Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Annual Report 2020



SERVING WITH P.R.I.D.E.

Professional **R**eady **I**nnovative **D**edicated **E**mpowered

Gary J. Mayerhofer, City Manager
City of Crystal Lake

Dear Mr. Mayerhofer;

I present to you the 2020 Annual Report for the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department. This report outlines the efforts and accomplishments of the Department during the past year. In a year of uncertainty, we successfully met the challenges presented by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. I am pleased to provide this information to you, the City Council, the Trustees of the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District, the Board Members of the Village of Lakewood, and the citizens of the Crystal Lake community.

Listed below you will find highlights of the Department's accomplishments for 2020:

- Responded to 6,283 calls for service.
- Revised and implemented the City's Continuity of Operations Plan for Pandemic Flu to address the COVID-19 disease.
- Completed the program to upgrade the radio communications to the City's 16 outdoor warning sirens.
- Conducted our first ever, virtual Open House.
- Purchased two new ambulances along with two additional Stryker Power Load patient systems.
- Developed a request for proposal and subsequent review of those proposals by an employee work group to recommend the purchase of two budgeted fire pumpers.
- Initiated a work group to develop a proposal to seek a consultant who will conduct an operations and utilization study for the Fire Rescue Department in 2021.
- Conducted 378 plan reviews and 588 fire inspections.
- Opened the City's Emergency Operations Center in response to COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter demonstrations.

On behalf of the members of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department, I thank you for the opportunity to serve the Crystal Lake community.

Sincerely,

Paul DeRaedt

Fire Rescue Chief

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Department Overview

The City of Crystal Lake is located in McHenry County, Illinois, approximately 45 miles northwest of the City of Chicago. The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department provides service for the City of Crystal Lake, the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District, the Village of Lakewood, and portions of Lake in the Hills. The area served is approximately 51.2 square miles, with a resident population of nearly 56,000 based on the 2010 census. Services provided include fire protection, emergency medical care (Advanced Life Support), fire inspections, public education, and special team responses such as hazardous materials, dive rescue, trench, confined space, rope, and structural collapse. The City of Crystal Lake is the largest city in McHenry County, and the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's service area includes four U.S. highways, a railroad (Union Pacific), three large lakes (Crystal Lake and Three Oaks Recreation Area), and McHenry County College. The Department also provides automatic aid to the Nunda Rural Fire Protection District, McHenry Township Fire Protection District, Algonquin / Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District, and Huntley Fire Protection District. Mutual Aid is provided to communities in McHenry, Lake, and Kane Counties through the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

The Fire Rescue Department provides 24-hour emergency response, operating out of three stations with 69 personnel. Staffing is provided by three shifts of full-time firefighters on a 24/48-hour schedule. Approved full-time positions include 3 Battalion Chiefs, 9 Lieutenants, and 48 firefighter/paramedics. Full-time firefighters and lieutenants are members of the Crystal Lake Professional Firefighters Association, Local 3926, of the International Association of Firefighters. Emergency response minimum staffing is 15 personnel per shift. Administrative staffing positions include Fire Rescue Chief, Deputy Chief, Bureau Chief of Training, Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention, two Fire Inspectors, and two Administrative Assistants. In 2020, the Department responded to 6,283 incidents of which over 66% involved emergency medical care.

Year in Review

Deputy Fire Rescue Chief– Christopher Olsen

COVID-19 Pandemic

Throughout the world, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic quickly came to Crystal Lake much like it did to the rest of our Nation. Our public education, life safety inspections, and non-essential activities were postponed in order to ensure our exposure to this virus was limited in order to fulfill our essential service mission. We made adjustments in our actions that now include more frequent use of personal protective equipment and social distancing. Hand washing and decontamination of our apparatus and equipment are also occurring with greater frequency in order to protect our customers, our families, and ourselves.

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department worked closely with our partners at the McHenry County Emergency Management Agency (MCEMA) and McHenry Department of Health (MCDH) in monitoring the progression and spread of the virus. The City's Continuity of Operations Plan for pandemic flu was adjusted to incorporate the specifics of the novel coronavirus. The actions of City personnel to implement the revised plan proved to be effective as the City did not see any adverse changes in essential service delivery.

The following activities were undertaken or observed early on in the pandemic:

- Actions related to the pandemic were adjusted as new information was received from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
- Overall call volume was down due to the actions of the public under the stay at home order. Temporary staffing of the fifth ambulance was discontinued in mid-May as part of minimum staffing.
- Fire Rescue continued to participate in weekly meetings of the City's Crisis Management Team under the City's Emergency Operations Plan.
- Continued to follow the Fire Rescue Department's pandemic policy with adjustments being made as new or revised information became available.
- Daily briefings continued to be held to share information with Fire Rescue personnel on new or revised actions to take based upon current information known related to the pandemic.

