



Johnson County Fire Protection District

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NEWS RELEASE – Thursday, October 2, 2025

District Receives Grain Rescue Equipment Donation and Expands Training Capabilities

WARRENSBURG, MO – The Johnson County Fire Protection District (JCFPD) has received a donation of a Great Wall of Rescue grain entrapment rescue system thanks to contributions from the Johnson County Farm Bureau, University of Central Missouri Farms, MU Extension, and several private individuals. An identical rescue device was donated to the district by the Rose Acre Farms Knob Noster facility in July.

The Great Wall of Rescue is an eight-panel aluminum device designed to assist with emergencies involving grain entrapment. The panels connect to form a protective coffer dam around a victim, allowing firefighters to carefully remove grain with a hand powered auger and relieve dangerous pressure on the individual.

The system is manufactured in Illinois and constructed from lightweight aluminum with smooth surfaces and ball and socket connections that allow for fast assembly in the field. Its design makes it adaptable for several uses, including a complete rescue tube, partial walls positioned near obstacles, or barrier walls that redirect grain flow. The system can typically be put into place by a team of two or three trained responders, giving rescuers a safer and more effective way to conduct grain bin rescues.

Along with the donation, JCFPD hosted the University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute's Basic Grain Bin Engulfment Course. This training certified twenty-two additional JCFPD firefighters and two Warrensburg Fire Department firefighters in the safe operation of the equipment and in recognized rescue techniques for grain bin emergencies.

"Grain bin incidents are among the most dangerous and complex emergencies we respond to," said JCFPD Fire Chief Larry Jennings. "Through the generosity of our community partners and the training of more of our firefighters, we now have critical tools and expertise that will make a real difference in saving lives."

The support of local organizations and individuals demonstrates the strong community commitment to agricultural safety and preparedness. Their contributions directly enhance the ability of first responders to handle high risk rural emergencies and ensure safer outcomes for area farmers and residents.

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