

NORTHBOROUGH FIRE SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2015

The following information and statistics are provided for the Northborough Fire Department for 2015:

EMERGENCY INCIDENT RESPONSE

During the year, the Northborough Fire Department responded to 2,091 emergency incidents and performed 938 inspectional services. We had a total of 65 First Alarms, 550 Total Engine Company Alarms and 1,476 Total Still Alarms.

Fire loss during the year totaled \$186,600 with \$111,350 from structure losses, \$65,000 from vehicle losses, and \$10,250 from other unclassified losses. I am pleased to report that there were no fire-related civilian or firefighter fatalities; we had 10 civilian injuries and no firefighter injury from fire in 2015.

CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS

Through increased funding in the department's Capital Purchase Line item we were able to purchase a new ambulance to replace the 2008 we currently have. The bonds for the Ambulance will be paid from the EMS Revolving Account. The EMS Revolving Account is funded by the Ambulance Service fees and charges. A new Fire Engine was purchased to replace the 1996 Engine 2 fire vehicle. At nearly 20 years old it is well beyond its expected useful life, which is typically 10 years for front line service. The new Fire Engine will be the first out response vehicle to all reported structure fires and alarms.

AMBULANCE/ADVANCE LIFE SUPPORT

During 2015, emergency medical services responses totaled 1,267. The department operates two Class One, state-licensed ambulances at the paramedic advanced life support level. We had a total of 54 Mutual Aid assistance calls to Westborough, Berlin, Marlborough, Boylston, and Hopkinton. We also received 42 Mutual Aid assistance calls from the towns of Westborough, Marlborough, Shrewsbury, and Southborough.

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Northborough's LEPC, certified by the State Emergency Planning Commission, updated and maintained the town's Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Plan and the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. Two public meetings were held in 2015 to review planning information and Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory forms and to discuss the current Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Plan for future changes and improvements. A tabletop exercise of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Plan was held in May. The LEPC was awarded a federal HMEP grant. Postings on the town's website, cable TV ads, a legal ad and a display with flyers accomplished public outreach. Contact the LEPC at (508) 393-1537 for more information.

REGIONAL FIREFIGHTING COLLABORATIONS

The department continues to be actively involved, at the state, regional, fire district, and local level for the coordination of mutual aid, disaster, hazardous materials mitigation response, dive rescue, confined space and trench rescue, weapons of mass destruction, decontamination, incident management assistance team, and ten alarm dispatching. Through the State Fire Mobilization Plan department personnel and equipment provide pre-assigned assistance throughout the state during large scale fires or disasters. In 2015, one of our firefighters was accepted into FEMA's Mass Task Force 1, Urban Search and Rescue Team.

FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

The department continues to be proactively involved in fire safety, first aid, CPR, AED, Juvenile Fire Setter Program and fire extinguisher training throughout the community. Fire education, the Juvenile Fire Setter Program and safety training programs are under the direction of Captain/EMT-A, Robert P. Theve. Captain Theve oversees the Toys for Tots program here at the fire station and this year we had 1,500 toys donated for this wonderful campaign. To take advantage of any of our fire safety, educational training opportunities please contact us at (508) 393-1537.

RECRUITMENT

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the department or learning more about career and on-call opportunities is encouraged to contact the department at (508) 393-1537.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Parenti

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Fire Chief