

RURAL FIRE SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE: RESIDENTIAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The primary obligation of the City of Dickson, Tennessee, and its Fire Department is to the citizens and property within its corporate limits.

A property eligible for a rural fire subscription under this policy shall:

- A. Be used exclusively as a single-family residence that requires the location to be classified under a residential or agricultural classification by the Dickson County planning and zoning guidelines and is assessed at a residential rate by the Dickson County Assessor of Property's office;
- B. Be located outside the corporate limits of the City of Dickson but within five road miles of the location of any station manned and equipped by the Dickson Fire Department;
- C. Be accessible by and provide access to all Dickson Fire Department personnel, equipment and response vehicles; and
- D. Be current and in good standing with the following requirements:
 - 1. The City of Dickson will answer calls for firefighting assistance outside its corporate limits to approved applicants who have agreed to be bound by these policies and procedures. Personnel and apparatus will not be dispatched to a rural fire subscriber when, in the opinion of the fire chief or incident commander, the forces are not available due to commitments to fighting a fire or other emergency within the corporate limits and/or outside the corporate limits.
 - 2. All applications for Rural Fire Subscription Service shall be accompanied by the first annual payment established as equal to one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the current appraised value for taxation of the residential improvements to be computed excluding the value of the land as reported by the Assessor of Property for Dickson County, Tennessee. There shall be a minimum fee of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) and no maximum fee. The annual fee, updated based on the Assessor of Property's current appraisal, shall be due and payable within thirty (30) days of the anniversary of initial payment in each subsequent year that coverage is requested. If the annual fee is not paid in full within thirty (30) days of the due date, the rural fire subscription service shall be terminated. A renewal fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be assessed for reinstatement and is due along with the annual fee in full before service is resumed.
 - 3. A five hundred dollar (\$500.00) deposit will be required with each application unless there is certification on a form provided by the department that states the applicant's homeowner's insurance agrees to pay to the City of Dickson a five hundred dollar (\$500.00) service call fee for each emergency response to the property by the Dickson Fire Department. In the event the applicant's insurance company agrees to pay a portion of the five hundred dollar (\$500.00) service call fee, a deposit shall be required for the balance. The insuring agent or company shall be required to verify in writing that the applicant has insurance coverage for this service and the company agrees to issue payment directly to the City of Dickson and agrees to notify the Dickson Fire Department should such coverage expire, be terminated or canceled for any reason. The deposit shall be non-refundable and only can be transferred with thirty (30) days'

written notice to the Dickson Fire Department prior to the date of occupancy or date of closing on a new residence, whichever is earlier.

4. Each application shall be for coverage of the primary residential structure within one parcel of property and any secondary structures that are located within the property in such a way that a fire would threaten the primary residential structure. Applicant agrees to provide access to the property and/or residence in the event of an emergency response and/or to hold the Dickson Fire Department, the City of Dickson, their agents and employees harmless for any and all emergency measures necessary to gain access and damage that might result from such measures.
5. All applications shall contain the address, telephone number of owner and/or occupant, a general description of the property to be provided rural fire service and 24-hour contact information.
6. In the event the Dickson Fire Department responds to a fire call at a rural fire subscription service property, the applicant agrees to make another deposit of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) within fifteen (15) days of the event or submit another insurance certificate to maintain rural fire subscription service. Failure to make such new deposit or to submit an insurance certificate within fifteen (15) days shall result in termination of the subscription. Renewal of the subscription service after such termination shall require a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) along with payment in full of the deposit or submission of the insurance certificate.
7. The City of Dickson will not be responsible for injuries to applicants, their agents or employees or damages to property because of unavailability of personnel or equipment, whether previously committed or otherwise.
8. The City of Dickson may reject a request for rural fire protection or may depart from the scene of a rural fire subscriber if in the discretion of the senior fire official either personnel or equipment of the City of Dickson are necessary to meet another emergency.
9. Any liability of the City of Dickson shall be governed by the provisions of T.C.A. § 29-20-101. et. seq.
10. The City of Dickson shall have no obligation to provide rural fire service until an application is filed and approved by the Fire Chief for the City of Dickson or his designated representative, who may decline or deny rural fire service coverage based on safety, access, eligibility or other factors.
11. The City of Dickson shall automatically cancel rural fire service for any violations of or failure to comply with this policy until such time as failures/violations are determined to have been corrected by the Chief or his designee.
12. In the event of termination of rural fire service, the city will make a reasonable effort to notify the applicant of such termination of rural fire service but will not be responsible for damages to the applicant as a result of any such termination.

13. The City of Dickson will continue the policy of reciprocal firefighting service with other municipalities and provide mutual firefighting aid as agreed or as allowed by state law. The Dickson Fire Department will not respond to a mutual aid request by another firefighting department for a residential fire at a residence without a rural fire subscription within the Rural Fire Subscription Service area.
14. The City of Dickson shall have no responsibility to answer rural fire calls unless the application has been submitted and approved by the chief of the Dickson Fire Department or his/her designee.
15. Applicant agrees that if applicant sells the protected property it is applicant's responsibility to notify the City of Dickson Fire Department immediately, but in no case longer than three (3) business days after date of transfer of title.
16. Reimbursement may be paid on a pro-rated basis for any whole months remaining in a pre-paid subscription following receipt of written notice of termination.

I have read and understand the above policies and procedures for the City of Dickson subscription fire program. As applicant, I agree and affirm applicant will follow the policies and procedures contained herein.

Applicant: _____

Location Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____
