

Waterford Regional Fire Department



2022 Annual Report



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FIRE DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION

Matt Covey
Fire Chief
28 Years of Service



Ann Ostrom
Administrative Assistant
36 Years of Service



Carl Wallace
Deputy Fire Chief
24 Years of Service



Diane Beedle
Account Clerk
28 Years of Service



FIRE SUPPRESSION AND EMS OPERATIONS

Steve Bridger
Battalion Chief
32 years of Service



Blake Nelson
Battalion Chief
25 years of Service



Josh Dorman
Battalion Chief
20 years of Service



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

Wayne Peruski
Fire Marshal
26 years of Service



Chris Webster
Lieutenant Inspector
14 years of Service



Robert Butcher
Lieutenant Inspector
20 years of Service



FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING DIVISION

Jim Cooper
Capt. EMS Coordinator
EMS Academy
20 Years of Service



Josh Dorman
Fire Training Coordinator
20 years of Service



FIRE DEPARTMENT CHAPLAINS

Linda Living-Hawley



Ron Rayner



Mission Statement



Waterford Regional Fire Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Waterford Regional Fire Department is to protect the lives and property of the residents, businesses and visitors of **Waterford Township**, the **City of Pontiac** and the **City of Lake Angelus** through:

Public education in fire safety and hazard recognition

Aggressive fire suppression and rescue

Professional emergency medical treatment of the sick and injured

Efficient pre-incident planning and emergency management

Hazardous materials control and mitigation



From the Fire Chief's Office...

It is my honor and privilege to serve the residents of Waterford Township, the City of Pontiac, and the City of Lake Angelus. I proudly work alongside 111 well-trained and highly skilled professional firefighters, paramedics, fire officers, inspectors, chiefs, and office staff. Together, we provide incredible emergency services in a regional, multi-jurisdictional setting. Our response area houses over 130,000 residents, an International Airport, General Motors Plants, the Oakland County Government Complex, 3 hospitals, United States Postal Metroplex facility, and many more including multiple major annual events. Our fire protection area is over 60 square miles. The pages of this 2022 annual report are full of important information, statistics and photos highlighting the various aspects that make up the Waterford Regional Fire Department. The service and dedication on display every day by all our fire department personnel will be represented in this annual report.

As the Chief, I want all our residents and visitors too feel that this department is prepared and ready at any moment to serve and protect them against all hazards with compassion and professionalism. Our highly skilled and motivated firefighters, officers, and inspectors continue to provide high-level emergency response and care to all we serve. In 2022 the department continued to evolve more efficient ways to service our communities with a heavy focus on fire training and EMS training.

The big impact in 2022 was the purchase of one new fire truck and squad/engine with an expected delivery in late-2023. Additionally, one remounted transporting rescue-ambulance, purchase of two new fire inspection units, FS-1 HVAC upgrades, parking lot repaving FS-5, LifePak-15 Cardiac Monitors and multiple other projects. Some of these purchases were accomplished with funds from our Special Assessment District and our Capital Improvement Savings Account 330 fund. We are greatly appreciative of the continued support from our communities. We have been heavily affected by rapidly increasing pricing due to inflation and supply chain issues. We are faced with long delays on purchased equipment and fire apparatus. If we order a fire engine in 2023 we will have roughly 3 to 4 years from order to delivery.

2022 calls for service totaled 14,416 which is a 1% increase from 2021, 10,161 or 70.5% of those calls were for EMS, traffic accidents and other rescue calls. Fires, hazardous situations, and other calls accounted for 29.5% of the 2022 calls. Total fire calls were 353 which of 170 were structure fires residential and multi-residential structures, 82 vehicle fires, 53 grass-vegetation fires, 41 rubbish fires and 7 other types of fires. In addition, the fire department transported 5,478 patients to area hospitals which was an increase of 6% compared to 2021.

Our fire units responded nearly 25,000 times during the year. The average response time for priority calls is 5 minutes and 59 seconds for 2022. Of our nine fire stations, the busiest fire station is station 3 with 3,072 calls. The busiest fire engine and rescue is also fire station 3 with Engine 3 responding to 3,116 calls and Rescue 3 responding to 2,570 calls.

This document as it does every year serves as a historical account of our department. We hope everyone who reads this will find it informative and enlightening to the diverse responsibilities that we handle every day.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew J. Covey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fire Chief Matthew J. Covey

Deputy Fire Chief **Carl Wallace**



As Deputy Chief of the Fire Department, I oversee the operations of the Fire Department as we serve 130,000 residents in three communities and our mutual aid communities. I have three Battalion Chiefs, the Fire Training Officer and EMS Coordinator that report directly to me. Our firefighters work 24 hour shifts on three platoon units. There are approximately 34 personnel on duty every single day operating out of 9 fire stations in Waterford and Pontiac. In 2022, I was kept busy with new vehicles, building updates and upgrades and many other projects vital to the operations of this fire department. We also were continuing to deal with the ongoing challenges of COVID-19.

Ordering of two Fire Engines in 2022 and the Delivery of a new Fire Engine late 2022

With assistance of the Township Board the Fire Department has ordered and finalized the purchase of one fire engine and a Squad (Hybrid truck caring heavy equipment and also having a pump and water) from Sutphen Corp in 2022. We took delivery of a new fire engine (ordered in 2021) that was put in service in December. These purchases continue to follow our replacement plan for our fleet.



New Engine

Purchase and Remount of a New Rescue/Ambulance from EVP+ Wheeled Coach

The Fire Department purchased a new rescue/ambulance. This again was a greatly needed truck as they are replacing aging vehicles with high mileage. This remount process has the manufacture take the ambulance box or EMS Area off an old ambulance and places it back on a new Chassis after repainting and repairing the EMS Box.



Delivery of two staff vehicles

The Fire Department took delivery of two new Chevrolet 1500 pickup truck 2022 staff vehicles for fire prevention continuing with our vehicle replacement plan.



Fire Cadet Program

During the 2022 school year, High school students from within Oakland County attended our program. These students work with our firefighters and training division daily. The program goal is upon successful completion of the cadet program that they leave with the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to pursue a career as a professional fire fighter and give them an advantage in becoming a success in whatever their life's endeavor.

In the 1970's, the Fire Department created this program, intended to offer local area high school seniors the opportunity to experience first-hand what a career in the fire service was like. It was designed to prepare young, ambitious students for a career as a fire fighter. Since then, many of the cadets that have participated in the program have gone on to become professional fire fighters with fire departments around the country. One former cadet became a smoke jumper battling the enormous wildfires in the western United States while others have chosen to enter the EMS field or the medical profession. Several current fire fighters and retired fire fighters served as cadets with the Waterford Regional Fire Department.

Fire Academy Sponsorship

The Waterford Regional Fire Department sponsored five students to the 2022 Oakland Community College Fire Academy. The individuals sponsored by the department, receive a discounted rate at the Academy. There is not an out-of-pocket expense for the fire department.



Purchase of 12 Sets of Turnout Gear

The Fire Department replaced 12 sets of fire turnout gear in 2022. This gear is what protects our firefighters during emergency runs and fires. The turnout gear is made of multiple layers. The outside coat protects against cuts and abrasions, the next layer works as a vapor barrier and the next layer insulates against high temperatures. The latest NFPA standard has a 10-year life from date from manufacture life span and must be designed and fitted specifically to each firefighter and the yearly purchase of gear is an ongoing process.



Capital Projects Completed for 2022.

With the approval of the 2022 Fire Department budget, we have completed the following capital improvements and purchases.

- The re-mount of 1 rescue truck (ambulance) through EVP+ a Michigan based company.
- The ordering of 1 fire engine from Sutphen Corp. to replace ageing fire apparatus.
- Fire Station 5 parking re-paving / updates and with exterior door work completed by fire crews.
- Replacement of the HVAC unit 8-hour side Fire Headquarters.
- Control unit replacement HVAC Fire Headquarters.
- 12 Sets of firefighter turnout gear purchased.
- 2 staff vehicles purchased.
- 6 new LifePak-15 Cardiac Monitors (expected delivery 2023)
- Training room upgrades (IT).
- Delivery of a fire engine and it was put in service in the beginning of December.
- Replacement of the dilapidated privacy fence at station one with an all-weather PVC fence with the cost of replacement being shared with the school district.

Future Projects for 2023

- The purchase of 20 sets of fire gear for replacement and for new hires.
- The re-mount of a rescue truck.
- The ordering of a new fire engine.
- The exterior brick repair to fire station one.
- The purchase of 8 Stryker Ambulance Stretchers.

Future Projects for 2023 in the Pontiac District

Working with the City of Pontiac Administration and DPW to complete needed repairs at the fire stations. Some of the projects needed for the year 2023 are:

- Fuel tank repair at station 7.
- Exterior painting fire station 8.
- Interior door repairs to multiple stations separating living quarters from apparatus floor.
- Computer upgrade (WRFD IT).
- Building evaluations.
- Roof inspection, maintenance, and repair.
- WRFD and Pontiac IT departments working with linking Fire Prevention and Pontiac Building Department for ease of sharing of information.



Before and after photos of fence repair at Fire Station One



New asphalt and the paint work done by fire crews.



New HVAC unit for the 8-hour side of Station One.

Fire Department Promotions

Lieutenant- Steve Meier



Lieutenant Dohn Lyons



Lieutenant- Thomas Hanson



Lieutenant Troy Weaver



Fire Department Retirements

Lieutenant Mike Grier- Retired after 27 years of service.

Mike served as a Captain on the Pontiac Fire Department and a Lieutenant for the WRFD

We wish Mike a happy and healthy retirement.



We continue to honor **Pontiac Firefighter Tracey Williamson** who died in the line of duty 33 years ago. Tracey tragically lost his life in 1988 while fighting a building fire in downtown Pontiac. Tracey and several other firefighters were in the building when it collapsed. Several other firefighters were injured.



INCIDENT BREAKDOWN

2022 Calls by Incident Type

FIRES

Incident Count

100 - Fire, other	21
111 - Building fire	90
112 - Fires in structures other than in a building	6
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	52
114 - Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	1
118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained	25
130 - Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	55
132 - Road freight or transport vehicle fire	1
134 - Water vehicle fire	1
138- Off-road vehicle fire	1
140 - Natural vegetation fire, other	2
141- Forest, wood, or wildland fire	2
142 - Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	48
143 - Grass fire	1
150 - Outside rubbish fire, other	8
151 - Outside rubbish, trash, or waste fire	14
152 - Garbage dump or sanitary landfill fire	1
154 - Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	18
160 - Special outside fire, other	1
162 - Outside equipment fire	5
163- Outside gas or vapor combustion explosion	1
	353 2.45%

Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat- no fire

251- excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	-	-	1
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EMS / Rescue Calls

300 - Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS) call, other	21	
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	204	
320 - Emergency medical service, other	195	
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	8,646	
3211-EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury at senior living	239	
321C-EMS Call, possible COVID-19	42	
322 - Vehicle accident with injuries	700	
3221 - Vehicle accident with injuries and extrication	5	
323 - Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	23	
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	65	
331- Lock-in	1	
360 - Water & ice rescue other	3	
381 - Rescue or EMS standby	6	
	10,161	70.48%

HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS

400 - Hazardous condition, other	1	
410 - Flammable gas or liquid condition, other	2	
411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	3	
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	133	
421 - Chemical hazard (no spill or leak)	3	
422 - Chemical spill or leak	2	
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	169	
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	10	
442 - Overheated motor	4	
444 - Power line down	350	
445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	12	
451 - Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected	1	
460 - Accident, potential accident, other	1	
463 - Vehicle accident, general cleanup	1	
480 - Attempted burning, illegal action, other	2	
481 - Attempt to burn	1	
	695	4.82%

SERVICE CALLS

500 - Service Call, other	59	
510 - Person in distress, other	2	
511 - Lock-out	2	
522 - Water or steam leak	3	
531 - Smoke or odor removal	25	
55 - Public service assistance	7	
550 - Public service assistance, other	348	
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	115	
552 - Police matter	1	
553 - Public service	56	
554 - Assist invalid	499	
555 - Defective elevator, no occupants	5	
561 - Unauthorized burning	278	
	1,399	7.50%

