



Bloomfield Township Fire Department
Annual Report
2024



Mission Statement

“The mission of the Bloomfield Township Fire Department is to protect lives, property, and the environment through prompt, skillful, innovative fire and life safety services with compassion and respect.”

Chief's Report



As 2024 ends, I am honored to reflect on another remarkable year for the Bloomfield Township Fire Department. The year 2024 was one of change, resilience, and continued growth as we navigated the unexpected while remaining steadfast in our commitment to deliver exceptional service to our community.

One of the most significant initiatives this year was the commencement of a space needs analysis for Fire Station 3, an essential first step toward its potential replacement. Originally constructed in 1959 and last renovated in 1978, Station 3 no longer meets the functional demands of a modern Fire Department. This analysis will guide the future of this critical facility to ensure it aligns with the evolving needs of our personnel and the community.

To improve operational efficiency and enhance responder safety, Bryx Station Alerting was installed in all fire stations. This advanced system enables safer, faster, and more reliable notifications for emergency incidents, supporting our goal of delivering timely and effective response.

A major milestone in 2024 was the successful upgrade of our Emergency Operations Center (EOC). These enhancements now position us to manage any emergency event with greater efficiency and coordination. The upgrades include new position-specific computers, improved radios and antenna systems for clearer communication, upgraded cell phone connectivity, and integrated audio-visual capabilities for collaboration with other Operations Centers across Michigan. These critical improvements were made possible through a generous grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the support of Former Representative Levin.

Chief's Report

(Continued)



This year also marked a significant transition in leadership, as we said farewell to several esteemed members of our Department. Assistant Chief DeRousse, Fire Marshal Vlahos, Operations Officer Cardinale, and Lieutenant/Inspector Morin all retired, collectively taking over 90 years of invaluable experience with them. Their contributions helped shape our department into what it is today, and their presence will be deeply missed.

Despite these departures, we welcomed an exciting addition to our emergency response capabilities: Squad 1, a new Sutphen heavy rescue apparatus. After a three-year wait, this advanced unit was delivered and is now fully operational. Made possible largely through funding from the State of Michigan and the instrumental support of Former State Representative Manoogian, Squad 1 is equipped to respond to a wide range of specialized incidents, including structure fires, hazardous materials events, vehicle extrications, trench rescues, building collapses, confined space emergencies, and rope rescues. This apparatus will be a cornerstone of our emergency response for decades to come.

As we look back on 2024, we do so with pride in what we have accomplished and confidence in our direction moving forward. The Bloomfield Township Fire Department remains dedicated to excellence, innovation, and above all, serving our community with honor and integrity.