Fire Rescue personnel stepped up to the challenge and relied upon their training, courage, and dedication to carry them through this unprecedented time in our lives. We do not know when normal will return, but we will to continue to provide the best service to our community under the safest possible conditions.

Lieutenant Promotional Testing

Every three years, the Fire Rescue Department holds a promotional process for the rank of Lieutenant as outlined by State statute. The process includes several areas each candidate is evaluated on which equates to points obtained.

Upon successful completion of the promotional process, each candidate is placed on an eligibility list based upon the highest to lowest points scored throughout the process. When an opening occurs within the rank of Lieutenant, the next Firefighter/Paramedic on the final eligibility list is eligible for promotion. 15 firefighter / paramedics made the final eligibility list.

Countywide Apparatus Numbering

In September, the McHenry County Fire Chiefs met to discuss proposed changes to the current numbering system used by all fire departments in the county.

The system has been in place in some form or another since the 1960's. Based upon the numbering, a person can identify the department, type of unit, and specific vehicle number or station assigned.

Over the years, there has been several operational changes that required the system to be updated. Each department needed to make changes to the current practice in order to comply with the revised system. Crystal Lake needed to make very few changes.

In order to memorialize the numbering system, a guideline was developed by members of MABAS Division 5.

Virtual Open House

During the week of October 4-10, the Fire Rescue Department conducted a virtual Open House utilizing social media. Each day, the Department posted two videos to Facebook. Each video contained a fire safety message or tour of a fire station and fire vehicles.

Since we could not gather safely due to the pandemic, several of our members stepped up to develop or deliver the videos that were related to what someone would see if they came to our traditional Open House during Fire Prevention Week.

The response on social media was extremely popular. Some videos received up to 10,000 people reached, where average attendance at the fire station during Open House was 300-400 people.



Annual Department Awards

Annual awards were presented to Fire Rescue personnel. Members were recognized in three award categories: Department Service Awards, EMS Service Awards, and Department Recognition Awards.

Service Awards

BC Robert Kohley	20 years
FF/PM Ed Havemann	20 years
FF/PM Brian Menzimer	20 years
FF/PM David Kaltenbach	20 years
Admin Asst. Linda Olszak	15 years
FF/PM Dan Williams	15 years
FF/PM Bob Brechbiel	15 years
FF/PM Joe Forsberg	15 years
FF/PM Tim Kerley	15 years
FF/PM Curt Walker	5 years

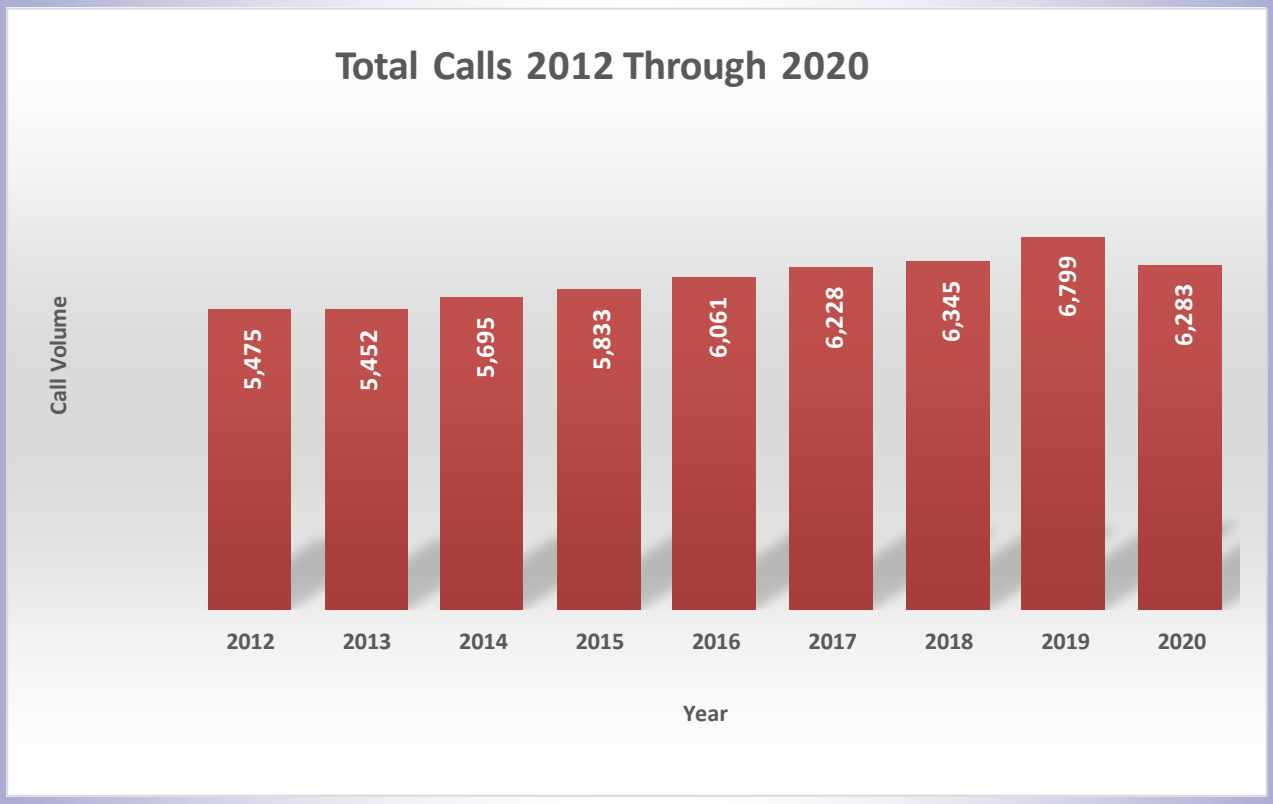
EMS Service Awards (years certified with IL Dept. of Public Health)

