

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

In the uncertain times we live in it is paramount that even the smallest communities have a plan for what should happen in case of an emergency, whether natural or manmade.

Evaluate and Improve Fire Protection

In Hot Springs, fire protection is provided by a volunteer department operating out of one fire station with two structures for housing their equipment. The single most critical factor in fire extinguishment is time; once a fire starts, it grows exponentially. The sooner the fire fighters arrive, the smaller the fire is and the more easily, quickly, safely, and successfully it can be extinguished.

Fire station location obviously affects how quickly the Fire Department can respond. The Insurance Services Office, an organization that rates fire departments and influences insurance rates, recommends that no property be more than 1.5 miles from a fire station. Hot Springs current Fire Department Location is centrally located and generally meets the 1.5 mile criteria.

Firefighting is especially important in the Hills with the propensity for wildfires to break out and spread quickly. The Hot Springs Volunteer Fire Department manages the Hot Springs Fire District which includes all of the City of Hot Springs and Angostura Reservoir area. They also have mutual aid agreements with XXX other fire districts. It is worthwhile to note that the VA Medical Center has their own on site Fire Department and water service.

Fire Protection Goals:

- Develop policies requiring the extension of water mains to new subdivisions where appropriate;
- Review proposed subdivisions, especially on the fringes of the current city boundaries, for potential acquisition of property for a fire station; and
- Work actively with the City to review the existing plan and implement the wildfire management plan within the City limits with scheduled annual work. Utilize AmeriCorps volunteers to help meet the management goals.

Fire District

Insert photo of fire district

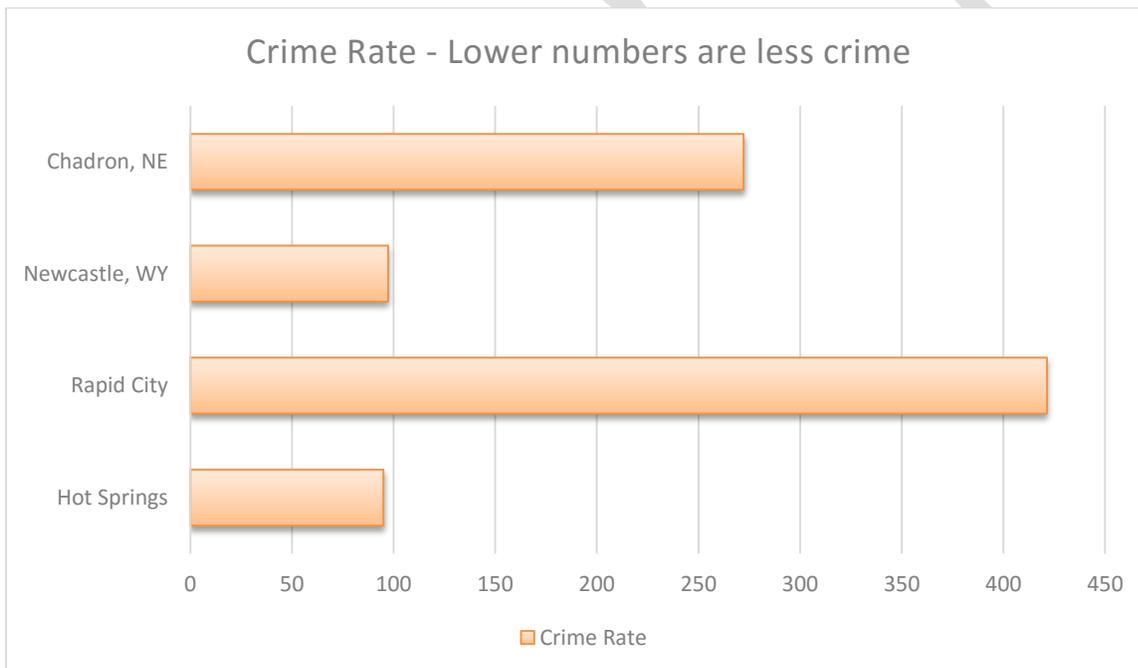
The Police Department

Hot Springs has its own Police Department consisting of 7 full time police officers including a chief, captain, 5 officers and an office manager. The Police Department is currently housed in a

small commercial building on the corner of N. River Street and Jennings. It currently lacks adequate space for private discussions whether for interviews or taking down incident reports. The police also do not have an adequate facility on site for secured property rooms or storage for confiscated items.