GOOD INTENT CALLS

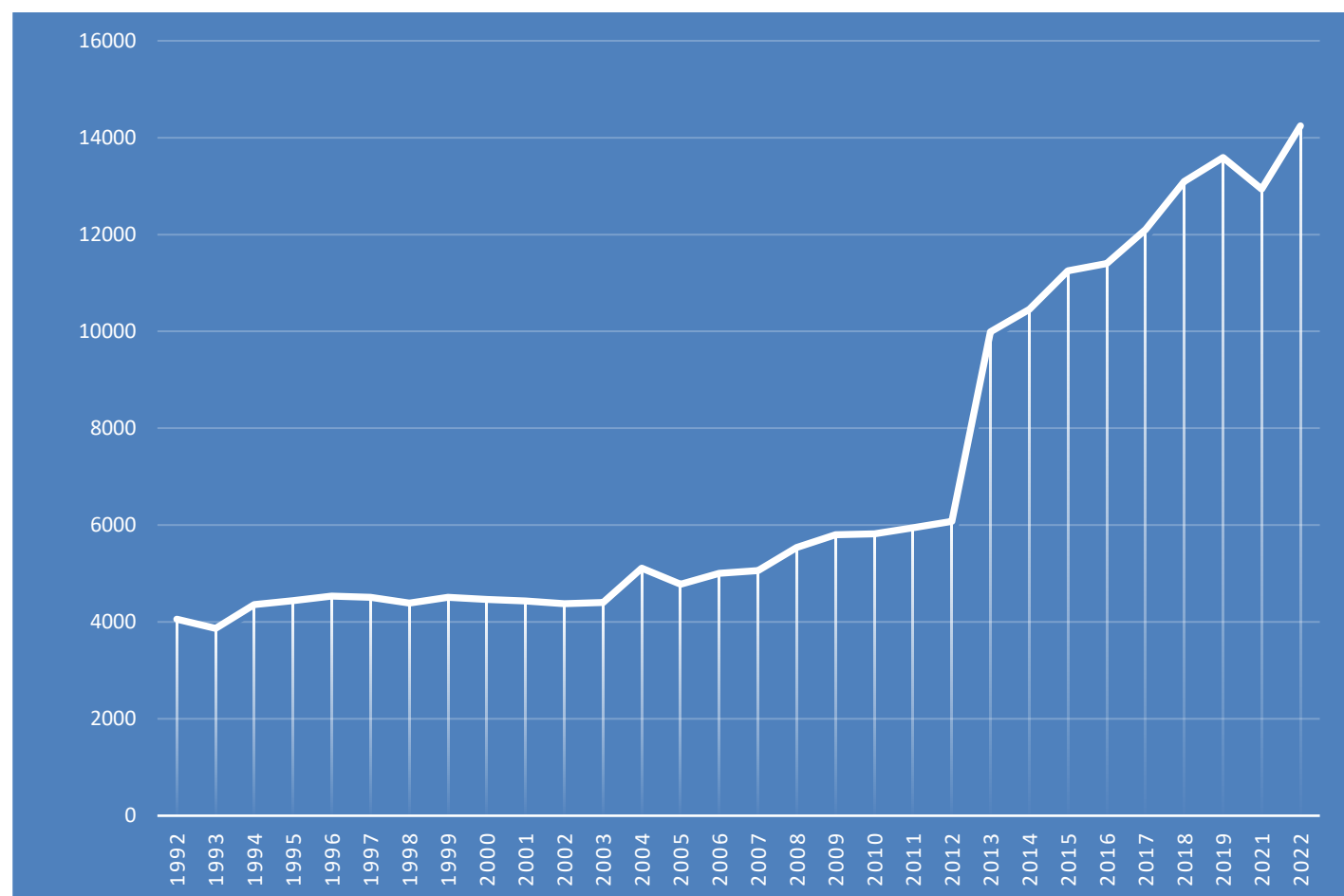
600 - Good intent call, other	169	
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	681	
6111 - Cancelled Prior to Dispatch	54	
611E - EMS: Dispatched & cancelled en route	11	
621 - Wrong location	1	
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	79	
631 - Authorized controlled burning	11	
632- Prescribed burn	1	
650 - Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke, other	1	
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	68	
652 - Steam, vapor, fog, or dust thought to be smoke	4	
671 - Hazmat release investigation w/ no hazmat	1	
	1,081	7.50%

FALSE ALARMS

710 - Malicious, mischievous false call, other	3
711- Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm	1
712- Direct tie to FD, malicious/	2
731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	2
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	30
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	15
740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	3
741- Sprinkler Activation, no fire- unintentional	1
742 - Extinguishing system activation	17
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	10

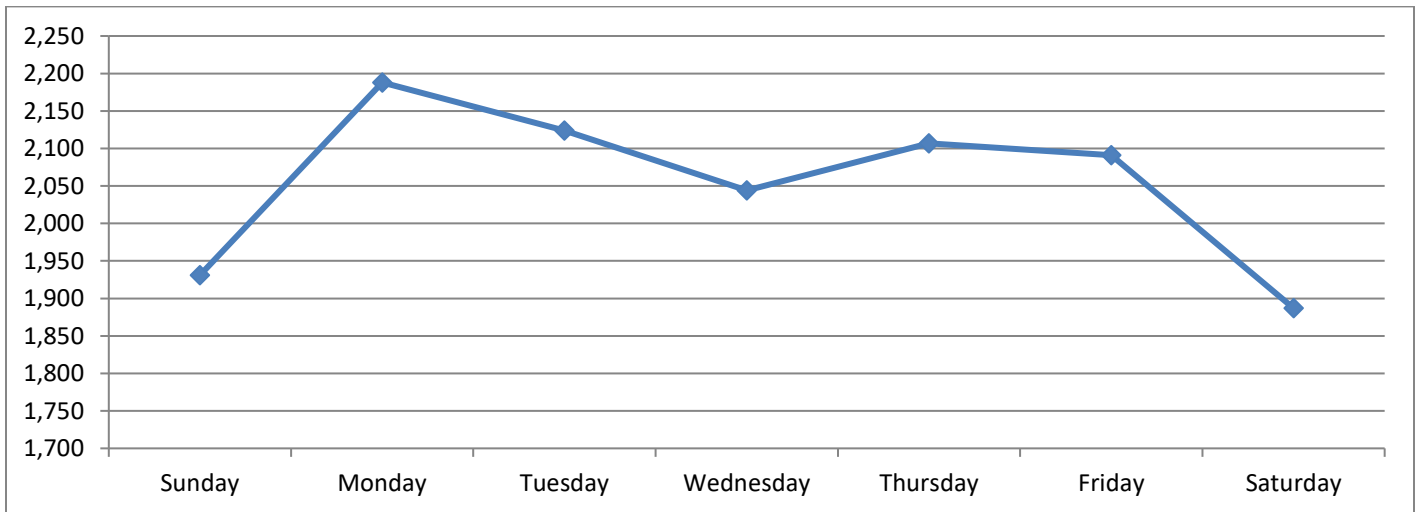
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	70	
745 - Alarm system sounded, no fire - unintentional	446	
7451 - EMS Alarm system sounded, unintentional	37	
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	9	
	719	4.99%
Sever Weather& Natural Disaster		
814- Lighting Strike (no fire)	1	
	1	0.0%
Special Incident Type		
900- Special type of incident	2	
9001- Dispatch Error	3	
	5	0.0%
Total 2022 Incident	14,416	

Calls by the Years 1991-2022 Note: 2012 First year as Waterford Regional Fire Dept.



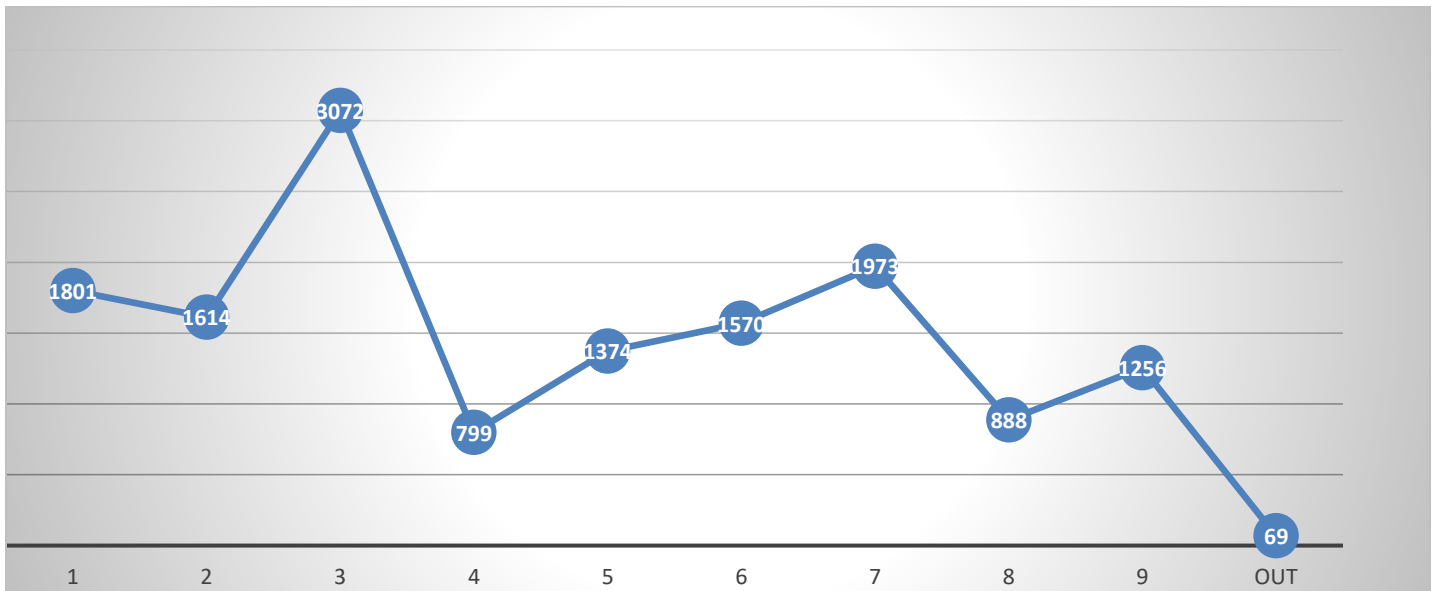
Calls by Day of the Week

Monday was the busiest day of the week and Saturday was the slowest day.

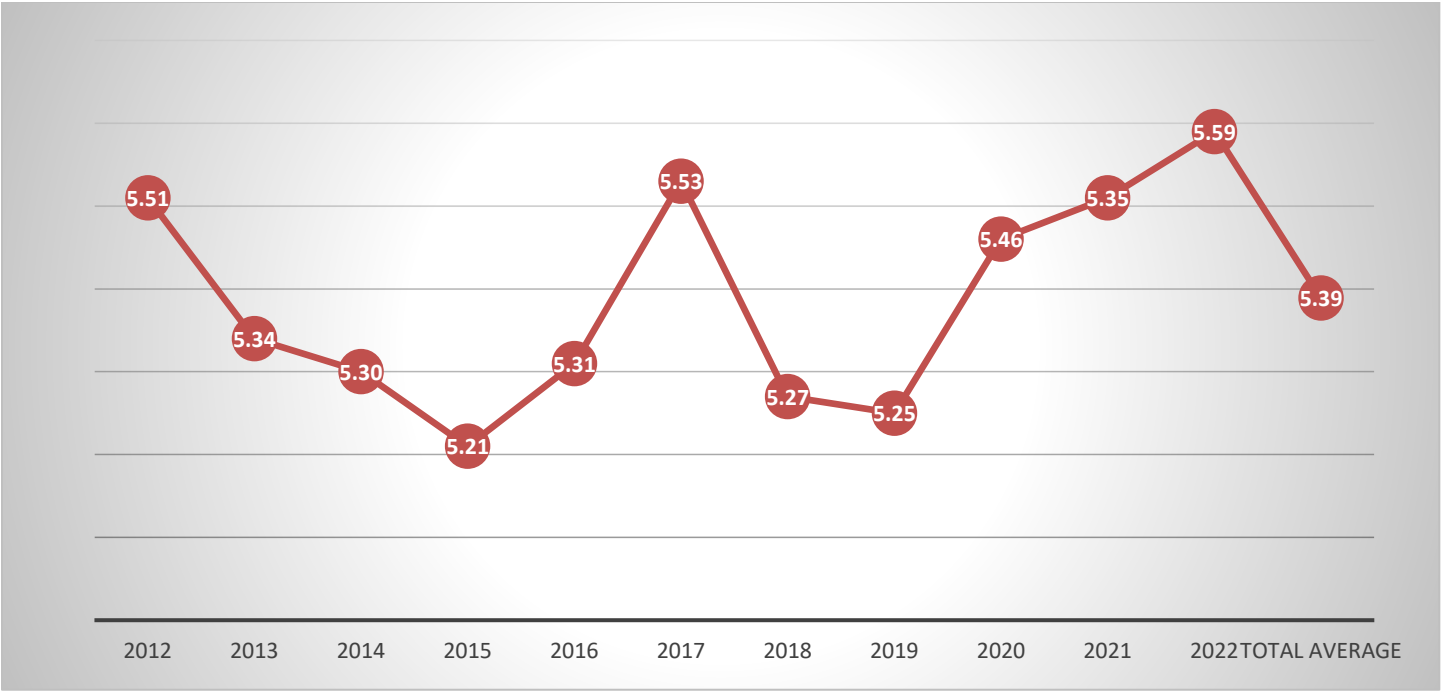


Calls by Fire Station

Station #3 is the busiest. Station #4 is the slowest.

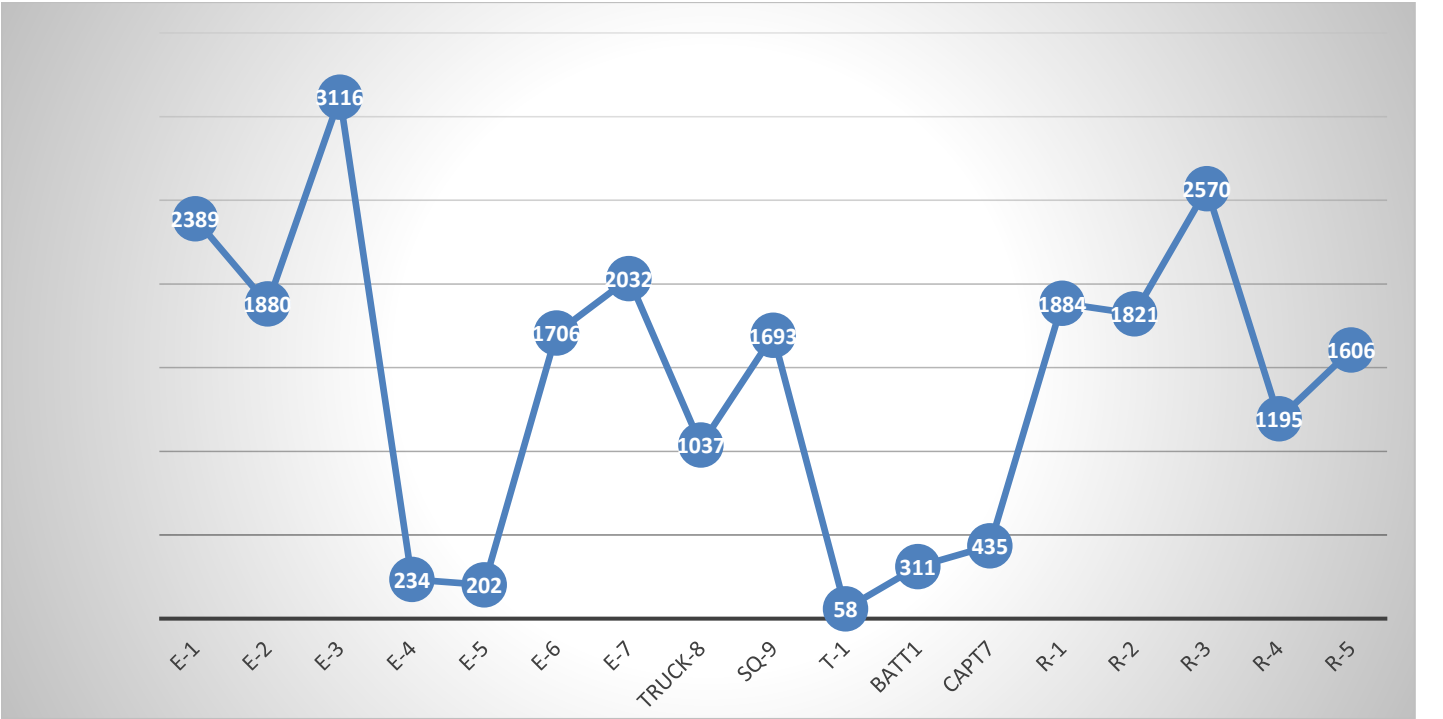


Average Response Times by Year



Calls by Fire Department Unit 2022

Engine 3 is the busiest Engine. **Rescue 3** is the busiest Rescue.