Respectfully submitted,

John LeRoy
Fire Chief
Bloomfield Township Fire Department

Squad 1 Photos



Administration Staff



Fire Chief
John LeRoy
23 Years



Assistant Fire Chief
Matthew Derousse
25 Years



Operations Officer
Kevin Cardinale
28 Years



EMS Captain
Michael Sova
15 Years



Administrative Assistant
Kelly Lagarde
3 Years FD
23 Years Township

Fire Prevention Division



Fire Marshal
Peter Vlahos
27 years



Lt. Fire Inspector
Joe Syracuse
24 Years



Lt. Fire Inspector
Ryan Morin
10 Years



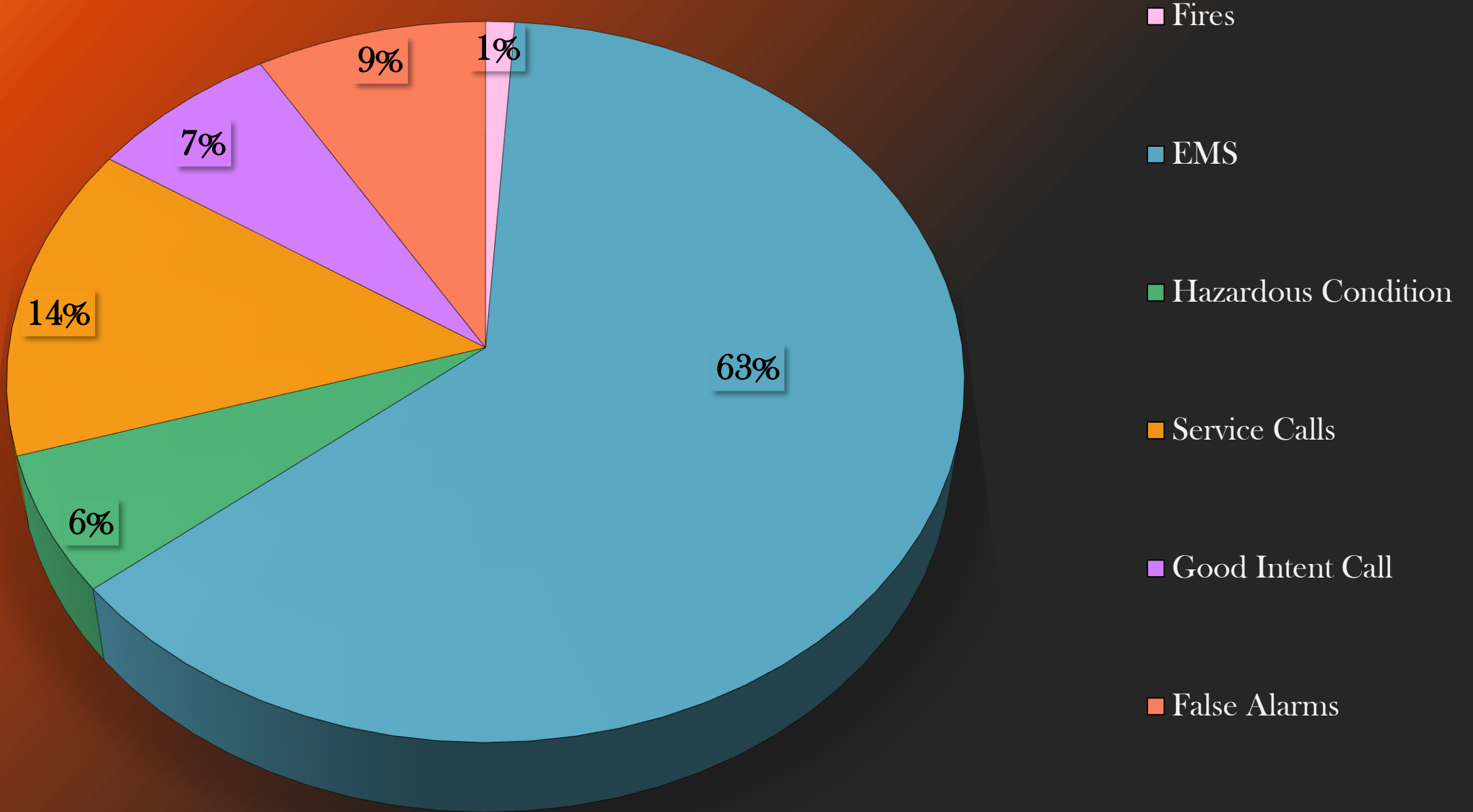
Organizational Chart



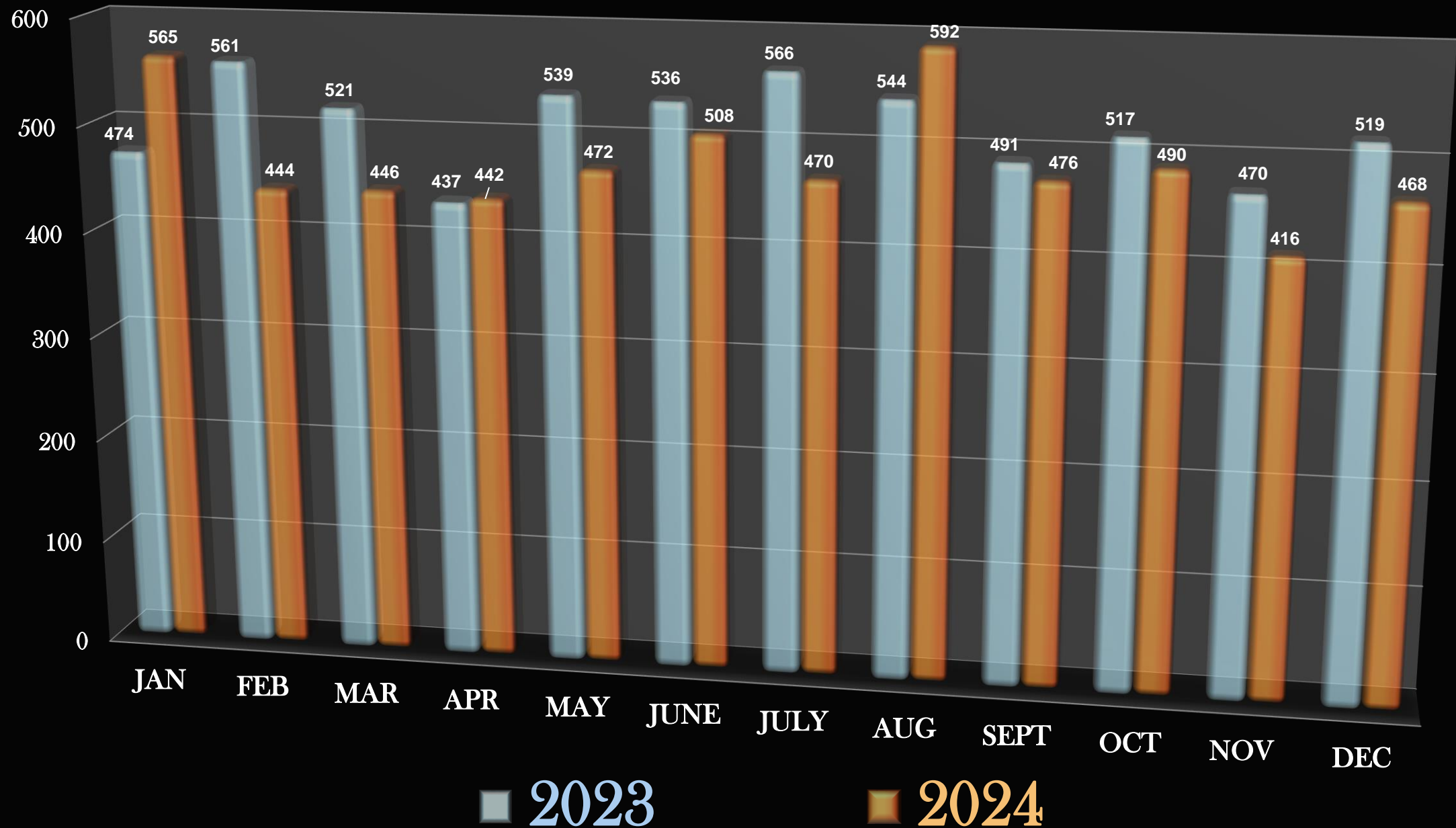
Incident Type Breakdown

Incident Type	Incident Count
Fires	60
EMS Related	3,642
Hazardous Condition (Fuel Spills, Power Line, Carbon Monoxide)	357
Service Call (Citizen Assist, Police Assist, Public Service)	818
Good Intent (Canceled En Route, Smoke Scare, No Incident Found)	424
Fire Alarms	494
Total	5,795

