

WINNETKA FIRE DEPARTMENT

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



Winnetka Fire Department 2014 Annual Report

Alan J. Berkowsky, Fire Chief

John Ripka, Deputy Chief



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Dear Residents,

Thank you for taking the time to review the 2014 Winnetka Fire Department Annual Report. The focus of the fire service has evolved over the years from a concentration on fire suppression to an all-hazard response department. We are always prepared to extinguish a fire but we are now called upon to handle a wide array of emergencies and non-emergency calls including, but not limited to:

Invalid Assists
Lock-ins/Lock-Outs
Carbon Monoxide Alarm Activations
Auto Extrications
Water/Ice Rescues
Above/Below Grade Rescues
Hazardous Material Spills
Emergency Medical Services
Fire Suppression



We know when someone calls 9-1-1, they are having a bad day. Our goal is to mitigate the problem and get them back on the road to recovery. Our services also include Fire Prevention, Public Education and Fire Investigative Services.

In 2014 we achieved a number of accomplishments that would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our members.

A few of our significant accomplishments include:

Fire Apparatus Replacement Plan: In accordance with our Apparatus Replacement Plan, Staff developed a request for proposal and conducted a formal bidding process for the purchase of a new Pumper Engine. This process resulted in the contract being awarded to Smeal Apparatus, a vendor we have worked with in the past. The new engine is being constructed in Nebraska and will be delivered later this year.

Completion of a Hiring & Promotional Testing Process: Competitive promotional testing for the ranks of Captain and Lieutenant were completed in 2014. The outcome of this six-month process established a new three-year eligibility list. In addition, a New Hire Process was completed in 2014. For this process, we joined forces with the Northbrook Fire Department to share the costs associated with applicant testing.

Northfield Intergovernmental Agreement: In 2014, we entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Northfield to provide Fire Inspectional Services to the Village. The agreement was finalized in April 2014 and we began providing service to them shortly thereafter.

Cook County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan: In conjunction with Cook County, we completed the Winnetka Annex of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. This 18-month process culminated with the adoption of the Plan by our Village Council.

I hope that the remainder of this report illustrates to you, the residents, the capability of your Fire Department to provide the highest level of service to those in need. On behalf of the entire Winnetka Fire Department, I thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Alan J. Berkowsky
Fire Chief

2014 Statistics

Service Area Information

- Square Mileage: **4.5**
- Population: **15,526**
- Number of Households: **5,133**

Department Information

- Sworn Members: **25**
- Non-Sworn Members: **3**
- Daily Staffing Level: **6**
- ISO Rating: **3**

Staff Information

- Total Department Training Hours: **6,620**
- Average Training Hours per Staff Member: **236**
- Fire Prevention Activities: **987**
- Duty Injuries with Lost Time: **1**
- Start Date of Most Senior Sworn Department Member: **October 16th, 1984**
- Start Date of Most Junior Sworn Department Member: **March 2nd, 2014**
- Combined Department Years of Firefighting Experience: **362**

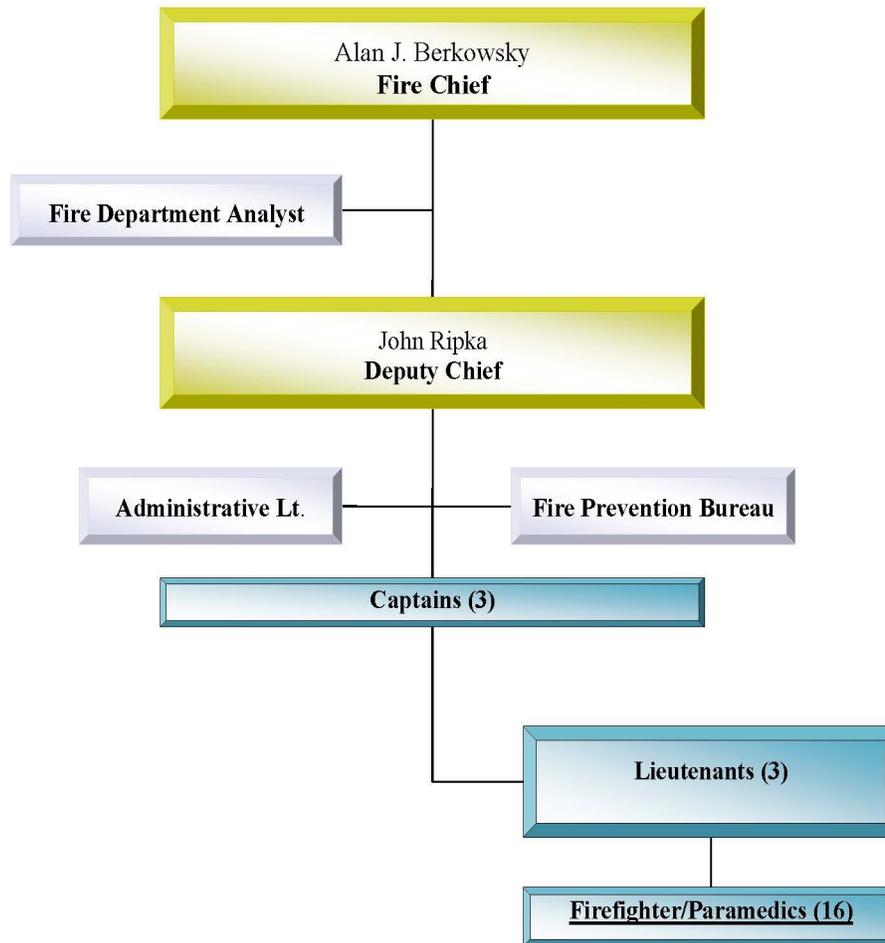


Response Information

- Total Calls for Service: **2,197**
- Total Vehicle Responses: **4,142**
- Fire Calls: **1,497**
- EMS Calls: **700**
- Fires: **29**
- Structure Fires: **16**
- Major Fires: **3**
- Total Fire-Related Loss: **\$1,410,500**
- Property Loss As A Result of Major Fires (3) : **\$1,378,000**
- Hazardous Condition Calls: **117**
- Service Calls: **290**
- Good Intent Calls: **458**
- False Alarm Calls: **594**
- Severe Weather Calls: **9**
- Average First Arrival Response Time: **03:44**
- Mutual Aid/Automatic Aid Given: **446**
- Mutual Aid/Automatic Aid Received: **169**
- Box Alarm Calls Within Service Area: **2**
- Box Alarm Calls Outside Service Area: **6**

Organizational Chart

Winnetka Fire Department – 2014



The Winnetka Fire Department is led by the Fire Chief who is appointed by the Village Manager. The Fire Chief in turn appoints the Deputy Fire Chief and hires the civilian Fire Department Analyst. Both of these individuals support the Chief and help to execute his vision for the Department.

Fire Department staffing consists of three, 24-hour rotating shifts. Each shift is led by a Captain who is assisted by a Lieutenant. Generally, shifts include a minimum of six individuals capable of providing fire suppression and emergency medical duties. An additional Lieutenant position is responsible for providing administrative support during the business week and will provide shift coverage due to illness, injuries, or off-site training.

The Fire Prevention Bureau is an administrative division of the Department that is responsible for ensuring compliance with all statutory fire prevention measures within the Village.