ENGINE-1 Show Cased at the Novi Show Place at the Michigan Fire Show.



3 Lucas Cardiac Arrest units purchased with monies from the “John Ubbes Estate”, a long-time resident.

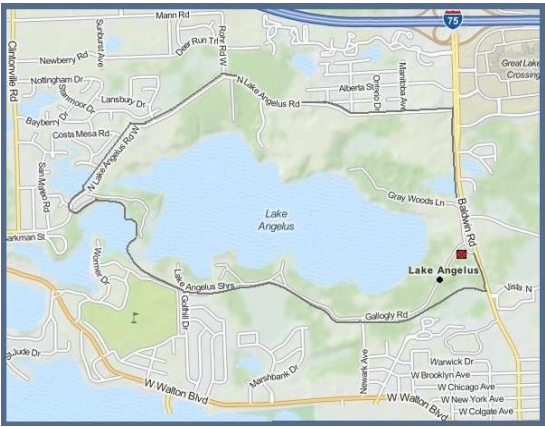


City of Lake Angelus

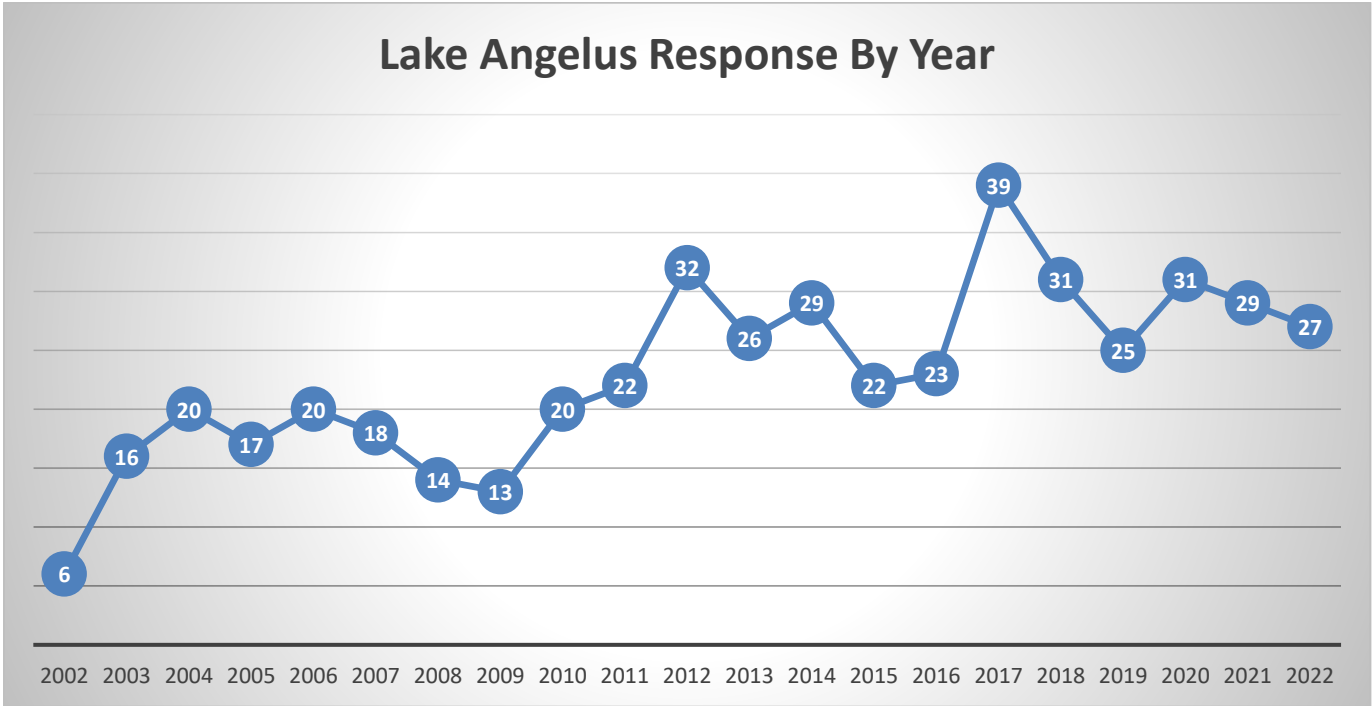
The Waterford Regional Fire Department provides fire and paramedic emergency services to the entire City of Lake Angelus. Fire Station 2 serves the West portion while Station 6 is first due for the East portion. However, all nine fire stations are equipped and capable of responding to an emergency within the City of Lake Angelus.

The Waterford Regional Fire Department continues to train on the City of Lake Angelus Fire Response Plan throughout the year. Each year, in the spring and fall, we flush the Dry Hydrant. In 2022, the Charter Township of Waterford and the City of Lake Angelus agreed to a new contract for fire service. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the city and its residents.

2022 Call Volume for Lake Angelus	
Fires	1
EMS calls	10
Power Line down	3
Public Assist	4
Cancelled enroute	4
False Alarm	5
TOTAL	27



Lake Angelus Response By Year





City of Pontiac

Waterford Fire Department began providing emergency services to the City of Pontiac on February 1, 2012. As a Regional Fire Service, we operate out of nine fire stations, four of which are in the Pontiac Fire District. All fire stations are staffed 24 hours a day, with a minimum of 30 firefighters working per shift, 13 are dedicated to the Pontiac District. Ninety five percent of our firefighters are certified Paramedics. We continue to provide basic life support to the Pontiac residents for EMS calls, working alongside Star EMS and the Oakland County Sheriff's Office. In 2022 a new custom Sutphen Engine was delivered and placed in service at the 123 Pike Street Station and Lucas-CPR devices added to all fire engines.

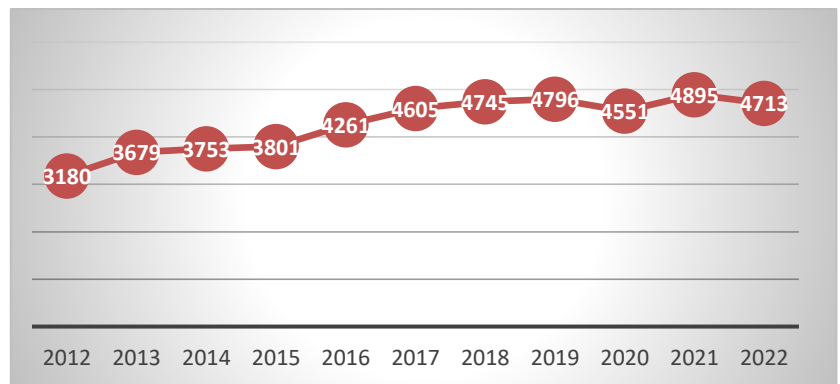
The Pontiac District responded to 4,713 calls for service in 2022. Total fire incidents increased by 14% in 2022. There were 54 fires in single-family homes, 41 were apartment fires, 23 business-commercial, 38 were vehicle fires, 42 were grass fires, 30 were refuse fires and 20 other fires.

As the Fire Chief, I am very proud to serve in this capacity and I look forward to working with the City of Pontiac Governing body on continuing our long-term relationship.

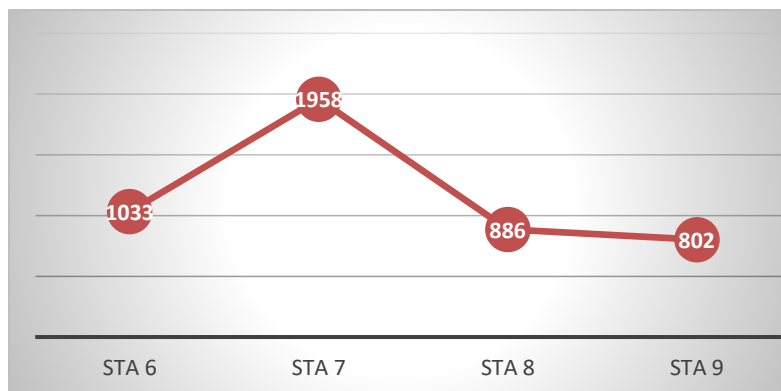
2022 Incident Types in Pontiac

Fires	248
EMS calls	2732
Hazardous Conditions	352
Public Service	415
Good Intent	557
False Alarms	407
Other - Non-Fires	2
Total	4713

Annual Incidents since 2012



2022 Calls by Pontiac Fire Stations



Public Events

The Waterford Regional Fire Department proudly participated in multiple public events in both Waterford and Pontiac.

Woodward Dream Cruise and the **Roadkill Nights** Fire and EMS standby in Pontiac



The **Holiday Extravaganza Parade** in Pontiac.



Public Events continued...

Memorial Day Parade moving down Dixie Hwy. in Waterford.



Great Lake Burn Camp Charity Basketball game vs West Bloomfield Fire Department. Monies raised support sending children to summer camp that have suffered burn injuries. \$5,724 raised.



Waterford Regional has maintained the champs for 3 years in a row!!!

Check presentation.



Fire Department Open House at **Fire Department Headquarters**

Our annual fall open house is geared towards fire prevention education.

FIRE SAFETY HOUSE



OAKWAY and Mutual Aid

Mutual Aid is an essential component of any fire department in keeping its residents and firefighter safe from all hazards. Waterford Regional has been a member of the OAKWAY Mutual Aid Organization since 2000. OAKWAY is comprised of 11 fire departments working together to provide the best in emergency services to over 600,000 residents. Together we have nearly 530 career firefighters that train together to be ready when an OAKWAY Fire Department is overwhelmed, and resources exhausted. OAKWAY responses include structure fires, EMS mutual aid and fire station coverage. OAKWAY also serves to provide hazardous materials and technical rescue teams and responses in a collaborative effort. The OAKWAY Chiefs meet monthly at Waterford Regional's Headquarters to discuss matters important to the entire group and to continue to improve relationships between all our departments, which in turn enhances the emergency services provided to all our communities in OAKWAY.



Mutual Aid has developed nationally in the past several years and is now the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). OAKWAY and its fire departments, including Waterford Regional, are designated by the State as MABAS 3202. OAKWAY member Fire Departments include Birmingham, Bloomfield Township, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Madison Heights, Rochester Hills, Royal Oak, Southfield, Waterford Regional, West Bloomfield Township and Independence Township Fire Department.

We also respond outside of OAKWAY to neighboring fire departments for Mutual Aid as requested. Our adjacent neighboring departments of Auburn Hills, and White Lake called for assistance from WRFD, to which we are very quick to respond.

Independence Township Fire Department joined OAKWAY at the End of 2022. We proudly welcome Independence Fire to our OAKWAY team.

WRFD assisting our OAKWAY partners Oakland Hill's fire and apartment Fire Independence Twp.





October 2023 brought OAKWAY Firefighters together to bring the 5th Annual Fire OPS 101 program to our area. This program is design to bring together elected officials and other leaders in each community covered by OAKWAY Fire Departments. The program planning began early in the year, as the Training Coordinators worked together to put on a quality program. The plan was for 18 participants to experience the day in the life of a firefighter/paramedic. Each participant used full fire gear including SCBA. They started in a “clean” classroom for an explanation of what they would be experiencing and how the program would work, and then it was off to the hands-on classroom. Each participant would experience a car fire, a car accident requiring the use of the Jaws of Life, a house fire, and a medical emergency.

Township Treasurer Steve Thomas attended.



We look forward to hosting this event in 2023 and will be reaching out to our elected officials.

Apparatus Division –Jared Scott, Jeff Hunter, Nick Presutti, Matt Fanfalone, Tom Hanson and Scott Reinig

The Apparatus Division reports that 2022 was another busy year. We continued to replace aging apparatus that were long overdue for retirement. We took delivery of (1) new Sutphen fire engine, (1) Wheeled Coach remounted rescue and (2) Chevy Silverado 1500 pickup trucks. Upon receiving these new vehicles, we were able to replace one front line fire engine and one front line ambulance. We were also able to add to our staff vehicle pool.

Early in 2022 our lead part time mechanic retired. His position was to oversee the day-to-day operations and assist with maintenance and repairs. With this position now vacated and the ongoing necessity to fill shift overtime, we were faced with the need to restructure this division. Previously staffed with (1) part time mechanic and (4) line personnel. The division is now currently staffed with (6) mechanics. All of which are fire line personnel who commit to this division on their days off in between their shift days.

Our mechanics are responsible for maintaining, testing and record keeping for all apparatus in our fleet which include (10) fire engines, (2) 100 foot aerial platform trucks, (1) 75 foot quint, (8) rescue ambulances, (3) specialized equipment trucks, (6) trailers, (14) staff vehicles, (1) 6X6 UTV and (1) rescue boat with an outboard motor. Along with maintaining the vehicles themselves we maintain most of the power equipment and hand tools assigned to each vehicle. We are also responsible for coordinating the annual nondestructive testing of all our aerial trucks, annual pump testing, annual ground ladder testing and annual testing of our Hurst EDraulic “Jaws of Life” Tools.

