

WILMETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT



2009 ANNUAL REPORT



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CHIEF'S MESSAGE

I am pleased and honored to present to you the 2009 Wilmette Fire Department Annual Report. As you review this report you will find that 2009 was another challenging year for the Wilmette Fire Department. In addition to responding to emergencies, training, and providing fire prevention and education activities, there were some significant events that occurred in 2009.

The economic downturn has presented unique challenges for all governmental agencies. The Wilmette Fire Department has historically practiced fiscal responsibility, but has embraced this challenge and has found new ways to reduce costs with little impact to the service level of the community. In addition to cost reduction, the department has been actively working on cost recovery practices as well. We will continue to investigate efficiencies and cost reduction methods into 2010.

The Fire Department continues to use the accreditation process as a model and is constantly benchmarking itself against its goals, national standards and other agencies.

In 2009 the department was evaluated by the Insurance Service Office (ISO). ISO evaluates a fire department on their fire fighting ability. The evaluation looks at not only the operations of the department but also the communication abilities of the department and water supply infrastructure. The department going into the evaluation was a 4 on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being the best. This rating is used by insurance companies when determining insurance rates. The results of this evaluation will be released in 2010.

The Fire Department was also evaluated in 2009 by a consulting agency that specializes in fire departments. The consulting agency looked at ways to increase the efficiency of the department where possible as well as streamline operational costs in staying with the current economic concerns.

In 2009 the Fire Department fleet restructuring plan was completed. This plan was largely funded by a grant from the Assistance to Firefighter Grants through the Department of Homeland Security. This vehicle restructuring plan will offer long term savings and increased operational efficiencies. It is also our hope that this will have a positive impact on the ISO rating for the Village.

In 2009 Station 26 also received construction work to enlarge the apparatus door opening to accommodate new updated apparatus that is larger than the equipment designed in 1964, when the station was originally built.

From the Wilmette Fire Department, we want to thank everyone who helped to make 2009 a safe and successful year.

Sincerely,



James W. Dominik
Fire Chief, Village of Wilmette

WILMETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORY

- 1893 The Wilmette Fire Department was formed when the first water supply system was installed. Fire Station One was located downtown and used the church bell to alert the volunteers. Fire Station Two was located one mile west.
- 1899 A larger, more centrally located station was built at Central and Park Avenue, where the Post office now stands.
- 1905 A horse drawn cart was purchased which carried a 45- gallon tank, a 25 foot extension ladder, and a 10 foot roof ladder. Walter Zibble was hired as the first full time employee of the department; he tended to the department's two horses, Charlie and Snake.
- 1916 Station One relocated to 831 Green Bay Road. The Department purchased its first motorized fire engine.
- 1918 The Weber and Allen garage (Imperial Motors site) burned to the ground, to date one of Wilmette's costliest fires.
- 1920 Palm Sunday tornado ravages Wilmette.
- 1921 Walter Zibble became the first full-time Fire Chief until his retirement in 1946. The department purchases its first ladder truck.
- 1936 A local mortician donates an ambulance to the fire department. The police took over transporting patients to the hospital from 1943-1956.
- 1956 Two new station wagons were purchased and the fire department resumed ambulance service.
- 1958 The last volunteer firefighter retires marking the end of volunteer firefighters in Wilmette. A second fire station was added.
- 1966 An extra alarm fire broke out in the Encyclopedia Britannica building at 1150 Wilmette Avenue.
- 1974 The first paramedics were trained and certified.
- 1975 Wilmette Fire Department is staffed with 44 full-time sworn members
- 1978 A fireworks explosion at 1221 Cleveland kills one civilian and injures several firefighters.
- 1991 An extra alarm fire gutted the Melange Restaurant in the Plaza Del Lago shopping center.
- 1994 A three alarm fire broke out on the 7th floor of the 1420 High-rise Apartments resulting in one fatality.
- 2003 A fire destroys the Terrace Restaurant at the Park District Golf Course.
- 2007 Wilmette is awarded a \$750,000 grant from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program Managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the purchase of a new Tower Ladder. Wilmette Fire Department increased staffing to 45 full time sworn members to reduce overtime. A devastating storm swept through town on August 23rd. The fire department responded to over 360 emergency calls in a 24 hour period.
- 2008 On September 13th and 14th fire crews responded to over 60 calls for service as a result of flooding due to heavy rainfall.
- 2009 The department took delivery of a new 95' E-One Tower Ladder.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) – is a nonprofit corporation that promotes continuous quality improvement by providing training and career resource information to the fire and emergency service agencies and personnel that serve communities throughout the United States.

In addition, CPSE serves as the governing body for the essential entity organizations that offer accreditation, education, and certification services to first responder and fire service industry professionals and agencies. CPSE's dedicated board members individually contribute a wealth of experience and fresh ideas to the progression of the industry.

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) - The mission of the Illinois Department of Public Health is to promote the health of the people of Illinois through the prevention and control of disease and injury.

Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA) - An intergovernmental agency comprised of municipalities, fire protection districts, and other organizations located in the Chicago metropolitan area that have combined energies and resources to create a regional, state-of-the-art public safety training facility. NIPSTA is located in Glenview, Illinois, The mission of NIPSTA is to develop and provide high quality, cost-efficient educational programs that address the training requirements of fire, police, EMS, public works, hazardous material, and disaster response personnel.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) – NFPA is a nonprofit organization whose goal is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. NFPA serves as the world's leading advocate of fire prevention and is an authoritative source on public safety.

Occupational Safety Health Administration (OSHA) – OSHA'S mission is to prevent work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths by issuing and enforcing rules (called standards) for workplace safety and health.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG) – THE Assistance to Firefighters grant (AFG) provides financial assistance directly to fire departments and non-affiliated EMS organizations to enhance their abilities with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. The primary goal is to help fire departments meet their firefighting and emergency response needs.

Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) – In 1970, the MABAS system was established to provide a swift, standardized and effective method of mutual aid assistance for extra alarm fires and mass casualty incidents. The MABAS system is divided into 20 Divisions throughout the State of Illinois comprised of over 300 agencies.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Wilmette Fire Department is to provide a selfless organization of people who hold devotion to duty above personal risk, who count sincerity of service above personal comfort and convenience, and who strive unceasingly to find better ways of protecting the lives, homes and property of their fellow citizens.

OUR VALUES

Honesty ...in both our leadership and our employees, leading to the highest level of trustworthiness.

Integrity ...in our dealings with each other and those we serve, always adhering to a sound code of moral and ethical conduct.