Administrative Assignments

In addition to responsibilities in the field and around the station, our three Captains and four Lieutenants are responsible for various programs that further the mission of the Department and help engage the public in the work that we do. Below are the administrative officers and their individual assignments.



Captain Ryan Banks

- EMS Officer
- EMS Computers
- EMS System Liaison



Lieutenant Erik Thornton

- Water Supply/Hydrant Testing
- Hoses and Appliances
- CPR Class Coordinator
- MABAS Box Cards



Captain Rob Bowne

- Breathing Apparatus
- Water Rescue Team
- Medical Physicals
- Quartermaster System



Lieutenant Lee Doyle

- Facilities/Grounds
- ESDA Coordinator
- Communications
- Safety



Captain Tom Hutchison

- Training Officer
- Training Tower
- Technical Rescue Team



Lieutenant Dennis Legan

- Apparatus
- Small Tools
- Hazmat
- Fire Investigations

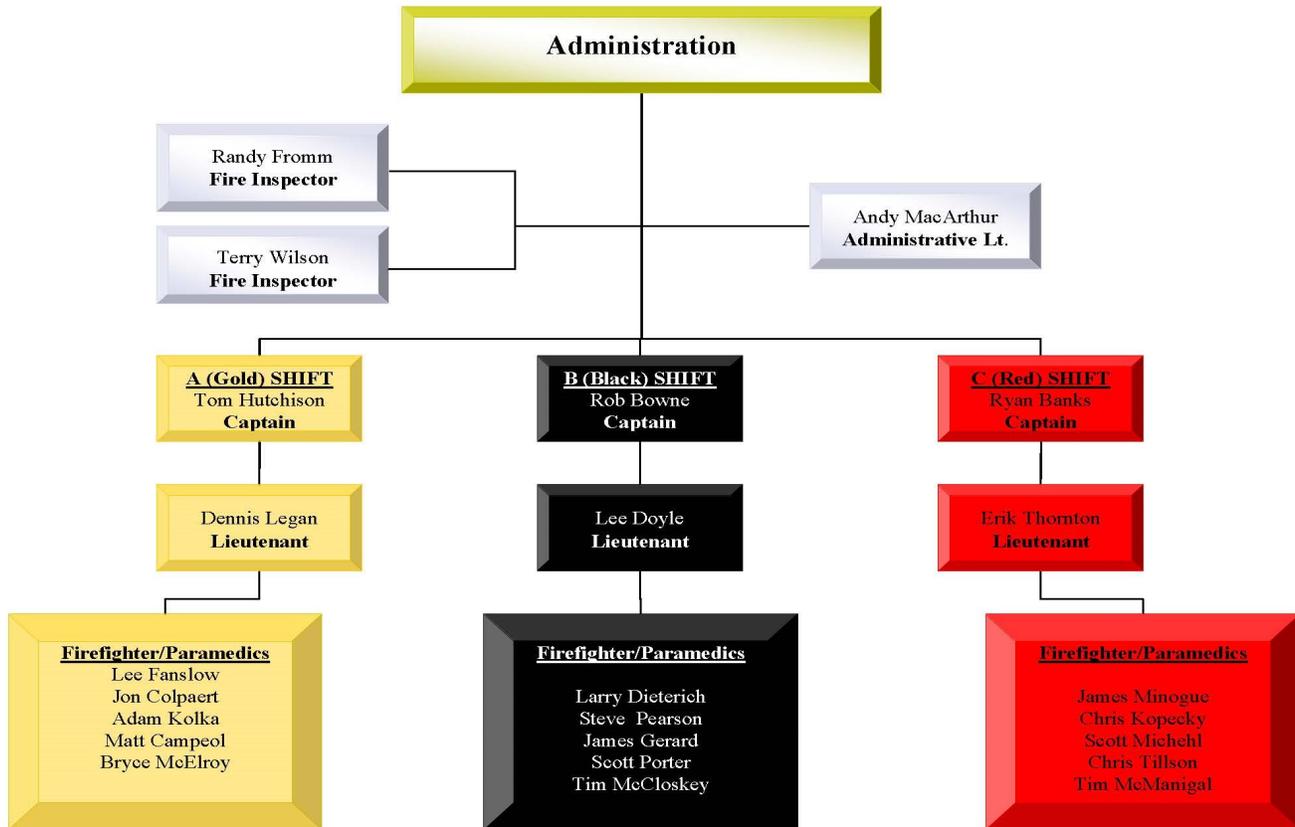


Lieutenant Andy MacArthur

- Public Education
- Preplans
- Fire Prevention

Personnel and Shift Breakdown

Winnetka Fire Department – 2014



The fire suppression personnel within the Department work rotating twenty-hour (24) hour shift schedules. The typical schedule for a member of the fire suppression personnel is one day on, two days off. From time to time, a shift member may be called back to work in the event of a major emergency or event in the community. Shift assignments are generally static for one year, after which time staff members can be rotated to a different shift. This process allows adequate division of the unique special skill sets each staff member possesses.



Fire Station and Apparatus



Winnetka Fire Station #28—428 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, IL 60093

Your Fire Department operates fully out of Station #28, located next to the Winnetka Police Station, at 428 Green Bay Road. The Fire Department's apparatus fleet consists of a total six vehicles, ready to respond to any situation that presents itself. Of these six vehicles, Engine 28 and Ambulance 28 have both a front line and reserve apparatus to aid us in the event of equipment failure and to enhance the life of our fleet.

The full vehicle fleet is as follows:

- Chief's Vehicle— 2013 Ford Taurus
- Deputy Chief's Vehicle— 2007 Ford Expedition
- Battalion 28 (Incident Command)—2012 Ford Expedition
- Engine 28 (E28)—2000 Pierce Saber
- Reserve Engine 28 (E28R) — 1996 Pierce Saber
- Truck 28 (T28)—2010 Smeal
- Ambulance 28 (A28)—2012 Freightliner/Medtec
- Reserve Ambulance (A28R) — 2007 Freightliner/Medtec
- Utility Vehicle— 2007 Ford F250 Pick-up
- Fire Prevention Bureau Vehicle (2810) — 2009 Ford Escape
- Fire Prevention Bureau Vehicle (2811) — 2002 GMC Yukon