While we moved forward in 2022 with replacing our fleet with new vehicles we continue to be faced with new issues. For example, we have been plagued by emission related issues that continue to force us to put our newest fire engines out of service on a far to regular basis. EPA regulated DPF and EGR systems on all diesel engines continue to cause problems which we are currently not able to fix in house. Although most issues have been covered under manufacturer warranty, we still have multiple man hours invested in to dropping off and picking up these trucks to the nearest service center located in Clinton Township. Although we have a replaced most of our fleet, we are now nearing the end of our Cummins engine warranty on (1) new fire engine and our 75’ quint. Each truck mentioned has had multiple DPF and EGR related repairs in the short time they’ve been in service. This has led us to realize the need for further training in diesel engine repair and familiarity with DPF and EGR systems is important. We also realized that Cummins INSITE Engine Diagnostic Software will help us repair these vehicles and save money as we attempt to make these repairs in house.

The apparatus division personnel continued to seek training and certifications related to emergency vehicle maintenance. We have attended maintenance conferences, specialized trainings and have achieved more Emergency Vehicle Technician certifications.

With the fire departments call volume increasing annually and EMS transports on the rise, in 2022 our rescue trucks transported 5,478 patients to local hospitals. The wear and tear on rescues and equipment is also on the rise. Our gas-powered Ford E350 rescue ambulances still perform reliably. Our Stryker Power Pro Stretchers and Power Load Stretcher fastening systems continue to require repair and are in need of replacement. Technicians from Stryker have advised us that that our power load units are too old and warn to be repaired. Other times minor repairs and maintenance can be performed to get the trucks back on the road. Unfortunately, we are unable to make these repairs in house due to Stryker’s repair program being proprietary. We are left waiting for their technicians to make the repairs. Often the technicians advise us that our loaders and stretchers are antiquated and need to be replaced. Outside of routine preventative

maintenance on the rescues our Stryker stretchers and loaders are at the top of the list for reoccurring causes for a rescue to be taken out of service.

Supply chain issues still have a small effect on our day-to-day operation but have improved since 2021. Our local Ford Dealership is faced with an inability to supply some parts due to a national shortage. Particularly on brake parts as well as air filters. Outside sourced specialty labor rates have increased, and the cost of replacement parts has also increased. One of our local vendors reported that this year alone the price for heavy truck/fire engine brake parts have tripled. Earlier in the year tires for our fire engines were becoming difficult to locate. We were able to secure a commercial account with Goodyear Commercial Tire out of Dearborn. Since then, we have been able to stock some tires in house and availability to order exactly what we need in a timely fashion has increased.

To help offset the increasing labor rates from outside sourced labor the apparatus division has been taking on larger jobs in house. For example, our Pierce Enforcer Heavy Rescue Truck (Squad 9) developed a severe coolant leak leading us to the conclusion that it needed a full radiator removal and replacement. Our local Pierce dealership quoted us a price of over \$11,000.00 plus shop fees to take on the job. Our team of dedicated mechanics were able to purchase the radiator directly from the dealer and install it in house to save our department nearly \$5000.00. Teamwork, dedication, and fortitude continue to motivate us daily to complete tasks like the one previously mentioned.

We did make improvements to our shop in the form of more efficient LED lighting, new air lines placed for our pneumatically operated hand tools and retractable electrical cords placed throughout the shop. We also installed a new containment system outside of our shop for the disposal of used oils. This was required by the city of Pontiac.

As we continue to replace fire apparatus, staff vehicles and rescue trucks we also have been replacing our gas-powered tools. We now have battery powered rechargeable positive pressure ventilation fans to take place of our large gas-powered units previously used. They are lighter, quieter and require almost no maintenance. We also have purchased a battery powered rechargeable chainsaw to take place of our aging gas powered ventilation chain saws. We also continue to use our fully battery powered Hurst “Jaws of Life”. These also require a minimal amount of maintenance and are stronger and more efficient than their gas-powered predecessors.

As we enter the year 2023, we are awaiting the delivery of (1) new Sutphen fire engine and (1) new Sutphen heavy rescue pumper. We also have the approval to send out one of our 2015 Chevy Express rescue ambulances (currently a front-line reserve truck) to be remounted at EV-Plus in Holland MI.

We also have auctioned off (2) decommissioned fire engines and have cycled (2) more retired engines from our reserve status in to our “mothballed parts truck”. Soon we will be hauling one decommissioned truck out for scrap. We have recently learned scrap prices are competitive to what we could gain financially if we auctioned an engine.

We will continue to work hard and maintain excellence while maintaining this fleet. Doing so is critical to provide safety for our personnel and our residents.

Prepared by Jared Scott



Waterford Regional Firefighters in Action in 2022

LT. Jake Helgemo Staff and Command Graduate



Annual Shop with a hero



Ariel Training FS1



State Representative Mike Harris &

Fire Chief Covey

Annual Pancake Breakfast



DTE Groundbreaking Summit Place Mall



Charitable Events Sponsored by Waterford Professional Firefighters Local 1335

Autism Awareness Campaign - Firefighters wore special t-shirts for the month of April to raise funds for Pontiac and Waterford School districts autism programs. **2023 shirts are below**



Oakland International Airport Open House.





EMS Coordinators Report – Captain Jim Cooper and Jake Helgemo

Waterford Regional Fire Department
2022 Emergency Medical Services Report



Prepared by Lieutenant Jake Helgemo

Run Volume

In 2022, the Waterford Regional Fire Department responded to a total of 14,416 calls for service. This is 173 more incidents than in 2021, a 1.21% increase.

Total Emergency Medical Service Incidents

Out of 14,416 incidents, 10,082 were Emergency Medical Service Incidents. This is 172 more EMS incidents than in 2021, a 1.74% increase.

- 70% of total call volume was for Emergency Medical Services

Average Response Time

In 2022, the average response time to Emergency Medical Service incidents was 05:28

05:28

MM:SS
Average Response
Time

66%

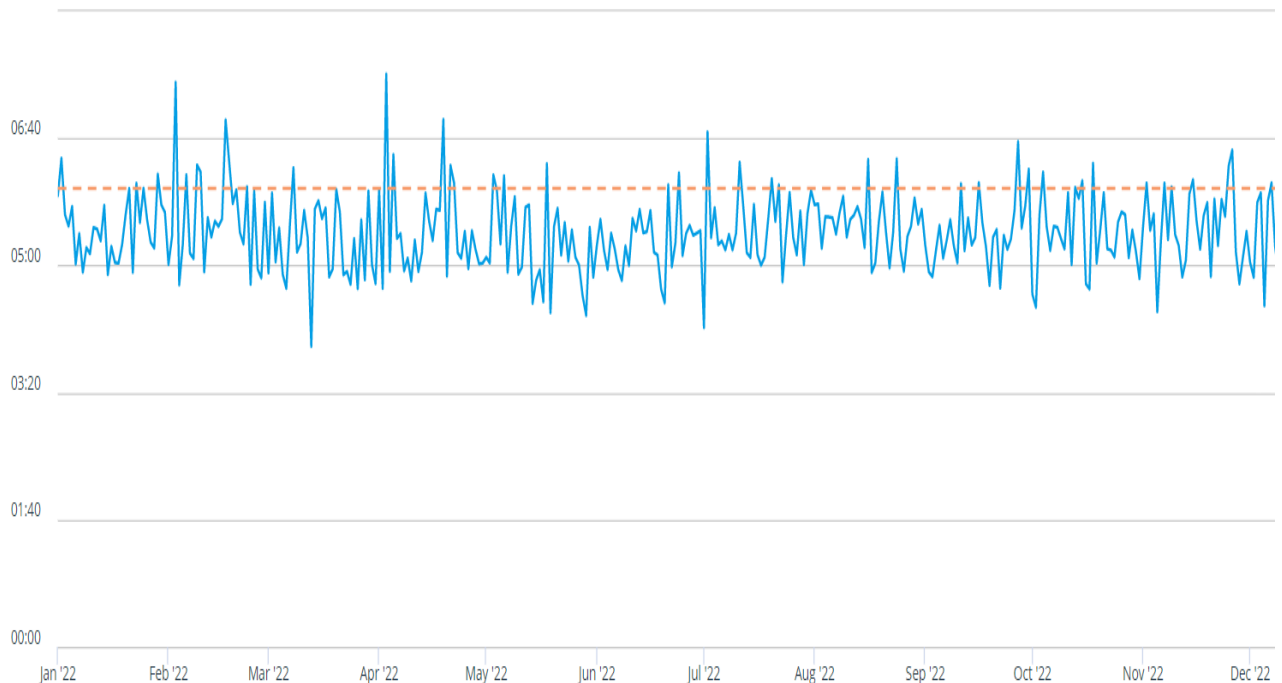
OF RESPONSES
Response Time < 06:00

365

DAYS
In Selected Time Slice

8,380

UNIT RESPONSES
In Selected Time Slice



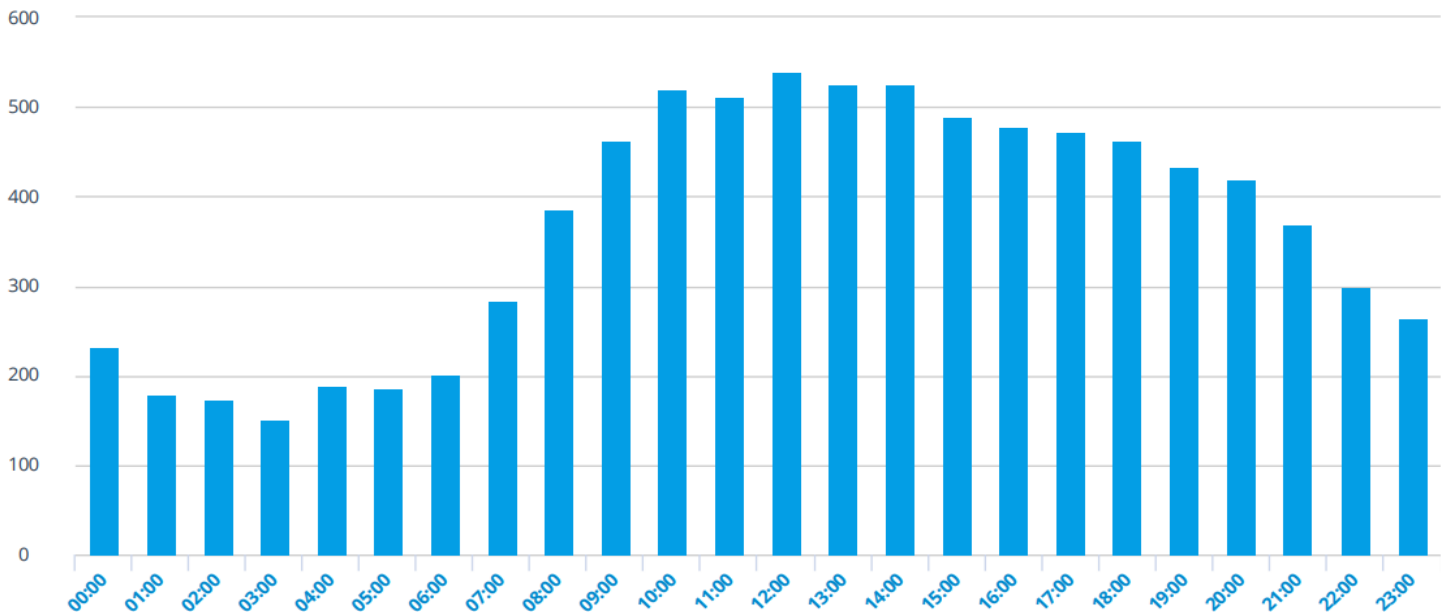


Total EMS Transports

In 2022, The Waterford Regional Fire Department had a total of 5,478 transports to local Emergency Departments. This was a 5.91 % increase from 2021.

- 74% of the EMS calls in Waterford and Lake Angelus resulted in a transport to an Emergency Department
- 3,694 Transports to Saint Joseph Mercy- Oakland
 - 67% of total transports
- 1,146 Transports to McLaren-Oakland
 - 21% of total transports

Calls By Time of Day



Personnel

All members of the Waterford Regional Fire Department are licensed through the Michigan Department of Human and Health Services (MDHHS).

- 90 Paramedics
- 13 Emergency Medical Technicians
- 3 Medical First Responders

All career personnel are certified with the American Heart Association in CPR/AED as a Basic Life Support (BLS) Healthcare Provider. All Paramedics are certified with the American Heart Association in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). All personnel have completed mandatory Oakland County Medical Control Authority protocol training and operate within Oakland County Medical Control Authority protocols.

Training

In 2022, the Waterford Regional Fire Department began using Vector Training Solutions to make EMS Continuing Education more readily available. Vector Solutions has over 200 accredited EMS training videos available to all 106 EMS licensed personnel. EMS Continuing Education requirements are set forth by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. State of Michigan Paramedics are required to have 45 continuing education credits every three years, Emergency Medical Technicians are required to have 30 and Emergency Medical First Responders are required 15.

Waterford EMS Academy

- In 2022, the Waterford EMS Academy did not hold any Basic EMT or Paramedic class.
- 15 Public CPR-Heart Saver classes were held in 2022. From the 15 classes, 116 people were certified in American Heart Association CPR
- 15 Public First aid classes were held in 2022. From the 15 classes, 110 people were certified in American Heart Association First Aid
- 13 Public Basic Life Support classes were held in 2022. From the 13 classes, 80 people from the public and 109 Waterford Regional Firefighters were certified in American Heart Association Basic Life Support.

Upcoming for 2023

In 2023, The Waterford Regional Fire Department is expecting the delivery of six new LifePak 15 heart monitors (2022 order) and 8 new Stryker Power Pro 2 stretchers. This equipment is invaluable to the treatment and transport of patients.





Radio and Communications Division

2022 Annual Report

The Waterford Regional Fire Department uses a mix of [Harris OpenSky](#) 800MHz digital trunking radios and a [legacy analog VHF-HI](#) system. OpenSky is the primary radio system and is provided by Oakland County. The VHF system is used for tone alerting, to meet state [MEDCOM requirements](#), and as a fully operational backup to OpenSky. This backup design is built with NFPA 1221 and ISO requirements in mind.