Teamwork ...as we believe that availing ourselves of each person's talent enhances the services we deliver and that cooperation improves our relationships.

Commitment to Excellence ...demonstrating itself through consistent professionalism, pride, and a positive attitude.

Knowledge ...as it forms the foundation for effective decisions, actions, and increased safety.

Respect ...for each person as an individual, an attitude that recognizes the worth of others and exhibits compassion for those in need.

OUR VISION

The Members of the Wilmette Fire Department...

- strive to be role models in the community and leaders in our profession.
- will be accountable to those we serve, each other and any fire service organizations we interact with.
- are committed to providing the best public service through innovative training, education and equipment.
- will take the fire department into the future through productive teamwork, open and honest communications and participative decision-making throughout the organization.
- are committed to our values, mission, and dedicated to our fire service profession.

Our organization is driven to provide a cost effective and efficient fire department while honoring our values, accomplishing our mission and achieving our goals.

2009 PERSONNEL

FIRE CHIEF

James W. Dominik

DEPUTY CHIEF

Michael A. McGreal Jr.

ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF

Richard W. Ciccione

DUTY CHIEF

Jeffrey S. Gorr

Charles Orth

Thomas C. Robertson

LIEUTENANT

Paul E. Bergquist
Anthony D. Bucci

Mark A. Cacchione
Raymond Ridolfi

John R. Storm
Al V. Vilches

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Arthur A. Amidei
Kenneth J. Barton
Jennifer L. Bazan
James R. Bentz
John A. Blomquist
Robert B. Boczek
Robert C. Brill
Lance W. Burns
Timothy S. Clemens
Blake E. Eastman
Chris J. Eder
Scott W. Ewen

Joseph N. Falkovitz
David P. Grajewski
Michael S. Halterman
Patrick T. Harrington
Robert C. Hughes
Michael J. Isaacson
James R. Johnson
Robert J. Jost
Louis J. Klausing
Timothy M. Ludford
Frank J. Mager

Ryan R. Menzies
Michael M. Minogue
John J. Okonek
John S. Ramaker
Ryan D. Schmidt
Thomas E. Simon
Jason N. Weglarz
Jason B. Wilk
James C. Winter
Gary A. Wokurka
Benjamin M. Wozney

SECRETARY

Diane K. Anderson

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

Joe Bass

PERSONNEL CHANGES

YEARS OF SERVICE

20 Years

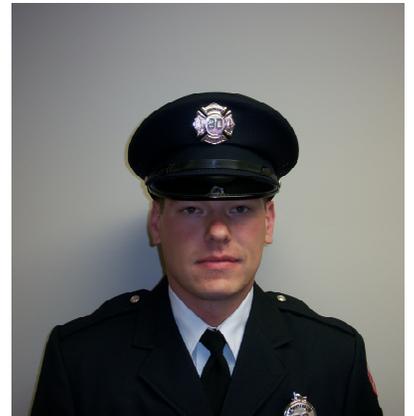


FF / PM Louis Klausing

New Employees



FF / PM Robert J. Jost



FF / PM Jason N. Weglarz

STRATEGIC PLAN

The Wilmette Fire Department's strategic plan was recently updated after an in-depth Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis of the organization and its activities. Throughout this analysis the organization stays focused on its mission, vision and values statements. These statements provide the core values of the organization and act as a guide to evaluate our organization. The current strategic plan is a management plan for the organization to help address the needs identified during the SWOT analysis. This document serves as a planning tool to direct the current and future activities of the Fire Department in an effort to provide the best possible service to the community for the next five years.

The Strategic plan is currently comprised of nine sections. These nine sections highlight the following:

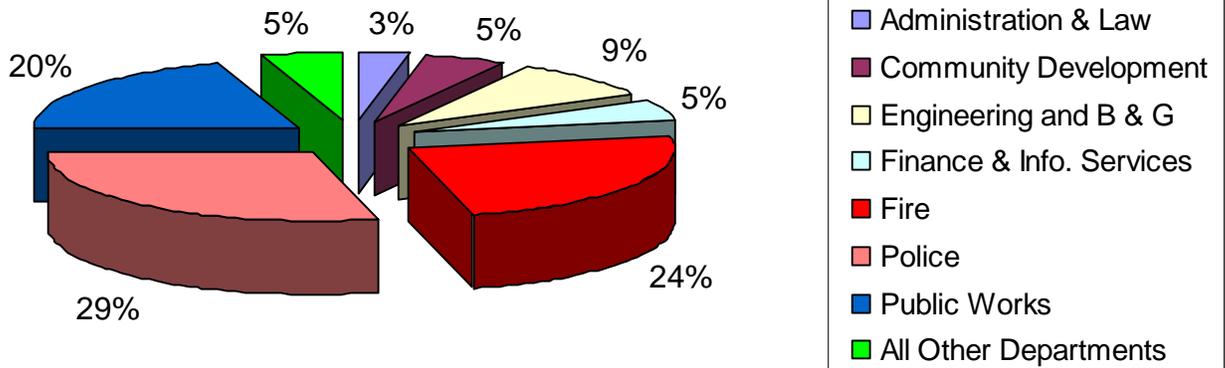
- **Training:** Proper training of personnel is necessary to provide the highest quality service.
- **Personnel:** Provides the people needed to meet the organizational objectives.
- **Capital Improvements:** Items necessary for long term needs.
- **Equipment and Vehicles:** The resources needed to deliver the services to the community.
- **Computer Equipment:** Information necessary to manage and evaluate the organization and its service delivery.
- **Diversity:** The organization feels that a diversified workforce is beneficial to the community.
- **Response Time Analysis:** Essential to effectively deliver Fire and EMS services to the community.
- **Risk Analysis:** Evaluation of the hazards to the community for pre-emergency planning.
- **Codes and Ordinances:** Legal guidance to minimize risk of life and property loss.

A copy of the Wilmette Fire Department Strategic Plan is available on the Village's web site.

