

2014 Annual Report



Oak Creek Fire Department



OAKCREEK
— WISCONSIN —

Fire Department

Thomas A. Rosandich
Fire Chief

Honorable Mayor
Honorable Common Council
Honorable Police and Fire Commission
City Administrator Gerald Peterson
Citizens of the City of Oak Creek

To All:

I am pleased to submit, for your review, this annual report on the activities of the Oak Creek Fire Department for the year 2014.

Continued changes in laws and funding have had a direct impact on government and the way we operate. We continued to meet parameters set forth by the Common Council providing a high value of professionalism to the public. With the recovery of the economy and the start of several projects, the department is an active participant helping developers through the fire protection needs, processes, and issues. We have spent many hours, as well as other city staff, on rebuilding of the fire station and city hall/library project.

In 2014 our department had a record year in emergency responses (3,581) and the final two quarters were our busiest quarters ever. Our department was also part of the Milwaukee County Mutual Aid update. We have started to partner with the City of Milwaukee on our border calls with exchanging of an engine close to our northern border.

Emergency Management planning continues. Preplanning continued for a crude oil train derailment. We continue improvement in the active shooter response as we are a leader in training and knowledge on this subject. We use a combined effort with our police and the school system for improving our coordinated response.

We will start to address our aging fleet in 2015. Our last vehicle was purchased in 2009 and we are entering a period of time to replace units over a period of years.

We will continue to work together to make our city a safe and productive environment. We assure every citizen that our mission will be accomplished in a fashion which reflects this department's dedication to outstanding customer service. A special thanks and appreciation is extended to the officers and fire fighters of the Oak Creek Fire Department. Their support in setting and achieving goals has been instrumental in our success. Our accreditation process continues to take shape and our goals and objectives are evolving in conjunction for our final goal of being an accredited department.

Respectfully submitted,

7000 S. 6th Street
Oak Creek, WI 53154
Tel: (414) 768-6555
Fax: (414) 570-5631
Cell: (414) 349-4566
oakcreekwi.org

Thomas A. Rosandich
Fire Chief

City Officials

MayorStephen Scaffidi
City Administrator.....Gerald Peterson
Fire Chief.....Thomas Rosandich

Police and Fire Commission

Scott Koenig, President
Robert Anderson
Robert Bosetti
James Schultz
Jeff Sagesar

Common Council

District 1 Steven Kurkowski
District 2 Daniel Bukiewicz
District 3 James Ruetz
District 4 Michael Toman
District 5 Kenneth Gehl
District 6 Chris Guzikowski

City Clerk.....Catherine Roeske
City Treasurer Barbara Guckenberger

Cover Photo: Original Fleet from the 1950's. The original Fire Station is now Erv's Mug.

Fire Department Personnel

Command Staff

Fire Chief Thomas Rosandich

Assistant Fire Chief Michael Kressuk

Battalion Chief of Training Joseph Pulvermacher

Battalion Chief of Fire Operations Thomas Jonson

Battalion Chief of EMS Operations Vacant

Battalion Chief of Special Operations John Martin

Fire Inspector

Fire Inspector Michael Rutz

Administrative Support

Fire Secretary Anna Waarvik

Part-time Secretary Sharon Reichel

Lieutenants

Steven Wilding

Jack Rehn

Michael Havey

Jerry Biggart

Scott Kasten

Peter Olson

Wesley Schaefer

James Weiss

Jesse Teichmiller

Fire Department Personnel

Firefighters

Michael Wargolet
Michael Rutz
Scott Lesniewski
Christopher Kopplin
Korey Luczak
Wesley Skarban
Dean Marrari
David Wrecke
Laura Wing
Roger Kieffer
Gary Hildebrandt
Brian Anderson
Michael Brooks
Jeffrey Mallas
Christopher Mayer
Eric Herr
Amy Grzyb

Ronald Petricek
Aaron Kolosovsky
David Nass
Aaron Ritchie
Jerry (Jay) McClellan
Jonathan Leanna
Daniel Rezner
Justin Nale
Ian Perry
Ryan Gordon
Matthew Schrader
Kevin Houk
Daniel Rohde
Rob Smukalla
Victor Ordonez
Joshua Naker

