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ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION
ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK & POULTRY COMMISSION
ARKANSAS STATE PLANT BOARD

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Arkansas Forestry Commission Rural Fire Program to Host Annual Fire Show October 28

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. – The Arkansas Forestry Commission is hosting the annual Rural Fire Protection (RFP) Fire Show on Saturday, October 28th, in Greenbrier at 20 Industrial Boulevard from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. All Arkansas firefighters and families are invited to attend the annual event held to honor fire crews for their partnership in the suppression and prevention of wildfires.

The 2017 Fire Show will feature a BBQ lunch, door prizes, vendors, and networking opportunities with crews and partner agencies from across the state. Admission is free and RSVPs are encouraged. To RSVP or for more information about the event or sponsorship opportunities, contact Carisa Aycock at 501-679-3171 or Carisa.aycock@arkansas.gov.

This year, firefighters can also meet Kathryn Mahan-Hooten, the new administrator of the Rural Fire Program. Kathryn brings great experience and leadership to the Rural Fire Program through her previous work at the Arkansas Federal Surplus Property Program and her service as a volunteer firefighter and first responder for over a decade. “I look forward to meeting with firefighters, families, and partner agencies from across the state at the Fire Show, one of the Forestry Commission’s most anticipated events,” said Kathryn. “I’m excited to be part of the great team at the Rural Fire Program and appreciate the opportunity to continue working with rural fire departments to provide assistance needed to protect our rural communities”.

Since 1979, the RFP has worked to provide equipment, training, and support to Arkansas fire departments and remains one of the top programs of its kind in the U.S. for the amount and value of federal surplus property screened and placed with fire departments. In 2016, the RFP program provided 72 firefighting vehicles, valued at \$7,903,497.60. Over \$155,000 was financed through the RFP in interest-free loans for firefighting equipment, and 62 communities received wildland fire suppression kits totaling \$186,000.

The mission of the Arkansas Forestry Commission is to protect Arkansas’s forests, and those who enjoy them, from wildland fire and natural hazards while promoting rural and urban forest health, stewardship, development, and conservation for all generations of Arkansans. The Arkansas Forestry Commission is an agency of the Arkansas Agriculture Department.

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The Arkansas Forestry Commission offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

