

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Clarendon receives grant to update extrication tools

CLARENDON, Texas — Clarendon Volunteer Fire Department recently received an \$11,000 grant for a set of extrication tools through Texas A&M Forest Service’s Rural VFD Assistance Program.

“Our department replaced a set of cutters, jaws, rams and a power unit that was in excess of 30 years old,” Fire Chief Jeremy Powell said.

The tools can cut through car metal, apply over 10,000 pounds of force and allow rescuers to reach trapped occupants.

“The new tools will enable us to increase our ability to perform extrications on newer model vehicles,” Powell said.

Clarendon VFD’s service area is 900 square miles and approximately 3,600 people. The department expects to perform up to 25 extrications a year with their newly acquired rescue equipment.

Over 85 percent of fire departments in Texas are either completely or mostly operated by volunteers. TFS passes approximately \$12.8 million along to volunteer fire departments across the state each year, helping them purchase equipment to better protect lives and property.

“This program is an excellent asset to VFDs like ours that may not be able to afford up to date equipment without being put under significant financial strain,” Powell said.

To learn more about this program visit texasfd.com.