Retirements

Matthew Gorniak
Rodney Palmer
Roy Giesenschlag
Jack Rehn

New Members

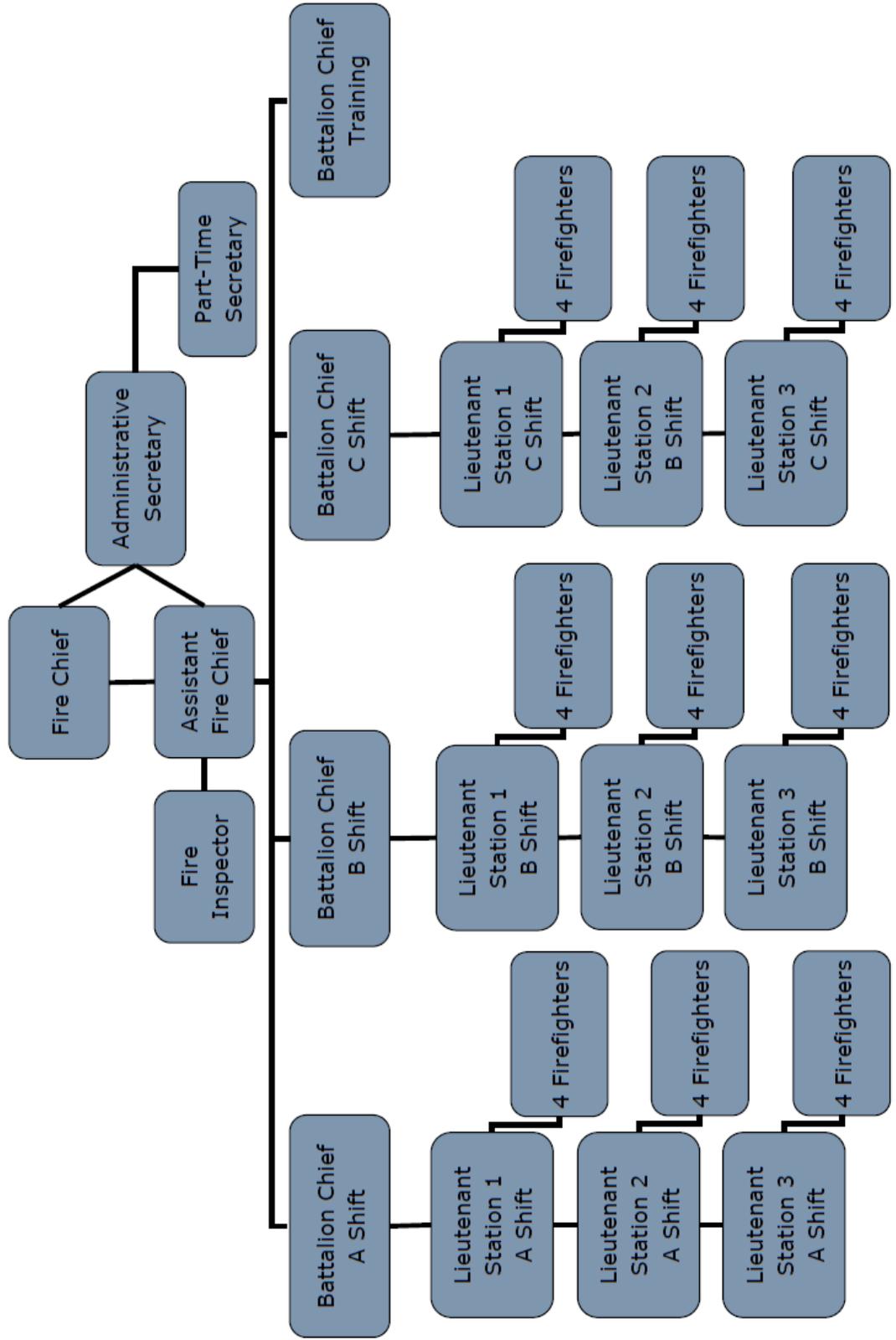
Charles Prinz
David Peltz

Promotions:

James Weiss
John Martin
Jesse Teichmiller

Organizational Chart

Fire Department Organizational Chart



Fire Department Budget

	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	2014 Actual
Direct Employee Costs				
100 Salaries, Full Time	3,513,820	4,080,989	3,912,647	3,953,925
105 Salaries, Part Time	4,289	9,715	10,450	11,864
110 Salaries, Overtime	409,588	412,967	294,000	340,480
115 Salaries, Holiday Pay	44,123	38,905	38,800	33,661
120 Special Pay Allowances	74,774	79,057	80,100	80,451
125 Car Allowance	3,440	4,800	4,800	4,799
130 Retirement	844,288	639,866	468,781	513,374
135 Social Security	299,086	342,600	306,028	326,890
150 Insurance, Active Employees	846,000	779,000	939,300	921,729
160 Insurance, Work Comp	175,064	171,735	165,000	191,859
165 Insurance, Disability	11,983	11,982	13,000	11,865
170 Insurance, Dental	56,580	61,000	72,012	72,012
175 Insurance, Group Life	4,104	4,132	5,000	5,243
180 Longevity	4,610	4,950	4,700	5,345
185 Section 125 Administration	1,362	3,566	1,500	1,475
Subtotal	\$6,293,111	\$6,645,264	\$6,316,118	\$6,474,972
Indirect Employee				
200 Travel/Training	15,030	30,142	31,590	20,091
205 Recruitmnt/Testng/Physicals	6,745	2,743	3,500	9,281
210 Expense Allowance	1,218	376	1,500	583
215 Uniforms and Clothing	41,396	33,822	45,000	33,036
220 Tuition Reimbursement	9,905	8,166	25,000	4,635
Subtotal	\$74,294	\$75,249	\$106,590	\$67,626
Utility Costs				
300 Electricity	43,870	41,494	45,500	42,074
305 Water and Sewer	3,836	5,052	6,000	5,099
310 Natural Gas	18,928	24,254	31,000	29,826
315 Telephone	8,688	7,107	8,000	8,303
Subtotal	\$75,322	\$77,907	\$90,500	\$85,302

