



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

June 2004

Chickasaw National
Recreation Area

1008 West 2nd Street
Sulphur, OK 73086-4814

580/622-3161 phone
580/622-2296 fax

Chickasaw NRA Fire Management

Park Distributes Rural Fire Assistance Funding

Chickasaw National Recreation Area has benefited from long-term support by the local fire departments, Davis, Hickory, Dougherty, Joy, Rock Prairie, and Sulphur. On their behalf, Chickasaw NRA applied for and received Rural Fire Assistance funding to enhance these rural fire departments wildland fire suppression ability.

Beginning with the National Fire Plan funding in FY2001, and continuing since, the National Park Service has been able to help local cooperators through the Rural Fire Assistance Program. The Rural Fire Assistance Program is primarily designed to increase firefighter safety and enhance the wildland fire protection capabilities of rural fire departments. Priority is given to departments who pursue accepted standards of wildland fire qualifications, training, and performance. Emphasis is placed on departments that protect rural communities and play a substantial cooperative role in the protection of NPS lands and support interagency fire efforts.

Each rural fire department must meet a minimum of six eligibility criteria to qualify for the funding including a formalized cooperative relationship between the NPS and the rural fire department, the NPS unit is a Department of the Interior wildland fire entity that cooperates with the rural fire department; the rural fire department serves a community with a population of 10,000 or less with wildland/urban interface; funds are limited to wildland fire training, wildland fire related equipment or supplies, and wildland fire prevention/education activities; and the rural fire department must meet a cost share minimum of 10%.

The following rural fire departments received funding based on their proposed needs:

Davis Fire Department	\$2,000
Hickory Fire Department	\$1,000
Dougherty Fire Department	\$2,000
Joy Fire Department	\$2,000
Rock Prairie Fire Department	\$1,000
Sulphur Fire Department	\$3,000

Chickasaw NRA is looking forward to many more years of mutual aid cooperation by these six departments.