



Annual Report
2014

EVERGREEN PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

Village of Evergreen Park

Mayor	James J. Sexton
Village Clerk	Catherine T. Aparo
Trustee	Daniel F. McKeown
Trustee	Carol E. Kyle
Trustee	Mark Marzullo
Trustee	James A. McQuillian
Trustee	Mark T. Phelan
Trustee	Mary Keane



Evergreen Park Fire Department

Fire Chief	Ronald L. Kleinhaus
Deputy Chief	Charles Ramashauskas
Asst. Fire Chief	Corey Hojek
Division of Support Services	Corey Hojek
Division of Training and Public Education	Robert Murphy III
Division of Data & Communications	Thomas Mullally
Division of Emergency Medical Services	Edward Palenik
Department Photographer	Scott Stewart

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We are extremely grateful for the support of the Mayor and Board of Trustees in approving the purchase of this new apparatus.

- **Keep the Wreath Red**
Our annual “Keep the Wreath Red” campaign to prevent fires caused by holiday decorations was a success as no fires were experienced during the holiday season.

Chief’s Report

Dear Mayor Sexton and Board of Trustees:

I am pleased to present the 2014 Annual Report for the Evergreen Park Fire Department.

The accomplishments and activities over the past year continue to serve as a testament to the dedication and hard work of our personnel.

The major highlight of this past year was the delivery of our new Engine and Ladder Truck.

We received the new Engine in May and the new Ladder truck was delivered in June.

These staggered delivery times provided our support services, data and communications and training divisions to install equipment, radios and computers and train our personnel so these vehicles could be placed into service without delay.

These state of the art vehicles are equipped with the latest safety features for the protection of our personnel and will provide them with the tools and equipment needed to provide the best possible service to our village.



- **Emergency Responses**

The fire department responded to 905 fire incidents and 1823 EMS incidents for a total of 2728 calls for service. These numbers reflect an increase of 26 responses over our 2013 totals.

Our total estimated fire loss for 2014 was **\$284,825**.

We were once again fortunate not to experience an injury or death due to fire this past year.

In addition to placing our new apparatus into service it has been a very busy and productive year.

We have taken advantage of grant funded training opportunities to send various staff chiefs and officers to classes on bulk crude oil railroad tank car fires in Colorado as well as response to terrorist bombing incidents in New Mexico, this training is completely funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security at no cost to the village.

Additional enhancements have been made to our training facility with the addition of roof simulators that allow our personnel to train on shift, saving the cost of traveling to, and paying to utilize other departments training facilities.

Through the generosity of Binny's we were given the opportunity to train on the old "Hair Post" building prior to its demolition. This training on acquired structures provides valuable training to our as well as our mutual aid partners in search, rescue, ventilation and hose line operations.

As I have stated in the past, the accomplishments of our department on an annual basis are only possible through the hard work and dedication of our personnel. I could not be prouder of the work they do on a daily basis to serve the residents of our village.

In closing, I would like to thank the Mayor and Board of Trustees for your continued support throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Kleinhaus
Fire Chief



Division of Training

Division Chief Robert Murphy
Division Chief Peter Vassios

The Division of Training is responsible for the development and implementation of our departments training programs. All fire department training is conducted in accordance with the guidelines established by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Annual training programs conducted by the division of training include:

- Apprentice Firefighter
- Daily Shift
- Officer
- Apparatus Operator
- Hazardous Materials
- Mutual aid
- Incident Management







In May we conducted our 7th annual Kid's Health Fair. This event, co-sponsored by Little Co. of Mary Hospital, brought together community organizations concerned with the health and well being of our children and has become one of the most anticipated events we conduct.

In September we conducted our 1st Senior Health Fair, modeled after the Kid's Health Fair this event brought in organizations concerned with the well being our village senior citizens, we plan on making this an annual event as well.

Division of Public Education

Division Chief Robert Murphy
Captain Donald Huenecke
Lieutenant Edward Dunne

Our department's public education division continues to provide one of the most comprehensive fire prevention programs in the suburbs. Our programs are offered in a variety of formats including;

- 3rd Grade Learn Not to Burn Classes
- 4th Grade Risk Watch Classes
- Safety Trailer Classes
- School Fire Drills
- Fire Department Open House
- Community Health Fairs
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Infant Car Seat Checks
- Block Parties
- Fire Station Tours
- Seasonal Press Releases





Fire Cause and Origin Investigations

Division Chief Robert Murphy
Captain Donald Huenecke
Lieutenant Daniel Ellis
Investogaotr/Photographer Scott Stewart

Our departments cause and origin investigators are certified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Our investigators conduct fire cause and origin investigations on all fires, in the event of a suspicious fire, information, photographs and evidence is turned over to the detective division of the Evergreen Park Police for further investigation.

In order to maintain their certifications our investigators attend annual training seminars on investigating fires caused by electrical equipment, appliances and flammable liquids.

Additionally, our investigators are members of the MABAS Division #21 Cause and Origin Team. This team, made up of investigators from fire departments within our MABAS Division, can be called to assist with major fire investigations throughout our division.