Fire Department Budget

		2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	2014 Actual
Supplies					
400	Office Supplies	2,739	1,791	3,000	2,612
410	Printing and Copying	1,264	1,366	1,400	1,242
415	Postage	959	1,145	2,000	945
420	Dues and Publications	3,517	3,195	4,000	3,560
425	Advertising and Promotions	0	0	200	0
427	Public Education	3,949	5,694	5,000	496
430	Housekeeping	1,355	1,346	1,500	1,236
440	Medical and Safety	26,701	18,879	29,500	18,165
460	Minor Equipment	14,026	9,335	14,400	10,217
470	Audio Visual/Photo Supplies	0	0	800	6
480	Fire Equipment	6,265	8,806	13,000	8,685
495	Miscellaneous	1,924	316	300	215
	Subtotal	\$62,699	\$51,873	\$75,100	\$47,379
Other Services					
506	Hazard Response Unit	6,662	3,858	17,000	1,932
523	Administration Billing Fee	66,288	83,316	72,000	78,455
525	Outside Legal Services	43,564	24,182	20,000	33,027
	Subtotal	\$116,514	\$111,356	\$109,000	\$113,414
Maintenance					
600	Office Equip Maint	842	750	900	880
610	Radio Maintenance	11,202	11,568	13,000	6,909
615	Grounds Maintenance	1,057	1,526	2,300	4,212
620	Building Maintenance	26,660	19,911	30,000	18,997
	Subtotal	\$39,761	\$33,755	\$46,200	\$30,998
Vehicles					
700	Vehicle Maintenance	42,253	50,448	37,000	58,037
705	Equipment Maintenance	11,319	6,117	5,600	8,256
710	Gas/Oil/Fluids	47,533	47,686	54,000	51,157
715	Tires	10,674	6,217	4,000	13,413
	Subtotal	\$111,779	\$110,468	\$100,600	\$130,863
	Total	\$6,773,480	\$7,105,872	\$6,844,108	\$6,950,554

Emergency Management Budget

		2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	2014 Actual
Direct Employee Costs					
110	Salaries, Overtime	1,607	1,541	6,500	406
130	Retirement	349	252	0	48
135	Social Security	109	114	0	30
	Subtotal	\$2,065	\$1,907	\$6,500	\$ 484
Indirect Employee					
200	Travel/Training	646	359	4,500	0
210	Expense Allowance	0	73	1,000	51
	Subtotal	\$646	\$432	\$5,500	\$ 51
Utility Costs					
300	Electricity	29	529	0	1352
315	Telephone	2,584	2,580	12,500	5
	Subtotal	\$2,613	\$3,109	\$12,500	\$1,357
Supplies					
400	Office Supplies	1,071	0	250	0
410	Printing and Copying	0	319	750	0
415	Postage	0	0	50	0
420	Dues and Publications	0	0	750	0
470	Audio Visual/Photo Supplies	0	0	400	0
495	Miscellaneous	3,609	283	2750	0
	Subtotal	\$4,680	\$602	\$4,950	\$ 0
Maintenance					
625	Warning System Maintenance	3,307	288	1750	0
	Subtotal	\$3,307	\$288	\$1,750	\$ 0
	Total	\$13,311	\$6,338	\$31,200	\$1,892

Emergency Medical Budget

		2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	2014 Actual
Taxes					
300	General Property	3,551,590	3,551,590	3,551,590	3,551,590
	Subtotal	\$3,551,590	\$3,551,590	\$3,551,590	\$3,551,590
State Shared Revenues					
314	Fire Insurance Dues	96,363	95,375	98,000	106,308
318	Other State Aids	33,300	34,500	0	34,500
	Subtotal	\$129,663	\$129,875	\$98,000	\$140,808
State/County Grants & Aids					
327	County & Misc. Grants	0	184,123	135,000	106,320
	Subtotal	\$ 0	\$184,123	\$135,000	\$106,320
Charges for Service					
349	Miscellaneous Service Charges	31,929	28,059	30,000	32,473
	Subtotal	\$31,929	\$28,059	\$30,000	\$32,473
Public Health & Safety					
351.00	Ambulance BLS	829,953	948,798	900,000	1,037,973
351.10	Ambulance ALS	104,633	0	0	0
	Subtotal	\$934,586	\$948,798	\$900,000	\$1,037,973
Commercial Revenue					
360	Interest on Investments	0	0	0	0
368	Miscellaneous Revenue	101	0	100	0
	Subtotal	\$101	\$ 0	\$ 100	\$ 0
	Total Revenues	\$4,647,869	\$4,842,445	\$4,714,690	\$4,869,164

