

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2016

### Washburn Community Association VFD receives \$200,000 grant

**March 14, 2016 — Claude, Texas** — Washburn Community Association Volunteer Fire Department has a new large brush truck to respond to emergencies, thanks to a \$200,000 grant from Texas A&M Forest Service.

The VFD has a response area of 234 square miles and the vehicle has been equipped with a variety of tools that will support the demands on the department. The truck has a 950-gallon water tank, 20-gallon foam tank, Firetroll foam system, water cannon and the ability to travel the rugged terrain.

“We will be using this apparatus to meet many of our community’s needs,” said Washburn Community Association VFD Fire Chief Jerry Johnson. “It will not only be used as a wildland pumper but also for structure fires, emergency medical services and rescue purposes.”

The Washburn VFD has been serving the people in their region since 1974. They are always looking for better ways to serve. This new apparatus has been put into service and will help to increase their capacity to save life and property.

“This truck is the first new truck the department has ever owned,” said Texas A&M Forest Service Regional Fire Coordinator Troy Ducheneaux. “Its addition will greatly enhance the department’s ability to provide emergency services to their community and the citizens of Armstrong County.”

While serving under Texas A&M AgriLife, Texas A&M Forest Service works with fire service cooperators throughout the state to minimize the loss of life and property in response to wildfires and other all-hazard emergencies. This year Texas A&M Forest Service is set to award approximately \$24.3 million in grants to volunteer fire departments for the purchase of equipment and training.

To learn more about this program visit [texasfd.com](http://texasfd.com).

