



CITY OF DANBURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
19 NEW STREET
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

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FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department. This report covers the period of 21 March through 21 April 2010 and details activities of the Department.

At this time of the year we are seeing more of our citizens outdoors. With this comes the risk of accidents and injuries. These include sports and recreational related injuries. We urge everyone to use precautions such as helmets when bicycling or playing baseball. Another risk as well is potential injuries due to exertion from gardening and landscaping. Remember to pace yourselves when working in the garden as over doing physical activity such as digging and shoveling mulch now can be as dangerous as shoveling snow. This can result in cardiac related injuries.

When using grills and outdoor cookers for the first time this season be sure to check hoses and piping for wear or damage due to storage or mice. Carefully check these devices and repair them as necessary before igniting them. And remember to use any such devices away from structures should there be a failure or gas leak.

When using charcoal and lighter fluid, please follow all manufacturer suggested practices and never add fluid to an already ignited fire. Flash back and subsequent injury can be devastating. Should you have any questions regarding the safe use of these or other devices, please contact the office of the Fire Marshal at 203-796-1541. Enjoy the warming weather and the wonderful New England springtime!

PUBLIC EDUCATION/PREVENTION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

The following pre-incident tours and reviews were conducted this period:

New construction at 80 West St., Children and Family Aid building, rooftop heating and ventilation units at PD., 172-192 Main St., former Amphenol building on East Franklin St., Berkshire Shopping Center, Plumtrees Plaza, 39-B Mill Plain Road., City Hangar on Miry Brook Road, Tarrywile Park, wilderness access with Gator, Wooster Manor, The Village at Timber Oaks, Long Ridge, Brushy Hill, Old Lantern, Worden Rd., vacant/abandoned daycare center on E. Pembroke Rd., condos under construction between Cleveland St. and Osborne St., Circle Dr. in Aqua Vista, 317 Main St.

Public relations: Department members participated in the annual Police vs. Fire Hockey game on 3 April. The event was a great success. Attendance was very good and a significant amount was raised for the various charities. Although the victory went to the police, the game was well fought. We expect the rematch next year will be equally entertaining.

Public education: On 31 March the Truck Company attended Hudson Montessori School. While there the company presented a talk on fire safety. The audience was 80 preschoolers and the aerial truck was quite the center of interest.

RECRUITMENT

The city will test for the department this summer. A recruitment team was established earlier this year. Members of the team have spent a considerable amount of time attending events through out the region. This effort is to inform attendees and elicit interest in a career in the Danbury Fire Department. Some of these events are listed below.

- 24 February U-Conn Careers for the Common Good
- 29 March - Naugatuck Valley Community College Career Fair
- 30 March - Ethan Allen Inn job fair
- 7 April WCSU Career Fair
- 8 April- Central CT State University career fair
- University of New Haven

Donations:

\$50.00 from Rhonda from Andrew Smith of Danbury

Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA)

The department has again received a very generous donation under the State NAA from Bedoukian Research Inc. This funding will be used to train members in technical rescue.

SUPPRESSION/RESPONSE ACTIVITIES OF NOTE

On 6 April the department was requested through mutual aid to respond to 30 Church St. in Redding. This was a request for response of our DECON Trailer to assist in an incident involving possible contamination of individuals exposed to an unknown substance while opening mail. 3 Hazmat Technicians were assigned to the response. Once on scene, they reported to the incident commander and were directed to assist the potential victims. They were able to self decontaminate using the trailer facilities. Local police and fire as well as the FBI and DEP were involved in this incident. The product was eventually identified as chalk. Thankfully, there were no injuries. The incident serves to show how we may be called to respond beyond the daily routines.

On 6 April multiple units responded to 4 Eustis Rd. and subsequently Danbury Hospital. This involved an unfortunate accident involving a man operating a small tractor pay loader. The tractor had rolled over, pinning the operator under the steering wheel. Squad 23 and E24 immediately positioned air bags and lifted the weight of the tractor off the victim. A trauma code was called and lifesaving attempts were made by EMS and FD personnel. Sadly, the man could not be revived. While pinned under the tractor, the victim was saturated with diesel fuel pouring from the tank. After the victim was transported to the ED of Danbury Hospital, a nurse was overcome by vapors. Hospital EMS and Security personnel quickly addressed the situation by evacuating part of the Emergency Department and moving the nurse to the outdoors. Fire units were requested to assist with ventilation and metering. No readings were produced while sampling and no further health effects were reported.