Goals & Objectives

Department: Fire Service

Program Description

Through Emergency Medical Services, fire operations, and fire inspections the preservation of human life is the primary responsibility of the Fire Department at fires and other emergencies, which include traffic accidents, roadway incidents, aircraft crashes, floods, windstorms, and hazardous materials emergencies. Disaster Planning is done in anticipation of large-scale emergencies, which may require response of personnel and equipment from surrounding communities.

Monthly Performance Indicators Report

In our constant effort to improve service and efficiency, we will monitor “Performance Indicators” as identified by our staff on a monthly basis by a statistical and an operation-effectiveness basis. This initiative will allow us to identify, in a timely manner, trends, which may be developing in both administrative and operational areas. These performance indicators are:

- Training/Safety
- Overtime
- Grid Activity
- Response Times
- Fire Loss/Save Ratio
- Life Safety Loss/Save Ratio
- Fire/EMS field hours
- Total incident activity

2014 Goals & Objectives

1. Continue the Station 1 reconstruction process with the key performance indicators of groundbreaking and occupancy, both within timeline and budgetary goals.
Status: The Station 1 construction project has begun; final occupancy is estimated to be in the spring of 2015.
2. Continue the accreditation process with the key performance indicators of the creation of a Standards of Cover document, 50% completion of the Self-Assessment document, and preliminary plans for a strategic plan developed with community input.
Status: The accreditation process continues to proceed. Data collection and analysis has allowed for the development of the Standards of Cover document. The self-assessment process has begun and is approximately 10-15% complete. The second strategic plan was developed and planning has begun for a community-based plan.
3. Implement an updated records management system. The Department currently utilizes FireHouse Software. The Department has agreed to test the latest version of the ProPhoenix records management software. Upon completion of comparison testing, the Department will select the software that best meets its current and future needs.
Status: The most recent and usable version of the ProPhoenix software was installed in August of 2014. Early indications are that the software will meet Department needs; full implementation may be tied to the development of a consolidated dispatch center. A goal of January 1, 2015 has been established to transfer occupancy records and test the inspection module.

