

media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



MFS opens its doors to the community

Issued: Wednesday, 18 November 2009

This weekend the Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) will open its doors to the public and give an insight into the inner workings of one of the oldest professional fire services in the world.

Come along to **MFS Open Day** on **Sunday, 22 November 2009** for a rare chance to take a look behind the Engine Room doors at MFS Headquarters, 99 Wakefield Street **between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm**.

Meet our dedicated firefighters and staff, who look forward to sharing what the MFS does when responding to various incidents, what equipment is used and also some important safety tips to help prevent road crashes, structure fires and other emergency situations.

The MFS Open Day is a special event as part of Public Sector Week 2009. There will be active demonstrations throughout the day, and plenty of activities to entertain people of all ages.

Highlights of the day include:

- An aerial rescue exercise and rope rescue from heights.
- An Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) demonstration.
- A road crash rescue demonstration.
- A close look at our various fire fighting appliances and equipment.
- Learning how your family can prevent or survive a house fire, including how to escape a fire.
- An interactive child fire safety education display, including a 'Stop, Cover, Drop and Roll' game.
- An insight into hazardous substance response.
- Discovering how the cause of house and other structure fires are investigated.
- Find out what a firefighter faces on a fire ground through computer simulation.

MFS Chief Officer, Grant Lupton says MFS Open Day is a free, family friendly event which allows people to get a better understanding of how the fire service operates.

"Our firefighters and staff are highly trained professionals with a wide range of skills. Throughout their career, our firefighters can move between fire fighting, road crash rescue, Urban Search and Rescue, rope rescue, fire safety education, fire cause investigation and HAZMAT response.

"We're proud of our service, and are keen to share with people what we do. Visitors at Open Day will take with them a better understanding of the MFS, as well as some key safety messages to protect their home and family," Chief Officer Lupton says.

The Australian Professional Firefighters Foundation will provide a sausage sizzle and refreshments, and all money raised will be donated to the burns unit at the Women's and Children's Hospital.

For more information about Public Sector Week, visit: www.publicsectorweek.sa.gov.au

* If MFS Open Day is a day of extreme heat, the MFS will modify activities and displays to ensure the comfort and safety of visitors and staff.

MEDIA NOTE: Media are welcome to attend MFS Open Day on Sunday, 22 November at 12 noon. There will be vision, photo and interview opportunities at 12 noon.

For media enquiries please telephone the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770

Members of the public should call the MFS Community Education Department on (08) 8204 3611 during business hours for further information. Country callers 1300 737 637.

www.mfs.sa.gov.au