RADIO EQUIPMENT	Qty in service	Qty in reserve*
OpenSky portables	129	0
OpenSky mobiles	44	0
OpenSky control stations	12	0
P25 portables	Future deployment	6
P25 consolette 'bases'	Future deployment	2
VHF Portables	23	0
VHF Mobiles	11	4
VHF Base Stations	4	-
VHF Control station	2	1
County Alert system (Informer)	3	9
Unication dual band pagers	11	5
Minitor VHF pagers	5	15

NOAA alert receivers	6	0
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Station alert systems include a VHF tone activated receiver, OpenSky radios, power supply, battery backup / Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS), audio amplifiers, and speakers. Police dispatch operates the VHF radios via a pair of private phone lines between their consoles and the radio tower site. In addition, station 1 has a backup radio with a mini-console capable of transmitting tones and includes an instant recall recorder for playback of recent transmissions.

Our radios allow us to communicate on numerous talk groups and channels - departmental and shared. This allows for interoperability with other agencies such as our [OAKWAY](#) mutual aid partners for larger scale incidents.

Notable Accomplishments in Radio Division

Repairs and maintenance activities are a never-ending job. These tasks typically include replacement or repair of damaged radios, lapel microphones, antennas, belt clips, batteries, station alert systems, and other miscellaneous parts. Preventative maintenance activities and repairs were down in 2021 as some non-emergency work was deferred due to ongoing COVID-19. Additionally, fewer repairs reflect less need due to recently installed upgrades and more reliable equipment. Some maintenance activities were deferred as equipment is scheduled to be replaced.

	Total Repairs
2017	68
2018	114
2019	136
2020	82
2021	73
2022	89



*Other smaller, quick repairs not reflected in above.

Radio division welcomed three department personnel to the division: Erin Wilson, Michael Moshier, and Ryan Wells. They were brought onboard to assist with maintenance and deployment of new projects. All three have completed the 40-hour [Michigan Public Safety Communications System \(MPSCS\)](#) train-the-trainer course and will be assisting with system deployment as Oakland County completes the project.

The radio division is also responsible for training new hires how to use radios, refresher training for existing personnel, tower site radio updates, attending conferences and meetings, and keeping up to date with regulatory issues involving radios and communications.

All portable radio batteries are tested / conditioned to ensure acceptable runtime and performance. Batteries deemed substandard, too old, or show questionable performance are replaced. We exchange faulty batteries with the county at no cost to the department.

Radio division staff attended Oakland County CLEMIS radio / 911 advisory board meetings. Many meetings have gone virtual due to the pandemic. The radio division contributes to the Fire Alerting workgroup of the Oakland County P25 project; however, it has not met in quite some time. Staff worked with Oakland County Radio shop to advance the future of fire alerting / toning in the county, and advocate for the department's needs.

Modern construction tends to block radio signals. Codes ([IBC 510](#) and NFPA 72, 1212) require building owners to ensure acceptable radio performance within their structures for fire/police/EMS. If needed, this can be achieved using an Emergency Responder Radio Coverage System (ERRCS). Several developers have inquired to our inspectors in Fire Prevention about this, and the radio division has assisted when needed.

COVID-19 continues to bring many challenges and additional work. Procedures and supplies were gathered to decontaminate radios from pathogens. Usual meetings and conferences were postponed, canceled, or virtual. Supply chain disruption slowed progress of several projects.



Radio Division maintains a cache of VHF portable radios to back-up and supplement our 800 MHz fleet.

These are also configured for interoperability needs.



UPS / battery backups were historically the leading cause of failures within our station alert systems. In prior years, the division worked with Township IT to replace many UPS units with upgraded models. These included remote monitoring and diagnostic capabilities. In most cases, these units are shared between radio and IT gear to reduce and share purchase and maintenance costs. The division monitors these 24/7 for alarms and fault conditions. Additional units were replaced this year due to age and failures.

The Radio Division checks hospital HEAR radios for proper operation. This is the state-required system for EMS to contact ERs. As it is state required, our EMS inspectors often check the operation of this system from our rigs. The division has assisted hospitals in troubleshooting and repairs needed. This helps ensure our agency can pass our annual state EMS licensing inspections.



Communications console at local Hospital ER.

Shown here is the equipment used for EMS-to-hospital communications.

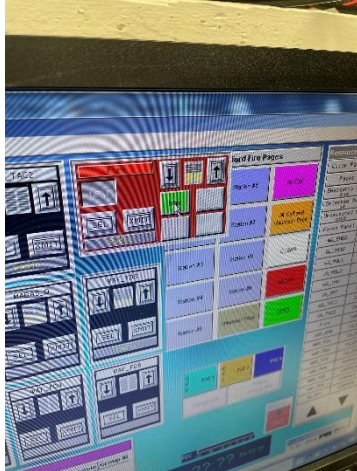
The division assisted hospitals with radio problems.

Radio division applied for and received a grant for weather monitoring stations in 2020 from the manufacturer [AcuRite](#). Installation of these units was completed in 2021. This system consists of the outdoor sensor, inside display, and internet hub. Current conditions are viewable on the internet to the public. The department purchased additional sensors utilizing this system to monitor inside conditions in our mechanical and technical areas. This allows for private monitoring and alarm notifications of abnormal conditions, such as water leaks or HVAC failure.

Radio division works closely with IT and has trained them on some aspects of the radio and communications systems. Radios are not just a radio anymore. Many new radio and communication systems are really an IT / IP device with a RF (radio) component. We expect to work closely with IT staff on future projects.

Preventative maintenance inspections include visual check of generator status. Problems are relayed to DPW for mitigation.

Shown here is a generator alarm panel showing a fault.



A dispatcher's radio console.

Users can select between main and standby base stations with simple on-

provides a fully redundant 'always on' backup and eliminates a manual switching system which was identified as a predictable point of failure. The county radio shop was supportive and modified system settings to achieve this with existing hardware.

One of DPW's water towers is home to their repeater.

Radio division was able to put their equipment back on the air after a failure.



Township DPW experienced coverage problems with their repeater at a water tower and solicited assistance from FD radio division. Problems were identified, and some issues were corrected immediately restoring the system to air same day. Radio division made recommendations and facilitated DPW joining FirstNet.

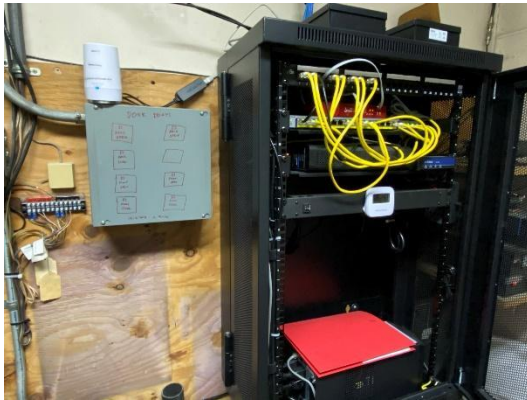
Ongoing Projects

Staff has created a preventive maintenance program. The goal is to have scheduled quarterly inspections and tests of critical dispatch system components, including tower sites, station alerting equipment, and backup power systems. While this has caused more work, it has proven to improve our system reliability, reduce unexpected downtime, and lower costs and hassle associated with unexpected failures. *Since inception of the program there has been a significant reduction in downtime and equipment failures of station alerting.* Quarterly inspection and testing are required for full ISO credits. Notable findings during preventive maintenance include failing / weak UPS batteries, generator alarms, and damaged antennas. These would surely cause a failure at an inopportune time if not caught early.



The division offers [FirstNet](#), the new public safety wireless broadband system to members. The system provides priority voice and data service to first responders ensuring reliable communications in cases of network congestion, such as large special events or disasters. We have offered subscriber-paid plans to employees, several have joined.

The division assisted township IT staff in deploying a new telephone system and township-wide overhead voice paging in 2019. This project revealed a data and communications cabling plant in desperate need of modernization and upgrades. All fire stations have received updates. This project includes futureproofing for anticipated additional needs including station alert systems. The division continues to make upgrades and repairs to the cabling plant with help from IT. In 2022, radio division removed and replaced most communications lines within station 2; this was done on-shift with no overtime used.



Radio division staff assisted IT staff with cable plant upgrades and IT infrastructure improvements.

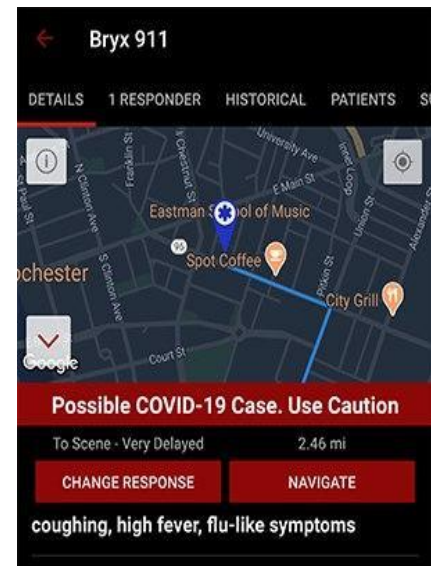
Radio division assisted to prepare for future radio system needs.

Shown here is an updated communications rack.

Radio division administers the [Bryx911](#) system. It includes all dispatch information, GPS mapping and routing, hydrant information, real-time apparatus locations and radio audio streaming.

This app is available on all department iPads, PCs, and available to all department staff on their devices.

Fire stations and dispatch have fixed display board with same information vis the same platform.



Oakland County is currently in the process of replacing the OpenSky radio system. The county awarded the contract to Motorola in June 2019. The system is a 700 MHz APCO Project 25 phase II TDMA simulcast system with 31 sites, with 11 of them as critical. This system will be a joint venture with the Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS). Specified coverage includes 97% street-level portable coverage with a standard antenna while on the user's hip. In-building coverage is proposed at 95% with the same conditions. Coverage should extend 3 miles beyond the county's borders. Radios to be used are the Motorola APX series. Motorola was chosen as the vendor for ease of interoperability with the rest of the state / MPSCS. This project has seen delays. We should begin to see the system come online for testing around May-June 2023. Dispatch upgrades should occur shortly after. Mobile installation and portable deployment will follow. Most PSAPs and towers have had most equipment installed, waiting to be finalized and turned on for cutover. Train-the-trainer has been completed. FDHQ will be used as an installation site for mobiles.

New antennas have been installed at all WRFD stations. We can expect significant hours to be devoted to planning, installation, training, and testing of the new system. There may also be incidental costs such as accessories and options not covered by the scope of the project. Some ongoing maintenance costs of this new system will be shifted to member departments, such as replacement batteries. Estimated lifespan of this system is 15 years. The division procured and took delivery of some ancillary equipment for this project in 2021. The Division has created the initial fleet maps. Fleet maps will require updating as project nears completion; existing information has become outdated as delays were encountered. Staff has been in communication with the project team and radio shop advocating for the Department's needs. Staff has provided technical input at OAKWAY meetings.

As our OpenSky system ages, we can expect to continue to see an increase in repair and labor costs. Harris officially stopped supporting our portable radios in 2017. We will continue to work with the county to keep our fleet operational, however a shortage may be possible as radios become non-repairable. Luckily, this has not been a problem yet. Used radios have been obtained from online sources to reduce costs of parts / repairs.

Radio division has been in contact with AT&T / FirstNet to work on improving coverage inside our stations. Some stations feature construction that creates a challenging environment for coverage. AT&T has offered and is planning to install equipment in these locations to enhance network coverage at no cost to the department.

Many stations have substandard antenna systems for station alerting equipment. Vendors have been contacted to propose a solution. Emphasis has been placed on compatibility now and into the future. Radio division hopes to have at least two stations updated by early mid-2023.

Township IT staff coordinated installation of new fiber optic IP links to our main VHF radio tower site. Installation just completed and is still awaiting configuration and connection to the rest of the network. This will replace a DSL-style link that has shown reliability concerns. IP is utilized for site security, environmental monitoring, and in the future will be used for radio connections.

Staff was directed to investigate feasibility of procuring full-featured station alerting systems, with an emphasis on 'heart-saver' features such as ramped tones and lighting. Staff has had conversations with a few possible vendors. Currently, costs for these packages are prohibitive.

As new products have entered the market, radio division was able to engineer a similar heart-saver visual alert component. This includes soft, ramped, colored lighting in dorm, living areas and pathways to apparatus. Tests have been successful from a technical standpoint. Stations 2, 6, and 4 have been tested to some degree. This was done on-shift with no overtime used. This in-house design costs approximately 95% less than the lowest quoted commercial systems and no on-going service costs. If administration

desires, this can be expanded department wide. If the department decides to upgrade to a commercial system later, this can be easily integrated, and likely features expanded.



New VHF radios for the rescues have been ordered. These radios will replace existing EMS-to-hospital HEAR/HERN radios that are an estimated 20+ years old and no longer supported. These radios are state mandated for life support vehicles.

There are some educational conferences / tradeshow within the state that may be beneficial. These include Michigan NENA (National Emergency Number Association) / APCO (Association of Public Safety Communications Officials) Joint 911 Conference in May in Mackinac and Michigan's Annual Statewide Interoperable Communications Conference. Many of these have been temporarily postponed or canceled due to COVID-19.

Plans and Goals

FirstNet is still a very new network. We will continue to evaluate it for potential operational and financial benefits to the department as it matures.

Ability to manually open station speakers to hear all radio traffic is a common request. Feasibility of this is being investigated. This will likely be accomplished with install of new P25 radios.

Possible additional future improvements may include outfitting all stations with NOAA weather alert radios and/or county emergency alert radios.



Examples of common Land Mobile Radio (LMR) antenna cabling. Cable shown here can cost up to \$8.00 / foot.

Pen shown for scale.

The department will need to budget for future maintenance needs. One example is refurbishing our UPS units. Most were installed in 2019. The internal batteries have an expected life of 3-5 years. Given the critical nature of these devices, we should replace the batteries sooner than later. This is estimated at \$200 per unit. This is less than half the cost of a new unit.

