



## Clallam County Fire District 3

323 N Fifth Ave., Sequim, Washington 98382

360-683-4242, Fax: 360-683-6834

[www.cfd3.org](http://www.cfd3.org)

Bill Miano  
Michael Mingee  
Jeffrey Nicholas  
Commissioners

Justin Grider, Fire Chief

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### Clallam County Fire District #3 Conducting Live Fire Training Exercise on March 21, 2026

Sequim, WA — March 12, 2026

On **Saturday, March 21, 2026**, firefighters from **Clallam County Fire District #3** will be conducting a **live fire training exercise** at a residential structure located at **1610 S. 3rd Ave.** The structure is being demolished at the request of the property owner, the **City of Sequim**, and will be used for training purposes prior to demolition.

The City of Sequim declared the two-story house and certain other buildings at Gerhardt Park unsafe and surplus to the City's needs in September 2024. In May 2025, the City advertised and held a sealed-bid public sale to dispose of the items. The City received no responses. After the unsuccessful bid, **the City partnered with Clallam County Fire District 3** to remove the house through fire training exercises. This process has been permitted by a City demolition permit and approved by the Olympic Region Clean Air Agency (ORCAA). **Per the permit requirements, asbestos abatement was conducted, and other required materials have been removed.**

Removal of the house and other surplus structures at Gerhardt Park allows the City to proceed with developing a Master Plan for the property and to create a future environment that will increase park resources for the community.

Beginning at approximately **8:00 a.m.**, firefighters will ignite and extinguish a series of **controlled fires** within the structure. As the training progresses and the building becomes unsafe for interior operations, the structure will be allowed to **burn to the ground under controlled conditions**. Fire crews will have **hose lines established around the structure at all times** to ensure the fire remains confined and fully controlled.

Residents and motorists are asked to please be patient while traveling on **S. 3rd Avenue** on Saturday. Fire apparatus and equipment will be staged along the sides of the roadway throughout the training. **For safety reasons, there will be no spectator viewing areas available.** We ask that community members avoid the immediate area if possible and consider using alternative routes such as **Happy Valley Road**.

For those wanting information on the day of the training, you may stop at the **City of Sequim Public Works** yard located at **670 S 3<sup>rd</sup>. Avenue** where Fire Officials will be on site to give information on the training and provide live updates to the training.

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*Clallam County Fire District 3 provides Emergency Medical Services, Fire Suppression and all Hazard mitigation from three fire stations staffed 24/7/365 with Firefighters, EMT's and Paramedics and three fire stations that are served by our Volunteer members year-round to the communities of Gardiner, Diamond Point, Blyn, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Lost Mountain, Happy Valley, Sequim, Dungeness, Carlsborg, Agnew, Blue Mountain, O'Brien, R Corner, and all points in between, North and South.*



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Residents in the surrounding area may notice **smoke** during the training exercise. While the fires are controlled and monitored by firefighters, smoke may occasionally drift into nearby neighborhoods depending on wind conditions. Individuals who are sensitive to smoke, including those with asthma, respiratory conditions, or other health concerns, may wish to take precautionary measures. These may include **closing windows and doors, remaining indoors while smoke is present, and temporarily turning off outside air intake** on heating or cooling systems if possible. This training exercise will be **cancelled if weather conditions become unfavorable**, including excessively dry conditions or winds exceeding established safety guidelines.

Live fire training is a critical component of firefighter education. These exercises provide hands-on experience with real fire behavior in a controlled environment, allowing firefighters to test equipment, tactics, and teamwork. This type of training helps ensure firefighters remain prepared for real emergencies, where seconds count, and there is little margin for error.

Clallam County Fire District #3 is dedicated to the people we serve and protect. Training exercises such as this help ensure that when an emergency occurs, our firefighters are ready to provide the highest level of service possible. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

If you have questions regarding this training exercise, please contact **Fire Chief Justin Grider** at **(360) 683-4242 x117** or [jgrider@ccfd3.org](mailto:jgrider@ccfd3.org).

Sincerely,

**Justin Grider**

Fire Chief

Clallam County Fire District #3

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