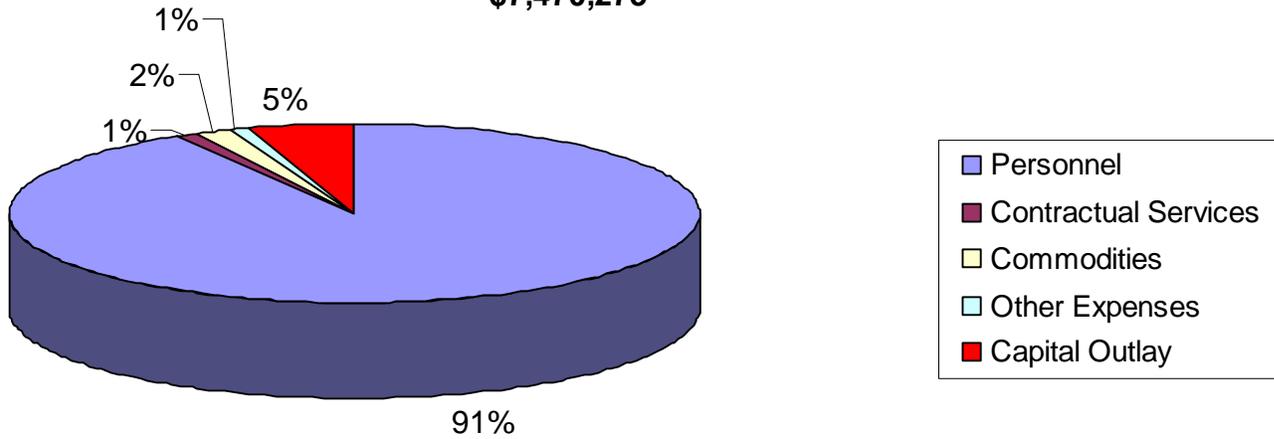
Please note that this plan is a dynamic document that serves as a guide, which can and should change as the community, department and environment change. What does not change is our core mission, which is protecting lives and property of the community we serve.

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Village of Wilmette 2009 Budget
\$58,509,129



2009 Fire Department Budget
\$7,470,275



2009 WILMETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Personnel	\$6,822,450
Contractual Services	\$97,845
Commodities	\$121,381
Other Expenses	\$51,600
Capital Outlay	\$377,000

FIRE STATIONS AND APPARATUS



STATION 26

Fire Department Headquarters

1304 Lake Avenue
Wilmette, Illinois 60091

847-251-1101 (phone)
847-853-7704 (fax)
Emergency 911

Ambulance 26	FD-209	2009 Ford 450 Ambulance
Tower 26	FD-204	2009 E-One 1500 GPM Tower Ladder
Tower 26R	FD-202	1992 Pierce 1500 GPM Tower Ladder
Battalion 26	FD-213	2006 Ford E250 Command Van
Squad 26	FD-201	1999 Navistar Heavy Rescue Squad
Boat 26	FD-214	2000 Avon Inflatable Boat
Utility 26	FD-207	2000 Ford F250 Utility Vehicle
Chief Vehicle	FD-208	2002 Ford Crown Victoria
Deputy Chief Vehicle	FD-210	2001 Ford Explorer
Battalion 26R	FD-203	1997 Ford E150 Van
Staff Vehicle-FP	FD-216	2005 Ford Crown Victoria



