

VCFD Brush Engine



A brush engine is smaller than an urban/structural engine. They are designed for rural/wildland firefighting where access is limited and roadways are not always available. The equipment and components are oriented toward fighting brush fires.

Brush engines have a 500 GPM (gallons per minute) pump, a 500-gallon water tank and a larger complement of smaller and lighter hose for wildland firefighting. The pump has a built-in foam system allowing the water to be chemically treated to aid in the

extinguishment of brush fires.

A unique feature on the brush engine is the pump-and-roll capability. This makes them very effective against fast-moving brush fires. They can drive and pump water at the same time, allowing firefighters to make a "running attack" on the fire.

Staffing: When a brush fire occurs, the three-person crew assigned to the first-run engine at a fire station will normally change to staff the brush engine. At times of extreme emergencies or potential emergencies, the brush engines may be staffed separately and staffing may be increased.

Radio designation: Brush engines are a Type III engine resource (wildland) in the Incident Command System, so our brush engines are numbered in the "300" series.

Engine 3+ station number.
i.e.: Engine 357.