A28



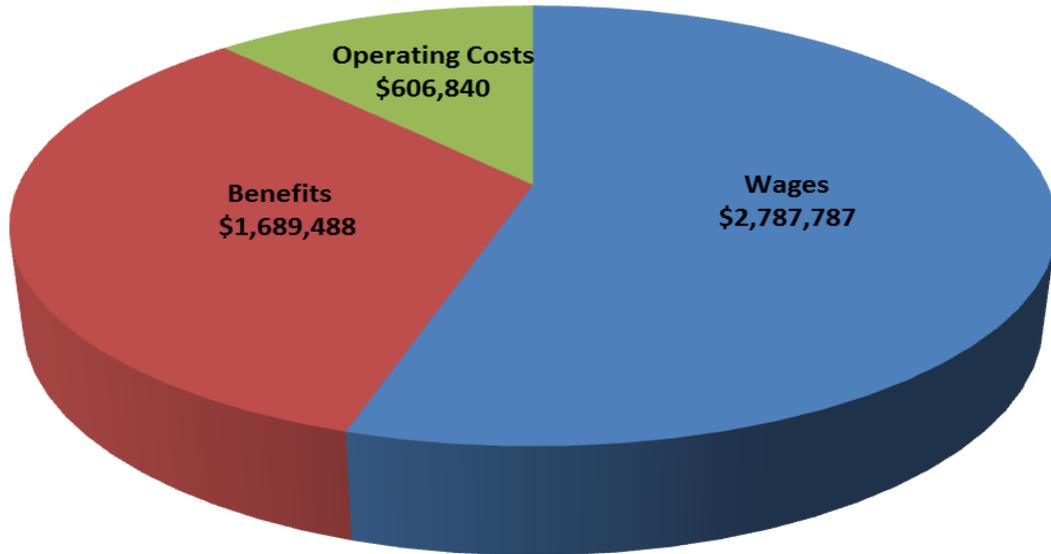
T28



E28

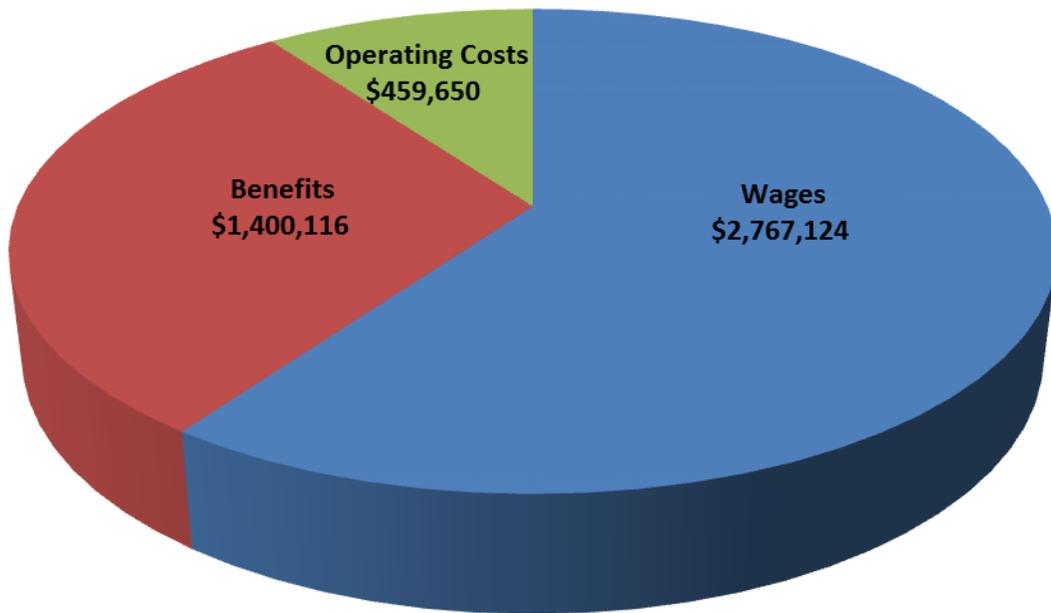
FY2014 Budget Review

FY2014 Budget by Category



Total Twelve Month Budget: \$5,084,115

FY2014 Budget Expenditures by Category

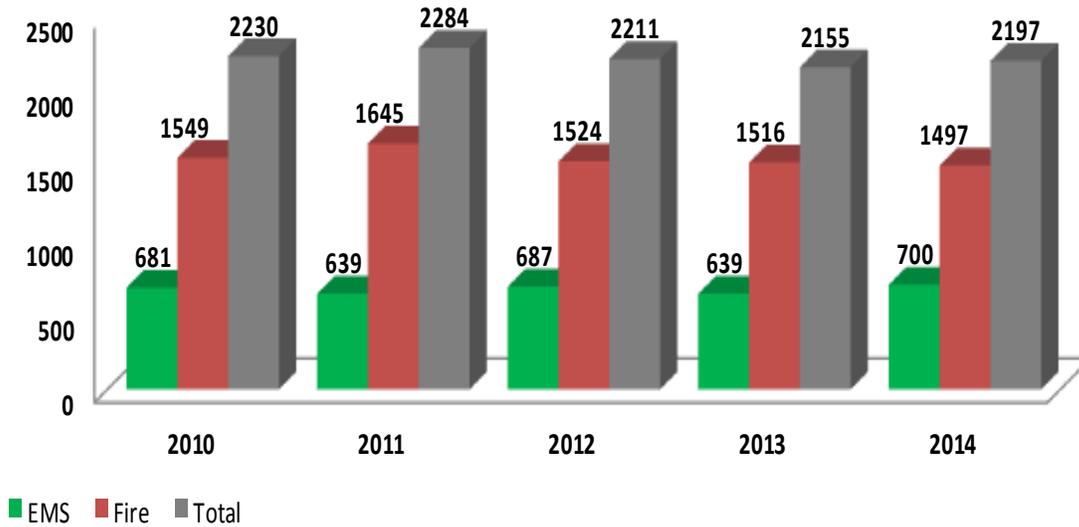


Total Year-End Budget Expenditures \$4,626,890*

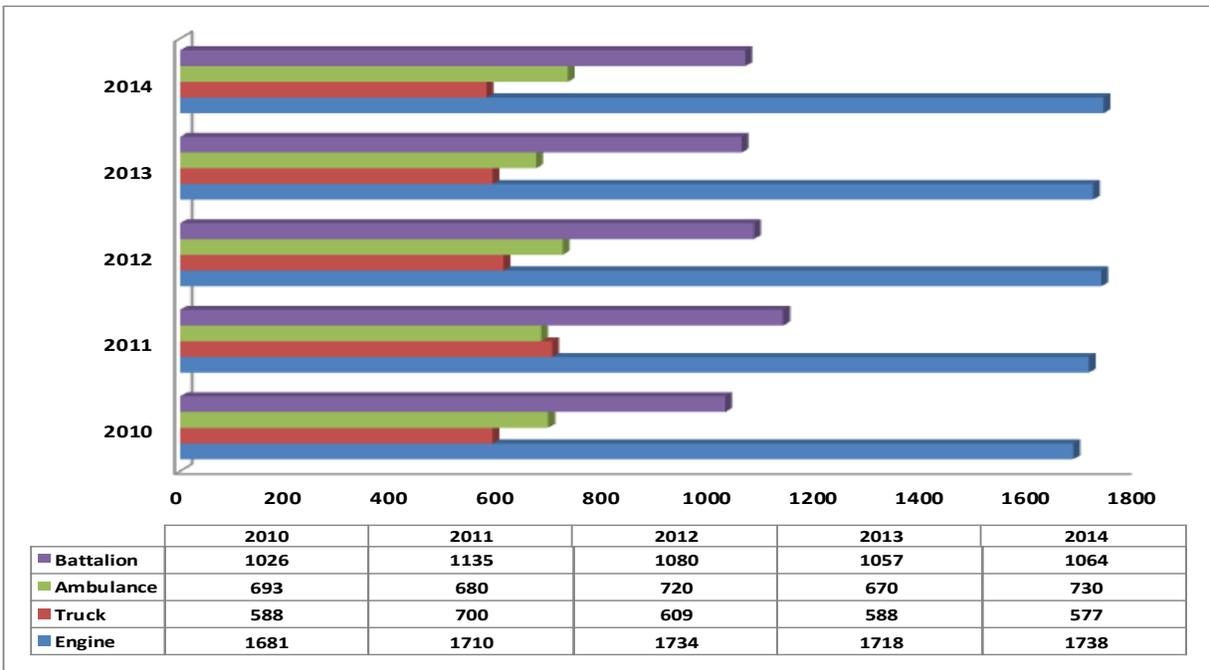
