

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Mount Prospect Fire Department

Mission Statement

To protect people, property, and the environment by reducing and controlling fire loss, providing emergency medical service, maintaining adequate emergency preparedness and engaging in fire prevention and public education activities.

Core Values

Professionalism

We do all we can to ensure we deliver the best possible service to our internal and external customers/communities through smart, well trained, humble, dedicated, competent, hard-working and safe members. We are active participants in the communities where we live and work.

Integrity and Honesty

We value the public's trust and are committed to honest and ethical behavior. We hold ourselves accountable to these values. We believe in a personal commitment to the organization and the community. Self-discipline is the foundation for managing behavior.

Honor and Respect

We are a Fire Department family. We are committed and accountable to each other because our lives depend on it. We value the role each member plays in our organization. We respect those that came before us and will strive to make the organization better for those who follow.

Embrace Diversity

Recognizing the value of diversity helps us to work together as a team to serve our community. We are dedicated to reflecting and respecting diversity throughout our organization.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



The Mount Prospect Fire Department and all of its members would like to thank you for your interest in our 2022 annual report. The administration creates and provides an annual review of the department and its accomplishments of the previous year. This annual report is just one of the ways we can not only look back at our successes, but plan for the future. We hope that you find the information provided informative and beneficial.

Much has changed since our department began on September 29, 1913. The mission to protect our citizens from structure fires was straight forward and has remained a consistent priority. Although fire protection is still a significant part of the services we provide, over 70% of our calls today are requests for Emergency Medical Service (EMS). With the shift in service demands has come a shift in our personnel. All 66 of our Firefighters and Lieutenants are also Paramedics.

The fire department had quite a bit going on in 2022. Numbers were up on both the Administration and Operations side of our business. Public Education efforts have returned and the amount of citizens reached through schools, businesses and community events were at an all-time high. Plan reviews, Pre-plans and Inspections also surpassed pre-pandemic numbers. Community Events were back in full-force, which kept our Emergency Management team as busy as ever, and this was all done while Shift personnel trained for a record number of hours and ran over 7000 calls.

Along with our Police Department, we implemented the First Responder Academy for Teens giving high school students a firsthand look into the career of a First Responder. We conducted a new firefighter hiring test that yielded a large and diverse group of candidates. We also conducted a Lieutenant promotional exam, promoting one of our Firefighters as well as appointing a Lieutenant to the rank of Battalion Chief.

I am honored to be part of this organization and look forward to what 2023 brings. We anticipate taking big steps toward improving emergency services to South Mount Prospect, a top priority of our Village Board. Toward that effort, we will be welcoming six new Firefighter/Paramedics in order to place an additional ambulance in service for that area.

I would like to thank Mayor Hoefert, the Village Trustees, Village Manager Michael Cassady, and the Mount Prospect residents for their continued support. I would especially like to thank the Firefighters and Fire Prevention Bureau for their hard work and dedication in providing the best service to our community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns, questions, comments, or thoughts. Our Administrative Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., and we can be reached at 847/870-5660.