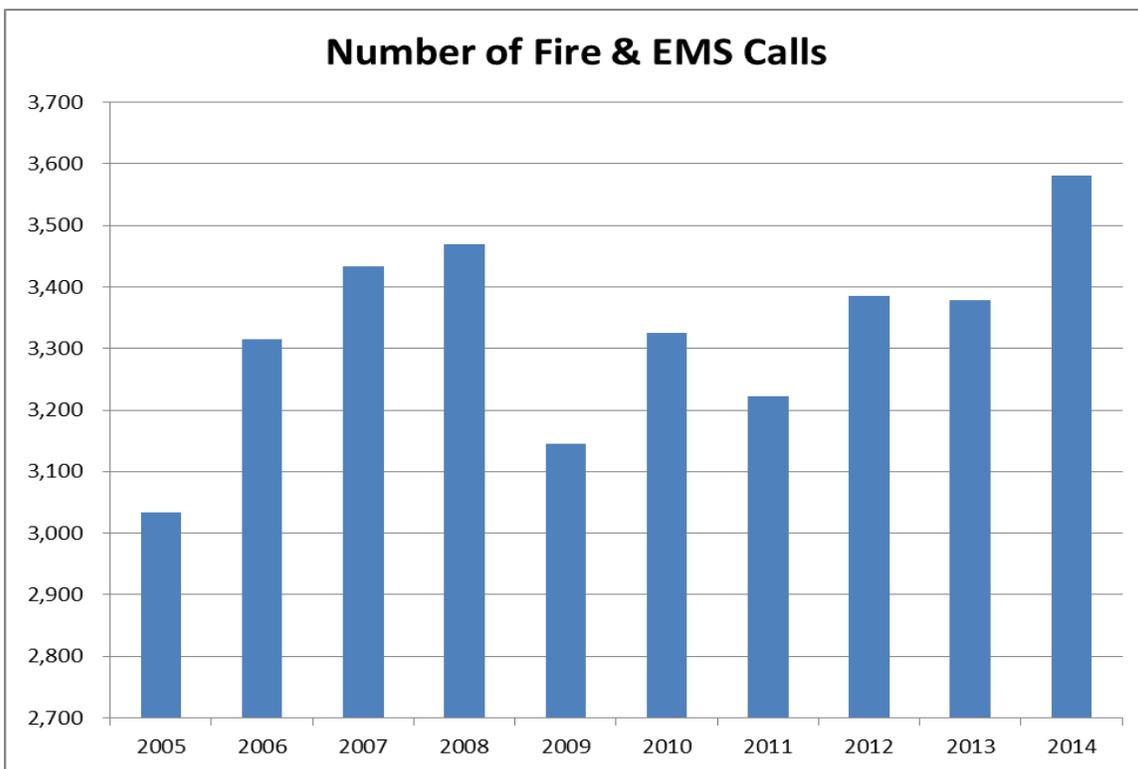
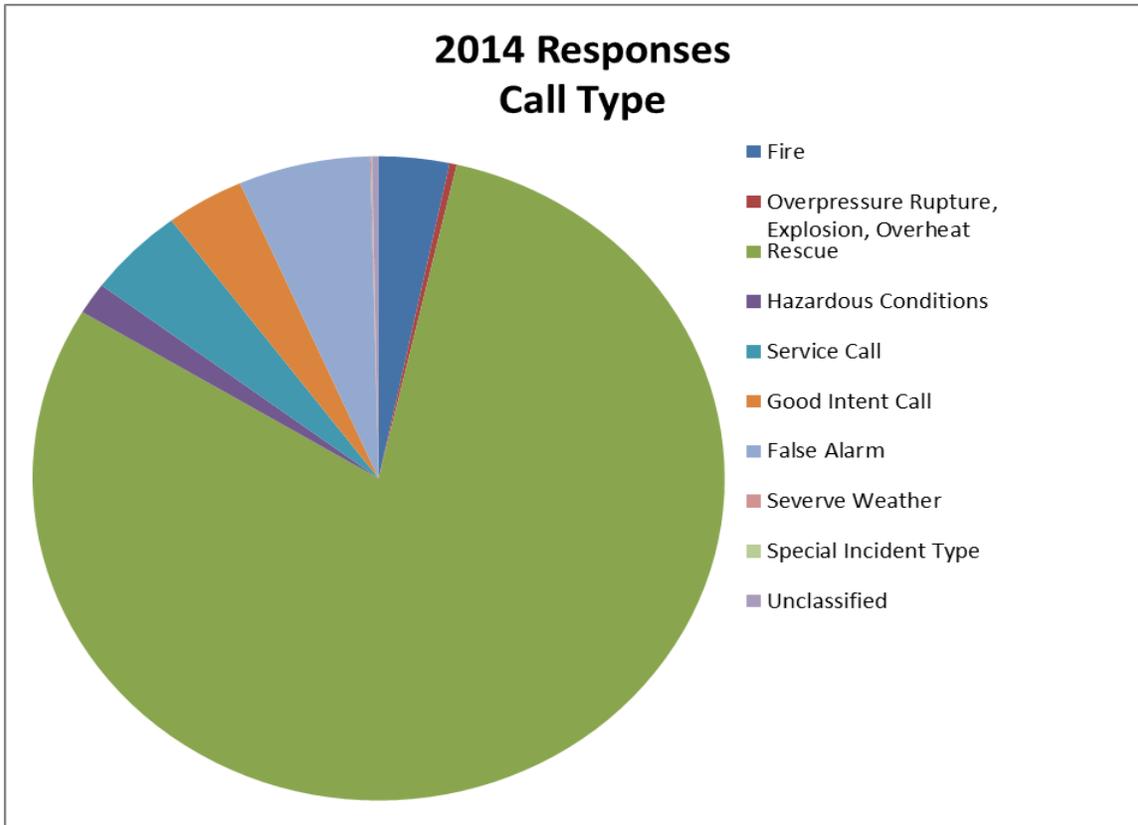
Goals & Objectives

4. Review current emergency response guidelines and adjust as necessary to insure that efficient and effective emergency services continue to be provided. Special consideration will be given to the response guidelines for Fire Station 1.

Status: Response guidelines were modified for a trial period of January 1 through June 30, 2014. The trial was successful as the Department was able to provide timely response to incidents with minimal reliance on mutual aid. Further modification, although minor in nature, are being evaluated for efficiency.

5. Implement programs to help reduce call processing and turn-out times. Specifically, the Department will install a station alerting system and implement recommended units through the CAD system. The key performance indicators for this goal include the adaption of recommended units by July of 2014 and the installation of a station alerting system by the end of 2014 and within budgetary goals.

Status: The purchase of the Locution station alerting system was approved; installation and use will coincide with the completion of the Fire Station 1 project. The Department has created recommended units to augment the station alerting system.