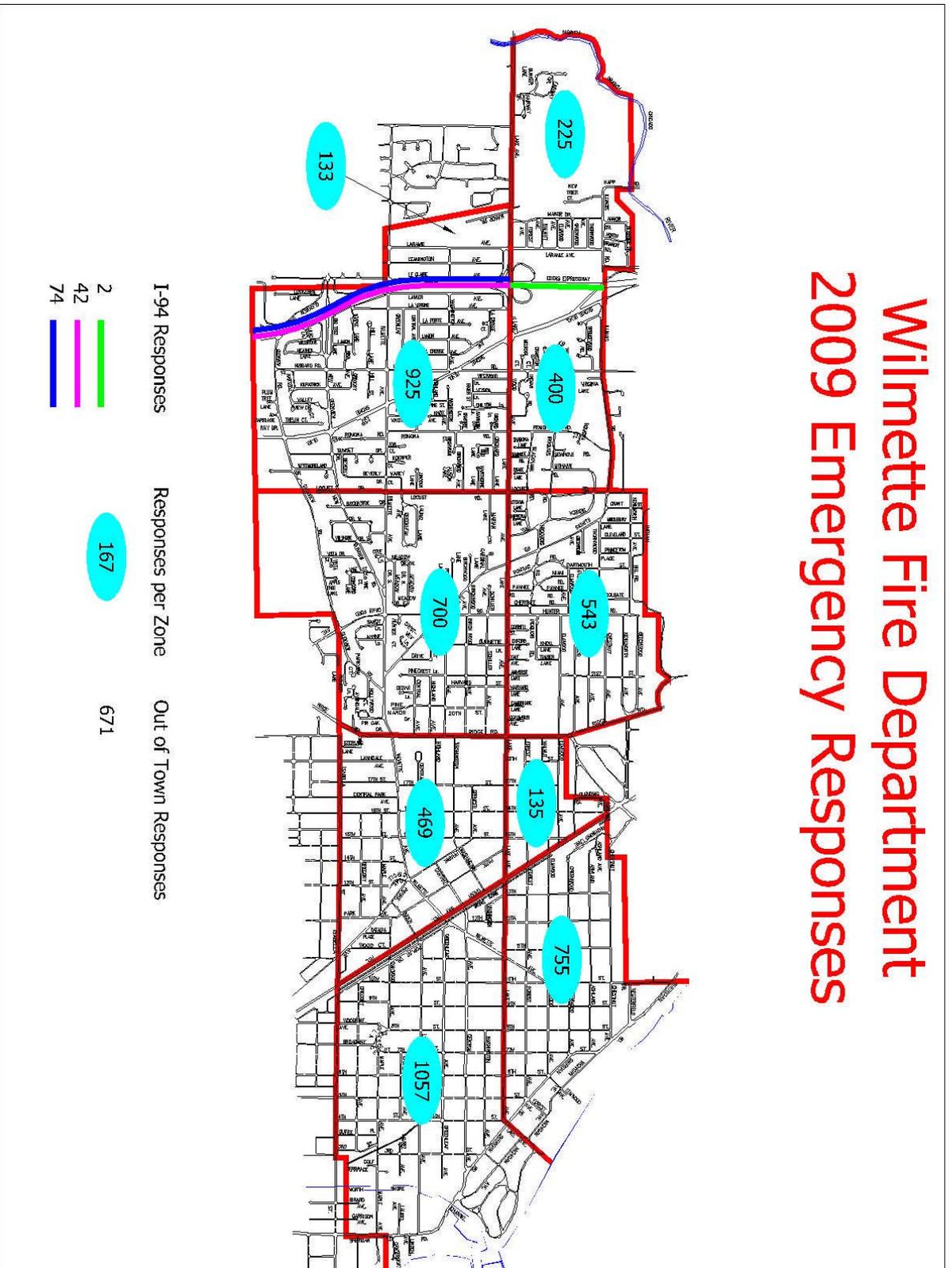
STATION 27

747 Illinois Road
Wilmette, IL 60091

847-853-7659 (phone)
847-853-7707 (fax)
Emergency 911

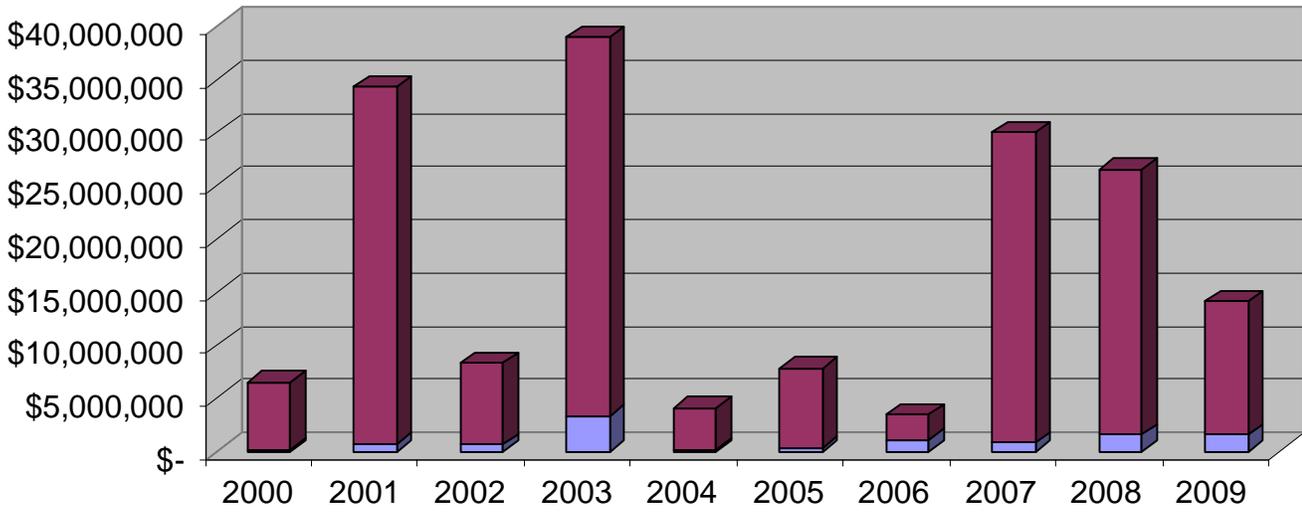
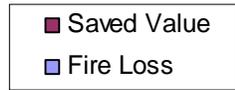
Engine 27	FD-205	1996 E-One 1250 GPM Pumper
Ambulance 27	FD-212	2006 Ford 450 Ambulance
Engine 27R	FD-206	1989 E-One 1500 GPM Pumper
Ambulance 26R	FD-211	2001 Ford 350 Ambulance
Fire Safety House	FD-215	2003 Scotty Fire Safety House