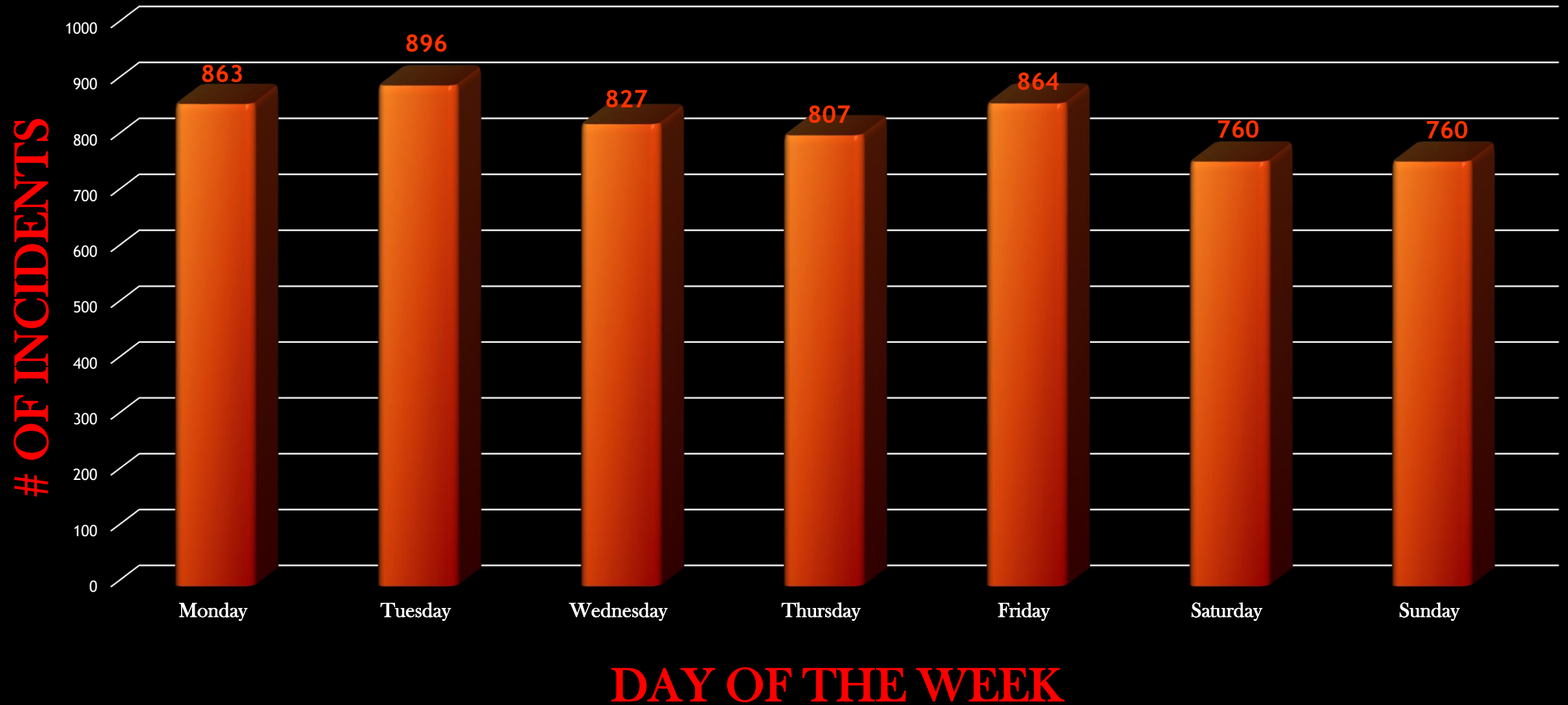
Incident Types



2024/2023 Month to Month Comparison

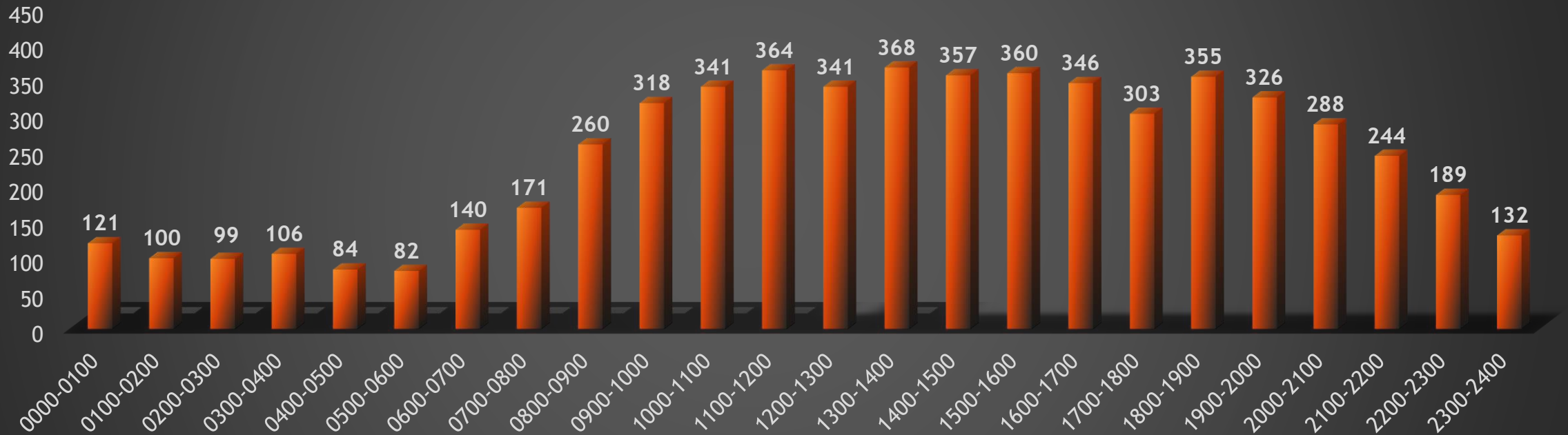


INCIDENT BY DAY OF WEEK



Incident/Time of Day Breakdown

OF INCIDENTS



TIME OF DAY


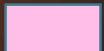
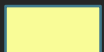
Number of Concurrent Incidents		YTD	Percentage
1 INCIDENT OCCURRING		3353	57.86%
2 INCIDENTS OCCURRING AT SAME TIME		1489	42.14%
3 INCIDENTS OCCURRING AT SAME TIME		620	
4 INCIDENTS OCCURRING AT SAME TIME		191	
5 INCIDENTS OCCURRING AT SAME TIME		68	
6 INCIDENTS OCCURRING AT SAME TIME		26	
7+ INCIDENTS OCCURRING AT SAME TIME		48	
42.14%	OF THE TIME THIS YEAR THE BTFD IS ON MULTIPLE CALLS FOR SERVICE AT THE SAME TIME!		
Concurrent Runs		2442	
Total Runs		5795	