*Unaudited

Five-Year Department Review

Incidents by Year

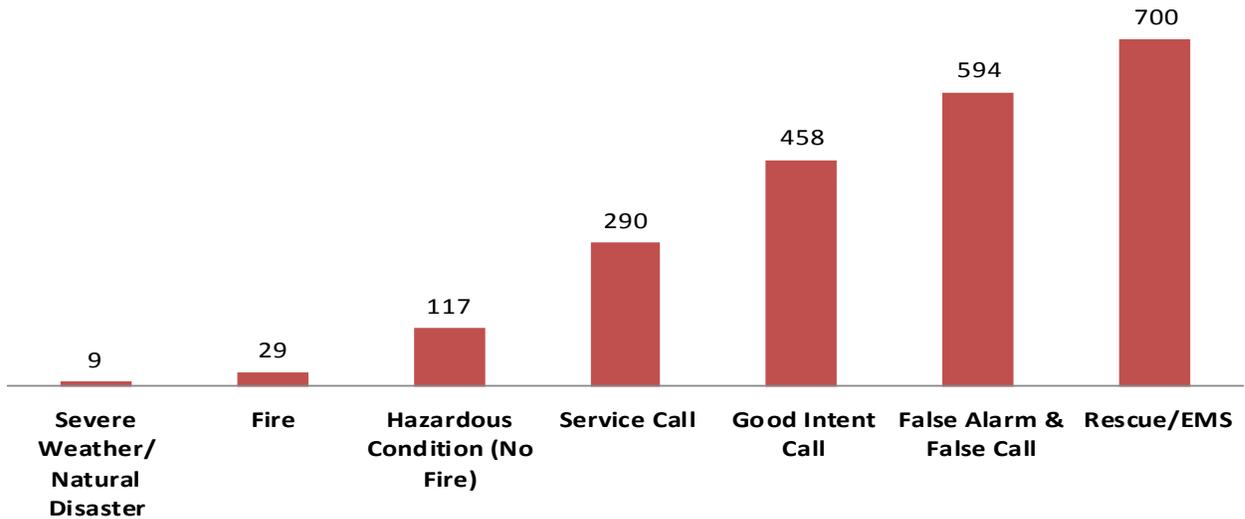


5-year Response Count by Resource Type

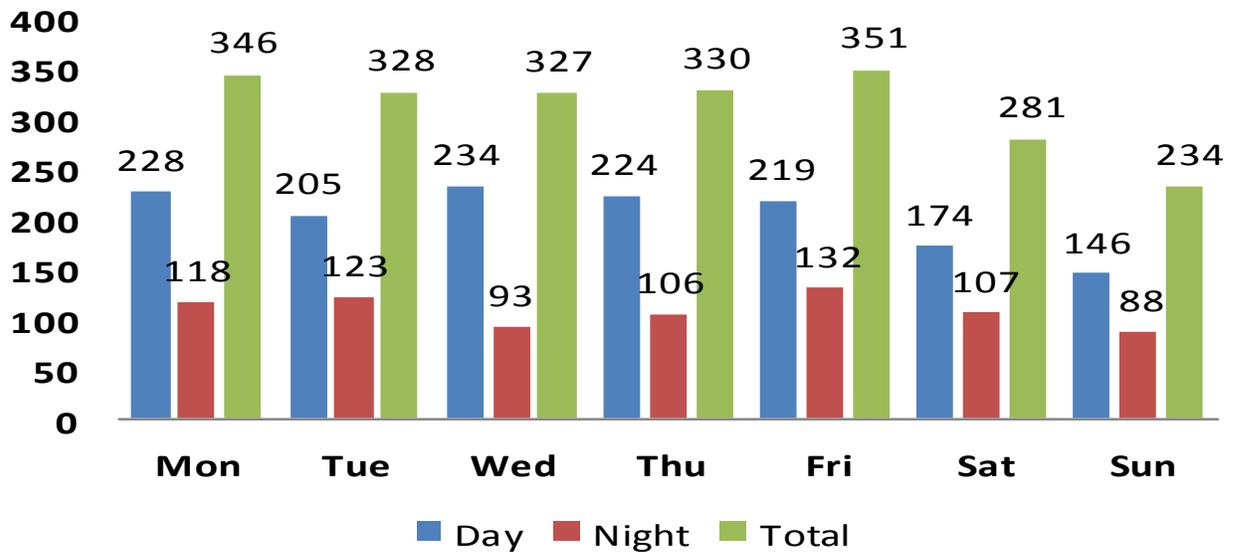


CY2014 Incident Review

Incidents by Response Type

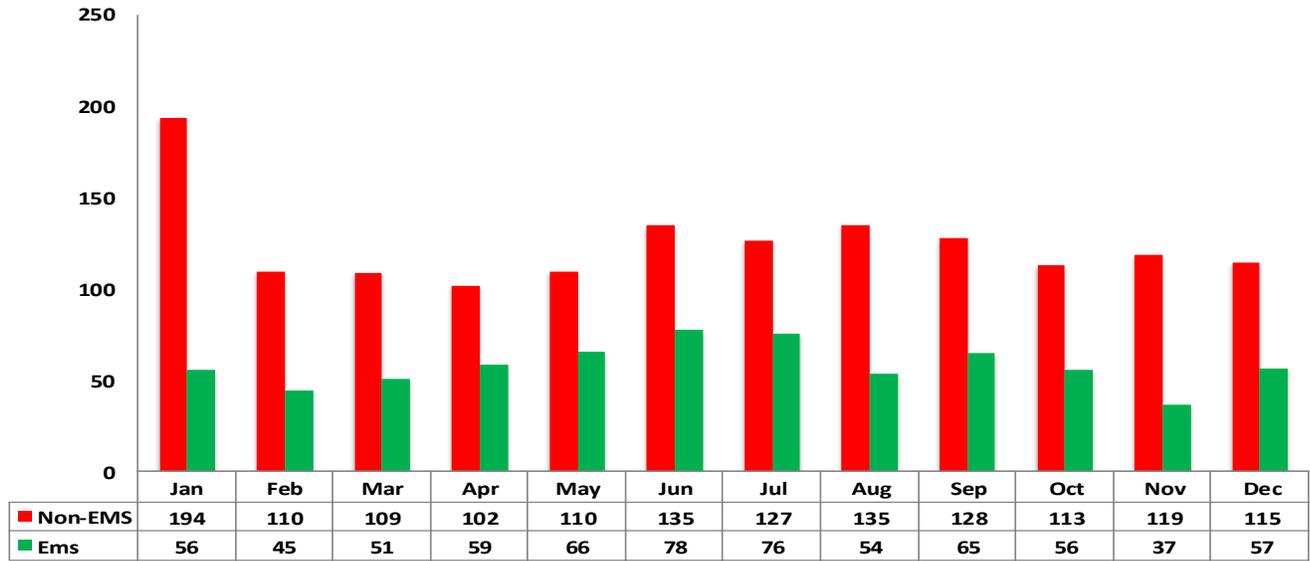


Incidents: Day (8am-6pm) vs. Night (6pm-8am)

