Department at no cost to them.

To learn more about this program visit texasfd.com.