This past year our investigators responded to 14 requests for assistance from area fire departments.



Division of Support Services

Division of Vehicle Maintenance

Assistant Chief Corey Hojek

The Division of Support Services is responsible for researching, purchasing and maintaining all fire department equipment, protective clothing and supplies.

The Division of Vehicle Maintenance is responsible for conducting preventative maintenance and repairs to all fire department apparatus and equipment.

Additionally, whenever possible and cost effective, personnel perform minor building maintenance and repairs in and around the fire station.

Over the past year the Support Services and Vehicle Maintenance divisions have completed the installation of all tools and equipment on our new apparatus.

Additionally, the Support Services division was instrumental in working on the enhancements to our department training facility.





Division of Emergency Medical Services

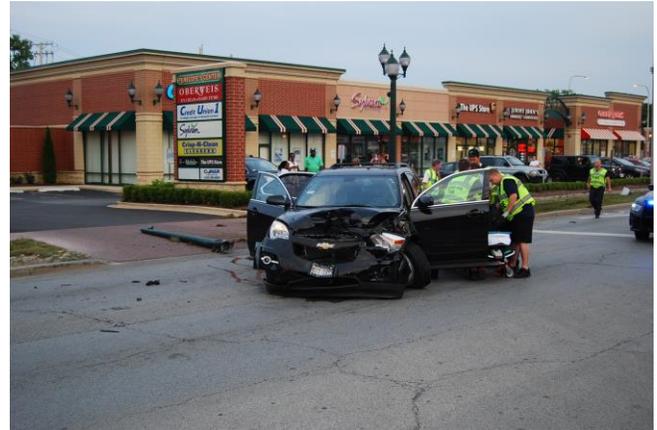
Lt. Edward Palenik

Our paramedics are licensed by the state of Illinois and work under Standing Medical Orders developed by the South Cook County Emergency Medical Services System located at Ingalls Memorial Hospital.

Our department EMS Coordinator is a member of the South Cook County and Advocate Christ EMS Advisory Committees.

In addition to emergency responses our paramedics participate in the following activities throughout the year;

- Mandated continuing education
- Community Health Fairs
- CPR and first aid training for the community
- Senior Citizens weekly blood pressure screening
- Area hospital training and meetings





Division of Data and Communications

Division Chief Thomas Mullally
Engineer William Runowski

The data and communications division is responsible for maintaining all department radio and computer equipment as well as the equipment utilized in the village emergency operating centers.

This past year additional upgrades were made to our apparatus mobile data terminals the enabled them to receive more detailed information from our dispatch center.

We upgraded our department paging system to enhance the information sent via our alpha paging and E-Dispatch systems.

New emergency weather alert radios were received from the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management agency for the fire station.

Emergency Management

We continue to work closely with the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and Illinois Emergency Management Agency on issues pertaining to local emergency management.

This past year the Cook County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency completed the task of developing the county-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan. Staffs from the fire department, public works and village hall all contributed to the completion of the village annex to the plan that was adopted by the board of trustees. The adoption of this plan and village annex will enable the village to apply for federal assistance in the event of a disaster.

Staffs from the fire department and village hall developed and completed the village Continuity of Operations Plan which dictates the procedures to continue vital village services and functions in the event the village hall is unusable due to a disaster.

In cooperation with the Cook County Department of Public Health, the village has partnered with the Villages of Oak Lawn and Chicago Ridge to develop a Local Mass Dispensing and Vaccination Plan in the event of a public health emergency. The plan has been completed and table top and full scale exercises have been scheduled for February of 2015. Once the exercises have been completed the plan will be presented to the board for adoption.





Emergency Responses

The fire department responded to the following structure fires within the village this past year;

January 7, 2014 04:18 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 3601 W. 95th St.
 Estimated damage: \$70,000

February 2, 2014 10:06 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 9710 S. Kedzie Ave.
 Estimated damage: \$50.00

March 30, 2014 08:13 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 8924 S. Sacramento Ave. Ave.
 Estimated Damage: \$500.00

April 7, 2014 09:30 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 2855 W. 95th St.
 Estimated Damage: \$50.00

April 18, 2014 14:01 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 8700 S. Western Ave.
 Estimated Damage: \$1000.00

April 20, 2014 15:55 hrs.
 Garage Fire
 2920 W. 101st Pl.
 Estimated Damage: \$15,000

April 26, 2014
 Structure Fire
 8945 S. Sacramento Ave.
 Estimated Damage: \$11,000