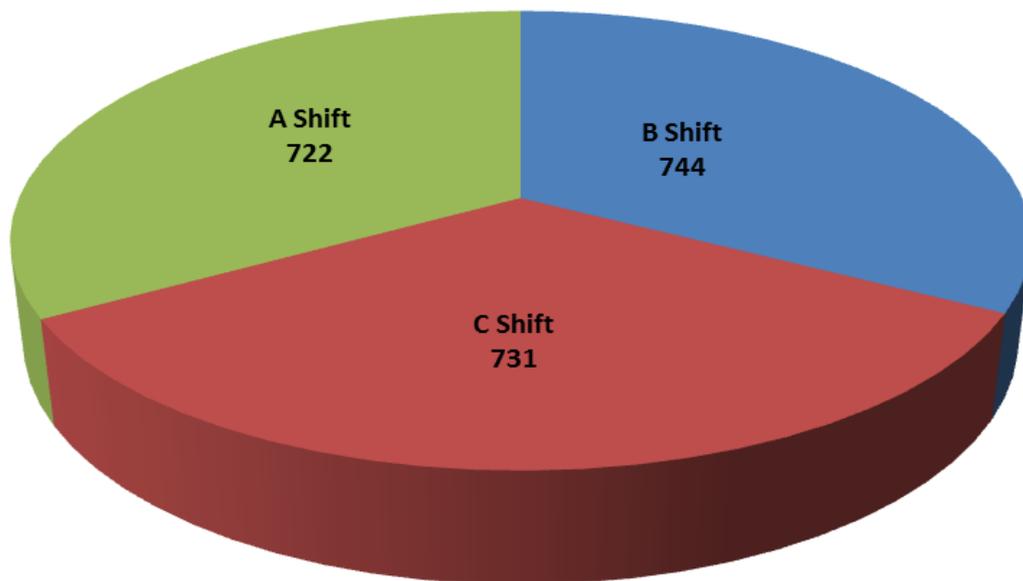


CY2014 Incident Review

Incidents: EMS Compared to Non-EMS (By Month)

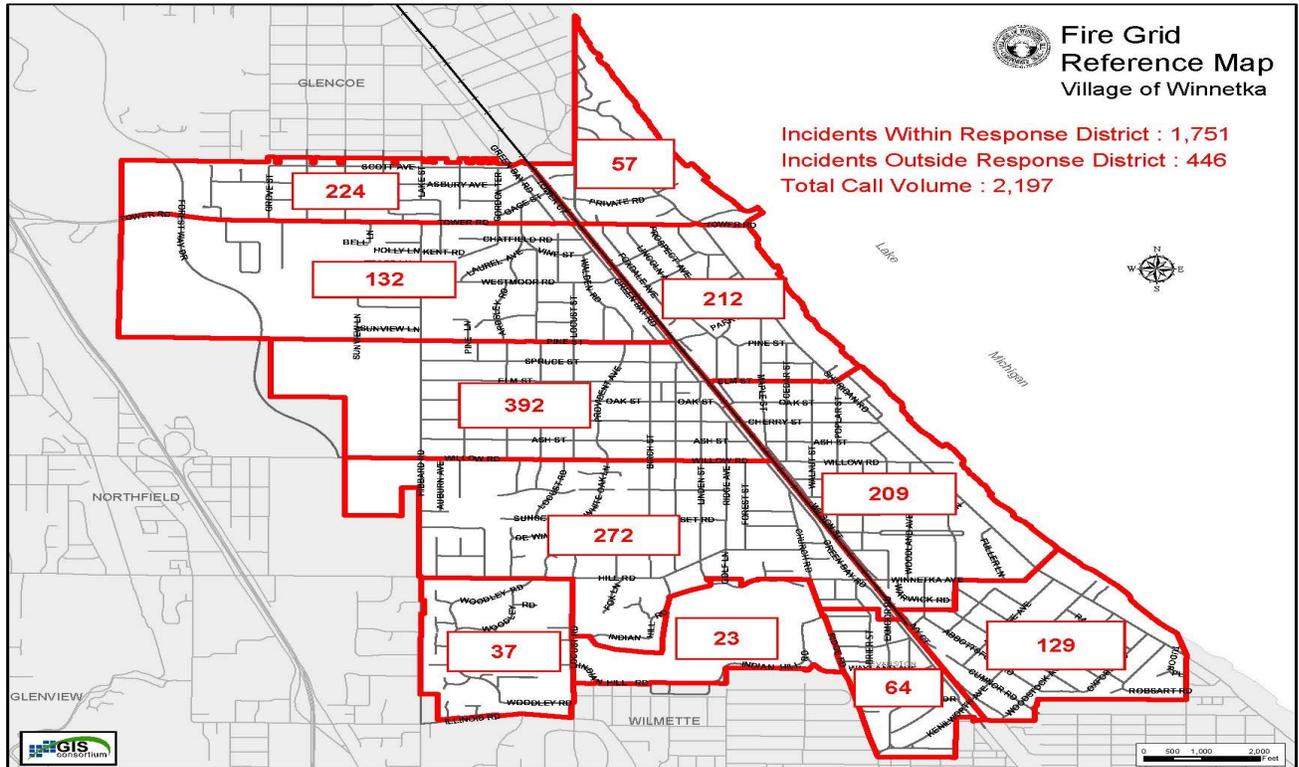


Incidents by Shift



CY2014 Incident Review

Incidents by Response District



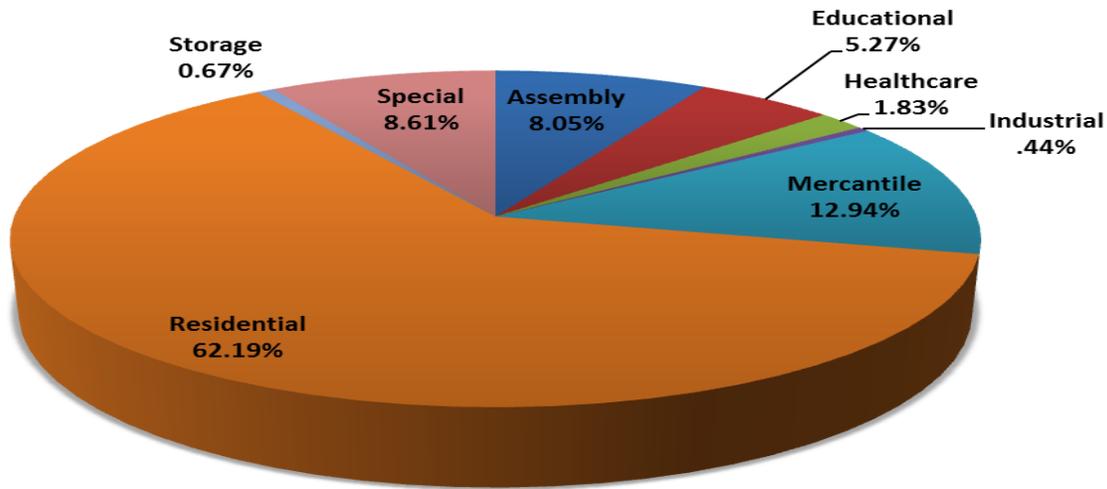
Automatic and Mutual Aid Agreements

The map above shows the total call volume for the Winnetka Fire Department's Response Districts in 2014. The Fire Department has a total of eleven (11) Districts within the Fire Grid Map, which incorporates Winnetka, the Village of Kenilworth, and Unincorporated Cook County.