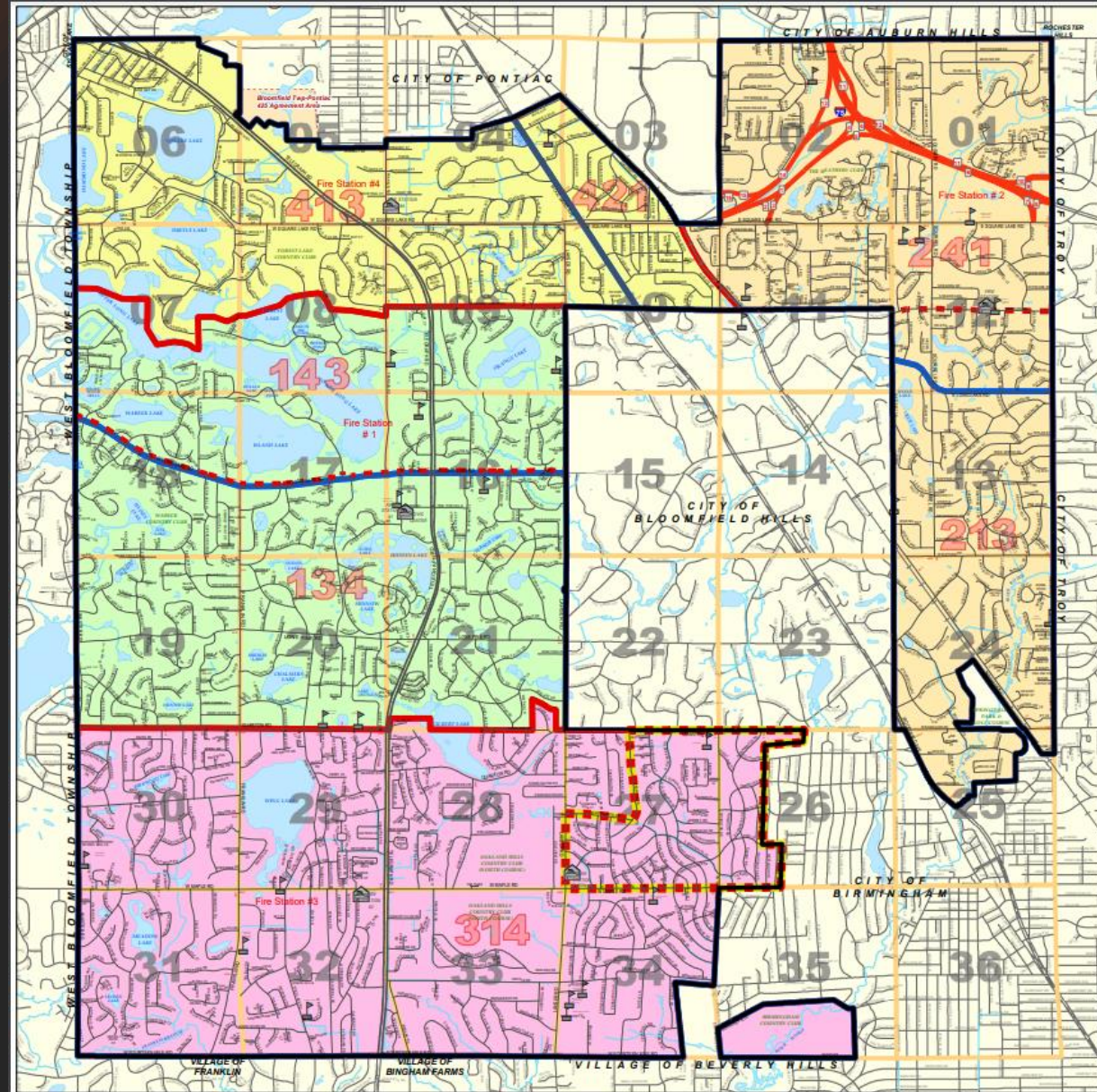
OAKWAY Mutual Aid Partners





Station Response Area

-  Station 1
-  Station 2
-  Station 3
-  Station 4



Station 1- Central Fire

1155 Exeter Road



1097 Total Incidents
497 Fires / Other
600 Medicals

Station Information

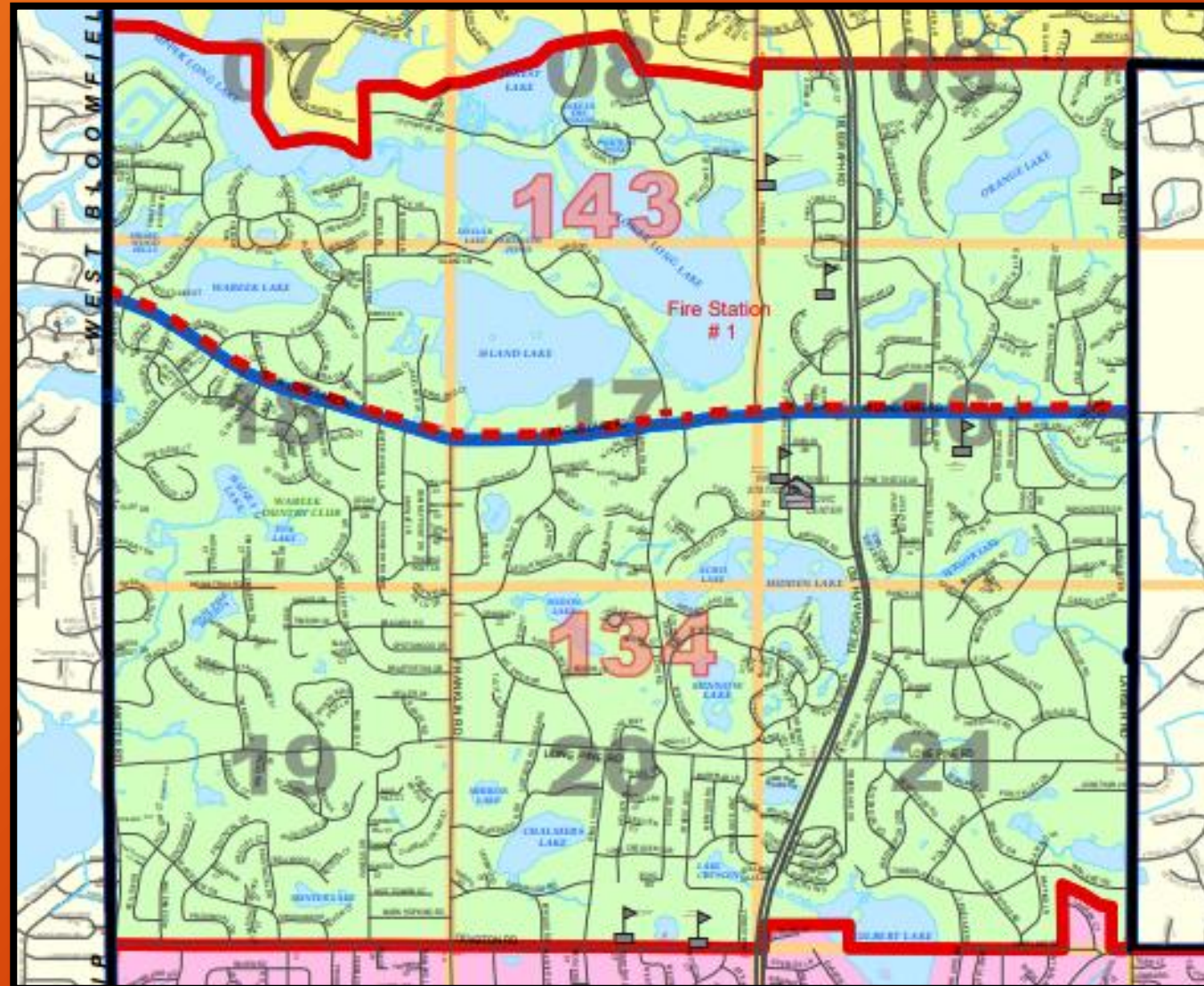
Station 1

Central Fire (Station 1) is at 1155 Exeter Road, in Bloomfield Township's Municipal Government Complex. It houses Battalion 1 Incident Command, a Paramedic Ladder Truck, a Paramedic Rescue Truck, a Water Rescue Boat, Squad 1 Heavy Rescue, and two utility vehicles.