Wilmette Fire Department 2009 Emergency Responses

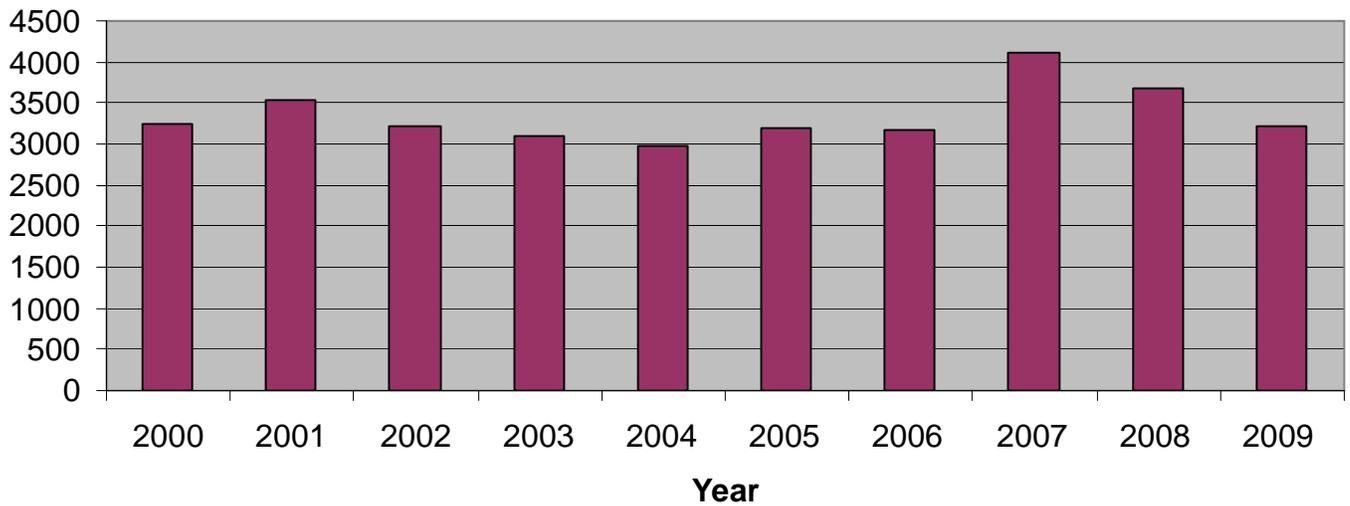


10 Year Fire Loss / Save Comparison

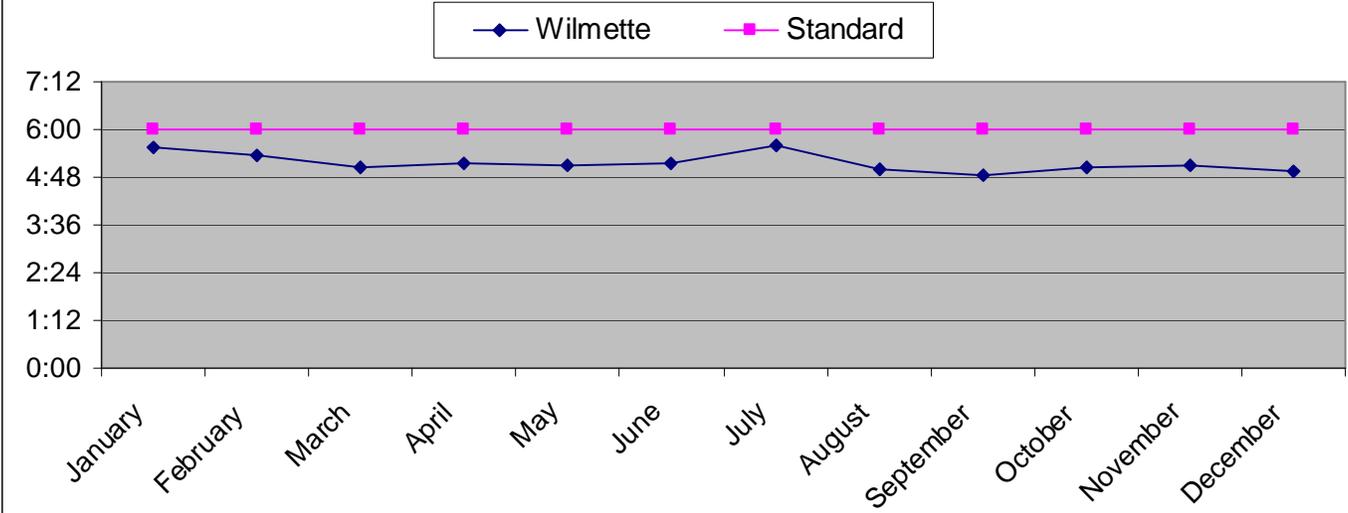
\$163,754,659 in property value saved over 10 years