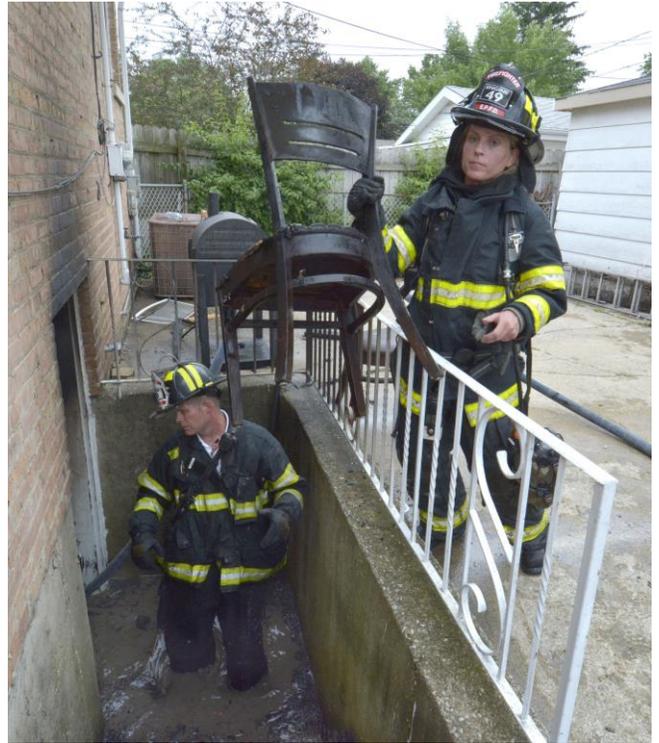
May 22, 2014 16:49 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 8700 S. Western Ave.
 Estimated Damage: \$10,000

June 23, 2014 12:17 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 9429 S. Utica Ave.
 Estimated Damage: \$45,000

September 15, 2014 01:16 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 2925 W. 99th Pl.
 Estimated Damage: \$125,000

November 27, 2014 14:24 hrs.
 Structure Fire
 9300 S. Albany Ave.
 Estimated Damage: \$500







MABAS Responses

The Evergreen Park Fire Department is a member of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS). Since its inception in the 1970's the MABAS organization has expanded to over 100 divisions, comprised of fire departments throughout the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri and Indiana.

In the event of major emergencies, MABAS provides for a systematic response of fire department resources to a stricken community.

Through our MABAS agreement, the Evergreen Park Fire Department responded to the following emergencies in 2014:

January 11, 2014 05:22 hrs.
Structure Fire
8904 S. 55th Ct.
Oak Lawn

January 11, 2014 16:54 hrs.
Structure Fire
8920 W. 99th St.
Palos Hills



January 21, 2014 14:26 hrs.
Structure Fire
4105 W. 93rd St.
Oak Lawn

January 22, 2014 23:57 hrs.
Structure Fire
9035 S. Harlem
Bridgeview

January 26, 2014 11:38 hrs.
Structure Fire
5132 W. 101st St.
Oak Lawn

February 5, 2014 03:49 hrs.
Structure Fire
10009 S. 52nd Ave.
Oak Lawn





March 7, 2014 17:56 hrs.
Structure Fire
8640 S. Laporte Ave.
Burbank

April 12, 2014 18:45 hrs.
Structure Fire
4956 W. 85th St.
Burbank

April 23, 2014 20:23 hrs.
Structure Fire
7101 W. 71st St.
Bridgeview

April 26, 2014 02:08 hrs.
9745 S. Karlov Ave.
Oak Lawn

May 27, 2014 04:46 hrs.
Structure Fire
4857 W. 96th St.
Oak Lawn

July 14, 2014 02:35 hrs.
Structure Fire
8005 S. Natchez Ave.
Burbank

February 8, 2014 02:51 hrs.
Structure Fire
10124 S. Lawrence Ct.
Oak Lawn

February 10, 2014 14:51 hrs.
Structure Fire
9501 S. Kolin Ave.
Oak Lawn

February 17, 2014 12:47 hrs.
Structure Fire
4727 W. 89th Pl.
Hometown

February 26, 2014 05:20 hrs.
Structure Fire
9809 S. 51st Ave.
Oak Lawn

July 15, 2014 00:19 hrs.
Structure Fire
8315 S. 78th Ave.
Bridgeview



August 5, 2014 21:23 hrs.
Structure Fire
6500 S. Archer Rd.
Bedford Park



August 6, 2014 06:34 hrs.
Structure Fire
7201 W. 65th St.
Bedford Park

August 23, 2014 13:40 hrs.
Structure Fire
10605 S. Kolmar Ave.
Oak Lawn

October 16, 2014 02:27 hrs.
Structure Fire
11020 S. Deblin Ln.
Oak Lawn



November 5, 2015 00:14 hrs.
Structure Fire
8601 S. Major Ave.
Burbank

November 30, 2014 19:26 hrs.
Structure Fire
5940 W. 79th St.
Burbank





Fire Department Club Activities

Through their annual fundraiser, the firefighter's club purchases equipment for the fire department, supports local charities and organizations and continues to support our military personnel.

Over the past year our members have contributed to;

- Project Wounded Warrior
- Benefits held for local residents
- Proceeds from this year's fundraiser were used for improvements at our fire department's training facility.
- Purchased tools and equipment for the fire department
- Illinois Fire Chiefs Educational and Research Foundation to fund scholarships for firefighters