Mount Prospect Fire Department

2023 ANNUAL REPORT













MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



The Mount Prospect Fire Department and all of its members would like to thank you for your interest in our 2023 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 75% of our calls today are requests for Emergency Medical Service (EMS). With the shift in service demands has come a shift in the role of our personnel. Today, 76 of our 78 Firefighters are licensed Paramedics.

In addition to running a record number of calls, the fire department was busy on all other fronts. Public Education efforts have increased with the number of citizens reached through schools, businesses, and community events at an all-time high. Our Fire Prevention Bureau was active with Plan reviews, Pre-plans, and Inspections. Our Emergency Management team prepared for increased community events. Despite running over 7,300 calls, our shift personnel still managed to log a record number of training hours. Improving services to South Mount Prospect has been a top priority of our Village Board, and, in response to that effort, we welcomed six new Firefighter/Paramedics. This has allowed us to place an additional ambulance in service in this area.

I am honored to be part of this organization and look forward to addressing the needs of our growing community. We will continue taking steps toward expanding and improving emergency services to South Mount Prospect. 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

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.

2023 Accomplishments

- Conducted Emergency Management Training for Village Departments and residents.
- Placed a 4th Ambulance into service full-time.
- Hired six additional Firefighter/Paramedics.
- Promoted one Firefighter to the rank of Lieutenant.
- Hired three Paid-On-Call Firefighters.
- Realigned our district boarders and response.
- Placed a new squad in service to improve HazMat and fire suppression support.
- Hosted a D214 Internship program and a First Responder Academy for Teens.



2024 Goals

- Conduct New Hire and Lieutenant Promotional Exams.
- Opening a 4th Fire Station in South Mount Prospect.
- Hire three additional Firefighter/Paramedics.
- Replace aging extrication equipment.
- Restructure the knox box program to make it more affordable for residents.
- Provide security upgrade for all stations.

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.

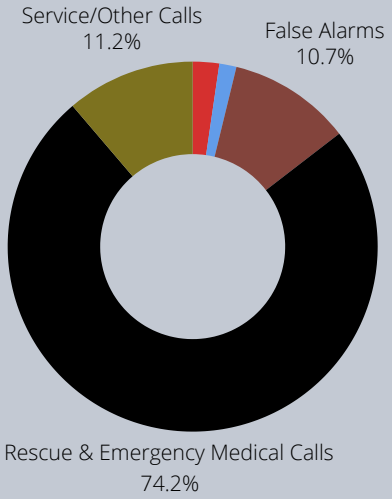
Embrace Diversity

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.

2023 STATISTICS

Calls for Service by Call Type
Total Incident Responses = 7,296

- False Alarms – 10.7%
- Structure Fires – 0.0015% (11)
- Other Fires – 1.49%
- Hazardous Situation Calls – 2.3%
- Rescue & Emergency Medical Calls – 73.9%
- Service/Other Calls – 11.2%



Calls for Service by Station & Vehicle
Total Vehicle Responses = 15,625

Station 12
- Ambulance 12 – 1,949
- Reserve Ambulance 12/Ambulance 11-1,418
- Engine 12 – 2,938

Station 13
- Ambulance 13 – 1,757
- Tower 13 – 1,050
- Engine 13 – 2,633
- Battalion 3 – 819

Station 14
- Ambulance 14 – 1,544
- Engine 14 – 1,517







20 Minimum Daily Staffing

Officer

Firefighter/Paramedic

Station 12

Ambulance 12

Reserve Ambulance 12

Engine 12

Station 13

Ambulance 13

Engine 13

Battalion 3

Tower 13

Station 14

Ambulance 14

Engine 14













TRAINING

We onboarded 8 new firefighters at various times throughout 2023. In addition, we began the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) recertification/skill validation requirements for our members.