Command and Staff Activities

- Health and safety meeting
- Freedom of Information seminar
- Chamber of commerce Leadership Danbury
- Salvation Army breakfast
- State Fire Education Committee
- Connecticut Career Chiefs
- HSE Fire Equipment
- Mayors' Facility Task Force
- Grant writing workshop
- Region 5 ESF 4 meeting

Emergency Medical/ Haz-Mat - Rey Rodriguez

This month EMS Wednesday covered Shock and Bleeding. Proper handling of these issues can have an immediate and positive effect on patient outcomes. The continuing medical education (CME) offered through Danbury Hospital this month for EMT I's and Paramedics was advanced bomb blast injuries.

The first quarter Haz Mat Thursday presentation is complete. This program reviewed roles and responsibilities of the various personnel responding to and dealing with hazardous material responses. Any such incident will result in a multi agency

response and understanding the interplay of these agencies is a key to a successful outcome. Note the response described above.

Communcations/911 - Patrick Sniffin

Training: 10 members are scheduled to attend one of two State of Connecticut Basic Telecommunicator Training sessions. One session will be held at the Berlin Community Center from 10 May to 18 May^h. A second group will be hosted by the Woodbridge Fire Department. In this required certification course our firefighters will be trained as dispatchers by studying various subjects associated with emergency dispatch. This comprises Telephone Techniques, Broadcast Guidelines, Liability Issues and other material relating to emergency dispatch.

All of these members currently hold Emergency Medical Dispatch credentials and this step will allow the department to fully certify them as a 911 Telecommunicator. At the completion of their formal and hands on training, the department will have 74 members available to dispatch. Due to budget issues being faced by the state the cost of printing student manuals is being passed onto the department but the tuition for the training is still paid by the Office of Statewide Telecommunications Training.

Hardware: 10 Portable radios were recently sent to radio repair for evaluation of repair. An additional 9 radios will be sent when these are returned. It is important to note that these radios were originally purchased in 2001 and the repairs needed are related to general wear and tear. Due to the age however we are looking to begin a small scale systematic replacement of older units as needed. These radios have been extremely dependable in harsh conditions.

Training - Mark Omasta

Career Division

Stand pipe Drill

WCSU allowed us to conduct drills at the Grasso Hall dorm during spring break. We worked with high rise packs, and pumped into the standpipe system.

Aerial Operator Certification class

The CT Fire Academy presented the new 6 day Aerial Operator Certification class over two weeks in early April. 16 Fire fighters completed the course and a written test is scheduled for the end of the month.

Haz Mat Awareness/Operations Train the Trainer

The training officer and EMS Coordinator attended the CT Fire Academy for the 32 hour introduction to the new NFPA 472 Standard for Haz Mat Awareness/Operations/WMD. This is a new (2009) requirement for new students to gain their Firefighter 1 certification (and adds 80 hours to the FF1 course).

Incidents

The Training Officer was called as Safety officer to a Structure Fire at Cartus on Apple Ridge Road.

Fire School

The Fire School remains active with Firefighter 1 classes and the surrounding towns utilize the school for live fire training. Our volunteers from Engines 3, 4, and 10 used the facilities this month. The NVCC Fire Investigation class did some field work at the facility.

Volunteer Division

The Firefighter 1 class is about three quarters completed. April is dedicated to Haz Mat training to meet the new NFPA standard. Crews from Padanaram Hose, Independent Hose, Citizen's Hose, Waterwitch and King St. provided crews and equipment for some of the practical evolutions.

Quarterly

We provided a make-up class at the end of March for First quarter training. 105 volunteers participated in the quarterly drills.

Meetings/ events for the T.O.:

- Took the EMT-B recertification exam on March 30
- Attended the Health/Safety meeting on March 22
- Attended the Police/Fire benefit Hockey game on April 3
- Attended Crew meetings for C group April 5, D group April 12
- Attended the Health/Safety meeting on March 22
- Attended the wedding reception for Firefighter Adam Horosky on March 17
- Attended the staff meeting with B group on April 20
- Attended the CME at Danbury Hospital on March 23

Apparatus/Equipment - Joe Cavo

Once again the apparatus division has been very busy. A new LEL sensor for the E-26 meter was ordered and the other department meters have been calibrated. Truck-1 sustained damage to the waterway at the fire on Crosby St. We received installed and tested the new waterway sections. Since then, Truck-1 has been removed from service and delivered to Firematic Supply in Rocky Hill for long over due body repairs. This is a critical piece of Apparatus that is hard to part with at any time. We are hoping to have it back in service within a month. The division worked with Communications Supervisor Pat Sniffin to upgrade the modems in some of our Apparatus.