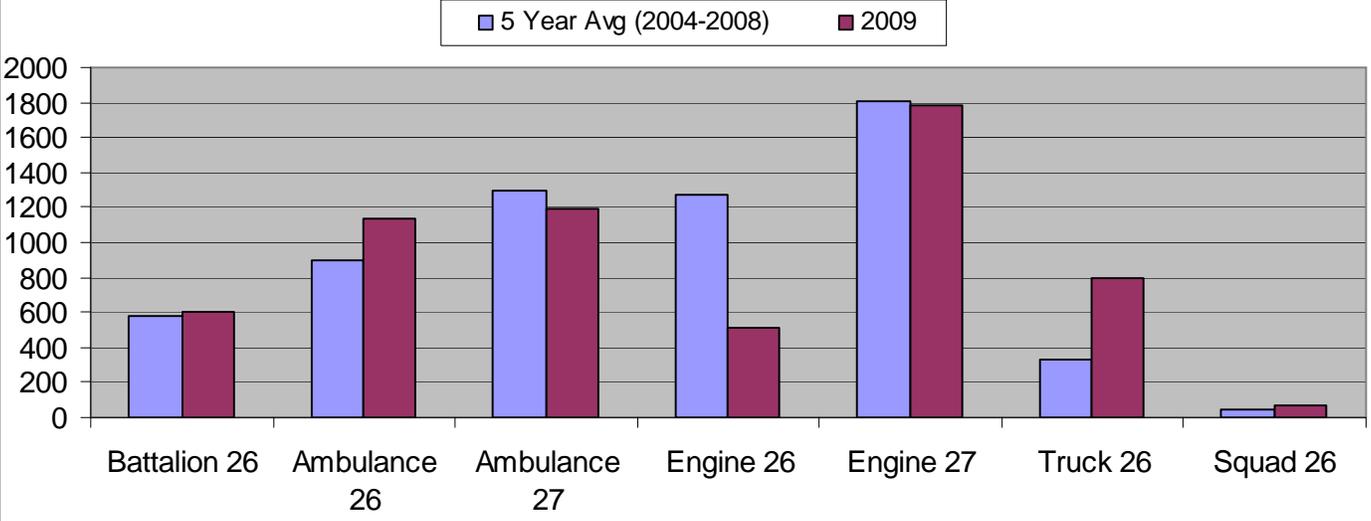
10 Year Incident Response Comparison



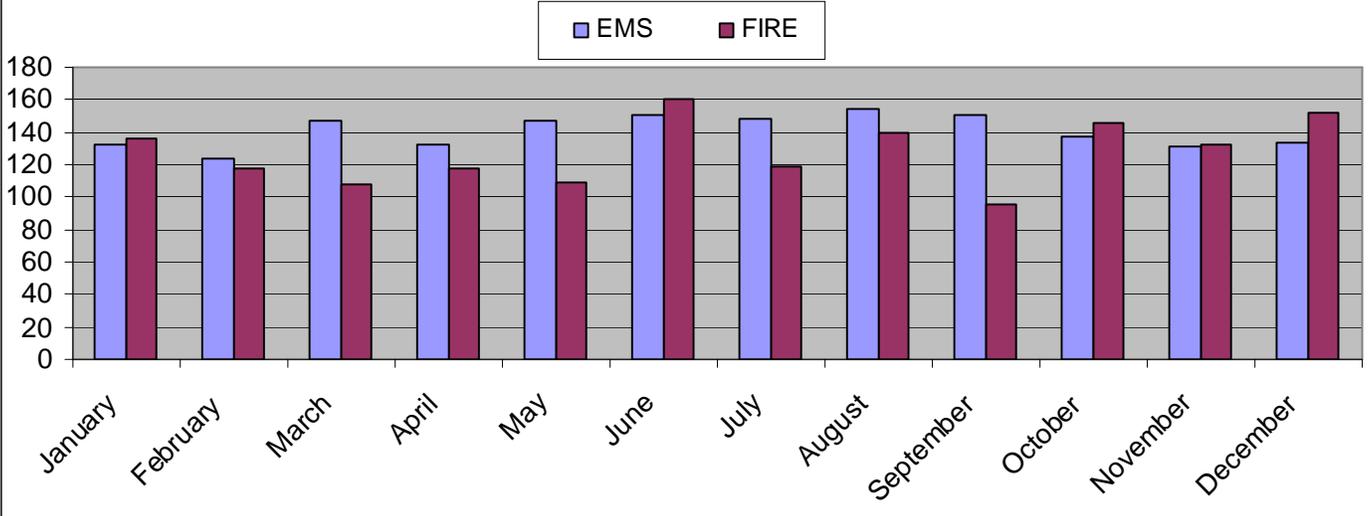
2009 Average Response Times



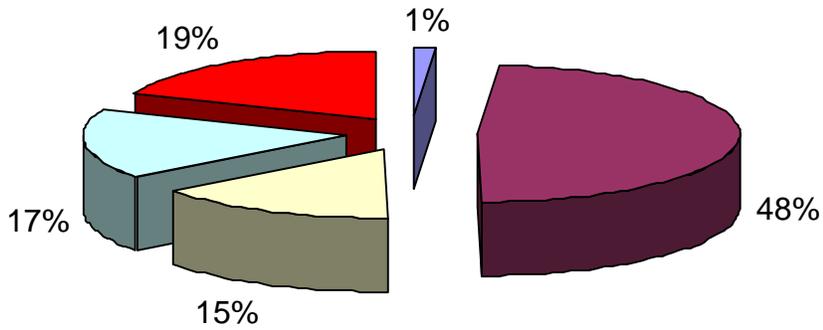
Vehicle Responses



2009 Call Totals

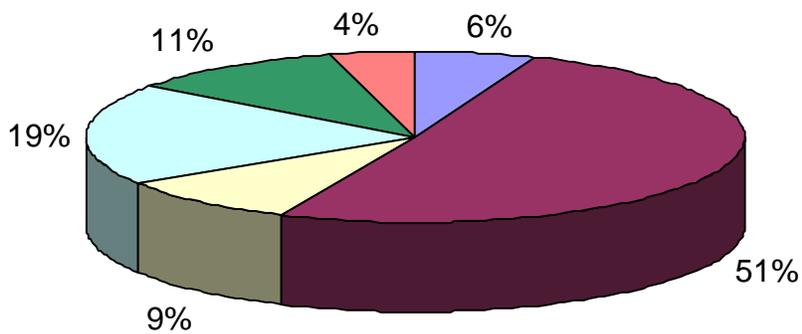


Total Incident Calls 3221 Calls



- Fire Calls In Town
- Ambulance Calls In Town
- Non Fire Calls In Town
- False Calls In Town
- Out of Town Calls

Nature of Ambulance Calls Total 1687 Ambulance Calls 1122 Transports



- Cardiac
- Other Medical
- M.V.A.
- Other Trauma
- Invalid Assist
- False Alarm



2009 MABAS Division 3 Run Statistics (Note Dispatch Stats Below)

Department	Population	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Rescue & EMS	Hazardous Condition	Service Calls	Good Intent	False Calls	Other Incidents	Aid Given	Total	Fire Loss	2008 Call Total	09 Percent Incr/Decr
Deerfield-Bannockburn	23,000	7	30	1,270	99	200	96	518	3	360	2,583	\$101,181	2,697	-4.23%
Des Plaines	58,700	21	92	4,718	227	123	163	882	10	623	6,859	\$968,751	7,711	-11.05%
Evanston	73,239	41	100	5,452	223	780	264	1,620	8	78	8,566	\$1,469,222	9,134	-6.22%
Glencoe	9,038	4	9	420	49	69	31	282	0	614	1,478	\$504,850	1,545	-4.34%
Glenview	65,000	51	49	4,242	184	567	368	1,538	14	683	7,696	\$1,708,650	7,683	0.17%
Highland Park	31,365	6	19	1,788	200	423	68	1,589	5	515	4,613	\$441,020	4,832	-4.53%
Highwood	5,731	8	3	278	6	112	249	217	8	258	1,139	\$850,000	1,037	9.84%
Lincolnwood	12,359	7	31	1,262	63	256	28	293	0	43	1,983	\$710,200	2,049	-3.22%
Morton Grove	22,451	6	28	1,686	53	344	58	299	4	771	3,249	\$348,226	3,594	-9.60%
Niles	30,000	17	56	3,686	127	446	202	549	12	678	5,773	\$666,750	6,055	-4.66%
North Maine	28,000	9	15	1,483	46	63	209	376	7	702	2,910	\$590,874	3,000	-3.00%
Northbrook	40,000	16	37	2,832	188	896	71	749	2	450	5,241	\$1,003,728	5,849	-10.39%
Northfield	5,548	2	6	479	28	32	278	187	3	180	1,195	\$18,000	1,316	-9.19%
Park Ridge	37,775	12	41	2,403	175	174	104	649	11	534	4,103	\$862,000	4,372	-6.15%
Prospect Heights	20,000	5	10	833	45	104	76	233	0	382	1,688	\$519,020	1,989	-15.13%
Skokie	66,620	29	73	4,936	312	917	288	923	43	154	7,675	\$2,240,511	8,026	-4.37%
Wilmette	28,000	11	36	1,377	138	339	180	536	9	566	3,192	\$1,540,200	3,822	-16.48%
Winnetka-Kenilworth	15,571	20	28	625	71	401	280	119	139	593	2,276	\$171,020	2,521	-9.72%
Division 3 FD Totals:	572,397	272	663	39,770	2,234	6,246	3,013	11,559	278	8,184	72,219	\$14,714,203	77,232	-6.49%
Division 3 Averages:	31,800	15	37	2,209	124	347	167	642	15	455	4,012	\$ 817,456	4,291	-6.49%
RED Center Dispatches		163	385	19,810	1,066	3,560	1,939	5,536	232		32,691		25,411	28.65%
MABAS Division 3 Box Alarms		Fire	EMS	TRT	Haz Mat	Dive	Investigator	Interdivisional	Other	Statewide				
		23	6	0	3	2	11	0	0	0				
2008 Division 3 Box Alarms		21	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	0				

ACCREDITATION

The Wilmette Fire Department achieved Accreditation in 2001 through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) and received a favorable recommendation in 2006. The Wilmette Fire Department is one of only twelve accredited fire departments in Illinois. The department is required to undergo a re-accreditation site assessment every five years. The overriding principle involved when establishing an accreditation program is that of validating performance. With the development of an international fire service accreditation process, a method has been created that focuses on the evaluation of the activities and services an entity provides to protect life and property. For each topic or subject area in the self-assessment process, a description of what the department is doing to address various issues is required. The Department is required to analyze the effectiveness and efficiency of the activity as it currently exists and then plan for the future. The self-assessment process focuses on collecting and organizing the necessary references and exhibits to complement and demonstrate the services listed within the accreditation model.

The primary goal for 2009 was to work towards completing Strategic and Specific Recommendations outlined by the on-site peer assessment team during the 2006 re-accreditation site visit. Several of these goals are milestone events in the Wilmette Fire Department, these goals are listed below. The department is due for a re-accreditation site visit in 2011. Efforts are directed at completing the self-evaluation process and updating our data from the 6th edition to the 8th edition of the Self Assessment Manual.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Maintained National Accreditation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE).
- Prepared and submitted the Annual Compliance Report as required by the CPSE within the specified time requirements.
- Applied for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to purchase an emergency generator for fire station 27. The department was awarded \$36,000 for the project.
- Put a new Ambulance and a new Tower ladder/Quint in service.
- Purchased new SCBA equipment after developing specifications and evaluating different manufacturers. Trained on new equipment and put into service.
- Participated and provided exhibits for a staffing study performed by an independent consultant.
- Participated and provided exhibits for the Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluation and site visit.
- Continued to track and documenting Response Times with the original Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP).
- Continue National Incident Management System (NIMS) training for all personnel.