Fire Suppression

Program Lead: Battalion Chief Tom Jonson

The Oak Creek Fire Department responded to 118 fire-related emergencies in 2014, resulting in \$1,092,595 property loss. Most importantly, no lives were lost due to fire in 2014.

Fire-related emergencies ranged from vehicle and dumpster fires; to residential and industrial structure fires. The Department operates from three fire stations and is able to deploy two engines, one truck, and a Battalion Chief to reported structure fires. Daily staffing levels allow the Department to respond to fire calls with 13 personnel; off-duty callback and mutual aid allows our Department to supplement fire response as needed.

In addition to protecting the citizens and property within the City of Oak Creek, the Department also provides fire suppression services to neighboring communities. Response to these communities is based on agreements with participating Departments. These agreements range from standard mutual aid pacts with neighboring cities, to our MABAS agreement which is utilized for larger, more regional responses. Additionally, the Department has entered into a Shared Services agreement with the City of Milwaukee Fire Department which now allows us to share essential resources.

Nationally, studies have been performed that are shaping the future of fire suppression. These studies are helping to identify the tactics and strategies that allow departments to provide fire suppression in the most efficient and safe manner. The Oak Creek Fire Department will be utilizing information from these studies to refine current operational policies and procedures.

Emergency Medical Services

Program Lead: Assistant Chief Mike Kressuk
Support Team: Lieutenant Mike Havey Lieutenant Jerry Biggart
 Firefighter Eric Herr Firefighter Chris Mayer
 Firefighter Kevin Houk Firefighter Dan Rohde

The goal of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Bureau is to provide outstanding care to the sick and injured within our community. This dedication to outstanding care begins before we even arrive on an emergency scene; through community CPR and AED classes to pre-arrival instructions provided by our Dispatchers. On scene, our patients will be treated by practitioners trained through one of the finest EMS systems in the country –Milwaukee County EMS.

The Oak Creek Fire Department currently operates 3 Advanced Life Support (ALS) units, each staffed with two paramedics. These ALS units are the primary response units for the City of Oak Creek, each able to respond to all types of EMS requests. These units are equipped and able to provide a multitude of care options, ranging from splinting and bandaging to cardiac monitoring and the administration of medications. The Oak Creek Fire Department also responds to many EMS incidents with an Engine staffed with two paramedics or Basic Life Support (BLS) providers. These additional personnel allow us to accomplish the necessary tasks in an efficient and timely manner.

The Department responded to 2,741 EMS incidents in 2014 resulting in 2,135 patient transports. Additionally, the Department had a 12.5% save percentage for cardiac arrest patients. Over the last 5 years, the Department has achieved a 14.1% save rate. Both the annual and 5 year save numbers are above Milwaukee County and national rates.

The Department accomplished several EMS training objectives in 2014. These accomplishments include the completion of State of Wisconsin training requirements for the 2012-2014 licensing period and the designation of the Department as a Training Center for BLS level instruction. Our designation as a Training Center allows us to provide training in-house utilizing our approved instructors. Not only does this program allow for efficiencies with training schedules, but it helps to reduce associated training costs.

Program Lead: Battalion Chief Joe Pulvermacher
Support Team: Lt. Jerry Biggart (Basic Refresher)
Shift Officers

The Oak Creek Fire Department participated in several training activities and achieved two milestones in 2014. All Oak Creek firefighter's are now certified at the Firefighter II level and all firefighters routinely assigned to driver's duties are certified as Driver/Operators.

Other fire training included fire behavior (basement), live fire training time-to-task at the MATC training tower, Division 107 emergency communications, self-contained breathing apparatus review, and blitzfire review.

Emergency medical services training included National Registry Emergency Medical Services license renewal, State of Wisconsin Emergency Medical Technician license renewal, continuous Emergency Medical Technician basic refresher, significant exposure, and Flight for Life requests.

The Department has also participated in active shooter preparedness, and Fire Inspector certification. The Department hired two new firefighters in 2014 and many department members participate in their probationary training.

Members of the Department attended the following trainings: Fire Department Instructors Conference, Great Lakes Fire Accreditation sessions, paramedic seminars, forcible entry seminar, Fire-Rescue Med conference, the Wisconsin Fire Chief's Education conference, Wisconsin Arson Investigators conference, Wisconsin State Fire Inspector's conference, and the Wisconsin State Fire Chief's Association conference.

Our Battalion Chief of Training, Joe Pulvermacher, also completed the Executive Fire Officer Program (EFOP). The National Fire Academy's (NFA) EFOP provides senior fire officers with a broad perspective on various facets of fire and emergency services administration. As an EFOP student, fire service leader develop their professional development through a series of four graduate and upper-division-baccalaureate equivalent courses taken over a four-year period. Each course is two weeks in length.