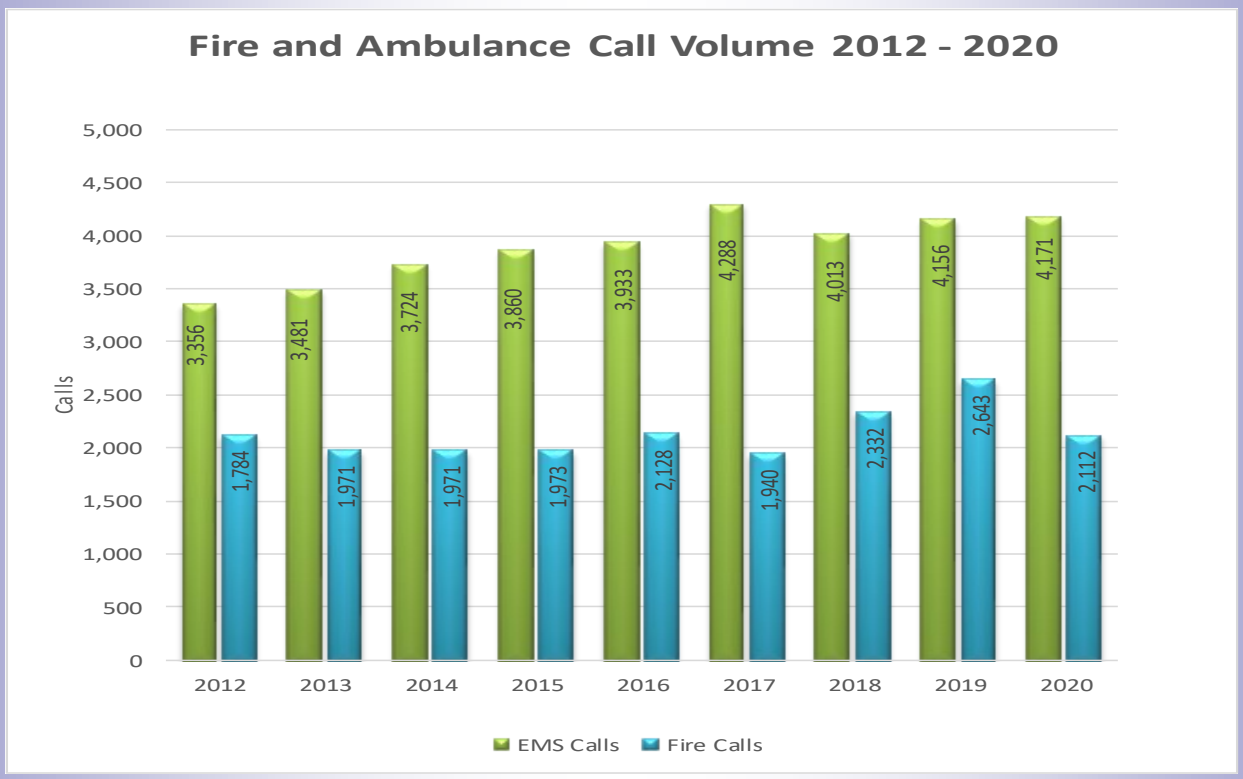
BC Bill Whyte	25 years
LT Casey Cork	25 years
FF/PM Brian Marino	20 years
FF/PM Tim Odishoo	15 years
FF/PM Robert Wisz	15 years
FF/PM Ramon Vega	10 years
FF/PM Curt Walker	10 years