Station 1 serves a primarily residential area in the heart of Bloomfield Township. In addition to residences, Central Fire Station protects many well-known structures such as Wabeek Country Club, Kirk in the Hills, and the Bloomfield Township Library. Station 1 also protects several condo complexes, some light mercantile, and the major thoroughfare of Telegraph Road.

Station 1 is staffed with a Battalion Chief, Lieutenant/Paramedic, and 1-5 additional Firefighters/Paramedics/EMTs. The fire department's administrative staff is also located at this station, including the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, Operations Officer, EMS Coordinator, two Fire Inspectors, and an Administrative Assistant.

Station 1 Response Area



Station 2

1063 Westview Road



1487 Total Incidents
574 Fires / Others
913 Medicals

Station Information

Station 2

Fire Station 2 is located at 1063 Westview, on the Township's northeast side. This fire station houses a Paramedic Engine and a Paramedic Rescue to protect its district. A Lieutenant/Paramedic and three Firefighter/ Paramedic/EMTs are assigned to this fire station.

Station 2 protects residential areas, light mercantile areas, and the major thoroughfares of I-75, Woodward Avenue, and Square Lake Road. Some notable buildings protected by Station 2 are the International Academy, Bowers School Farm, Academy of the Sacred Heart, and SKLD Nursing Facility.

Station 2 Response Area



Station 3

4151 West Maple Road



2020 Total Incidents
730 Fires / Other
1290 Medicals

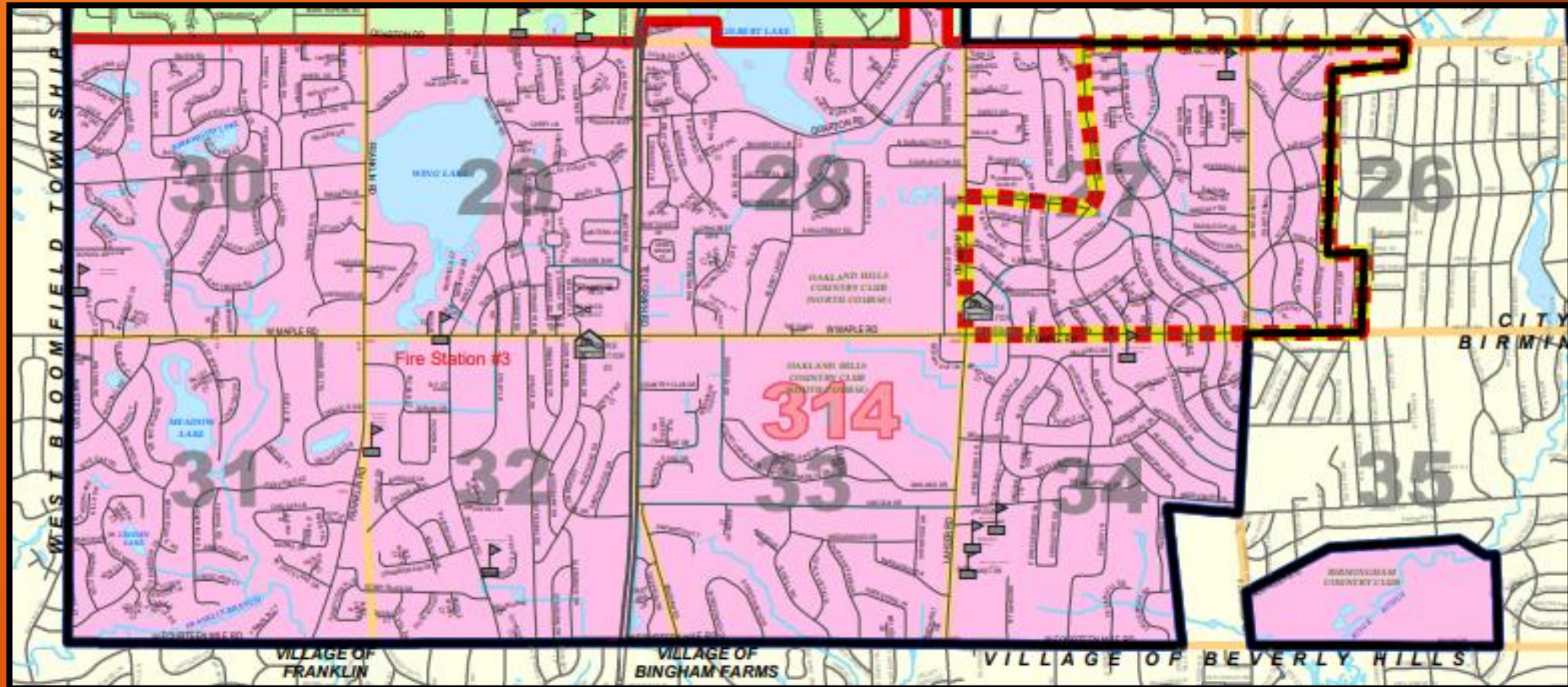
Station Information

Station 3

Fire Station 3 is located at 4151 W. Maple on the Township's southwest side. This fire station houses a Paramedic Engine, a Paramedic Rescue, and a reserve Paramedic Engine. A Lieutenant/Paramedic and three Firefighter/Paramedic/EMTs are assigned to this fire station.

Station 3 serves a mainly residential area, including Bloomfield Village, some light mercantile, and the major thoroughfares of Telegraph and Maple Roads. Some notable buildings protected by Station 3 are the Oakland Hills Country Club, Franklin Cider Mill, Birmingham Athletic Club, Birmingham Country Club, Sunrise Assisted Living (South), and Temple Beth El.

Station 3 Response Area



Station 4

2389 Franklin Road



1191 Total Incidents
360 Fires / Others
839 Medicals

Station Information

Station 4

Fire Station 4 is located at 2389 Franklin Road on the Township's north side. This fire station houses a Paramedic Ladder Truck, a Paramedic Rescue, and a reserve Paramedic Engine. A Lieutenant/ Paramedic and three Firefighter/Paramedic/EMTs are assigned to this station.

Station 4 serves an area of residential, light/heavy mercantile, light industrial, and major thoroughfares, including Telegraph Road, Square Lake Road, Woodward Avenue, and I-75. Some notable buildings in this area include Forest Lake Country Club, Bloomfield Town Square, Carl's Golf Land, Muslim Unity Center, and Bradford Assisted Living.

