

MEDIA RELEASE



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Glen Innes will see an influx of NSW RFS volunteers this weekend

15 March 2012

Glen Innes Showground will be home to more than 400 NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) members for the next three days, as volunteers and staff from across the state gather for a major training exercise.

NSW RFS Chief Superintendent Brett Condie said that these field exercises provide essential training to assist Service members to better protect communities throughout NSW.

“This is the tenth year Glen Innes has hosted this exercise which sees crews put through their paces in 12 real-life scenarios.

“The training this weekend will feature typical incidents that NSW RFS members attend on a regular basis that are designed to test their skills in a wide variety of emergency situations.

“This includes responding to various types of fires and car accidents as well as refreshing their skills in a range of specialist areas like LPG safety, working with aircraft, airbase operations and electrical safety.

“The weekend provides an excellent practical learning environment for people from all levels of the organisation to test and improve their skills and knowledge.

“This exercise will demonstrate the diverse nature of our work and the many skills required to be a volunteer with the NSW RFS.

“Residents in Glen Innes and surrounding areas should be aware that 56 trucks holding hundreds of NSW RFS members will be travelling around the area during the course of the weekend,” said Chief Superintendent Condie.

Representatives from other agencies like Queensland Fire and Rescue, Country Energy and the Ambulance Service of NSW will also be taking part because fighting fires requires coordination between a range of organisations.

“NSW RFS Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons will be in Glen Innes from Thursday night to greet crews as they arrive and he will open the exercise on Saturday morning.

“Workshops begin on Friday morning, with the main exercise being run on Saturday and Sunday at various locations around Glen Innes,” concluded Chief Superintendent Condie.

Photos and videos of the event will be available by contacting NSW RFS Media on 9898 1855.