The Training Bureau has many goals for 2015 with the following items noted as priorities: a better defined training schedule, an initiative for Company Officer to lead training, and seat assignment re-evaluation to include multi-occupancy, commercial, and industrial occupancies, and a transitional attack curriculum. Shared services/Division 107 Operations initiatives will be considered when developing Oak Creek Fire Department procedures.

Oak Creek Fire Department will likely have at least two recruit classes for 2015. During recruit training, new firefighter orientation provides information about operations specific to the Oak Creek Fire Department. Although qualified firefighter candidates come to the City of Oak Creek with a requisite knowledge, the variables of department operations must be covered during their initial training. The Oak Creek Fire Department's training bureau spends four weeks with new firefighters to insure that fire and EMS policies and procedures are introduced and practiced. Immunizations are verified, licenses are transferred, and rules and regulations are covered. At the end of the four-week training period, new-hires are assigned a shift and are capable of fulfilling daily firefighting functions.

The 2014 Department's training budget was impacted by purchases for the new fire station. Priorities were placed on items that could be used in the training area at the new fire station. Priorities for 2015 include a forcible entry simulator, training props to support tools and equipment that may be purchased for new Division 107 High Rise procedures. The Oak Creek Fire Department relies on multi-media for re-occurring, refresher, and make-up training. The Department would like to evaluate the expense of video editing software and equipment.

Inspection Bureau

Program Lead: Assistant Chief Mike Kressuk
Support Team: Firefighter Mike Rutz

The Oak Creek Fire Department provides fire inspection services to the community with the goal of limiting the adverse effects of fire to life and property. National, State, and Local codes provide the framework for our inspection services. The Inspection Bureau works towards the goal of minimizing the impact of fire by performing the following tasks:

1. Plan review – The Department performs plan reviews of new construction projects as well as remodeling projects for existing structures. The Department works closely with our plan reviewer, Fire Safety Consultants, Inc., to review all fire suppression and notification systems.
2. Inspections - The Department performs life safety inspections on all public buildings, places of employment, and multi-family residential structures in the City of Oak Creek. Inspections are performed twice each year as required by law. In 2014 the department conducted 2,190 life safety inspections and 18 occupancy inspections. The goal of the inspection process is to identify hazardous conditions and other code violations that increase the risk for fire and loss of life.

The Inspection Bureau is staffed with two personnel, Assistant Chief Michael Kressuk and Fire Inspector Michael Rutz. Additional inspection duties are performed by shift personnel as needed during various times of the year.

In 2014, the members of the Inspection Bureau completed several training programs including the Wisconsin Fire Inspector training program, NFPA code training, and several local conferences and seminars. The members of the Inspection Bureau are also members of the Wisconsin State Fire Inspectors Association.

Fire Investigation

Program Lead: Lieutenant Pete Olson
Other Members: Lieutenant Mike Havey
Lieutenant Aaron Kolosovsky
Fire Fighter Gary Hildebrandt
Fire Fighter John Leanna

The Fire Investigation Unit has been established to investigate the cause, origin, and circumstances of fires within our community. This program is staffed with 5 Department members and works collaboratively with investigators from the Oak Creek Police Department and neighboring fire departments. 2014 marks the first complete year for organized fire investigation activity within the Oak Creek Fire Department.

All fires within the City of Oak Creek are investigated. For many of the smaller scale incidents, these investigations are completed by a duty Lieutenant or Battalion Chief. Larger scale incidents or those deemed to be suspicious in nature are handled by the Fire Investigation Unit. In 2014, this unit investigated 11 fires.

In addition to fire scene investigation, the Unit participates in regional meetings and educational programs including the spring and fall Wisconsin International Association of Arson Investigators conferences. It is the goal of the department for each member of the Unit to receive a minimum of 20 hours of training at one of these conferences each year. The Oak Creek Fire Department also attends monthly meetings with neighboring departments and maintains a close relationship with the State Fire Marshall and Assistant District Attorney who are also in attendance at these meetings.

Education is the cornerstone of the Fire Investigation Unit; the team will work to ensure all members are trained to a minimum level of competency, including the nationally recognized FIT certification.

Fire Prevention & Public Education

Program Lead: Lieutenant Scott Kasten
Support Team: Fire Fighter Dan Rezner

The Oak Creek Fire Department's Fire Prevention and Public Education program serves the community through educational outreach within our community. In 2014, the department reached approximately 4,000 people. This outreach included Fire Prevention Week activities at each of the elementary schools, preschool fire safety visits, National Night Out activities, CPR classes, and quarterly articles in the Oak Creek Acorn. Additionally, public education was delivered through the numerous tours that visited the Department during the course of the year. Public education is a priority for the Department; our programs have been successful thanks to the efforts of all of Department personnel.

During October of 2014, Lieutenant Scott Kasten and Fire Fighter Dan Rezner visited the third grade classes in each of the elementary schools to present the department's fire safety program. As with past years, the program was well received and has helped to reduce the overall risk in our community from fire.