Many stations contain aging audio systems for station alerting. Audio amplifiers failures are becoming common. In many stations, the speaker system wiring has been modified or expanded over the years. The original wiring is 50-60+ years old and the workmanship of these alterations is less than desirable. The old wiring and installations are prone to interference from modern devices, a common complaint by department staff. These systems should be replaced.

Portable radio batteries for the new P25 system will be our responsibility to replace. Funds should be allocated for replacement once needed and out of warranty. Replacement batteries are estimated at \$140 each; we will have about 200 units. Division estimates replacements will be needed every 2-4 years.

The department should look to fund station alert system upgrades. Radio division recommends Bryx due to system compatibility, user familiarity, and interoperability. Many area departments use this system. Support has been helpful and the easiest to work with of all vendors. The vendor also has local support staff and warehouse. Bryx offers two pricing models: purchase with maintenance agreement or an all-inclusive system as a service. Purchase price is estimated at \$225,000 with \$27,000 in yearly maintenance or System as a Service is estimated at \$54,000 yearly. This may be an excellent candidate for a grant.



Faulty UPS batteries found during preventative maintenance.

Batteries were able to be replaced before they could cause system failure.

In-station CAD display boards need updating. Many of the monitors across the department are non-operational. As we switched from an old text-only homemade display system to the new Bryx system, many of the old monitors are not capable of displaying the 1280p HD video signal required by modern technology. Some locations will also require new ethernet cabling, display adaptors, and distribution amplifiers as the legacy VGA cabling is obsolete. Our current Bryx boards are a subscription service; this is currently under-utilized due to the age and status of the equipment. We should pursue a sign adaptor solution to generate the video signal and avoid a PC-based solution to minimize maintenance needs.

Many stations still lack a robust, comprehensive Wi-Fi solution. Most locations currently rely on a hodge-podge of household routers. This needs to be improved for future equipment upgrades. We have new radios coming that will require it, among other department equipment like Knox boxes, cardiac monitors, and cots and power loaders.

A better work order / ticketing system is needed to track status of repairs and projects. I have been in contact with IT to see if we can utilize the same system.

The department may want to consider the addition of publicly accessible emergency phones on the outside of the stations as recommended by NFPA. Estimates are \$3,000 each. This could be done in phases to spread the cost over a few years.

Fire Gear – Lt. Eric Steinhebel



The WRFD has **157** sets of firefighting turnout gear in service. There are also 4 new & slightly used different size coats and 1 slightly used pant in inventory stored in the loft at Station 1. 16 Sets of front-line gear were retired in 2022 due to reaching its expiration date. In 2022, We purchased and put in service 12 sets of new Turnout gear to replace expiring gear at a cost of \$2,455.83 a set and 5 sets of new turnout gear for new hires at a cost of \$1,800 a set for a total of 17 new sets of gear for the year 2022.

In 2022, 73 of our 157 sets of front-line gear were inspected and approved for use and all stock gear was inspected as well. We were able to get majority of our gear that needed inspection and repair in 2022 done. All the gear can never get done in a year's timeline. This is due to majority of our personnel only having 1 set of gear and our work schedule does not allow for this to happen. On average, each set of gear gets inspected and re-certified every 1.5 years which falls in line with the standard. In addition, 16 sets of gear were professionally repaired and inspected at Turnout Service Management in Livonia.

In May of 2018, we started inspecting our own gear rather than sending it out which saves us an estimated \$23,000 annually allowing us to reallocate those funds for purchase of new turnout gear. On January 14, 2019, Firefighters Tom Hanson, Matt Blom, and myself attended the NFPA 1851 turnout inspection class certifying us to inspect our turnout gear while being NFPA compliant.

Future Requirements: Due to the 10-year age requirement, 14 front line sets of gear will be getting replaced in 2023. There will also be a need to order 7 additional sets for newly hired Firefighters that will be starting in January 2023. The estimated cost will be \$2,455.83 per set for new gear ordered in 2023. Additionally, we will need to order an estimated 10 Firefighting Helmets, 30 pairs of Fire Gloves, 25 Firefighting Hoods and 10 pairs of Firefighting Boots in 2023. These numbers are an estimate and are subject to change due to frequency of use or damage. The estimated cost of above items is \$8,590.

The replacement of gear to stay compliant with NFPA standards is a never-ending situation. The life of gear cannot exceed 10 years and with that in mind we have a replacement schedule of 14 sets per year, every year for the foreseeable future. This will ensure the future safety of our personnel and compliance with NFPA standards without adding a big drain on the department's future budgets. The added cost for this will be approximately \$34,381.62 in 2023 with the cost going up an estimated 6% per year after that.



Prevention Division – Asst. Chief Wayne Peruski

The 2022 Fire Prevention Division consists of two Fire Inspector/Lieutenants and a Fire Marshal. All three employees are certified Fire Investigators and State of Michigan Certified Fire Inspectors. The Fire Marshal and both inspectors are also State of Michigan Public Act 54 Registered inspectors of Fire Protection Systems and Plan reviewers of Fire Protection System Plans by the Michigan Bureau of Construction Codes.

The Fire Prevention Division continues to conduct fire inspections, site plan reviews, fire alarm system plan reviews, fire suppression system plan reviews, fire safety inspections, fire investigations, assigns addresses and performs other activities as required. We continue to make our priority assembly occupancies, commercial buildings that have special fire systems, high hazards occupancies, new construction, and buildings with occupancies changes.

2022 was an extremely busy year for Fire Prevention. Current staffing levels and on day to day, operations limit our ability to be proactive with our Annual Life Safety Inspections. Easing the stress of the workload is a good working relationship with both the Waterford Township Department of Developmental Services and The City of Pontiac Building and Safety Department. We normally meet monthly to discuss and figure out open projects and make improvements on how to serve the citizens of Waterford Township and the City of Pontiac

Campfire Permits:

A Waterford residence can annually obtain a campfire permit by going to our website [Waterford Regional Fire Department – Your One-Stop-Shop for Fire Permits](#)

Inspections and Plan Review:

The Fire Prevention Division performed 430 fire inspections, processed, and reviewed 165 construction plans for Waterford and 227 construction plans for the City of Pontiac. These plans include site plans, hood system plans, fire alarm plans, fire suppression (sprinkler) plans and special suppression agent plans. We reviewed and verified inspection reports on various fire safety systems throughout Waterford Township and The City of Pontiac. All acceptance tests are done cooperatively with the building department inspectors. The Waterford Regional Fire Department continues to handle all reviews for fire suppression and fire alarm systems in the Township and reviews/assists in the review process with the City of Pontiac Building Department. The building departments and fire department continue to work well together in the best interest of the citizens of Waterford Township and the City of Pontiac.

Special Events

The Fire Prevention division works with Waterford and Pontiac building and Public Safety divisions to ensure that our community is safe by pre-planning Special events in both communities including on-site inspection.

American house City of Pontiac



Fire Investigation:

Fire Prevention Division personnel received 97 Origin and Cause after hours investigations and numerous on duty hours investigations throughout Waterford and Pontiac. This was 28 more than 2021. Each member is on call one week out of the month for “after hour’s investigations” and has available, a second investigator on each fire scene. The Waterford Township Police Department has assigned a detective to assist with fires within Waterford Township when the assistance of a detective has been required. In addition, The Oakland County Sheriff’s, Fire Investigation Unit was required on occasion in both the City of Pontiac and Waterford Township. Several of this investigation’s lead to the arrest and conviction suspects.

Commercial, service provider inspections

Required by the International Fire Code. Inspection reports shall be submitted to the fire code official for any equipment requiring periodic testing or operation to ensure maintenance. To accommodate this, we implemented for both communities a third-party organizing company that is free to both the business owner and the Fire department called Compliance Center / Building reports online. We place the below sticker on the suppression riser or fire alarm panel to remind the service provider to send us their report if there are any deficiencies, we can send a notice thru their website.

A service/testing report is to be submitted to the Waterford Regional Fire Department, within 10 days of inspection. All reports are to be submitted electronically through ComplianceCenter.

If submitting a report for the first time go to BuildingReports.com/signup.



**BUILDING
REPORTS**

The most trusted name in
compliance reporting

(770) 495.1993
compliancecenter@buildingreports.com

Place LiveArchive sticker above if needed.

Addresses:

The Fire Prevention Division assigned 168 addresses in Waterford Township in 2022. The Fire Prevention Division issues and processes all new address throughout the Township to aid in the quick response of emergency services. We also assist the Pontiac Building and Public Safety Department with new address assignment.

Freedom of Information Act: (FOIA)

The Fire Prevention Division processed 166 FOIA requests in 2022. Most of these were for information regarding underground storage tanks or hazardous materials at commercial businesses. This also included requests for information regarding fire reports and fire investigation reports/ files.

Training:

Training has always been a large part of the Fire Prevention Division as it is in all aspects of the fire services. The division must remain current in all disciplines of the fire service in case we are required for firefighting and EMS activities in addition to our fire inspections and fire investigations workload. All division members are required to attend continuing education classes throughout the year to maintain certifications in the disciplines of Fire Inspection, Fire Investigation, Firefighting and EMS.

Pre-Fire Surveys:

Our on-duty fire suppression crews are conducting pre-Fire Surveys when time allows. This is a very important part of protecting not only our citizens and businesses but also allows our personnel to familiarize themselves with buildings to ensure their personal safety. This year we implemented a smartphone app that links directly with our inspection software Mobile Eyes allowing in service fire crews the ability to conduct the inspections easily and accurately.

302 Sites:

Waterford Township and the City of Pontiac currently have several sites designated as 302 sites. These occupancies store or use hazardous materials over a specified amount. These facilities must file an annual report to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), which is Oakland County in our jurisdiction. These reports are compiled and carried on each fire apparatus. This “book” (tablet information) is updated when we receive the reports from the LEPC. All fire department personnel received “site specific” training. Training is coordinated with our Hazardous Material Team Leader and the Training Division. The Fire Department Operations Assistant also assists with the 302-site program within our communities.

Fireworks:

The Fire Prevention Division reviewed, inspected, and supervised all fireworks displays conducted in Waterford Township and the City of Pontiac. All shows follow NFPA 1123 standards. Most of the shows were conducted from the water on barges. This significantly reduced the fallout and danger for the spectators. 2022, we issued seven permits with standby's, five in Waterford and two in the City of Pontiac

Food Truck Inspection Program:

In 2022 the Fire Prevention Division started inspecting food trucks. This is a very important task and has been extremely successful. Food trucks pose a risk to the public and employees as they carry LP and cooking devices. There have been incidents throughout the nation where issues have injured patrons and employees.



Fire Prevention Education

We continue to work hard for the Waterford Regional Fire Department. We represent the department to the schools and community groups in our area. Fire Chief Matt Covey and Deputy Chief Carl Wallace have allowed us to be very aggressive and creative in our efforts to educate the citizens about the fire hazards that they can encounter in their daily lives.

We are very pleased with the relationships we have cultivated with parents, students, and school staff in our communities. Our program is in cooperation with the citizens and school districts of Waterford and Pontiac and numerous private and charter schools within our jurisdiction. Sadly, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Fire Prevention Education Program was limited for a third year.

Avenues for education in 2022, 2021 and 2020 were done through Social Media outlets, limited school programs (distant learning), and information requests. We look forward to a more opportunities to provide education throughout our coverage area.

THE FIRE SAFETY HOUSE



Training Division – Battalion Chief Josh Dorman



The main purpose of the Waterford Regional Fire Department, Training Division is to provide a system of regular structured training programs of sufficient content and duration, designed to keep personnel informed of and proficient in performing the duties associated with their job and to provide training that is required by mandating authorities and current with industry standards. The efficient operation of this department depends on a high degree of skill which can only be maintained by constant practice and professional effort.

Additionally, we are graded by the Insurance Service Office for our ability to put out a fire. The grading has an impact on the insurance rates in the communities we serve. There are three main categories on which we are graded, of which, training is a large component.

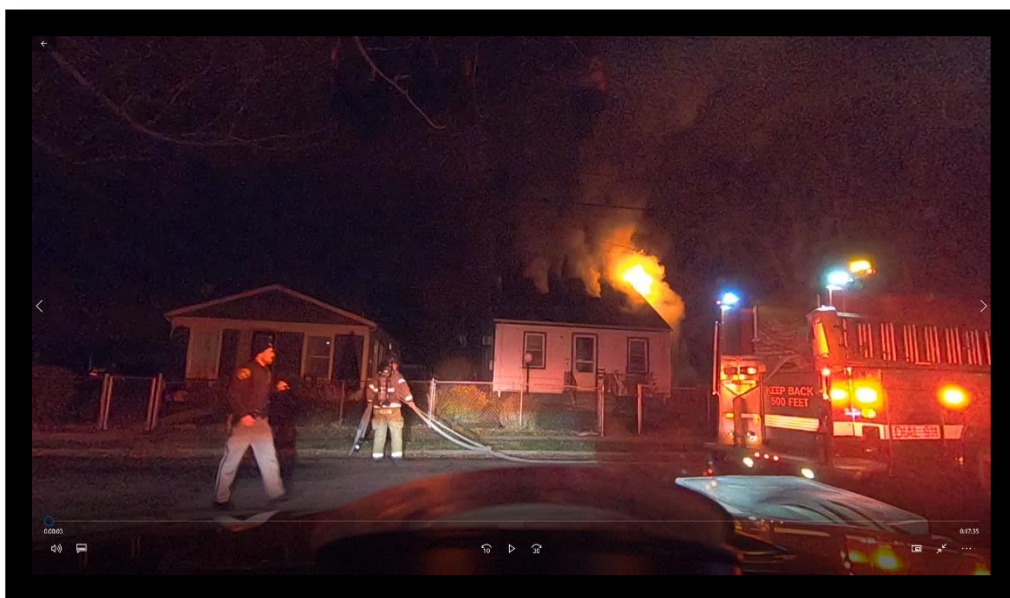
Further, we are required to fulfill state and federal training requirements to ensure our readiness to serve the public. It is imperative that our personnel are trained to a degree of proficiency that keeps them and the public safe. Many lives are riding on our ability to respond to emergencies and there are many requirements that we must meet.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Training Officer and/or Chief are responsible for monthly on-going educational training programs involving subjects required by law and recognized as national standards, including but not limited to fire suppression, rescue, hazardous material, driver training, fire fighter safety & survival, professional development, post-incident debriefings, department policies and guidelines, and new equipment in-services.