Station 4 Response Area



Line Personnel

Officers

Battalion Chiefs

Alan VanHeck

Ryan Husch

Nate Keeton

Years of Service

29

28

24

Lieutenants

Years of Service

Joe Chopski

26

Ed Lietz

24

Kevin Bailey

23

Leonard Wineski

23

Kevin Schutte

23

Bob Gahlau

23

Lieutenants

Years of Service

Michael Pucci

21

Shaun Patterson

19

Brandon Gainer

16

Benjamin Bradford

15

Robert Nichols

21

Christopher Hull

13

Line Personnel

Firefighter Paramedics/EMTs

<i><u>Firefighter</u></i>	<i><u>Years of Service</u></i>	<i><u>Firefighter</u></i>	<i><u>Years of Service</u></i>	<i><u>Firefighter</u></i>	<i><u>Years of Service</u></i>
Scott Collins	28	Chu Yang	8	CJ Dagher	3
Jason Grunwald	22	Patrick Quinn III	8	Andrew Fleming	3
Jeffrey Bartlett	21	Jason Cloonan	7	Brett Syracuse	3
Matthew Zsido	16	Michelle Martin	7	Luke Mackin	2
Jeremy Koziel	16	Andrew Altman	7	Madison Van Heck	2
Joseph McGrail	16	Jeffrey Nancarrow	6	Andrew Van Heck	1
Andrew Gibson	15	Adam Corbley	6	Tyler Babinski	1
Cory Van Heck	14	Bradley Woodhull	6	Cody Landry	1
Ryan Switala	12	Kimberly Campbell	6	Katie Guckian	1
Daniel Trudeau	11	Alec Rie	5	Sarah Lydick	1
Kenneth Edgemon	10	Ian Griffith	5	Alec Fowler	1
Craig Onderbeke	10	Michael Best	4	Keegan Hoose	>1
Jacob Piché	9	Travis Smith	4	Tyler Harrison	>1
Adam Phillips	9	Ryan Dumsa	3	Carson French	>1
Christian Bertucci	8	Joe Evangelista	3	Cade Dallwitz	>1

Personnel Achievements

Retirements:

Operations Officer Kevin Cardinale 28 years

Fire Inspector Ryan Morin 10 years

Promotions:

Lieutenant Nate Keeton to Battalion Chief

FF Chris Hull to Lieutenant

New Hire Firefighters:

Alec Fowler

Keegan Hoose

Tyler Harrison

Carson French

Cade Dallwitz



Training Report



In 2024, Bloomfield Township firefighters completed over 13,800 hours of training. Training is one way to keep our firefighters ready to respond to any emergency in our community. We believe that training is our second highest priority, with only actual incident responses being higher.

In the fall of the previous year, our training committee meets together to schedule our training for the next year, while taking several factors into the selection and scheduling of our trainings. Some factors include federal, state, and local requirements and standards, assessment of incident responses from the previous years, new upcoming trends, and threats to the community and firefighters. We have a relatively young fire department that requires significant hours of training. Training new firefighters involves repetition and reinforcement of what they have learned in their original schooling and acclimating them to how we do things in Bloomfield Township. Our training committee members represent all different ranks and specialties, which helps customize our training and cover all aspects of the job.

Training Report

(Continued)



The Bloomfield Township Fire Department currently has 20 Certified Fire Instructors and 4 State-licensed EMS instructors, which allows us to handle a large portion of our training internally. We also have a 3-story training building at 935 Golf Drive that helps us be creative and create realistic training scenarios. The Fire Department occasionally obtains houses scheduled for demolition and trains in them before destruction. Instructors can recreate fire scenarios in an unfamiliar structure for “real-life” training. The acquisition of these houses is invaluable to our Firefighters.

Some 2024 training topics were water and ice rescue, ladder truck operations, search and rescue, and engine operations. One of our trainings was vehicle extrication. In previous years, we received older vehicles from a junk yard, but this year we obtained current-year vehicles donated to us from General Motors. The newer metal types, design, and safety features make newer cars much more difficult to cut during an actual car accident with entrapment. There is no way to recreate these difficulties in training without having the newer vehicles donated.

Training Report

(Continued)



In 2024, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department also sent Firefighters to Great Lakes “HOT” Training. HOT stands for Hands-On Training. This advanced-level training includes live fire and real-life obstacles that Firefighters may encounter in the line of duty. The Bloomfield Township Fire Department was also selected as one of the training sites to host Great Lakes HOT in 2025 due to our Training buildings' design and features.

Our Firefighters train nearly every day to prepare themselves for the ever-changing obstacles in today's world. Lightweight building construction, lithium batteries, active shooters, and alternative energy vehicles are just a few of the challenges we are training on to keep you and your family safe in 2025. Thank you for your continued support, and remember, “Do not judge a firefighter on what they have done for you today. Judge them on what they are willing to do for you every day.”

