



Mike Kiel, president of the St. James Fire Department Board of Directors, and SJFD Chief John Dahill (right) show off the department's new state certification.

## St. James Fire maintains ISO rating

# Department ranks among best in state

The results of St. James Fire Department (SJFD) latest Fire Suppression Ratings Survey showed the agency ranks as one of the best in the state.

The Fire Suppression Rating Survey, or ISO review, was completed in February and showed SJFD maintained a "3" rating. Fewer than 12% of North Carolina's 1,521 fire departments have a rating of "3" or better. This rating helps reduce property insurance that St. James residents pay every year.

SJFD Chief John Dahill said he is extremely pleased with the results, and that the rating should help residents feel protected

and safe knowing the department is well-equipped to meet the community's needs.

The inspection is required on a regular basis and conducted by Department of Insurance Office of State Fire Marshal officials as part of the North Carolina Response Rating System, which ranges from one (highest) to 10. Routine inspections focus on proper staffing levels, sufficient equipment, proper maintenance of equipment, communications capabilities and availability of a water source.