Why We Train

921 61 N. Francis, Pontiac





800 Otter Ave., Waterford



Mutual Aid Incident: 5891 Dixie Hwy, Independence Twp. (The roof is falling off the building)

2022 GOALS

In 2022 we looked to maintain a high standard for maintaining and improving our professional skill sets. Our goals included: reacting to locally important training topics, mutual aid, company level training, hazardous material refresher, power tools, high energy incidents, continuing education for leadership, and emphasis on meeting state, federal, and ISO standards.

SUCCESES

We had great success in meeting many of the stated goals. Key successes include incident command, high rise incident command, rapid intervention, and various hazmat required training, it is challenging to provide training for a professional fire department. We continue to adjust daily to accomplish our training needs. Our personnel do an amazing job of working to be involved and complete all necessary training; specifically, the training we attempt to plan that is required by the state.

Recognizing our stated goals, continued development of our leaders continues to be of major importance. Incident command of all types were addressed during the year. Our response areas have many types of occupancies and potential life hazards. Our command staff and firefighters need the tools and confidence to handle every type of incident we may be faced with handling.

Our annual training also focused on maintaining and improving practical skills. The primary areas we focused on were emergency scene safety and fireground applications such as rapid intervention. A building was donated to us and firefighters were challenged with using their skills in rapid intervention to make use of it. While the training was already on our calendar, the building helped make it more realistic. Safety and survival skills practiced during rapid intervention are a key aspect of maintaining our skills.

CHALLENGES

The biggest challenge we faced in 2022 was to continue adapting to new training requirements and training platforms. We responded to this challenge by moving from the FlightLMS online training platform to the Vector Solutions/Target Solutions online platforms. Vector Solutions has several pre-built trainings which meets the state requirements for firefighters. It has allowed us to provide more accountability with training and help our staff meet state requirements with more flexibility. Vector Solutions is well organized, easily accessible, and provide a high-quality way for us to provide, build, and document all our training.

EFFECTIVENESS

The true effectiveness of our training is measured by our performance during emergency response. However, another method to measure our effectiveness is to track our training hours. Training hours we are interested in including the following: Technical Rescue Team, Hazardous Materials Team, and Firefighter Training. Firefighter training includes the categories of ISO (Insurance Service Office, Michigan Part 74 General Industry Standards). The ISO and Part 74 categories are overlapping requirements. ISO is a rating for the communities we serve and influences insurance costs. Michigan Part 74 describes all the minimum levels of required training for firefighters. Total training hours include:

1. Tech Rescue=108.5 hours
2. Hazmat=785.5 hours
3. Fire=5999 hours

Ultimately our goal is to maintain high levels of professionalism and safety during emergency response. We will do that by encouraging company level involvement, building annual training plans, encouraging post-incident analysis, providing high quality training for high risk/low frequency events, training thoroughly on safety and by educating more instructors to assist with training. Our proficiency in our response relies on knowledge, practice, and safety. Our effectiveness is improved immeasurably when we can do live evolutions which make training more realistic.

FIRE CADETS

Fire cadets are an important part of our public education program. This year we had three students from the area participate in our program. Each year we welcome cadets from schools all over Michigan however, most are local Waterford or Oakland Technical Center students. The program is focused on providing exposure to our profession. As our daily staff are available to assist the program, we try to meet the higher standard of providing fundamental firefighter and EMS training. Some the training cadets have been part of in previous years include donning and doffing, search and rescue, air emergencies, fire extinguisher use, and emergency response.

Cadets are required to be self-starters and follow an agenda when our staff are not available to interact with them. Each semester their performance is reviewed according to our expectations using a standard performance review. We also require them to become CPR, First Aid, and Blood borne pathogen certified, all the certifications are provided free by WRFD. It is our goal to continue to provide young adults an opportunity to explore the emergency services profession.



Fire Cadet Kevin Ensley

2022 TRAINING TOPICS

- Personal Protection Equipment
- Emergency Scene Safety
- Ice Rescue
- After Action Reviews
- Mutual Aid Response
- Incident Command
- Rapid Intervention Teams
- Consumers Energy
- Battery Electric Vehicles
- Building pre-plans
- Driver/Operator
- Fire Hose
- Flashover
- Portable Fire Extinguishers
- Forcible Entry
- Ventilation
- Policies
- Guidelines
- Hazardous Materials Requirements
- Alarm & Suppression Systems
- Ballistic Vest Removal
- Succession Program



Pump Operator Training is a High Priority

2023 Goal

The WRFD Training Division will continue to plan and provide high quality training which includes hands on training topics, classroom preparation, and required training. We will continue to make it a collaborative effort that benefits our staff members as well as the communities we serve.

2023 PROJECTED TRAINING TOPICS

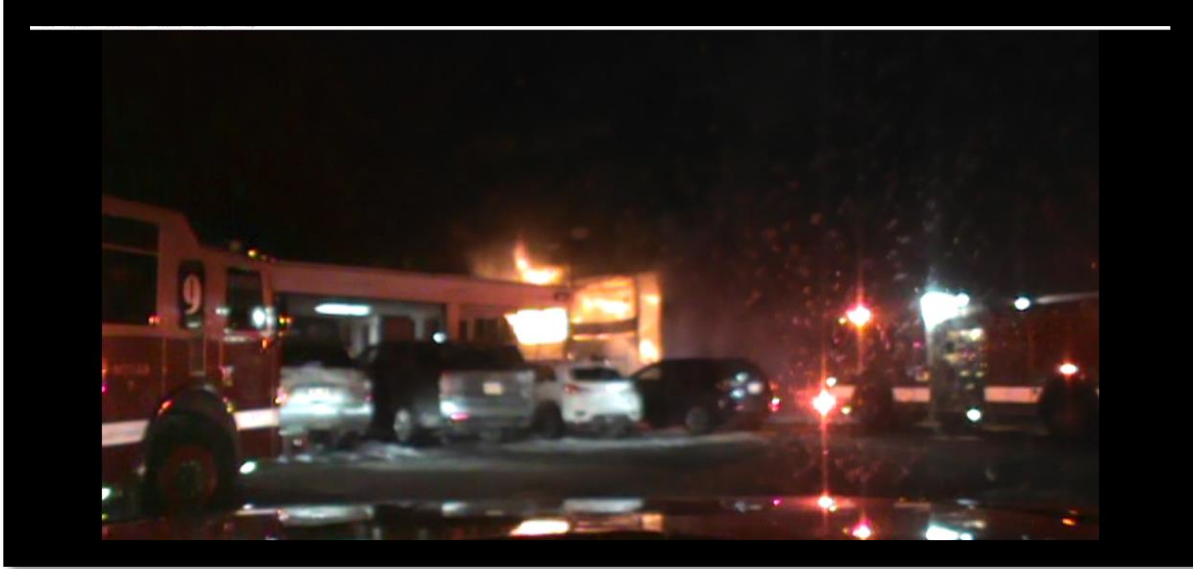
- Accountability System
- After Action Reviews
- Driver Training Refresher
- Emphasis on our 36-month training plan
- Fire ground communications
- Fire pre-planning
- Hazardous Materials
- High Rise response
- Hose Testing
- Officer development
- Pump Operations
- Ropes and Knots
- Saving our own/Rapid Intervention Teams
- SOP/SOG Review
- Staff and Command
- Station 4 area water supply
- SARA TITLE III Occupancy walk-through
- Michigan Part 74 Topics
- ISO related topics



Annual Driver Training at OCIA

Waterford Regional Fire Department in Action in 2022

After Action Review: Reviewing strategies and tactics of actual WRFD responses is a major part of the learning process.



Magic Motor Sports (2225 Dixie Hwy)



(Bloomfield Hills Country Club) Mutual Aid After Action Review is part of learning and working with our OAKWAY mutual aid partners.

Training Images



Eastern Michigan Staff and Command Graduate: Staff and Command is an essential part of leadership development.



Roof Operations is a dangerous but important tactical skill.

2022 Hazardous Materials Team Annual Report

The Waterford Regional Hazmat Team is responsible for providing life safety and emergency mitigation of hazardous material situations. The team is responsible for Waterford Township, City of Lake Angelus, and the City of Pontiac. The WRFD hazmat team is part of the Oakland County Hazardous Materials Team South. The South team is comprised of 10 Fire Departments going up and down Woodward Ave and rely on mutual aid with each other for large-scale responses. The first response area for the Waterford Regional Hazmat team handles smaller scale incidents on our own, in which the coverage area consists of highways, railways, an international airport, residential, commercial, and industrial areas. There are several SARA Title III sites that have hazardous materials on site. With the volume of truck traffic, rail traffic, and air traffic there is always a high potential for an emergency.

For the year 2022, we have not sent any existing Ops level personnel on the team to technician school. The Pandemic has caused many delays in schools and trainings causing a bit of a standstill in advancing our team. Though this past year has caused some problems, existing Technicians have continued to attend all our monthly trainings in better numbers held within OAKWAY. Our WRFD Hazmat team has also attended other outside agency classes like rail car classes involving hazardous material mitigation as well as many other classes involving homeland security issues offered by FEMA and Oakland County. The OAKWAY E-board is also attempting to schedule a technician class to be held in 2023 locally to allow our existing Ops level members the chance to become a technician without having to travel far away like Alabama as we have done in the past. WRFD has the most Hazardous Materials Technicians on the OAKWAY team consisting of almost a 1/3 of the total team roster. With some small changes to the WRFD hazmat team, our roster currently has 20-Hazmat Techs, and 6-Op's level members bringing our team to a total of 26-members. We are continuing to evaluate the needs of the team and the levels of training that the personnel are involved.

As the team leader I am tasked with scheduling trainings, motivation, recruitment of members, finding grants, coordinating with the OAKWAY hazmat team leaders, and other related duties.

The objectives of the 2023 WRFD Hazmat team are to:

- Protect the citizens and responders in Waterford, Lake Angelus, and the City of Pontiac.
- Provide team members with adequate training, and maintain minimum training required for members under OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120.
- Maintain participation with mutual aid agreement, OAKWAY.
- Assist the WRFD Training Division with yearly training for the Fire Department.
- Properly use allocated funds to maximize objectives of the Hazmat Team.
- To send all remaining Ops level members to Tech School in 2023

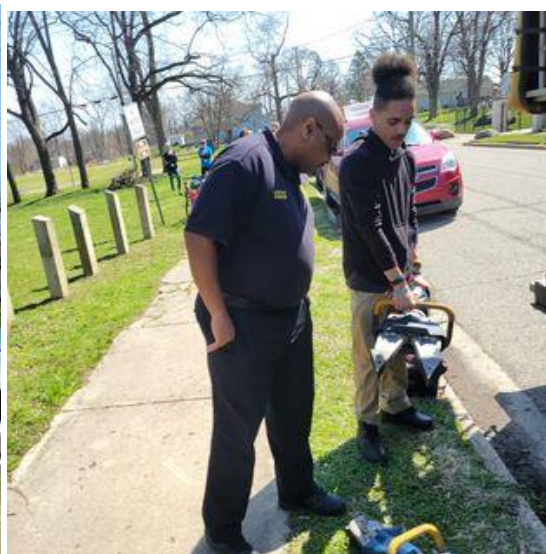
The goals of the WRFD Hazmat team are to:

- Increase participation among team members.
- Continued search for grants that allow for training or needed materials.
- Increase participation with OAKWAY by attending monthly trainings.
- Provide hazmat training once every few months to the WRFD personnel to improve first response awareness and efficiency.
- Educate members to a higher level of training as needed.
- Get existing Hazmat Ops level members up to Tech level.



Waterford Regional Fire Department in Action

Easter Egg Hunt along with VIP Fitness of Clarkston - Richardson Park City of Pontiac





Cadet Graduation



3 additional Lucas CPR devices added to the fleet. All 9-fire station now carry these incredible lifesaving units.



Purchased 27-Knox KeySecure systems to be installed in 2023. These units secure our key system that allows access into important buildings throughout are service area.



Information & Technology – Mick Arhens

The Fire Department's Computer & Technology Team continues to work closely with the Waterford Township Information Services Department, to keep the department's complex network of desktops, laptops, mobile devices, printers, projectors, and cellular equipment operational.

Having a network environment that is both stable and functional allows the employees to effectively and efficiently provide the services that the residents have come to expect. This functionality does however come at a cost and this year was no exception. As both internet and intranet expectations increase as far as speed and performance equipment becomes obsolete and incompatible requiring increased service, maintenance and at times replacement.

Most communities' fire stations are satellite centers of local municipal government and require similar access to information. Providing these locations, the network security is paramount and requires the use of firewalls. While firewalls are an intricate part, other network equipment like routers and switches, computer aided dispatch equipment and monitors were maintained or replaced.

We continue to enhance the user experience with both, Aladtec, our scheduling software, and CFIRS, county run National Fire Incidents Reporting System or NFIRS. Aladtec has proven to be very manageable and diverse. Currently Aladtec is managing our daily schedule including employee information, vacation, sick and comp time, as well as different events on calendar, classroom use, and payroll.