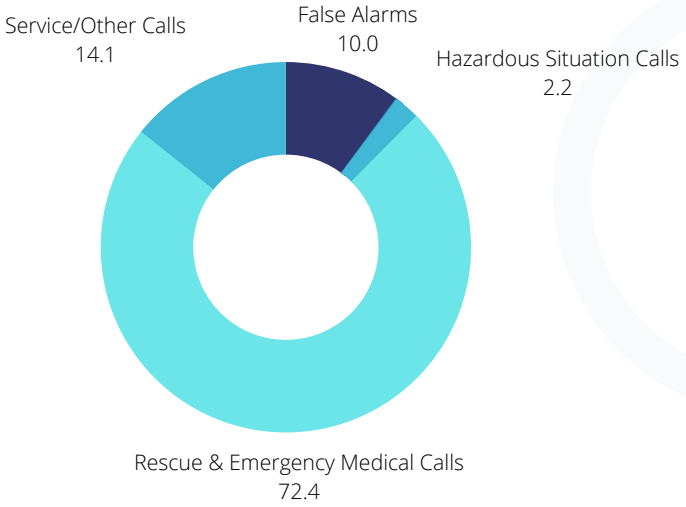
John Dolan
Fire Chief

STATISTICS

Calls for Service by Call Type

Total Incident Responses = 7,023

- False Alarms – 10%
- Structure Fires – 0.0008% (6)
- Other Fires – .009%
- Hazardous Situation Calls – 2.2%
- Rescue & Emergency Medical Calls – 72.4%
- Service/Other Calls – 14.1%



Calls for Service by Station & Vehicle

Total Vehicle Responses = 14,491

Station 12
- Ambulance 12 – 2,326
- Engine 12 – 2,707

Station 13
- Ambulance 13 – 2,028
- Tower 13 – 1,030
- Engine 13 – 2,648
- Battalion 3 – 799

Station 14
- Ambulance 14 – 1,506
- Engine 14 – 1,447







OPERATIONS

18 Daily Staffing

(Officer) (Firefighter/Paramedic)

Station 12
Ambulance 12

Engine 12

Station 13
Ambulance 13

Engine 13

Battalion 3

Tower 13

Station 14
Ambulance 14

Engine 14











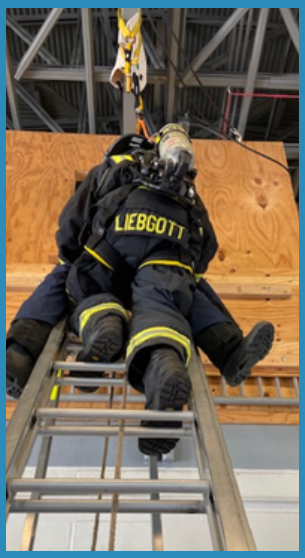


TRAINING

It is the mission of the training division to provide for professional growth and development for our people, and 2022 offered many high impact training opportunities. There is an aggressive training schedule driven in part by compliance with overlapping regulations and standards. Various agencies require minimum amounts of training on a wide range of subjects. Fire Department Training Officers must satisfy the requirements and strive to meet the compliance standards of those agencies.

2022 Fire Department training activities included:

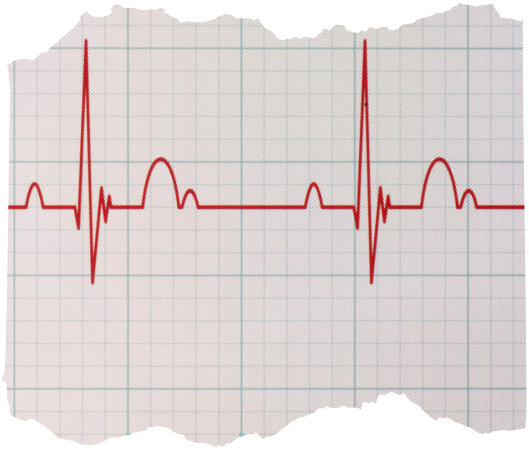
- OSHA: SCBA donning and doffing exercises - mask fit testing - consumption test - confidence course - training for chemicals in the workplace - Lock Out Tag Out training - Emergency SCBA procedures - Hearing Conservation, noise monitoring - Personal Protective Equipment annual inspections
- Hazardous Materials Training: Rapid leak mitigation - On scene decontamination practices - Foam application - Meters and air quality monitoring
- Size up and risk assessment review
- 42 new certifications by the Office of the State Fire Marshal
- Live fire scenarios with Elk Grove Village Fire Department
- Trained with PD to respond to patients in crisis
- Pump Operations utilizing multiple attack lines
- Search and Rescue Operations
- Strength and conditioning coaching
- Hands on Surface Ice Rescue Drills
- Size Up/risk assessment upon arrival
- Auto Aid live fire drills with Des Plaines
- Lithium Ion Battery fire tactics
- Ladder Rescue/Ladder Bail Out
- Legal aspects of documentation
- Tank Farm size up and initial actions
- RIT and Mayday Hands On Training





EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The emergency medical personnel from the Mount Prospect Fire Department responded to 4,986 EMS-related incidents in 2022. This represents 71% of all responses performed by the Fire Department. These incidents include, but are not limited to, medical problems that may or may not include a cardiac event, trauma, as well as a myriad of other potentially life-threatening emergencies. EMS remains an integral portion of the Fire Department as well as the community at-large. The following provides some of the highlights in Emergency Medical Services over the past year:



- In 2022, 17 paramedics were relicensed for their 4 year licensure period.
- One new member passed paramedic school and is now licensed at the State level.
- Three new members passed system entry for Northwest Community EMS System and is now able to practice within our system.
- Ambulances passed state inspections in June.
- Completed 2,444 hours of continuing education, which is an average of 33.9 continuing education hours per paramedic.
- Took on two paramedic students that successfully completed the program.
- Put a 4th ambulance in service part-time.



GOALS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2022 Accomplishments

- Promoted a Battalion Chief and Lieutenant.
- Administered a new Firefighter Exam.
- Established the First Responder Academy for Teens and graduated our first class.
- Reinstated the Fire Department Open House.
- Updated Standard Operating Guidlelines (SOGs) with Lexipol.
- Adopted revisions to our new hire candidate requirements to attract a more diverse group.
- Hosted a D214 Intern



2023 Goals

- Continue collaboration with D214 to implement a ride-along program to help high school students develop interest in the fire service.
- Conduct Emergency Management Training for Village Departments and residents.
- Put a 4th Ambulance into service full-time.
- Hire six additional Firefighter/Paramedics.
- Update emergency response box cards.



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Each year, the Mount Prospect Fire Department partners with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) for Fire Prevention Week to spread fire safety awareness throughout our community. The theme for 2022 was: "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape." The campaign's goal was to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires. Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes (or even less) to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and planning.







POSTER CONTEST

The Fire Prevention Week safety message was presented at the annual Open House and was in conjunction with the Fire Department's annual Poster Contest. The contest was held for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade and encouraged them to design a poster based on the fire safety message. Winners were recognized in front of the Village Board at the Committee of the Whole meeting on November 15, 2022.

FIRE ESCAPE PLANNING

It is important for everyone to plan and practice a home fire escape. Everyone needs to be prepared in advance so that they know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Given that every home is different, every home fire escape plan will also be different. Draw a map of your home, marking two ways out of each room, including windows and doors. Make sure all escape routes are clear and that doors and windows open easily. Pick an outside meeting place (something permanent like a neighbor's house, a light post, mailbox, or stop sign) that is a safe distance in front of your home where everyone can meet. Have a plan for everyone in the home. Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure that someone will help them! Having a home fire escape plan will make sure everyone knows what to do when the smoke alarm sounds so they can get out safely. Smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger. Smoke alarms need to be in every bedroom, outside of the sleeping areas (like a hallway), and on each level (including the basement) of your home.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Working under the Fire Department is the department of Emergency Management. Before, during and after a disaster strikes, whether natural or man-made, emergency management has an active part working in conjunction with all other departments and the Village Board to provide plans and procedures. Emergency Management also oversees the volunteer organization, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), made up of local residents who are trained to assist the Village during planned and unplanned events.

Emergency Management had a very successful year and there were many accomplishments:



- Obtained a supply of PPE in early 2022 to stay ahead of COVID.
- Completed the replacement of all six Village Warning Sirens.
- Hosted a Metra Rail Safety Program for area CERT members.
- Collaborated with PD on active threat training for all park district facilities.
- Traffic control training that included joint training with Hoffman Estates.
- Coordinated the Inaugural First Responder Academy for Teens.
- Event Action Plans were developed for Village special events to provide a safety plan for all departments to follow during the event including 4th of July activities, Downtown Block Party, Celebration of Cultures and OktoberFest.
- Taught a Citizen Emergency Preparedness Training class that was attended by 20 area residents who received both classroom and hands-on training on how to prepare for and handle disasters.
- Created seasonal inserts for the 12 Village Information Boxes regarding preparedness and safety times. This information was also posted on the Village's website.



