

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Coupland Volunteer Fire Department increases rescue capabilities

COUPLAND, Texas — Coupland Volunteer Fire Department received a grant of over \$16,000 to buy new fire and rescue equipment. The grant was made possible through Texas A&M Forest Service's Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program.

The cutter and spreader that the department purchased can be used to rescue and extricate victims of vehicle crashes and assist in making forcible entry at emergency scenes. The tools are battery powered, making them easier for fire crews to manage without worrying about refueling or access issues.

The department also received a thermal imaging camera that will help during fires. It detects heat given off by an object or person. It is useful in detecting hot spots in structures or in search and rescue operations.

Coupland VFD is always looking for dedicated individuals to join its team. Interested individuals can find more information on Facebook.

As a member agency of the Texas A&M University System, Texas A&M Forest Service administers the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program and is committed to protecting lives, property and natural resources. The Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program is funded by the Texas Legislature and provides cost-share funding to rural volunteer fire departments for the acquisition of firefighting vehicles, fire and rescue equipment, protective clothing, dry hydrants, computer systems and firefighter training.

For more information on programs offered by Texas A&M Forest Service, visit [texasfd.com](http://texasfd.com).

