

BROOME COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK

RECRUITMENT OPEN HOUSE - 2010

Sat., April 24, noon to 3 pm

The Joint Committee on Recruitment for the Broome County Fire Chief's Association and Broome County Firefighters' Association is again sponsoring a recruitment open house on Saturday, April 24, 2010, noon to 3 pm. Fire companies in Broome County will be open during these hours and have personnel on hand to answer questions about volunteering in your fire department.

Join the tradition of volunteer fire service that was started in this country by Ben Franklin. For more than 250 years the volunteer fire service has continued this tradition of "neighbors helping neighbors". But over the past two decades the number of volunteers has fallen. In New York State there were 140,000 volunteer firefighters in the mid 1990s. Today the numbers have fallen to 90,000 volunteers. Statewide volunteer firefighters save New York State local taxpayers over \$5 BILLION EACH YEAR by providing volunteer fire protection to residents.

For anyone interested in volunteering there are a number of reasons to join:

- The satisfaction of helping others in your community especially when they are in need
- To gain experience and education in a wide variety of topics including - firefighting, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, fire codes, sprinkler systems and alarm systems
- Meet and work with others in your community, gain a sense of camaraderie with others by working together
- There are a number of scholarships available to volunteer firefighters
- There is also a \$200 income tax credit for volunteers

Whatever your age or physical abilities there is something you can do at your local fire house to help out! While firefighters are needed, there are many other jobs where you could help:

- Fire police to provide traffic control at accidents and other emergencies
- Drivers and pump operators are essential to all emergency operations (you can't get there without a driver!)
- Support personnel at the scene to move hoses, get equipment, etc.
- EMS personnel are needed for both fire department med teams and ambulance squads
- Fire prevention teachers, people to help with truck maintenance and fire station maintenance are also needed.
- Help with fundraising and other fire company functions

Please stop in at your local fire station on April 24, and find out how you can help out at your local fire station.