The following are highlights from our 2023 Training Agenda:

OSHA:

- Ice rescue
- Tower Operations
- School Bus Vehicle Extrication
- Basement Fire Behavior

JOINT TRAINING:

- Officer development tabletop exercises with Police
- Mass Casualty/Active Shooter training with Police
- Live fire high-rise drill with neighboring departments-
- Petroleum storage incident training with multiple Terminal managers

UNIQUE TOPICS:

- Lithium-ion battery fires
- Water Tender Driver Training
- Tollway Response

Mount Prospect Firefighter's Local 4119

- One member retired in 2023.
- Eight new members were welcomed into the union.
- Held a successful Fill the Boot drive in June raising over $7,000 for MDA.
- Held Annual Food Drive in October in conjunction with the Human Services Department. Nine pallets of food/supplies were collected.
- Held a successful Coat Drive in November.
- Held a Toy Drive in December in which food, coats and toys were distributed to local families.







EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The emergency medical personnel from the Mount Prospect Fire Department responded to 5,394 EMS-related incidents in 2023. This represents nearly 74% 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 2023, 17 paramedics were relicensed for their 4-year licensure period.
- Three new members started paramedic school.
- Four new members passed system entry for Northwest Community EMS and are 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.
- Placed a 4th ambulance in service full-time on south side of the village.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

A grateful family stopped by to thank the Paramedics that unexpectedly delivered their new addition!



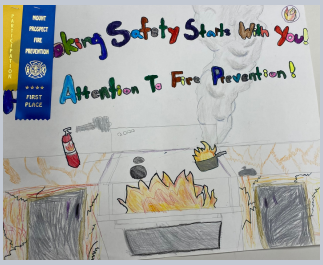
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

HIGHLIGHTS

- Completed 100 Pre-Plans, 3,000 Business Inspections and 11 Fire Investigations.
- In conjunction with our Paid-On-Call Firefighters, Public Education attended 300 events, reaching 16,052 community members.
- Installed 155 smoke alarms.
- Visited 18 schools and 13 daycares to teach fire safety.
- Held seven events for Seniors.

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 7, 2023.





OPEN HOUSE



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 2023 was, Prevent Cooking Fires: Cook With Care". There are simple but important actions that we can all take to stay safe around the kitchen, especially when cooking. Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States.

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 2023 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.

- Completed over 950 hours of training
- Responded to five callbacks for emergency assistance
- Hired three new Paid-On-Call firefighters
- Eight POC members attended fire training at the Illinois Fire Service Institute Fire College in Champaign, Illinois
- Planned and hosted a Kid's Combat Challenge at the Fire Department Open House for over 300 children
- Attended 20 block parties and four Safety Socials in partnership with the Police Department
- Assisted with six Fire Extinguisher training days
- Participated in 36 community and public education events





BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS

In Mount Prospect, as in many other 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 2023, the BOFPC administerd the Oath of Office to eight new firefighters and one newly promoted firefighter to the rank of Lieutenant. Current Commission members are James Powers (Chairperson), Mark W. Busse, Rockne Bork, Jeanna Claussen and William Knee.

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 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), made up of volunteers who are trained to assist the Village during planned and unplanned events. Emergency Management had a very successful year and there were many accomplishments:



• Collaborated with Police on active threat training for all park district facilities.

• Participated in traffic control training that included joint training with Hoffman Estates.



• Coordinated the 2nd Annual First Responder Academy for Teens.

• Developed Event Action Plans for Village special events to provide a safety plan for all departments to follow during an 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 14 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.

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 area resident volunteers trained to "aid and assist Mount Prospect Village departments when professional emergency resources become overwhelmed." In 2023, 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. Team members assisted with some of the larger incidents that occurred this year by helping the victims after the incident and aiding in traffic control. 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. The CERT program is under the direction of Mount Prospect Emergency Management and a volunteer Leadership Team.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



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/door-hung 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
X: @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

COMING SOON

2024 Calendar of Events:
- September 14 : Fire Department Open House at Randhurst Village
- October 6 - 12: Fire Prevention Week
- October TBD: Fire Prevention Poster Contest