

Volunteer firefighters have protected the Estes Valley since 1907. This #EstesValleyFirefighter series will introduce you to the unique individuals who keep that tradition alive, celebrating their contributions to our fire department and the role they play in our Estes community.

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Bradley Harris grew up in Estes Park, is an EPHS graduate and currently studying Construction Management at CSU. At 20, Brad has been a good example of youth getting involved in their community; he has been part of the Estes Park scouting program since he was much younger and awarded the Eagle Scout rank in 2013. Brad's commitment to his neighbors continues with service through the EVFPD. He joined as an auxiliary FAST member, and has progressed to Firefighter I and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) -- and he continues to reach for advanced skills.

Despite living in Fort Collins, Brad spends a lot of time in Estes Park participating in training and answering calls. Although he points out that the fire service will take every minute that a member is willing to give, he prioritizes his personal well-being with the opportunities that the EVFPD offers. Each emergency call affects members differently, and Brad admits that the first time he arrived on a scene as the EMT to provide medical care, alone (until others arrived), was a little overwhelming. The first fatality was also an emotional challenge- but through training and peer support he has turned each of those calls into experience that will help shape him into the fire service leader that he is pursuing.

Brad captured the essence of his experience when he said volunteering with the EVFPD "helps me become more understanding of other people by seeing their most desperate and heroic moments".