According to City-Data.com, reviews of South Dakota and other state lists there were 17 registered sex offenders living in Hot Springs, South Dakota as of September 14, 2017. The ratio of number of residents in Hot Springs to the number of sex offenders is 210 to 1. The number of registered sex offenders compared to the number of residents in this city is near the state average.

Read more: <http://www.city-data.com/crime/crime-Hot-Springs-South-Dakota.html#ixzz4sgY1FXn4>



From www.City-Data.com

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

When the Hot Springs Ambulance Service was founded in 1985, the service responded to about 185 calls a year and provided basic life support service – essentially transporting the injured or sick to a hospital. Today, the Hot Springs EMS handles approximately 1,700 calls per year, and the range of services offered may include everything from simple transportation to advanced life support. In 2016 the new EMS facility was opened for business at their new location on Cascade Road to handle these increased calls and services. The new EMS facility is the crown

jewel in the regions' emergency management planning as it was designed to be a base command center in case of a catastrophic emergency. It also is the home base for Life Flight operations for the region.

The Hot Springs Ambulance District covers EMS needs within the Hot Springs school district's geographic boundaries, and has also contracted with the Custer Ambulance District and the Buffalo Gap Ambulance District to provide services for these communities as well. In addition, Hot Springs is an interceptor for both Oelrichs and Edgemont ambulance services.

EMS District [insert picture]

FALL RIVER COUNTY

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan 2003/2014:

The Fall River County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan was first penned and approved in 2003 and updated again in 2014. The purpose of the Fall River County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan (PDM) is to:

1. Meet the disaster planning federal requirements for the cities of Hot Springs and Edgemont, the township of Oelrichs and Fall River County;
2. Protect the citizens and visitors to Fall River County and its municipalities;
3. Provide strategies to mitigate or reduce the loss of lives and property in the event of an emergency or disaster within Fall River County and its municipalities.

Stated plan goals that are specific to Hot Springs:

Hot Springs Mitigation Projects (2014):

Project Name	Location	Priority
Uncontrolled Wildland Fire	Hot Springs	1
Hazardous Fuels Reduction	Even's Heights Area	2
Hazardous Fuels Reduction	South Garden Street	3
Back Up Generator	Mueller Civic Center	4
Back Up Generator	Sewage Treatment Plant	5
Back Up Generator	Hot Brook Pump Station	6
Back Up Generator	Hot Springs Municipal Airport	7
Warning Siren	Hwy 18 Bypass (North of Golf Course)	8
Ground Stabilization	Behind County Court House	9
Ground Stabilization	West River Street	10
New Well for City Water Supply	West of Golf Course	11
Bridge Replacement	Jennings Ave	12
Bridge Replacement	South 6th Street	13
Improve Drainage & Street Surface	Hickory Street	14
Improve Drainage & Street Surface	Valley View Area	15
Improve Drainage & Street Surface	VA Road (Incline up to hospital)	16
Municipal Water Line Exposed	Hwy 385 & Red Ridge (Check location is correct)	17
Sewer Line Exposed to Fall River	West River & Garden Street	18
Ground Stabilization	University Avenue	19
Rip/Rap Stream Stabilization	Freedom Trail (Behind Mueller Civic Center)	20

<http://fallriver.sdcounties.org/files/2010/10/Fall-River-2014-PDM-FINAL.pdf>

To learn more go to: <http://fallriver.sdcounties.org/files/2010/10/Fall-River-2014-PDM-FINAL.pdf>

Flooding

Flash floods have plagued the Black Hills and killed more people than all other kinds of storms combined. The steep rock canyons and sudden cloudbursts can turn a normally placid creek into a raging wall of water. The cause of flash flooding locally is by intense rainfall in a short period of time. A single thunderstorm can produce enough rain to cause localized flooding along just one stream. Sometimes, a stationary thunderstorm or a series of thunderstorms over the same area may also cause flash flooding. Flash flooding from thunderstorms happens most often in the months of May, June and July.

