All new recruits are trained to NZQA Fire Rescue Industry Training Standards. Volunteers are required to hold these unit standards (a minimum of four) before being allowed to take part in genuine firefighting.

Potential volunteers should realise that the volunteer work is likely to be very hot and very hard – but there’s also great camaraderie and the satisfaction of being able to save property and lives. The Fire Force is also not just about firefighting – we also hold social functions throughout the year for members and their families.

If you’re interested in membership or further information, check our website or phone 499-4444 to request a rural firefighter application pack.

Wellington Rural Fire Force
Wellington Emergency Management Office
PO Box 2199
WELLINGTON.

Email: wemo@wcc.govt.nz
Web: www.wemo.wcc.govt.nz
We need your help

It’s not a widely-appreciated fact that Wellington is the most “rural” of New Zealand’s major cities. More than 60 percent of the total area of the city – which stretches from the South Coast to the borders of Porirua and Petone – is rural land. It’s often steep and covered in dry grass, gorse, regenerating native bush or, increasingly, pine forest. In the dry months, when the wind’s blowing, this land becomes tinder-dry and a huge fire risk.

That’s why the Wellington Rural Fire Force is looking for volunteers.

The Fire Force officially exists under the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977 to fight and prevent rural fires within the Wellington City boundaries.

However Fire Force members are also often called on to help fight fires in other parts of the Wellington Region.

The Fire Force, which is located in Tawa, is administered by the Wellington City Council Emergency Management Office. Training is on a weekly basis all year round with the occasional weekend. Members are trained in a wide range of firefighting skills including:

- Firefighting techniques
- Pump operation
- Use of water – helicopter operations
- Training in the use of firefighting equipment
- Fire equipment maintenance and care

The official fire season runs from 1 October to 31 April. During this time Fire Force volunteers are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week – and average between 10-20 emergency callouts each year.