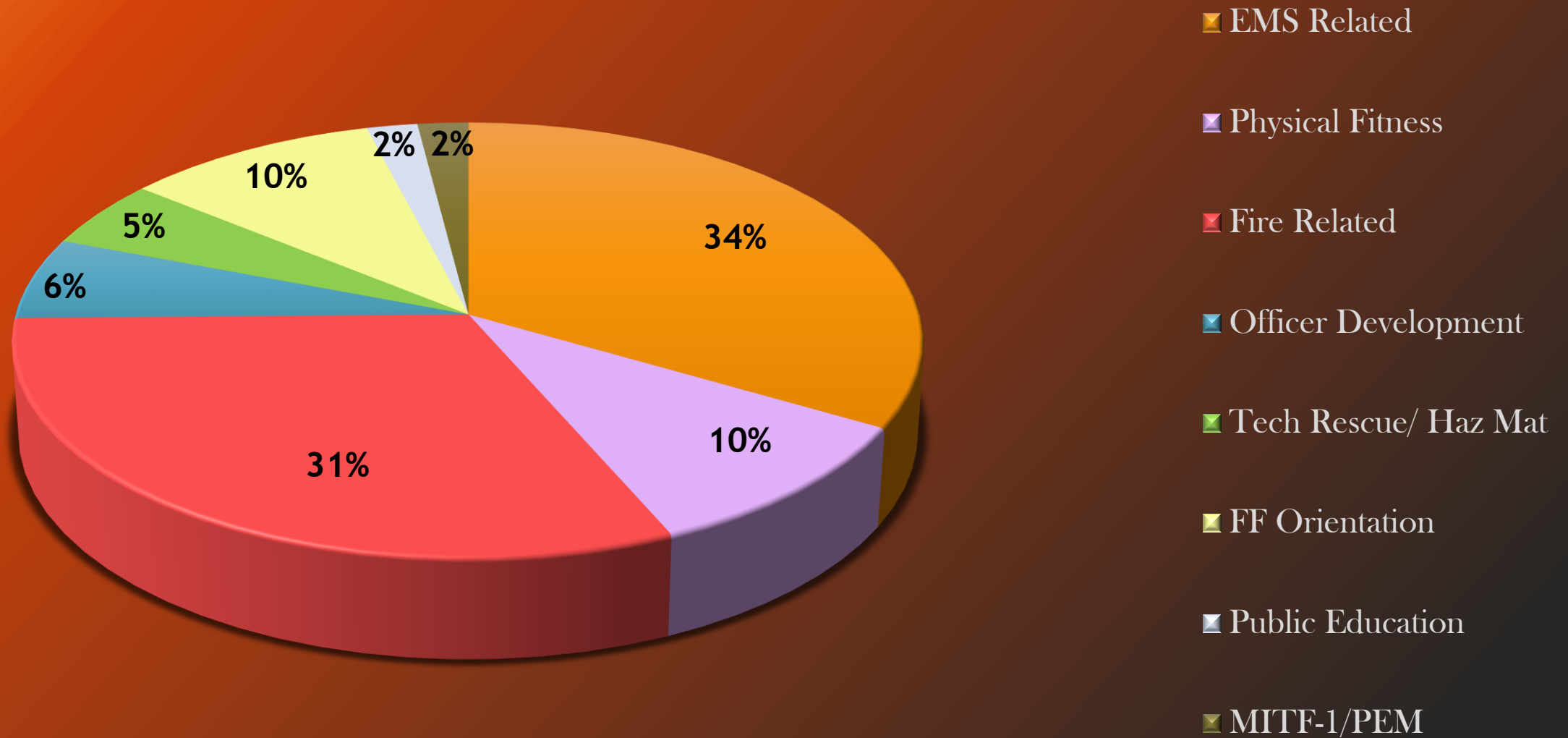
Respectfully,

Alan Van Heck
Operation Officer

Training Hours

Type of Training	Hours
Fire Related	4249.02
EMS	4573.35
Officer	895.38
Probationary	1380.16
Emergency Management/MITF-1	297.80
Technical Rescue/HAZMAT	638.50
Public Education	186.33
Physical Fitness	1615.50
TOTAL HOURS	13836.27

2025 Training Hours





EMS Report



Another excellent year for EMS in Bloomfield Township. Even though call volume has reduced slightly, our high-quality care is always increasing. This year, we had six firefighters graduate from paramedic school to advance the level of care provided to our residents. In the EMS world, two levels of EMS care can be provided. Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS). The residents of Bloomfield Township deserve the highest level of life-saving capabilities. This is why all fire trucks and ambulances within Bloomfield Township are equipped with ALS equipment and are staffed with at least 1 paramedic. This allows us to send the closest available vehicle to provide the highest prehospital medical care. Life-saving medical treatment can continue until an ambulance arrives and can transport the patient to the hospital, continuing the ALS care. Training all staff to the level of a paramedic is the expectation to deliver high-quality care.

EMS Report

(Continued)



In 2018, Bloomfield Township EMS began a study for the Oakland County Medical Control Authority identifying if paramedics could identify large vessel occlusions strokes. These types of strokes require a higher level of care that not all hospitals can perform. Bloomfield Township was the perfect agency to study this, as all hospitals we transport stroke patients to offer this high level of care. Through this continued study that we have been a part of since 2018, we have proven that paramedics, in the field, can identify this type of stroke. The State of Michigan is now developing a standard of care for strokes that will allow EMS to bypass certain hospitals to get patients the needed treatment. There is no doubt that the work our paramedics have done over the past 6 years will improve the quality of stroke care for patients all across the state of Michigan.

Capt. Michael Sova

EMS Patient Disposition

	2024	2023
Deceased/No Transport	21	61
No Treatment/No Transport	558	866
Treatment/No Transport	537	209
Transported Lights/Siren	434	349
Transported No Lights/Siren	2298	2446
Transported No Lights/Upgraded	19	8
Total # of Transports	2751	2803
Total # of Medical Patients	3867	3939
Net EMS Yearly Change	-1.83%	



2024 EMS Transporting Revenue





Fire Prevention



It has been a productive and challenging year for the Fire Prevention Division. We have continuously moved forward to meet the community's demands while staying committed to providing our residents and business owners the highest level of customer service.

The Fire and Life Safety Division comprises two Lieutenant Fire Inspectors and a Fire Marshal. All three employees are certified Fire Investigators and State of Michigan Certified Fire Inspectors. Fire and Life Safety Division duties include conducting fire inspections and construction plan reviews. While performing inspections, the Fire and Life Safety Division takes the opportunity to educate the community on many different fire safety issues. The Fire and Life Safety Division is also responsible for investigating all structure fires, incendiary fires, and fires resulting in injury and/or death. These investigations are conducted to prevent future fires by identifying common risk factors.

The Fire Department's participation in the annual Bloomfield Township Open House was again successful. This year's theme was “Smoke alarms: make them work for you!” The event included a live fire show, fire safety games for children, and live fire extinguisher training for the public. It provided residents with an opportunity to see the services that are available to them in Bloomfield Township.

Fire Prevention

(Continued)



This year marked our 18th year for the fire safety and injury prevention school program in the Bloomfield Hills School District. The program teaches second graders the importance of making safe choices and preventing injuries caused by accidents. The Fire and Life Safety Division installed hundreds of smoke alarms free of charge, provided through a grant from the State of Michigan. This grant protected residents who either lacked smoke alarms or had outdated ones. It is recommended that smoke alarms be replaced every ten years. As we look forward to 2025, the Fire and Life Safety Division will continue to look for additional ways to provide excellent customer service and a safer community.

Thank you for your continued support,

Joe Syracuse
Lt. Fire Inspector



Emergency Management



- In 2024, the Bloomfield Township Emergency Management Division continued to serve its residents, businesses, and visitors by working to ensure that the emergency response personnel and the employees of Bloomfield Township were prepared to minimize the impact of any natural or man-made disaster or any other incidents that would impact the community.
- Under the authority of the Michigan Emergency Management Act (Public Act 390 of 1976, as amended), each county is required to appoint an emergency management coordinator. In addition, some Michigan communities have municipal emergency management coordinators. Bloomfield Township is one of five Oakland County municipalities with its own Emergency Management Coordinator and program.

Emergency Management

(Continued)



The Emergency Management Division has been busy training, planning, and improving facilities. Here are some of the highlights from 2024:

- Professional Emergency Manager (PEM) training through the Michigan State Police. Bloomfield Township currently has 2 PEM-certified personnel who coordinate and manage the Township's emergency management program.
- Training on public alerting systems will ensure that residents receive the needed information in an emergency.
- Developing Incident Action Plans for events in the Township to prepare better Emergency Personnel to respond.
- Completing the upgrades of the Emergency Operation Center Grant received in 2024. The grant provided equipment that has improved efficiency within the Emergency Operations Center, to better provide services in the event of a disaster.

