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Grant provides Richland Spring VFD new fire truck

July 7, 2016 — RICHLAND SPRINGS, Texas — Richland Springs Volunteer Fire Department now has a new brush truck thanks to a \$100,000 grant through Texas A&M Forest Service's Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program.

"This type of engine will help Richland Springs increase their defense against wild fires in their community and surrounding rural areas," Texas A&M Forest Service Resource Specialist Bo Adler said.

The new truck is replacing a nearly 20-year-old truck that required multiple volunteers to man, according to Richland Spring VFD Chief Jeffery Bates.

"It can be run by one person," Bates said. "It has a wildland fire deck gun on the front which is controlled from inside the vehicle. It only takes one hand to operate it."

Richland Springs new brush truck will allow volunteers to respond faster to calls from any of the more than 6,100 residents in the 288 square miles of coverage in San Saba County.

"If it wasn't for the grant through TFS we would not be able to purchase a brush truck with such diverse capabilities to fight fires," Bates said.

Texas A&M Forest Service is committed to protecting lives and property through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program, a cost-share program funded by the Texas State Legislature and administered by Texas A&M Forest Service. This program provides funding to rural VFDs for the acquisition of firefighting vehicles, fire and rescue equipment, protective clothing, dry-hydrants, computer systems and firefighter training.

For more information on programs offered by Texas A&M Forest Service, please visit <http://texasafd>.



Bo Adler, TFS, RS I, Jeff Bates Fire Chief, Mike Poe, Treasurer