APPARATUS VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Maintain the most reliable Fire and EMS Apparatus and Equipment possible for the Village of Wilmette through the replacement, preventive maintenance, and repairing of all of the Fire Department Apparatus and Support Equipment.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Scheduled and performed needed repairs to all fire department apparatus. Applied any upgrades and changes to vehicles and support equipment in accordance with National Fire Association (NFPA) standards. Practiced preventative maintenance on all apparatus. Processed documentation and recording of the apparatus maintenance records.
- Chairperson for the Emergency Vehicle Technician Certification Committee Fire Pump and Accessories Examination.
- Maintained the EVT Master Level III in both the Fire and EMS tracks.
- Committee member for OSFM Fire Service Vehicle Operator Certification.
- Placed in service a new Type I Ford Road Rescue Ambulance.
- Placed in service a refurbished 1992 Pierce 100 foot Quint Tower Ladder as a reserve apparatus at Station 26.
- Took delivery of a new E-One 95 foot Quint Tower Ladder. In 2007, Wilmette received \$750,000 in Grant monies from the Federal Emergency Management Agency towards the purchase of this vehicle.
- The department made equipment modifications to maximize the Insurance Services Office (ISO) compliance inventories on firefighting apparatus.



DIVE RESCUE

The goal of the Dive Team is to provide trained certified divers for the hazards within Wilmette's borders and to the Mutual aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division III Underwater Rescue and Recovery team.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed all mandatory training requirements of the MABAS Division III Underwater Rescue and Recovery Team. Three team members completed the Public Safety Diver Certification.
- Hosted an annual MABAS Division III training dive at the lakefront.
- Completed annual department classroom ice rescue training.
- All active members completed their required training, which included ice dives, night dives, swift water and a dive hosted by the Wilmette Fire Department.
- Added Firefighter Gary Wokurka back on to team.
- Firefighter Rob Hughes became member of MABAS Div. 3 Sonar Team.
- Assisted the Wilmette Water Plant with annual maintenance projects at the intakes.
- Assisted MABAS Departments on six water rescue or recoveries including plane crash is Des Plains River.
- Purchased outdated equipment for several members of the Dive Team.

Dive Team Members

Dive Master, Deputy Chief Michael McGreal
Assistant Dive Master Ben Wozney, Firefighter/Paramedic
Art Amidei, Firefighter/Paramedic (over 20 years)
John Okonek, Firefighter/Paramedic
Joe Falkovitz, Firefighter/Paramedic
Rob Hughes, Firefighter/Paramedic

John Ramaker, Firefighter/Paramedic
Jason Wilk, Firefighter/Paramedic
Jennifer Bazan/ Firefighter/Paramedic
Ryan Menzies/Firefighter/Paramedic
Gary Wokurka /Firefighter/Paramedic



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

This program provides for regular training of department personnel in aspects of hazardous materials response and control and includes testing and maintenance of equipment.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Air monitoring equipment was maintained with no significant down time of equipment.
- Attended required training with MABAS Division III Hazardous Materials Team.
- Three new CO detectors were put into service on all three ambulances. They are attached to the O2 bags.
- On February 11th, at 1459 hrs. Lt. Bergquist responded to a Haz-Mat box alarm at 6457 Howard in Niles.
- On March 6th FF/PM Winter turned in his resignation for the Division III Haz-Mat Team effective immediately.
- On August 3rd at 0715 Wilmette Haz-Mat team members including E27 and Utility 26 responded to a gasoline tanker roll over in Niles at Harlem and Oakton.
- On August 11th DC Orth and Lt. Bergquist responded to a request for on duty Techs to Niles Golf Mill for a chemical leak.
- In December The Wilmette Fire Department hosted a MABAS Division III Haz-Mat Team response drill at the water plant.

Hazardous Materials Team Members:

Lieutenant Ray Ridolfi, Team leader
Duty Chief Charles Orth

Lieutenant Paul Bergquist
Firefighter/Paramedic John Blomquist



TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM (TRT)

The Fire Department is being called on to provide rescue services in many different specialties. The Technical Rescue Specialist is trained and equipped to mitigate emergencies involving above ground, below ground, confined space and structural collapse incidents.

The program is designed to provide trained and properly equipped Rescue Specialists in the event of an emergency. The members are part of the MABAS Division III Technical Rescue Team, this is a special response team, which when called will bring up to 90 trained and equipped Technical Rescue Specialists to any given location. The TRT member is also responsible for continued education in the form of monthly drills and outside classes. It is their responsibility to share this knowledge with other members of the department.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Attended and participated in required drills and annual skills review.
- Shared any knowledge or technical expertise with department members.
- Members attended and facilitated required monthly drills.
- Rob Brill updated and worked on tool location and mounting equipment on MABAS Division Rescue 3 vehicle.
- A Res-Q-Vac attachment for Public Works Sewer Vacuum trucks was put in service. The tool is designed to remove water and dirt around a victim in a trench collapse.
- As part of the structural collapse skills training an "O" course was completed, this involved moving a highway median barrier around, over, and under other obstacles.

Technical Rescue Team Members:

Lieutenant Anthony Bucci, Team Leader
Scott Ewen, Firefighter/Paramedic
John Storm, Lieutenant/Paramedic

Tom Simon, Firefighter/Paramedic
Ben Wozney, Firefighter/Paramedic
Rob Brill, Firefighter/Paramedic



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

The program is designed to provide trained and properly equipped paramedics in the event of a medical emergency.