The Department's CPR program also had a successful year, training nearly 900 individuals in CPR and the use of automatic defibrillators. One notable program was the instruction of "Hands-Only" CPR to 570 students at Oak Creek High School. The goal of this program is to provide all students at the High School the opportunity to learn this important skill. The use of the "Hands-Only" program allows us to reach this goal through a program that is easily fit into a class schedule.

In addition to the Department's High School program, CPR training was also provided to many other groups such as businesses, medical clinics, and the general public. Department members who contributed to the success of our CPR program include Battalion Chiefs Joe Pulvermacher and Tom Jonson; Lieutenants Mike Havey, Jerry Biggart, Scott Kasten, and Pete Olson; and Fire Fighters Roger Kieffer, Laura Wing, Dave Nass, and Dan Rezner.

The efforts of those involved in the Oak Creek Fire Department's prevention and education programs has helped contribute to a community that is safe and ready to intervene to help save lives. The Department will continue to support these programs and will look for additional ways to improve the safety of our citizens.

Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance

Program Lead: Lieutenant Steve Wilding
Lieutenant Wes Schaefer
Fire Fighter Mike Rutz
Chief Mechanic Dave Barbee

Support Team: Fire Fighter Korey Luczak
Fire Fighter Brian Anderson
Fire Fighter Ian Perry

The Oak Creek Fire Department's Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance program provides the resources to ensure that the Department's operating equipment is functioning properly and safely. This group directs activities related to maintenance of vehicles, small engines, powered rescue equipment, hose, and ladders. Additionally, this group is responsible for the performance or scheduling of preventative maintenance and service testing.

Major initiatives from 2014 included the completion of ladder maintenance on Truck 1. These repairs were the results of recommendations from the 5 year service test and will help to ensure the continued safe operation of the Department's aerial. Other initiatives included the streamlining of the maintenance bureau structure to help ensure that maintenance request are handled in a timely and cost-effective manner and the implementation of a fueling system designed to reduce breakdowns and extend the life of the small engines.

The maintenance program strives to adhere to National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) standards regarding the testing and maintenance of vehicles and equipment. Through the efforts of Fire Fighter Mike Rutz and Chief Mechanic Dave Barbee, the Department was able to implement an annual vehicle safety inspection program as outlined by the NFPA. This program will contribute to the safe and reliable operation of the Oak Creek Fire Department's vehicles; benefitting the employees and the public who share the road with the Department.

Program Lead: Lieutenant Jesse Teichmiller
Support Team: Battalion Chief Joe Pulvermacher
Lieutenant Pete Olson

The Oak Creek Fire Department's Facebook page is used to communicate, educate and receive community feedback as to what is going on within the Oak Creek Fire Department. This is accomplished through pictures, with captions of calls for service, training, and community events that the department participates in. The Department's page also includes web links that direct Facebook users to web pages that educate the public on safety issues.

During 2014 the Department's Facebook page grew from 1,501 "likes" to 2,203. This was a 47% increase in the Department's social media outreach through Facebook. The Oak Creek Fire Department also has a web site linked through the City of Oak Creek's web site and they have a Twitter Account they also use to reach the community.

The goals for 2015 include development of a social media policy, increase Facebook "Fans", and to increase activity posted to the Department's page. The Department hopes to promote increased activity by purchasing window stickers, emblems for the apparatus, and table tents.

The Oak Creek Fire Department continues to pursue accreditation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). The Department is currently a *Registered Agency*, which means we have committed to the process of accreditation and are part of the CPSE network. The Department anticipates moving on to become an *Applicant Agency* late in 2015 or early 2016.

During 2014, the Department continued to develop the processes and documents necessary to become an accredited agency. Many of the processes evaluated were related to *Core Competencies*, those practices or activities that must be achieved in order to be accredited. Additionally, documentation was identified that will help determine our compliance with the many performance indicators that are part of the accreditation process. Finally, work was begun on the three formal documents required by CPSE – the *Standards of Cover*, the *Self-Assessment*, and the Strategic Plan. Both the Standards of Cover and Self-Assessment documents are being created for the first time; the Strategic Plan was revised and represents the second edition of this document.

Moving into 2015, the Department will perform a risk assessment of the community, this assessment is an integral portion of the Standards of Cover and its completion will mark a significant milestone in the accreditation process. Following the risk assessment, we anticipate the near-completion of both the Standards of Cover and Self-Assessment draft documents by the end of 2015. The Department also anticipates performing a third revision of the strategic plan starting in October of 2015.

The accreditation process has already benefitted the Oak Creek Fire Department by requiring us to closely evaluate our processes, documentation, and performance. We anticipate further benefits as we continue to work towards accredited status.



Fire Station #1
240 East Puetz Road
1973