On the directive of the Chief, the division has initiated an air pack assessment and inventory assignment. We have gathered all the necessary information and will be formalizing a report and forwarding it to the Chiefs' office in May.

Other repairs completed:

- replaced the modems in Truck-1, Truck-2 and E-22
- rebuilt the air horns in E-26
- repaired the Hurst Ram on E-24
- repaired E-21's deck gun

- Serviced several staff vehicles
- replaced two tires on Truck-2
- replaced the PTO hydraulic lines on Truck-1
- removed E-24's drivers' seat and had it recovered
- replaced the damaged section of waterway on Truck-1
- replaced the Vernier throttle control in E-24
- removed and rebuilt the Hurst tool reels (2) on E-22
- fabricated and installed two pike pole holders for E-21
- inspected and adjusted the brakes on Truck-2

Fire Marshal - James Johnson

The fire Marshals' continue to find illegal occupancies thru UNIT inspections, and public reports. There were 3 inspections for unsafe occupancy (basement/attic) this period and all situations have been resolved. Division members completed 18 hours of continuing education for annual Fire Marshal Certification.

FM Johnson and DFM Leach attended a meeting with State Officials for a regionalized training program for the Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program. We also attended a meeting for the Fairfield County Safe Kids Program in conjunction with Ct. Children's medical Center. FM Johnson and DFM Russell met with school officials concerning reorganization issues.

The office investigated only one serious fire this period. Thankfully, I am happy to report there were no injuries.

Department Statistical Reports

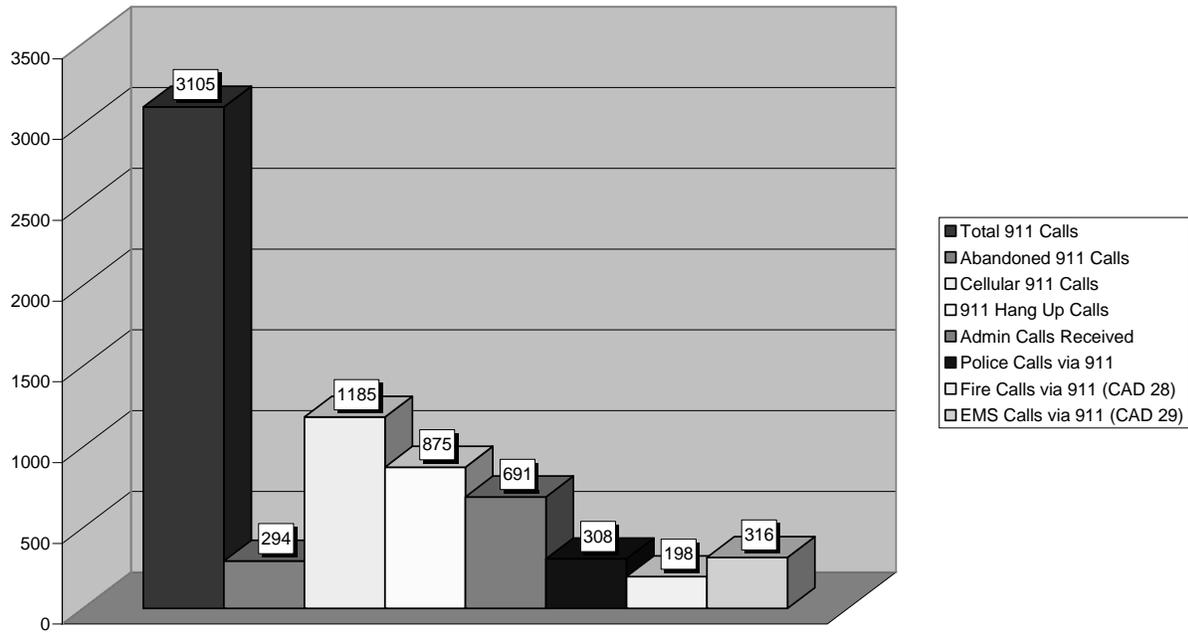
Abatements/Reports (hrs):	125	Place of Assembly:	19
Issued in Fire Zones:	4	Educational:	15
Fire Investigations:	13	Business:	29
Fatal Fires:	0	Storage:	2
Liquor Inspections:	9	Health Care:	3
Blasting Permits:	2	Industrial:	2
Complaints	37**	Mercantile:	67
Plan Review (hrs)	86	Residential Board & Care:	0
Fire Prevention Prgs.	2	Hotel (units):	80
Orders of Abatement:	2	Apartments:	115
** Resolved or in the process of being resolved.		Rooming Houses:	1
Some of these complaints were thru and with the UNIT.		Day Care:	4
		Misc. Inspections	52
		Special Structures:	2
		Office Duty (hrs):	175
		Burn Permits	2
		Service Stations	8