Steady rain over the southern Black Hills for a few days causes more widespread flooding. The creeks originating in the hills flood, then the water flows into the Cheyenne River, which floods a few days later. May and early June is the most common time for this type of flooding. Rapid snowmelt caused by temperatures warming quickly after a heavy snowstorm or rain falling on the snow may also cause flooding in the spring.

Hot Springs initiated a flood control project south of Coldbrook Dam near Evans and Garamond streets. That project was completed in 2011 and removed a number of homes from the flood zones established by FEMA. One other area of town needs to be reviewed and determined if a flood project could serve to effectively reduce flood impacts around Galveston Street to S. 6th Street.

FEMA Flood Maps

The FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the Hot Springs area were update in 2007 and is supported by a Flood Study that was completed through most of the identified flood areas in town. The City participates in the flood insurance program and by maintaining our flood project and enforcing floodplain regulations, we can ensure that citizens and businesses that are in or near a flood zone will pay the least possible in insurance.

Army Corps Flood Projects

The City of Hot Springs has a 1.2 mile flood control project that extends from Evans Plunge to the Brookside Apartments and encompasses all of the Fall River channel. Construction of the Fall River channel improvement project was completed in July of 1947. The improvements to the channel consisted of realigning, deepening and widening the existing channel, protecting

the banks by installing rip rap, and construction concrete retaining walls in various locations. By contract with the federal government, the city is required to maintain the project in working order which includes regular maintenance to remove silt build up, overgrown vegetation in the channel and on the banks, pipe maintenance, wall repair and other items necessary to the functionality of the flood control project.

In the past, the city has taken a 'deferred maintenance' approach to maintaining the project that has finally caught up with us. During the 2015 engineering and compliance review of the flood project the system was given a "minimally acceptable" rating. Since then the Council has provided an annual line item to begin the necessary repair work outlined in the review of the project prepared by Stantec Consulting Engineers for the US Army Corps of Engineers. The final inspection to see if we have improved the system's function will be in August of 2020 and has implications on our overall FEMA flood rating.

Key items that need to be completed before 2020 are:

- a. Remove sediment build up in the river channel.
- b. Remove woody vegetation within the channel and 15 on top of the levee sections.
- c. Repair of eroded or spauling concrete.
- d. Repair/replace expansion joint material in vertical seams on the concrete walls.
- e. Repair/replace flood flaps within drains.
- f. Repoint areas where mortar has broken apart on the masonry retaining walls.
- g. Reestablish erosion control at pipe outlets.

Coldbrook and Cottonwood Dams:

Coldbrook Dam was completed in 1953 and was constructed to prevent or reduce the flooding potential in Hot Springs, South Dakota. The project consists of an earthen fill dam, an uncontrolled sharp-crested spillway, an uncontrolled circular concrete intake structure, concrete conduit and a concrete stilling basin with baffles. The dam has a drainage area of 70.5 square miles, and created a reservoir area of 294 acres when the dam is crested.

Cottonwood Dam was completed in May of 1969 and was constructed to prevent or reduce the flooding potential in Hot Springs, South Dakota. The project consists of an earthen fill dam, an uncontrolled excavated spillway, an uncontrolled box shaft intact structure, concrete conduit and a concrete stilling basin with baffles. The dam has a drainage area of 26 square miles and created a reservoir area of 257 acres at the size of maximum pool.

Both dams are maintained and managed by the Army Corps of Engineers.

911 Numbering

The City, in cooperation with Fall River County, have been systematically working to update and improve our 911 system. This has included renaming roads where a duplicate exists elsewhere in the 911 calling area, renumbering addresses where the numbering is non-sequential, incorrect or missing (especially in mobile home courts where numerous homes shared a single address). The project is approximately 90% complete with only individual lot changes required from this point forward. The 911 address changes have provided more exact information for first responders to be able to easily locate specific addresses – ultimately providing better and quicker service in case of an emergency.