The goal of the EMS Program is to increase the level of Advanced Life Support (ALS) and basic life support (BLS) emergency medical care to the Village of Wilmette, in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the St. Francis Hospital EMS System. The Illinois Department of Public Health mandates that each paramedic complete 30 hours of continuing education each year. The St. Francis EMS system has set up an in house training program with an instructor from St. Francis hospital for 28 of the required hours. The remaining 2 hours of training are completed from a variety of subjects including Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), and trauma classes. In 2009 the Village charged \$413,503 in ambulance billing fees.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The required paramedic clinical requirements for 2009 were met by all Paramedics
- All inventory logs and narcotic logs for ambulances and Med. engines were completed.
- Continuing education classes included: Documentation, Ethics, SIDS, CISM, Critical thinking skills, Airway management, CPAP, Respiratory Disease, Medical Emergencies, Pharmacology, Airway equipment, Trauma, Elderly Trauma, CPR recertification, Pediatrics, Hands on skills with scenarios, SOP Exam, Cardiac, Review of documentation.
- Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) classes were completed by all personnel.
- All CPR instructors were re-certified and trained in the new American Heart Association guidelines
- All members completed annual CPR recertification training.
- All members completed recertification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support.
- FF. Robert Jost completed EMT school at Highland Park hospital and will begin Paramedic school in January at St. Francis Hospital in Evanston.
- FF. Weglarz completed Paramedic School and became a certified Paramedic in the St. Francis EMS system in 2009.
- Classes on AED use, basic first aid, and CPR refresher were taught by Duty Chief Orth to employees at The Water Plant and The Public Works Department.
- A new ambulance was put in service in 2009



FIRE INVESTIGATION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Fire Investigation Program is to provide an adequate, effective and efficient program directed toward identification of the causes and origins of fire and explosions, and to continue to train a sufficient number of employees to serve the needs of the Wilmette community effectively.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The fire investigation team investigated the cause and origin of 10 structure fires.
- The investigation team assisted Winnetka, Kenilworth, Northfield and Glencoe in their fire investigation efforts.
- The team members participated in the Fire Investigator's Strike Force. Each member attended monthly meetings and training classes and completed requirements set forth by the Office of the State Fire Marshall's Office.
- The team attended several eight hour seminars on fire investigation techniques.
- The Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division 3 Fire Investigation Task Force Team investigated 14 fires in 2009, Members of our team assisted in many of those investigations.
- The team completed many hours of specialized training taught through the Fire investigators Strike Force which is now required for recertification by the State Fire Marshall's Office.

Fire Investigation Team Members:

James W. Dominik, Fire Chief
Charles Orth, Duty Chief
Robert Boczek, Firefighter/Paramedic
Lou Klausing, Firefighter/Paramedic
John Ramaker, Firefighter/Paramedic

Jeff Gorr, Duty Chief
Mark Cacchione, Lieutenant/Paramedic
Timothy Clemens, Firefighter/Paramedic
James Bentz, Firefighter/Paramedic



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The Fire Prevention Bureau manages five important functions which include: fire inspections, plan reviews, public and private education, legislation, and data collection and analysis. The Bureau is overseen by Assistant to the Chief Rick Ciccione and supported by all shift personnel.

OBJECTIVE:

The main objective of the Fire Prevention Bureau is to promote prevention and awareness through a proactive approach to fire and life-safety.

SPECIFIC DUTIES:

- Provide public education and fire safety awareness programs.
- Enforce fire, building, and life-safety codes and ordinances.
- Conduct fire and life-safety inspections.
- Review plans for fire protection systems and life safety concerns.
- Witness the testing of fire protection and life safety equipment.
- Maintain public relations and respond to citizens' concerns regarding fire-safety.
- Evaluate and update codes to stay current with village needs.

NEW CONSTRUCTION AND SPRINKLER PLAN REVIEW:

Plans for fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems, and hood and duct suppression systems, are reviewed for compliance in relation to adopted codes and regulations.

SCHOOL EVACUATION DRILLS:

Fire drills are conducted in all schools: By working with each school the department has helped improve the safety and welfare for administrators, teachers and students.

PUBLIC EDUCATION:

The most effective method of fire prevention is public education. Through the department's public education program, in-service fire companies visit private and public schools, where firefighters promote fire safety to approximately 2,700 children. The department's Fire Safety House, a mobile classroom regularly visits parks and events in our community, further promoting fire safety. The department also provides public education for other groups and organizations, including the senior community in Wilmette.



HYDRANTS / WATER SUPPLY

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The program guarantees that all the fire hydrants are located, inspected for damage or defects, and are accessible. All fire hydrants are then flushed and flow tested and records are kept on static and residual water flow on an annual basis. This past year department shift personnel tested all hydrants and entered the test results into our database. By comparing these numbers from year to year water system problems can be found and corrected. All data is collected and water flow numbers are submitted to the Water Department and the Public Works Department. Any defects or mechanical problems found are documented and reported to the Water/Sewer Department for repairs. The data collected is also used in preplan development and for fire water-flow calculations. Target areas for water distribution improvements have also been developed through the information gathered from the hydrant program. The inter-agency cooperation in developing long range goals for the water distribution system has also been a result of data collection and analysis of the entire water system.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- On duty fire crews inspected, flowed and tested all the fire hydrants in the Village. All data was recorded, analyzed and entered into a database.
- The Public Works Department continued to repair all reported defects and damaged hydrants on a timely basis.
- Began marking numbers on fire hydrants to assist with identification.
- Fire personnel continue to work with Public Works and Engineering Departments to improve the mapping of hydrant locations.



TRAINING

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the training program is to provide quality realistic training for the members of the Fire Department that meets both the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association and the State Fire Marshal's Office while filling the needs of the community. Each year the Department annually assesses the duties that are performed in the community, the needs of fire personnel and provides training that meets those requirements.

2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Personnel participated in a joint training initiatives providing comprehensive training for all area fire departments.
- Personnel trained at various buildings scheduled for demolition.
- Personnel participated in area wide live fire training at NIPSTA, Highland Park, and Winnetka that involved departments that we are in auto aid agreements of MABAS Division III.
- Personnel attended NIPSTA for Driver/Operator, Supervisory, and other fire training.
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training was held for all personnel.
- Members participated in policy review training.
- The Department is well represented by having a member on the MABAS Division III and the NIPSTA Training Committees. In the fall the shift commanders, and firefighter / paramedics received outstanding training in a disaster drill that encompassed the following:
 - Lives fires
 - Tank car fires
 - Vehicle fires
 - Media management
 - Vehicle Extrication
 - RIT operation
 - Commuter Train Extrication
 - Decontamination
 - Heavy lifting w /airbags
 - Tech rescue (able to be mitigated by first responders)
 - Tank leak (able to be mitigated by first responders)
 - Aero/ medical transport (LZ Management) actual helicopter landed
 - EMS plan management (triage, treatment, and transportation)
- The Duty Chiefs also must coordinate the following activities into their daily training day: Company preplan inspections, hydrant testing, hose testing, driver / operator, FF III program, paramedic continuing education, and department program management. We also conduct a number of public education activities by attending block parties, hosting birthday parties, and station tours. The Duty Chiefs are also responsible for overall quality control of all written reports including training audits to ensure all members are receiving the adequate training to maintain and improve the skills.



HAVE A SAFE 2010!