NORTHWEST CENTRAL DISPATCH SYSTEM

Northwest Central Dispatch System (NWCDS) is an intergovernmental consolidated emergency dispatch system, providing 9-1-1 services for several communities in northwest suburban Chicago. The combined population of the communities is nearly 500,000 covering over 170 square miles. The state of the art center handles an average of 1,677 telephone calls per day and dispatches approximately 246,000 calls for service annually. The center is staffed by Public Safety Telecommunicators who have completed a comprehensive training program and participate in ongoing continuing education.

The Mount Prospect Fire Department is proud to be a part of Northwest Central Dispatch System and would like to highlight some of their achievements:

- NWCDS is only one of thirty-two emergency dispatch centers in the world to be accredited with Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) and Emergency Fire Dispatch (EFD) through the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch.
- NWCDS holds Project 33 (P33) certification with the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO). APCO P33 validates that the NWCDS training and continuing education programs meet and exceed national standards for 9-1-1 training.
- NWCDS is partnered with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) for their Missing Kids Readiness Project.

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding 9-1-1 Calls

Why am I asked so many questions?
Once a citizen is connected to 9-1-1, the Telecommunicator follows a standard set of questions. If the caller is requesting an ambulance or the fire department, protocols are used that are based on a system that is used by many centers worldwide. This is a state-of-the art emergency dispatch protocol that meets or exceeds all standards established by the US Department of Transportation and International Academies of Emergency Dispatch. It includes the following:

- What is the address of the emergency?
- What is the phone number you are calling from?
- Okay, tell me exactly what happened.
- What is your name and address?

The protocol also provides instructions to relay to the caller in life threatening situations, such as administering CPR or how to control bleeding.

Are these questions delaying help being sent?
No, the questions ensure the appropriate response is sent and provides critical information to the responders. Often police and/or fire/EMS department personnel are dispatched after obtaining the location & problem, and the call-taker will continue to ask questions or provide instructions while the responders are en route.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED GROUPS

PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTERS

The Mount Prospect Fire Department began as a Volunteer organization on September 29, 1913. In 1961, the Village Board voted to make the Department full-time, but "supplemented by 'paid on call' (volunteer) firemen as needed." Currently, 14 Paid-On-Call (POC) firefighters, 11 of whom are Mount Prospect residents, continue the legacy of the Mount Prospect Volunteer Fire Department. The POC members were very involved with the community and public education in 2022 and participated in the following events: Fire Department Open House, food drives, senior events, Randhurst Street Fest, Police Department National Night Out, Camp I Am Me Parade and Toys for Kids.

2022 Accomplishments:

- Completed over 900 hours of training, including 44 Thursday night training sessions
- Hired two new Paid-On-Call firefighters
- Responded to six callbacks for emergency assistance
- Six POC members attended live fire training at the Illinois Fire Service Institute Fire College
- Staffed 16 community and public education events
- One member received their Fire Apparatus Engineer (FAE) certification
- Two POCs were hired full time by other fire departments
- Planned and hosted a Kid's Combat Challenge at the Fire Department Open House for over 300 children
- Attended 29 block parties over 9 Saturdays
- Attended five Safety Socials in partnership with the Police Department and Crime Free Housing
- Participated in 18 additional community and public education events
- Participated as instructors for the first annual First Responder Academy for Teens (FRAT)



BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS

In Mount Prospect, as in many communities across the nation, hiring firefighters is the responsibility of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners (BOFPC), not the Fire Department. Commissioners are residents of Mount Prospect who volunteer their time to oversee the testing process and interview potential candidates. In 2022, the BOFPC approved updates to the new hire eligibility requirements and swore in three new firefighters along with one Lieutenant.

