

## **Knox-Box® Access System Provides Fire Department Safer, Faster Emergency Access**

When the Horseshoe Bay Fire Department is called upon to help during emergencies, their mission is clear and direct: reach those in need as quickly and safely as possible. However, reaching someone in need sometimes requires emergency responders to overcome various barriers.

Locked doors are often one of the biggest barriers faced by emergency personnel. While help is just a call away, residents may not always be able to come to the door to let first responders inside.

The Horseshoe Bay Fire Department offers a program to help overcome this obstacle. The Residential Knox-Box® Program is designed to give residents a reliable plan to make their homes accessible to firefighters and EMS personnel during an emergency, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year!

The Knox-Box® Program allows professional care to reach residents in need more quickly. A residential Knox-Box® box not only allows responders to enter a home unassisted but also prevents forced entry damage, which can create added stress for homeowners or patients.

Another benefit of the program is that it helps emergency responders secure homes and belongings faster. The cost of the program is a one-time-only purchase of the box—there is no monthly monitoring fee. These boxes are ideal for residents who live alone, have a history of medical problems, are recuperating from a hospital stay, or use an electronic or medical alert service.

Homeowners interested in the program should purchase the desired Residential Knox-Box® that is keyed specifically for the Horseshoe Bay Fire Department. The boxes may be mounted and secured to the wall on the exterior of your home. Alternatively, the box may be affixed to front the door with a bracket that fits over the top of it.

Once the box arrives, is secured, and a spare key is prepared, the homeowner should contact the fire department. A crew member will come to the residence and lock the spare key inside the Knox-Box®. Only emergency service personnel can access the Knox-Boxes® keyed for Horseshoe Bay.

Homeowners may also take comfort in knowing that all key removals are logged and time-stamped electronically, allowing the fire department to track the date, time, and individual who has removed the key. Knox-Box® products are also resistant to physical attack, vandalism, and extreme weather conditions. A Knox-Box is ideal for single family homes, condominiums, and townhomes.

Once the Knox-Box® is installed, there is nothing more to do! Please note, if a homeowner re-keys their residence, they should contact the fire department to unlock the box and replace the old spare key with a new one.

To purchase, visit the Knoxbox website at [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com) or call customer service at 800.566.9269. For more information or assistance with ordering, please call the fire department at 830.598.6953.

The Horseshoe Bay Fire Department's Residential Knox-Box Program is available to residents within the City of Horseshoe Bay and the communities of Oak Ridge (Llano County ESD 4), Blue Lake, and Deerhaven.

Be sure to follow the City of Horseshoe Bay on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/horseshoebaygov](http://www.facebook.com/horseshoebaygov)) and Instagram ([www.instagram.com/horseshoebaygov](http://www.instagram.com/horseshoebaygov)).

