



FLOWES STORE FIRE DEPARTMENT

8623 Flowes Store Road
Concord, North Carolina 28025

Official Media Release

February 15, 2019

Flowers Store Fire Department Receives New Rating after Inspection

Cabarrus County – Flowers Store Fire Department is pleased to announce the department’s fire district rating has improved to a Class 4/9E. This is a great accomplishment for the department. Of the 1500+ career and volunteer fire departments in the state of North Carolina, less than 300 of them have a rating of Class “4” or better. What this means to the citizens of the Flowers Store Fire District is most residents and business owners will see a reduction in the amount you pay for fire insurance on your home or business.

The previous rating for Flowers Store Fire Department was a 5/9E but only residents within 1000 feet of a fire hydrant received the “5” rating with all others having a “9” rating. The new fire district rating of Class 4/9E will now apply the “4” rating to all citizens and businesses in the Flowers Store Fire District that are within five miles of the Flowers Store Fire Station whether they are close to a fire hydrant or not. Only a few residents that are within five to six miles from the Flowers Store Fire Station will still have a “9” rating. This new rating will take effect on April 1, 2019.

Officials with the Department of Insurance Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) conducted the inspection which is required on a regular basis as part of the North Carolina Response Rating System (NCRRS). Among other things, the routine inspections look for proper staffing levels, sufficient equipment, proper maintenance of equipment, communications capabilities and availability of a water source. The NCRRS rating system ranges from one (highest) to ten (not recognized as a certified fire department by the state). Members of the Flowers Store Fire Department worked to improve upon numerous aspects of the fire department and also spent multiple hours training to achieve the NC State Water Haul Certification. This certification required the fire department to also train and work with neighboring fire departments to show the department could maintain a constant flow of water by hauling water with fire apparatus. This certification allows Flowers Store Fire Department to extend the lower rating to over 95% of the fire district. Flowers Store Fire Department is still working to improve services even more so that the department can hopefully extend that lower rating to all of the citizens within the Flowers Store Fire District.