Emergency Management

(Continued)



As we look forward to 2025, Emergency Management continues to be one of the most essential services that Bloomfield Township provides to its residents. Our Local Planning Team (LPT) will continue to plan and facilitate future exercises for the Township. We are also participating in other municipalities' training events to prepare ourselves better to handle all types of disasters. With the uncertainty of an ever-changing world, Bloomfield Township will continue to train and prepare for any potential disaster that may come our way.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Keeton
Battalion Chief

Hazardous Materials Team



The Bloomfield Township Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team consists of 11 Technicians who undergo many hours of specialized training to mitigate hazardous materials emergencies in the township. The BTFD HazMat Team is also part of the OAKWAY HazMat Team, a regional response team.

The HazMat Team participates in monthly training to stay current on railcar, pipeline, and other potential incidents that could occur in Bloomfield Township. The team continuously trains to stay current on the hazards threatening our community's lives, property, and environment.

Throughout the year, team members have handled numerous HazMat calls involving carbon monoxide incidents, fuel spills, and natural gas leaks. While many HazMat calls are relatively minor, some are more complex. Staffing HazMat Technicians each day provides HazMat expertise and ensures the safety of Bloomfield Township and its OAKWAY partners.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lt. Chris Hull
HazMat Coordinator

Technical Rescue



The Bloomfield Township Fire Department Technical Rescue Team (TRT) comprises ten members. Eight of which are trained to the technician level, and two (2) newer members that are working towards their technician certifications in the following disciplines: rope rescue, trench rescue, confined space rescue, structural collapse rescue, as well as additional training in machine rescue, wide area search, advanced vehicle extrication, and other urban search and rescue techniques. Each member must attend over 360 hours of these specialized trainings to reach technician level status.

All TRT members are also members of the OAKWAY TRT and train at least four times a year with the other OAKWAY Departments. Three (3) TRT members are also Michigan Task Force 1 (MITF-1) members and have responded to incidents locally and throughout the United States.

The level of danger involved in a technical rescue incident is difficult to comprehend fully. They include situations where lives are immediately at risk, someone could be trapped in a collapsed trench, stuck in a high place, or injured in a municipal water pit. These incidents often occur in unstable and highly hazardous environments, at any point during the day or night, and during inclement weather. The techniques and equipment used in these situations are complex and require extensive knowledge and decision-making. Our team members must perform their tasks under intense physical and mental strain, remain calm and focused, all while managing their safety and the safety of the victims.

Lt. Mike Pucci
Technical Rescue Coordinator

Fire Department Charities



2024 was an excellent year for the BTFD Charities and Benevolent Fund. We again sold out our annual golf outing at the Wabeek Country Club and had a very successful event. Thank you to our sponsors and the generosity of everyone who joined us for the day.

We held our annual Muscular Dystrophy Fill the Boot event and, once again, raised the most money in our district, placing in the top 5 fundraisers for the entire state. Thanks to the generosity of our residents and businesses, we provided financial relief and support to several families of fallen firefighters, first responders, and local families in need.

As we look ahead to 2025, we continue to find new ways to help those in need in our community, add new events, and partner with more charitable organizations. We are also seeking additional donors to support our mission and help us expand our efforts to assist even more individuals and families in need.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Chris Hull
BTFD Charities President

Fire Department Charities



Michigan Task Force 1



Bloomfield Township played a key role in supporting Michigan Task Force 1 (MI-TF1), Michigan's Premier Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team, through the contribution of four highly trained personnel:

- Lt. Chopski – Task Force Leader
- Lt. Patterson – Logistics Manager
- FF J. Nancarrow – Rescue Specialist
- Retired Captain/BVFD Lt. R. Nancarrow – Safety Officer

These individuals were integral to MI-TF1's mission to provide specialized rescue capabilities across the state and beyond.

Key Deployments and Contributions:

- Texas Flood Response (May 3-18, 2024):
 - MI-TF1 deployed a 17-person Type 1 Swiftwater Rescue Team to assist Texas in handling severe flooding.
 - The team performed reconnaissance, search operations, and humanitarian aid missions.
 - The mission was extended twice due to worsening conditions, marking the longest MI-TF1 deployment (17 days) .

Michigan Task Force 1

(Continued)



- Hurricane Debby – South Carolina (August 6-12, 2024):
 - MI-TF1 deployed an 18-person Type 1 Swiftwater Rescue Team to assist South Carolina in handling severe flooding.
 - The team assisted in flood rescues, the evacuation of an animal shelter, and welfare checks in both impacted and potential-impacted areas of Marion County.
 - Worked with and trained National Guard units on floodwater rescue techniques
- Tropical Storm Helene – North Carolina (September 26 – October 4, 2024):
 - MI-TF1 deployed a 19-member team to perform search and rescue missions in Rutherford County after historical flooding.
 - Operations included helicopter extractions, the use of rope transfer systems, and inflatable boats to rescue stranded residents.
 - Conducted joint search and rescue missions, NC-TF10 and NY-TF1, overcoming extremely limited communications, destroyed bridges and impassible roads.

Michigan Task Force 1

(Continued)



Training and Readiness:

- MI-TF1 expanded its training programs, including joint exercises with Oakland County and Western Wayne County Special Operations Teams.
- Training focused on heavy collapse rescues, advanced search techniques, and command and control.
- The team enhanced Swiftwater/Floodwater capabilities, with advanced rescue boat operator training.
- Communication and coordination improved using multi-band radios and live-tracking technology (Search and Rescue Common Operating Platform, SARCOP) for real-time mission updates all in coordination with the Authority having Jurisdiction.
- Joint training with Taiwan National USAR Team (July 9-10, 2024), Camp Grayling.



Michigan Task Force 1

(Continued)



Impact & Future Goals:

- MI-TF1 continues to grow, with 24 new members added in FY24, and 52 participating public safety agencies.
- Bloomfield Township's personnel played a key role in expanding operational readiness, enhancing training, and responding to large-scale disasters.
- Looking ahead, Bloomfield Township's Team personnel are actively developing incident management capabilities and validating additional special operations teams around the state.

The contributions of Bloomfield Township's MI-TF1 members reflect a commitment to public safety, disaster response, and emergency preparedness, ensuring Michigan and Bloomfield Township remain ready for any crisis.

Respectfully submitted,
LT. Joe Chopski