80% of the incidents were within our Response District. The remaining 20% are included in what is known as *Automatic* and/or *Mutual Aid*. This reciprocal type of aid is provided when a municipality has an agreement with a neighboring municipality to provide resources, should they require it. *Automatic Aid* is a pre-established agreement where departments assist each other in daily responses. *Mutual Aid* is when the incident exceeds the resources of the affected community.

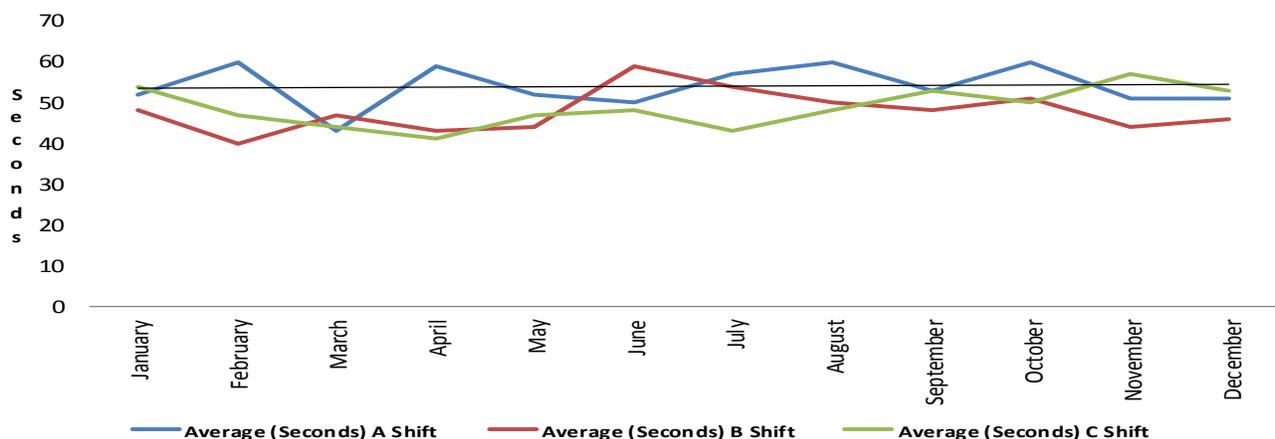
CY2014 Incident Review

Incidents by Property Type (%)



Turn-Out Time Analysis

Turn-Out times state the length of time (measured in seconds) that it takes our Firemedics to be en-route, from the initial dispatch by our Fire Dispatch Agency, RED Center. As a Department, we evaluate these monthly, by shift, to ensure that the *Turn-Out* is kept under 60 seconds (Incidents between 7:00am and 9:00pm) and 90 seconds (Incidents between 9:00pm and 7:00am). The idea behind this is to have, at minimum, personnel on-scene within 4-6 minutes, 90% of the time. The graph below shows the monthly average *Turn-out times* broken down by shift for 2014. As you can see, our department maintains between 40 and 90 seconds during this time period.



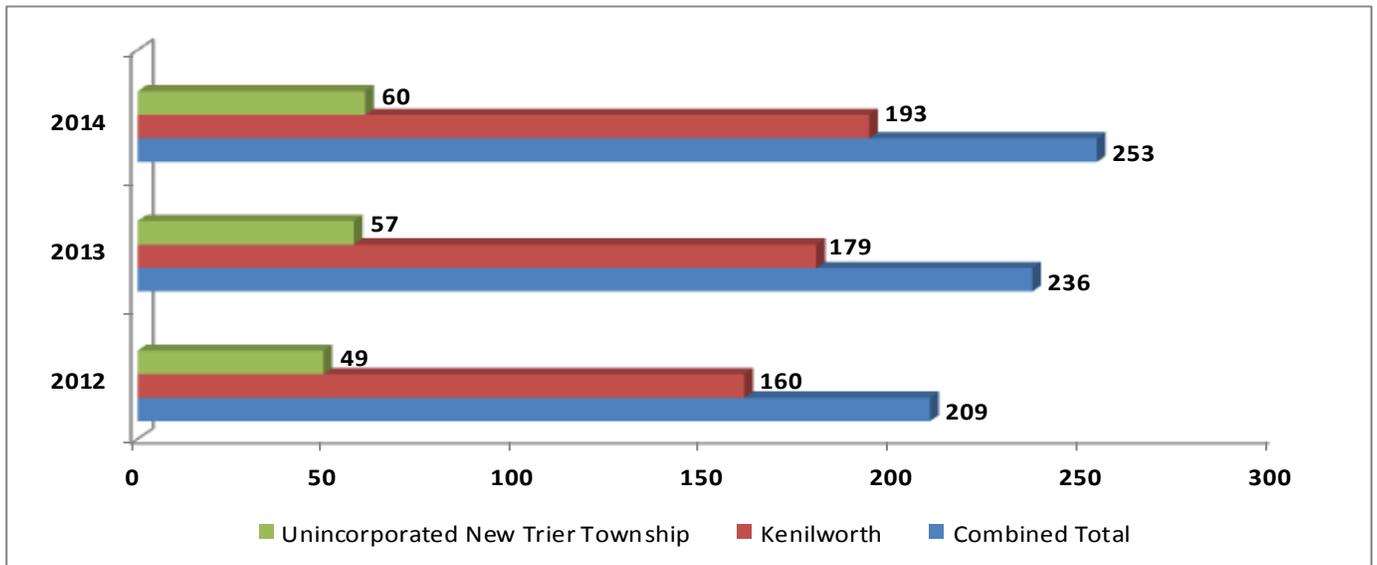
Fire Service Area



Since 1930, the Village of Winnetka has provided Fire and EMS services to the Village of Kenilworth. In addition to Kenilworth, we also have provided Fire and EMS services to Unincorporated New Trier Township in Cook County for many years.

The Village of Winnetka invoices the Village of Kenilworth twice during the calendar year for fire protection services and the amount is derived from a comprehensive formula that includes call volume, equalized assessed value (EAV), and population among other elements.

Unincorporated Cook County residents are billed directly on a monthly basis utilizing a formula similar to that of Kenilworth. The historical call volume for these two regions is outlined in the graph below.



Walk-In Services

Hazardous Waste Disposal

The Village of Winnetka partners with the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County to offer residents a free, safe, and easy way to dispose of unwanted medicine and needles/sharps. The Fire Department accepts most types of prescription medications for disposal. Using this drop-off program helps keep our water clean and reduces pollution in our lakes, rivers and streams. Additionally, we accept containers of needles, syringes and diabetic finger prick cartridges for proper disposal. We can supply sharps containers for the storage of these needles at home. You can simply bring in an old container and exchange it for a new one.

