

Volunteer Fire Fighting Unit Now Serves Dallas Bay Area



DALLAS BAY FIRE DEPARTMENT OPENED — A new volunteer fire department serving the Dallas Bay area was opened recently following donations of equipment from member departments of the Hamilton County Fire Chief's Association.

Shown with a Civil Defense tanker to be used by the new department are, left to right, Earl Cook, Dallas Bay fire chief; Mike Mahn, assistant to County Judge Don Moore; Wayne Daniels, Soddy-Daisy Fire Department Chief; Robert Williams, Soddy-Daisy assistant chief; and Jerry Burlanger of Tri-Community Fire Department. (Staff photo by George Moody.)

A new volunteer fire department equipped with fire-fighting apparatus donated by members of the Hamilton County Fire Chief's Association was opened recently in the Dallas Bay area.

A tanker-pumper from the Sale Creek Volunteer Fire Department, a tanker from the Civil Defense and an engine from the Tri-Community Fire Department were the first pieces of equipment forming a nucleus for the new department.

Earl Cook, chief of the new department, said its formation was the result of "the spirit of cooperation that exists in the association."

Chief Cook said the borrowed equipment will be returned to the other fire departments "as soon as the Dallas Bay area residents begin supporting the new department," enabling it to purchase its own equipment.

Hamilton County Fire Chief's Association vice-chairman Wayne Daniel of the Soddy-Daisy Fire Department said, "We could not wait for federal money to be available. The situation in this area called for immediate action."

"Each chief responded with offers of equipment and administration."

In addition to the loaned equipment, the Tri-Community Fire Department will do the dispatching for the Dallas Bay department, which will assume responsibility for protecting residents holding valid Tri-

Community protection subscriptions.

Chief Cook noted that a county-wide fire department is "at least three and possibly six years away," and there is no guarantee for funds from the government during that period.

He said the new department needed a tract of land on which to build a station house, materials, gas, oil and truck maintenance.

"If you want a fire department, you must support it," he told area residents. "It's up to you to make the department a success."