



## **ABINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT (ATFD) HOPES TO SPARK AN INTEREST IN FIREFIGHTING BY ALLOWING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO TRAIN FOR A DAY**

ABINGTON –Abington Senior High School students will have the opportunity to become firefighters for a day when they participate in Service Learning Day at Abington Township Fire Department’s (ATFD) training facility on Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Service Learning Day is an annual event organized by the high school to teach students about the many volunteer opportunities that exist within the community and stress the value of service. It also represents a chance for the ATFD to recruit young people who will help continue the legacy of the five volunteer fire companies that make up the ATFD (Abington, McKinley, Weldon, Edge Hill and Roslyn).

Teen-agers who have an interest in firefighting will spend part of their day hearing from volunteer firefighters about training requirements what is involved in becoming a firefighter. After that, the students will have the opportunity to rotate through various “stations,” where they will be able to dress in firefighting gear, crawl through a smoke-filled room, operate hoses, extinguish fires, and participate in other related activities.

“We look forward to Service Learning Day each year as a chance to meet the young people who may one day become our future members,” said Dave Schramm, Fire Services Administrator. “Some of our current volunteers can attest that this event is the one that led them to join and complete the training necessary to become firefighters. It’s a great way to introduce young people to the fire service and the many different things we do to protect the community.”

This is the fifth year in which students have visited the ATFD's training facility to learn about the five volunteer fire companies that comprise the ATFD and what they do to prevent and fight fires. The ATFD's Public Safety Training Facility is located at 2200 Florey Lane in Abington. For more information about the department, visit [www.abingtonfd.org](http://www.abingtonfd.org).