This program is part of a broader Village of Winnetka effort to reduce waste for the community and its residents, that includes collection programs at the Department of Public Works. Total collections for Winnetka, in 2014, are listed below:

- CFL Bulbs: 1,568 pounds
- Large electronics: 138,874 pounds
- Styrofoam: 925 pounds
- Thermometers (mercury): 5 pounds
- Medications: 364 pounds
- Syringes: 225 pounds



For more information on these and other collection programs, please visit the SWANCC Website:

www.swancc.org.

Blood Pressure Screenings

Trained personnel are available to take blood pressure readings at the Winnetka Fire Department. A blood pressure reading provides an important and timely summary of an individual's cardiovascular health status. It may also aid identification of potential medical problems and lead to early treatment.



2014 Significant Events

In 2014, the Village of Winnetka experienced three major structure fires, with property loss totaling nearly \$1.4 million:

Pine Tree Lane: On February 26, 2014, at approximately 9:05 PM, the Winnetka Fire Department received a call for a fire in a house under renovation at 910 Pine Tree Lane in Winnetka.

After initiating an offensive fire attack, the conditions quickly deteriorated requiring an upgrade to a Box Alarm, whereby neighboring communities were directed to the scene. Approximate loss is estimated at more than \$825,000, making it the 5th highest property loss due to a structure fire in the Village of Winnetka since 1998. The cause of the fire was determined to be related to the chimney.



Willow Road:

At 8:01 AM on Saturday October 4, 2014, the Winnetka Fire Department responded to a reported structure fire at 558 Willow Road. Upon arrival, Incident Command discovered a two-story residential home with light smoke emanating from the chimney. Shortly after, the alarm was upgraded to a Code 4 and assistance was received from neighboring departments.



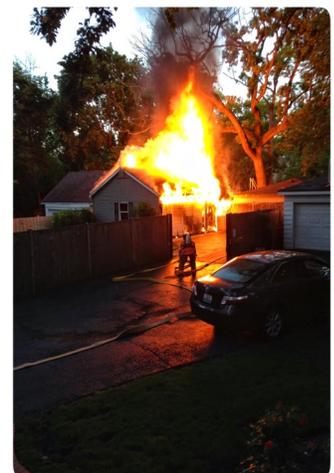
After the fire was extinguished, all units were returned, and no injuries reported. Approximate loss is estimated at \$400,000. After an investigation, the cause of the fire was determined to be gases escaping from gaps in the chimney flue pipe, which in turn ignited the wood framing members of the chimney.

Tower Road:

In the early morning of Friday, June 13, 2014, the Winnetka Fire Department responded to a call of a detached garage fire at 1423 Tower Road.

Due to the severity of the incident, Automatic Aid was dispatched and resources arrived from Wilmette, Northfield and Glencoe to assist the Winnetka Fire Department.

After the fire was extinguished all units were returned, and no injuries reported. Property loss is estimated at \$153,000, including two vehicles that were parked in the garage during the incident.



Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for conducting fire and life safety inspections within the boundaries of the Village. The Fire Prevention Bureau is staffed by two part-time Fire Inspectors with additional support provided by the Deputy Fire Chief and Administrative Lieutenant.

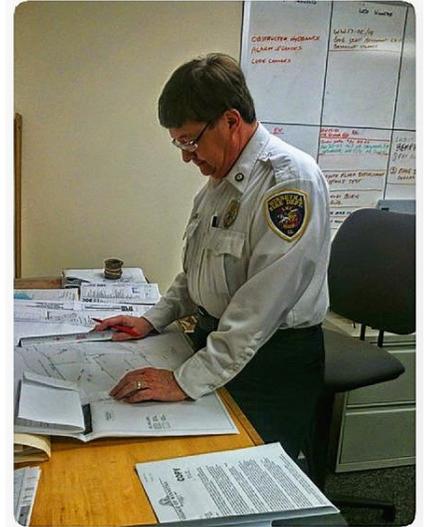
Inspections are required for all new and existing commercial and multifamily residential structures. In addition to standard inspections, the Fire Prevention Bureau also conducts:

- Plan reviews
- Special event inspections
- Code review and interpretation
- Responses to citizen concerns

Beginning in April 2014, the Winnetka Fire Department began partnering with the Village of Northfield to provide Fire Prevention Inspections for their commercial and residential properties.

In 2014, the Winnetka Fire Department conducted:

- 97 Village of Northfield inspections
- 10 Village of Northfield plan reviews



Winnetka Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau Activities

Year	Consultations	Inspections	Plan Reviews	Referrals	Preplans	Total
2006	49	968	9	8	213	1247
2007	43	971	13	4	280	1311
2008	50	660	16	8	183	917
2009	72	628	15	10	202	927
2010	69	863	23	15	98	1068
2011	73	551	25	17	39	705
2012	79	798	6	19	57	959
2013	124	790	32	26	36	1008
2014*	138	614	73	14	41	880
Average	77	760	24	13	128	1002

*Exclusive of Northfield

Personnel Training

Training is an extremely important component in the Fire Department. Through on-going training, members stay ready to respond to any emergency or call for service.

In 2014, Department members acquired the following Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) certifications:

- Deputy Chief Ripka: Chief Fire Officer
- Captain Tom Hutchison: Tower Rescue Technician
- Lieutenant Dennis Legan: Instructor II
- Firemedic Chris Kopecky: Trench Technician
- Firemedic Tim McCloskey: Fire Investigator

The Office of the State Fire Marshal develops statewide standards for the training, testing and certifying of firefighters at all levels. By participating in these certifications, the Village of Winnetka Fire Department joins a cohort of over 50,000 firefighters in the state of Illinois. Additionally, Department members may elect to participate in MABAS Division 3 special teams such as Hazmat, Technical Rescue, Fire Investigation, or Water Rescue. All of these opportunities promote the overall safety of the community.



Firefighters practice forcible entry procedures, utilizing a Door Prop at the Training Tower.

One of the most beneficial resources for Fire Department training is the **Training Tower**, located at the Public Works Facility (1390 Willow Road).

The training tower includes a number of amenities that allow for the simulation of actual fires in both residential and commercial structures.

The tower has an independent electric and water supply and is piped with the ability to have smoke pumped in to simulate the poor visibility one would experience under fire conditions.

At least twice a year, neighboring departments train with us at our tower for a coordinated night drill exercise as required by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Insurance Service Office (ISO).

Miscellaneous Events

Fire and Police train with community school staff on a regular basis to ensure all personnel are familiar with emergency operations.

These drills include: evacuation, inclement weather, lockout and lockdown procedures.



On August 1st, Station 28 visited the Hubbard Woods School to provide Winnetka Park District campers with some relief from the summer sun.



In 2014, the Winnetka Fire Department welcomed a new Firemedic to the team. FM Bryce McElroy had his Swearing-In Ceremony at the Village Hall Council Chambers, on March 11th.



Residents visit the Winnetka Fire and Police Department Open House on Saturday, October 11, 2014. This annual event gives the residents a chance to visit Police and Fire for informational presentations, kid-friendly activities and to ask any questions they may have for their emergency responders.