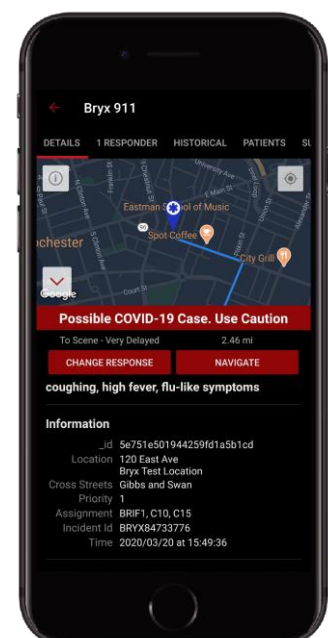
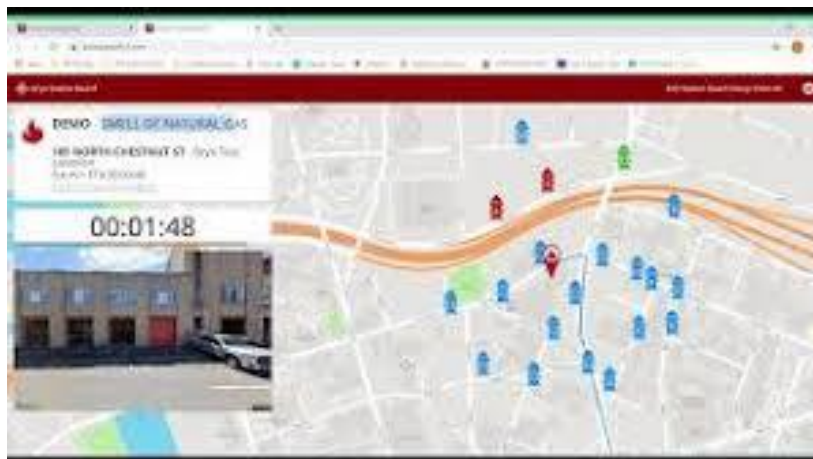
All department emergency vehicles are equipped with an iPad with google Maps, community information, and our dispatching program Bryx. As we continue to evolve these types of systems, help our fire and ems units to respond to emergency incidents with accurate information regarding the incident and directions.

We look forward to continued improvement in our information technology that is geared towards providing rapid information to our firefighters and command officers.



- Acquired and deployed several new laptops for Officers and replaced old Desktop PCs and monitors throughout the stations. (Desktops are always ongoing for updates)
- Replaced/added several old TVs with smart TVs Throughout Headquarters for training and BRYX display boards.
- Added ceiling microphones in the large conference / training room for better audio during conference calls.
- Added security cameras at Headquarters to cover the front parking area, outside the rear bay doors, inside the lobby and the admin area rear hall.
- Upgraded several iPads for apparatus converted the old iPads for training. Doesn't appear that the training ones are not used as much as we had hoped but they are still available when needed.
- Replaced the iPad management software to better track and deploy software and updates to the iPads remotely without physically touching each one.
- Ongoing work to upgrade network hardware and cabling at all locations.
- Created the WRFD wireless network for fire users to access Wi-Fi seamlessly throughout the Waterford campus and other stations. (This is not complete, as we are still in the process of getting all the out stations configured for complete Wi-Fi coverage.)
- Converted the email to the cloud based. That was quite the issue with authentication, and I am still getting users who have issues with it. (A few every week)
- Worked on Comcast equipment upgrades, that is ongoing and almost impossible to get comcast to commit to anything even after they agree to upgrade equipment.

IT continues to maintain and ensure that our BRYX dispatching software is operational and available to our First Responders. BRYX is a platform that is fully integrated with our dispatch center that provides real-time information to our first responders such as Google Maps, incident type, incident times, hydrant location, responder location and history. Bryx also provides us a status board with real-time information for all calls in our 60 square mile response district.



Waterford Regional Fire Department in Action

Annual Shoe Drive (**Battle of the Badges**) Waterford Police vs. WRFD. Fund raiser for the Waterford Youth Association.



“FD Beat the PD”

Delivery of new Hurst Cutters and Spreaders Modern JAWS of LIFE battery powered, and Water resistant added to Squad 9 Heavy Rescue (Station 9 Huron and Telegraph)





SCBA Equipment – Driver/Engineer/Paramedic Kevin Fletcher

Lt. James Booth and Engineer Kevin Fletcher serve as our SCBA Technicians. WRFD has over 80 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus used to protect our firefighters when they are fighting any type of fire. We also have two air compressors/cascade systems used to fill the SCBA cylinders after use. This team also has charge over our oxygen cascade system used in providing EMS services. Our SCBA Technicians provide training on SCBA for all new hires. As we do every year, all Waterford Firefighters were FIT tested to determine proper SCBA mask sizing to meet NIOSH and NFPA standards. We are also responsible to fit test Waterford Water Department employees annually.

43 MSA Firehawk M-7 SCBA's were flow tested and repaired (as needed) to meet NIOSH and NFPA standards.

38 MSA Firehawk M-7XT SCBA's were flow tested and repaired (as needed) to meet NIOSH and NFPA standards.

The Posi-Check test equipment received a required upgrade and new software to keep the NIOSH certification. This equipment is used for flow and function testing.

Air quality tests were done quarterly on the air compressor systems at Station 1 and 7 as required by NFPA standards. Compressor maintenance was performed as needed on both compressors.

Cylinder Hydro Testing was performed on SCBA and Oxygen cylinders as required by NIOSH.

PortaCount FIT Testing machine was tested by TSI, allowing our department to FIT test our employees in a much more efficient way.

Provided training on SCBA for all new hires. New hire Fit Testing also

All 10 of our Four Gas Monitors were serviced, including the replacement of oxygen sensors.

All fire extinguishers were serviced and inspected. Three CO2 extinguishers were replaced due to the age.

Future Needs:

- Lt. Booth MSA Tech Certification
- Bauer compressor class that will allow us to provide service on station 7's compressor.
- Replacing 3 four gas monitors that were put in service in 2012.
- Department wide replacement of aging SCBA

FEMA Grant Written for in 2022 and was denied.

A grant through FEMA was submitted to replace our current 80 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus including additional SCBA air cylinders and mask. Estimated grant total \$950,000.



Station Maintenance – **Battalion Chief Steve Bridger**



Battalion Chief Steve Bridger watches over all our buildings. He receives building maintenance requests, schedules the repairs, and makes some repairs himself. He has charge over furniture and fixtures in the buildings as well. This is a big task having nine fire stations, and the pole barn at FS-8. For the fire stations in Pontiac, Steve works with the Pontiac's DPW for needed repairs and maintenance.

For the 2022 year we focused on a couple large ticket items that were divided between a couple of the fire stations. As always, we address small issues daily along with some budgeted projects that are pre-planned.

Fire Station 1- For 2022 we knew that we had a failing roof top HVAC unit on the administration side that needed to be replaced. This project was budgeted for since we knew that it would be costly. This was taken care of this year and made a big difference. One of the ongoing issues with station 1 is the water infiltration through the top of the brick walls, this is slated to be addressed in 2023 and is budgeted for. General maintenance and daily repairs have taken place throughout the year.

Fire Station 2- Fire station 2 is our oldest Fire station and should eventually be replaced. To try and make things nicer for the crews we started a kitchen makeover project. With the help of Lowes home improvement giving us a 50% discount on the materials and the labor being provided by the on-duty crews we are installing all new kitchen cabinets with an all-new layout. The third spare bay was also spruced up with new paint and new gear lockers, also done by the crew's on-duty. This really helped with organization and making the area a lot neater.

Fire Station 3- Fire station 3 did not receive any major work or repairs this year, we did have some bay door issues and repairs that were made. Station 3 is going to need all asphalt area's to be replaced as it is really starting to break up and crumble.

Fire Station 4- No major repairs or projects for station 4, Daily upkeep and maintenance. Station 4 is another station that I recommend being replaced soon, the station was built in the 70's for one man to work at, we now operate this station with 2 people and 4 at shift change. The building does not accommodate our department any more from sleeping arrangements to only having the one bathroom.

Fire Station 5- Station 5 was one of the stations that received some of the budgeted station repair money, this went towards all new asphalt driveway and parking areas. The on-duty crew's also did some painting on the exterior of the building with a new coat of red paint to all bay doors and entry doors. Looks great.

Fire Station 6- Station 6 had some repairs done to the inside of the bays where the garage door openers attach to the block above the doors. Due to years of opening and closing the doors the blocks where the door trolley attached had become loose and were falling out. New block with reinforcement has been put in. General daily maintenance throughout the year finishes it off.

Fire Station 7- No major repairs were made to station 7 this year. As usual with the multiple heating and cooling systems we always have some maintenance and repairs to them. With multiple bay doors we had doors service a few times also.

Fire Station 8- Station 8 had no major repairs or issues this year, just daily care, and maintenance.

Fire Station 9- Fire station 9 had no major repairs done in 22, although this station could use a over hall in the kitchen and dining area, the kitchen cabinets are original to the 1950`s building an are simply falling apart. Daily upkeep and maintenance finish off station 9.



Technical Rescue Team Report – Driver/Engineer Brian Connell



WRFD's TRT responds in Waterford, Pontiac, and Lake Angelus. The TRT is also part of OAKWAY and will respond anywhere in Oakland County as well as throughout the state of Michigan if needed. Two of the OAKWAY Fire Departments are responsible for maintaining Heavy Rescues. Those two departments are Southfield and Waterford Regional. With that comes a greater responsibility to maintain a larger cache of equipment as well as maintain a larger number of highly trained personnel. In the event of an incident needing a response from the TRT, a small group of qualified personnel from each department in OAKWAY responds and works together to mitigate the hazard and attempt to rescue anyone in danger. The work of the TRT may be low in frequency but, both the nature of these incidents and their low frequency creates high risk situations for the rescuers that are depended upon for their knowledge and skills to save life.

2022 Technical Rescue Team Goals:

- Provide class/training opportunities to advance team's level of preparedness
- Increase membership participation in OAKWAY deployments throughout the year
- Respond to any incident that we are called to.

2022 Board Meetings and Team Leadership

The Waterford Regional Fire Department's Technical Rescue Team experienced a change in leadership during the 4th quarter of the year where previous Team Coordinator (TC) Mike Moshier stepped down into an Assistant Team Coordinator (ATC) role, and Bryan Connell, former ATC accepted the TC position. TC Mike Moshier had been mentoring Bryan for the past 6 months in preparation for this move.

OAKWAY holds monthly board meetings to review the news and updates of OAKWAY's TRTs. One or both WRFD representatives were present for each throughout the year. The transition from an online skype format meeting to in person is slow, but we are beginning to see meetings take place in person much more frequently.

2022 Team Training

- A. Collapse Rescue 20-21 APR 2022
- B. Rope Rescue 18-19 MAY 2022
- C. Strike Team Deployment 15-16 JUN 2022
- D. Trench Rescue 21-22 SEP 2022



E. Confined Space 19-20 OCT 2022

2022-2023 Equipment/Apparatus Needs Report

A. Confined Space Equipment (2022)

- (4) 100' Sections Supplied Air Hose, \$208.00 P/ Section, from RescueTech1 (Manufacturer: Bullard)
 - o Total: \$832.00
 - o Fittings
 - Male: RECTUS Type: A1S1303 R 14305
 - Female: RECTUS Type: 25KD NW78
 - (4) 100' Sections Hose / Cable Umbilical, \$240.00 P/ Section from RescueTech1
 - o Total: \$960.00
1. These needs were met in 2022 and the procured equipment was placed in operation during an OAKWAY Training session.



B. Trench Panel Systems (2022)

1. In 2022, The WRFD TRT purchased and assembled the teams new Trench Rescue panels to replace all the department's existing panel sets that no longer conformed to updated performance and safety standards as it relates to their construction.



- C. It was determined that the teams two communication's headsets were inadequate/inoperable and that the team would in fact need to purchase Full facepiece masks to allow 4 rescuers to operate in an IDLH. (2023)

RescueTech1: <http://www.rescuetechn1.com/>

800-334-3368

Rescue Technology, 251 Beulah Church Road, Carrollton, GA 30117.

Bullard: <https://www.bullard.com/>

800-827-0423

E.D. BULLARD COMPANY 1898 Safety Way, Cynthiana, KY 41031

C. Rope Rescue Equipment

- (2) Petzl AVAO Bod Fast Class 3 Harness, \$450.00 P/ Harness
 - o Combined Total: \$900.00
- Misc. Pulleys, Carabiners, Edge Protection, Rigging Plates, Ascender.
 - In the weeks to come, a full inventory will be taken to assess more accurately the needs of our rope rescue equipment cache.
- ERP Harness and Equipment Replacement
 - o The WRFD has multiple Class I harnesses and related pieces of hardware including carabiners that are severely past their intended life span even without frequent use. Multiple ERP bags have had their equipment removed from service as their use could incur risk to the operator while using them for their intended use.

D. TRT Truck Compartment Configurations Alterations

- Approx. 1,500.00 (On-Hand Materials & Labor Dependent)
- This year, it will be the goal of the TRT to plan/coordinate with the mechanics division how best to modify the storage compartments to best and properly secure sensitive and vital equipment.
- The Design for modifications has been created and can be implemented this year, 2023.

2022 Team Training/Education

In 2022 (5) personnel were budgeted to attend formal training/education provided through MUSAR. The trainings attended included Rope Rescue Technician, Structural Collapse Technician, Trench Rescue Technician, and Structural Collapse Awareness/Operations. Most of our team is still in need of three or more foundational discipline trainings to be a qualified rescue technician.

As we look forward to 2023, we are looking to advance our member's training and education through formal classes/training, deployments, and continuing education. We would like to see an increase in the number of Rescue Specialists (a rescuer trained to Technician level in all disciplines) in 2023 as we did this past year. This would mean sending team members to various classes which we have planned for in advance to ensure the department's budget could in a limited capacity, accommodate the team's training needs. Currently, there will be 5 personnel attending formal training/education in 2023.

The WRFD TRT would like to begin planning on how to implement department wide Technical Rescue Training to be provided to its membership as well as department personnel in further preparation for potential incidents that may arise that WRFD would be expected to manage with limited personnel.

Final Note

It is my intention to carry out the role of this department's technical rescue team while simultaneously searching for and preparing my successor. I will continue to serve in this capacity until such a time our Training Officer, current assistant team leader and I deems my replacement to be ready to serve in the role of Technical Rescue Team Leader. I have enjoyed my time in this role, however with life's priorities taking a sudden shift I feel I would better serve this team and department in a membership role when that can be feasible. I greatly appreciate this department's leadership in supporting my efforts and providing counsel and guidance while serving in this position and I will endeavor to serve this team's and department's needs until a change in leadership can be made.

This document is a summary of 2022 and only a glimpse of the amazing things the employees of the WRFD accomplished. We look forward to 2023 and the great things that will be accomplished.



"The END"