Monthly Breakdown NFIRS Ver 5.0 Coding	
Fires (100-173)	19
Overpressure Rupture - No Fire (200-251)	1
Rescue/EMS (300-381)	335
Hazardous Condition (400-482)	28
Service Call (500-571)	112
Good Intent Calls (600-671)	72
False Alarm/False Calls (700-746)	53
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster (800-815)	0
Special Incident Type (900-911)	0
No Report/Incomplete	11
Total Fire Responses	631
E911 Statistics	
Total 911 Calls	3105
Abandoned 911 Calls	294
Cellular 911 Calls	1185
911 Hang Up Calls	875
Admin Calls Received	691
Police Calls via 911	308
Fire Calls via 911 (CAD 28)	198
EMS Calls via 911 (CAD 29)	316
Daily Average	115.00
Dispatch Incident Statistics	
Total Fire Responses	631
Total EMS Responses	712
Unknown Transport Status	0
ALS Patient (CAD 60)	299
BLS Patient (CAD 61)	299
No Patient (CAD 62)	114
EMS Mutual Aide Requests (CAD 80)	1
EMS Calls Passed to Backup (CAD 81)	30

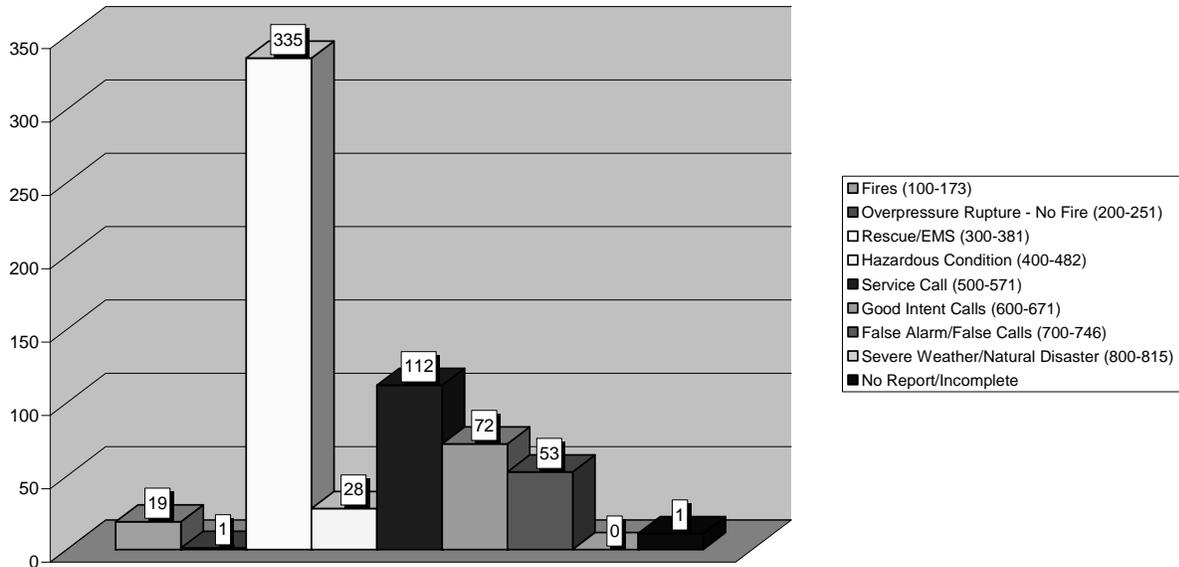
**** NOTE ****

Multiple 911 Calls received for Fire And EMS
Incidents are attached to Fire Incident Reports

**911 Center Activity
March 22 to April 20, 2010**



**Fire Response Breakdown
March 22 to April 20, 2010**



Dates of Importance

Memorial Day parade 31 May