Current Commission members are James Powers (Chairperson), Mark W. Busse, Rockne Bork, Jeanna Claussen and William Knee.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Members of Mount Prospect's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) contributed over 3,500 hours of volunteer time to the community in both planned events and emergency calls. CERT is made up of resident volunteers trained to "aid and assist Mount Prospect Village departments when professional emergency resources become overwhelmed." In 2022, the Team participated in several types of training including search and rescue procedures, a review of fire extinguishers, electric and utility safety, First Aid and traffic control. Team members assisted with some of the larger fire incidents that occurred this year by helping the victims after the incident. CERT members also assisted Village staff at community events such as the Fire Department Open House and toy program; Police Department's National Night Out and their 5K Run; Family Bike Ride; Celebration of Cultures and Fourth of July parade and fireworks. The annual Preparedness Training was a successful program and many CERT members assisted this year with teaching parts of the class and getting more residents interested in becoming members of CERT. After the 2022 class, six members from the class decided to join the team bringing the new total to 35 CERT members.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTONS

Q: Does the Fire Department offer CPR classes?

A: Yes! The Fire Department offers American Heart Association Healthcare Provider and Heartsaver CPR classes throughout the year. All classes cover recognition and emergency resuscitation techniques for heart attack, cardiac arrest, stroke and airway obstruction on adults, children and infants. Classes also demonstrate the use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED). For more information about CPR classes, visit mountprospect.org/cpr.

Q: What is a Knox Box?

A: A Knox Box is a small, wall-mounted safe that holds a building's keys so that the Fire Department can gain access in emergency situations. Knox Boxes allow firefighters immediate entry into homes and businesses without forced entry damage or delay. Knox Boxes are usually mounted at the front door/entrance to a building, where the Fire Department can open them with a master key specific to Mount Prospect.

Q: Why does a fire engine respond to a medical call with the ambulance?

A: There are several reasons you will often see a fire engine respond with the ambulance. Many medical calls require more than two individuals to treat and transport the patient. Advanced life support measures include cardiac monitoring, airway management, IV and drug administration, not to mention physically moving the individual from the residence to the ambulance. All our firefighters are paramedic certified which means no matter what apparatus shows up first, they are equipped and trained to provide aid.

Q: What do inspectors typically look for during an annual fire inspection?

A: In general, inspectors are looking for any fire or life safety issues that may make the building unsafe for residents, occupants and/or employees. Inspectors look to make sure the building is properly addressed, that emergency lights and exit signage are working and that the correct number and type of fire extinguishers are present. Ensuring that all exits and utility rooms are clear and that a building's fire alarm and/or fire suppression system has been properly tested and maintained are also part of an annual fire inspection. For more information, visit mountprospect.org/fire or call the Fire Prevention Bureau at (847) 818-5253.

Website: mountprospect.org/fire
Twitter: @MountProspectFD
Facebook: facebook.com/mountprospectfd

Emergency Services: 9-1-1
- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Suppression
- Any situation that requires an emergency vehicle/personnel

Non-Emergency Services: 847-870-5660
- Community CPR and First Aid Training
- Disaster/Crisis Planning
- Incident Reports
- Premise Alert Program
- Paramedic Service Questions

Fire Prevention: 847-818-5253
- Building Evacuation Planning
- Citizen Emergency Response Training
- Fire Code Enforcement
- Fire Code and Fire Protection Systems Questions
- Fire Inspections
- Fire Investigations
- Fire and Life Safety Education Programs
- Fire Station Tours
- Juvenile Fire Setter Counseling
- Knox Box Program
- Smoke Detector Installation and Battery Replacement



Fire Station 12
1601 W. Golf Road



Fire Station 13 (Headquarters)
111 E. Rand Road



Fire Station 14
2000 E. Kensington Road



2023 Calendar of Events:
- September 16: Fire Department Open House at Randhurst Village
- October 9 – 15: Fire Prevention Week
- October TBD: Fire Prevention Poster Contest