Glossary

Aerial Truck - Also known as a ladder truck, aerial ladder, or just plain truck. A hydraulically powered ladder or articulating platform, mounted on a vehicle that also carries several different length extension ladders, and possibly extrication gear, ventilation equipment, and lighting.

Backdraft - Term applied to the explosion caused by the sudden inward rush of oxygen when all of the super-heated gases, (heated above the ignition temperature) in a room or structure, ignite at the same time. If the gasses are pressurized, in a relatively closed room, an explosion could be the result. While the likelihood of such an occurrence is low, a backdraft is often fatal to anyone caught in it.

Defensive Operations - This is a fire ground strategy based on firefighter safety and the protection of exposures. The goal is to simply confine the fire to the building/area of origin. No aggressive interior firefighting operations take place in the defensive mode. All fire streams are operated onto the fire from the outside. This strategy is employed when a fire has advanced to the point where interior attack operations are too dangerous.

Engine - This is an apparatus designed for fire attack. It is the most common vehicle in fire departments. This apparatus carries hose and usually has a 500 gallon water tank. It also has a fire pump. Modern fire pumps can pump over 1500 GPM (Gallons Per Minute). These vehicles can also have the ability to supply foam and usually carries 3-4 personnel.

Extrication - The systematic and safe freeing or removal of persons who are trapped or pinned inside a vehicle or piece of equipment. This is accomplished by highly trained firefighter/paramedics.

Flashover - Similar to a backdraft with the exception that the room is not closed or pressurized to the point of explosion. All of the contents of the room have given off flammable gases that have been heated to their ignition point and a fire suddenly envelopes the room. From the outside you will often see the exiting smoke appear to instantly ignite.

Forcible Entry - The act of gaining access to a structure or vehicle through means other than an open window or door. Frequently, firefighters must force open doors that are locked or blocked in order to enter a structure to search for victims & extinguish a fire. A wide variety of hand, power & hydraulic tools can be used for forcible entry.

Haz Mat - (also Hazmat, HazMat) This is short for "Hazardous Materials." With today's complex and high technology world, many departments have invested resources and money to responding to such emergencies. Most of us would be surprised, if not alarmed to learn the many types and dangers associated with chemicals and products in our communities. Winnetka shares a Haz Mat unit with the departments comprising MABAS Division 3 .

ISO - Insurance Service Office - This is an organization that evaluates fire department operations for the insurance companies. The ISO (PPC) rating is from 10 - 1. With "1" being the best. See: <http://www.iso.com/>

MABAS - Mutual Aid Box Alarm System - A conglomerate of fire service organizations that provide mutual aid response in the event of an emergency that exceeds the capabilities of the local fire department. MABAS organizations exist primarily in Illinois and Wisconsin, but also include members in Indiana, Iowa, and Missouri. The Winnetka Fire Department is part of MABAS Division 3, which includes:

- Deerfield-Bannockburn
- Des Plaines
- Evanston
- Glencoe
- Glenview
- Highland Park
- Highwood
- Lincolnwood
- Morton Grove
- Nilcs
- Northbrook
- Northfield
- North Maine
- Park Ridge
- Prospect Heights
- Skokie
- Wilmette
- Winnetka-Kenilworth

Glossary

Mutual Aid - This is an agreement between jurisdictions for the mutual assistance in the event of major events. Even the largest departments may need help from time to time. There can be pre-established automatic aid or mutual aid. A city may agree to always take the runs for another in some remote locations or when local resources are unavailable. Smaller departments depend upon automatic/mutual aid agreements.

NFPA - National Fire Protection Association - An organization established in 1896 having the purpose of helping to protect life and property from fire. The NFPA contains a number of different operational components including public education, code adoption, research, and training. Most fire-related building codes are derived from standards put forth by the NFPA. Additionally, the NFPA was responsible for developing the National Electric Code (NEC).

Offensive Operations - During offensive operations, fire suppression personnel actively fight a fire within a structure utilizing water or another type of extinguishing agent. While in offensive operations mode, firefighters must be continuously aware of their surroundings in order to evaluate safety conditions within the structure.

Pass Device (Personal Alert Safety System) - This is a device given to all firefighters to wear for locating firefighters in trouble. This device senses if a firefighter has remained motionless for a short period of time. A piercing alarm is sounded under any of the conditions for which it is designed to detect. They are usually attached to the SCBA.

RED Center - Regional Emergency Dispatch Center - A centralized dispatch center providing services to Deerfield-Bannockburn, Highwood, Lincolnshire-Riverwoods, Lincolnwood, Long Grove, Morton Grove, Niles, North Maine, Northbrook, Northfield, Prospect Heights, Wheeling, Wilmette, and Winnetka/Kenilworth. When a resident of one of these communities calls 911 within the community and requests fire or EMS services, they will experience a very brief hold while their call is directed from their local 911 office to RED Center. Winnetka's partnership with RED Center is a more efficient and effective means of handling fire or emergency medical calls.

SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) - This is the breathing apparatus that firefighters wear. A common mistake is to think that there is only oxygen in the cylinder; however, there is not. The cylinder the firefighter wears is filled with the same air everyone breathes. Imagine the amount of air in a box measuring four feet in every direction. That is about how much air each firefighter has. Each cylinder is rated for a specific amount of time, usually 30 - 60 minutes, but that is based upon little or no exertion.

Thermal Imaging Camera - This is a camera that can be used to seek out hidden fires or see through smoke. It uses thermal imaging technology to detect the heat given off by objects. It can detect a difference of 1/10th of a degree. Some cameras have the ability to transmit the image back to command where it can be viewed or even recorded. The camera can also tell you the temperature of the object in the cross hairs. Some versions are helmet mounted. This device is so sensitive that it could help find a victim who is completely under many layers of bed covers.

Ventilation - The process of removing heated gasses or smoke from a building. This process makes the building more tenable and helps to prevent such things as flashover or backdraft. This can be accomplished by several methods, from opening a window to cutting a hole in the roof. It can also be accomplished by forced ventilation using high powered fans to horizontally ventilate the structure.



Winnetka Fire Department Calendar of Events

July 4: Fourth of July Events

Parade 10:00—11:00AM

Location: Elm St. and Glendale Ave.

Winnetka Fourthfest 6:00—10:00PM

Location: Duke Child's Field

October 4 - 10: Fire Prevention Week

October 10: Fire/Police Open House

November 1: Change Your Clock/Change Your
Smoke Detector Battery

Important Contact Information

Fire/Police Emergency: 911

Police Non-Emergency: (847)501-6034

Fire Non-Emergency: (847)501-6029

Winnetka Village Hall: (847)501-6000

Winnetka Public Works: (847)716-3568

New Trier Township: (847)446-8201

Poison Control Center: (800)222-1222

Life Safety Tips:

- Have a smoke alarm outside every sleeping area, in every bedroom, and on every level of your home.
- Always check electrical cords for cracking and fraying.
- Create a home escape plan for family members to use in the event of an emergency.
- Every home should have a working carbon monoxide detector.
- Do not hesitate to call "911". If something feels like an emergency, treat it like an emergency!
- When using candles in the home, keep them away from combustible materials and be sure to fully extinguish them before going to bed.