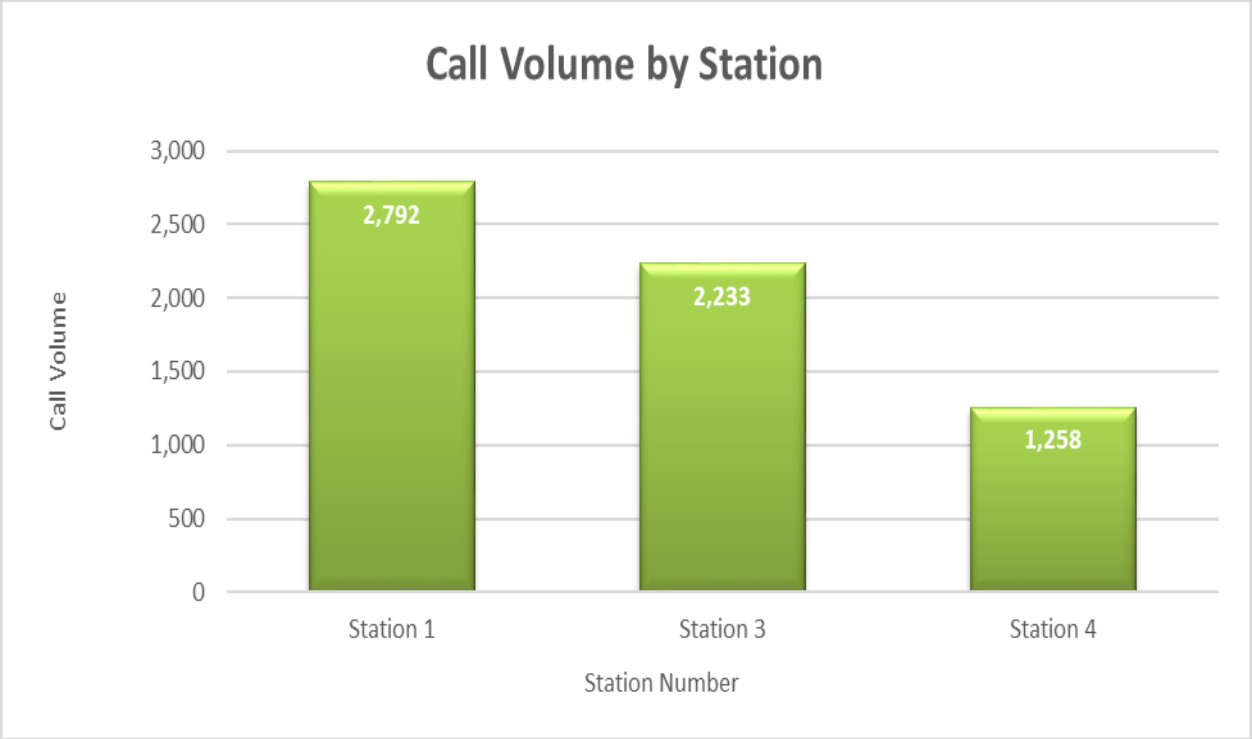
Incident Statistics

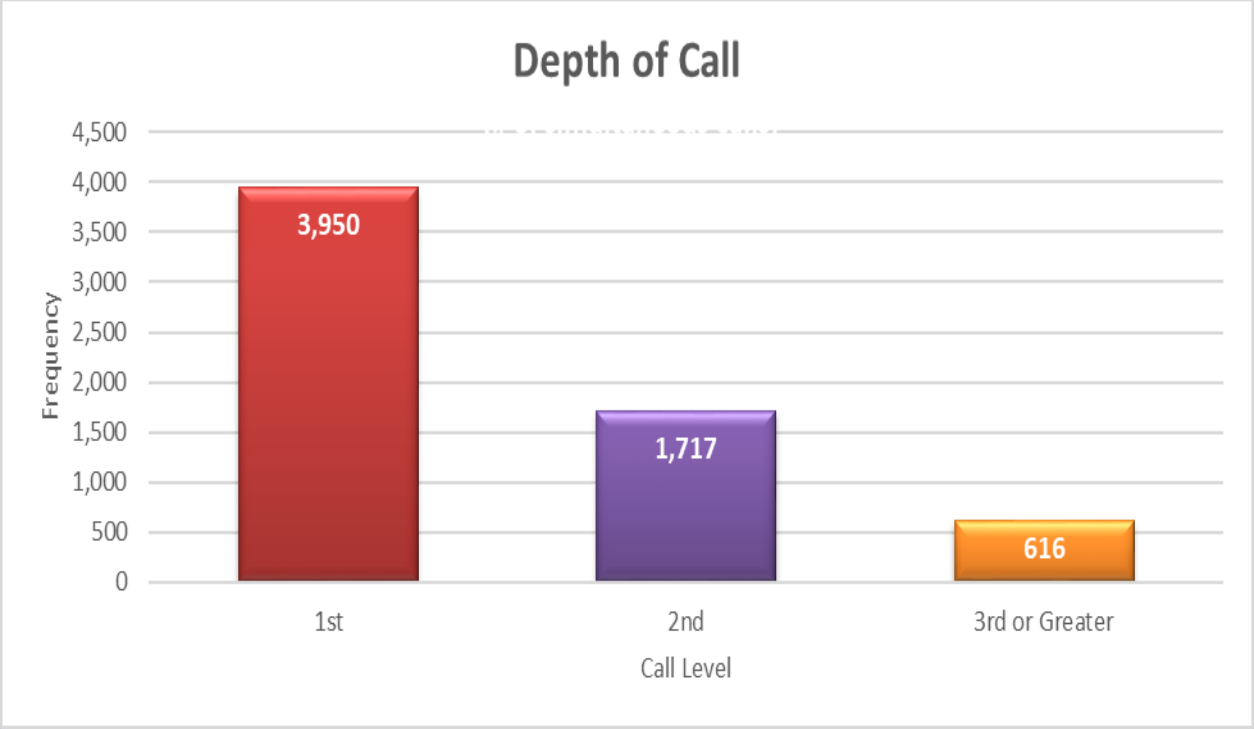
Battalion Chief – William Whyte

Incident Type	#2018	%2018	#2019	%2019	#2020	%2020
Fire	91	1.43%	59	0.87%	65	1.03%
Over Pressure, Rupture, Explosion	0	0.00%	2	0.03%	1	0.02%
Rescue and EMS Incidents	4,400	69.35%	4,556	67.00%	4,171	66.39%
Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)	206	3.25%	231	3.40%	165	2.63%
Service Call	562	8.86%	564	8.30%	727	11.57%
Good Intent Call	342	5.39%	342	5.03%	298	4.74%
Fire Alarms	732	11.54%	1,032	15.18%	846	13.46%
Special Incident Type	12	0.18%	13	0.19%	10	0.16%
Total	**6,345**	**100.00%**	**6,799**	**100.00%**	**6,283**	**100.00%**
Jurisdiction	**#2018**	**%2018**	**#2019**	**%2019**	**#2020**	**%2020**
City of Crystal Lake	5,194	81.86%	5,604	82.42%	5,114	81.39%
Crystal Lake Rural FPD	676	10.65%	743	10.93%	698	11.11%
Village of Lakewood	284	4.48%	285	4.19%	314	5.00%
Out of District	191	3.01%	167	2.46%	157	2.50%
Total	**6,345**	**100%**	**6,799**	**100%**	**6,283**	**100%**


Total Calls 2012 Through 2020
Call Volume
5,475
5,452
5,695
5,833
6,061
6,228
6,345
6,799
6,283
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
Year


Fire and Ambulance Call Volume 2012 - 2020
Calls
5,000
4,500
4,000
3,500
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
3,356
1,784
3,481
1,971
3,724
1,971
3,860
1,973
3,933
2,128
4,288
1,940
4,013
2,332
4,156
2,643
4,171
2,112
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
EMS Calls
Fire Calls


Call Volume by Station
Call Volume
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
2,792
2,233
1,258
Station 1
Station 3
Station 4
Station Number


Depth of Call
Frequency
4,500
4,000
3,500
3,000
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
3,950
1,717
616
1st
2nd
3rd or Greater
Call Level

Automatic Aid

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue utilizes automatic aid agreements with specific neighboring departments in order to support responses to structure fires. These fires require many tasks to be accomplished in order to safely and effectively extinguish the fire. Automatic aid units are dispatched at the same time as Crystal Lake units, unlike mutual aid where Crystal Lake requests the assistance after confirmation of a working fire.

Under automatic aid, Crystal Lake Fire Rescue responds to each jurisdiction and we receive automatic aid in return. Below is listed the number of times in 2020 Crystal Lake received or provided automatic aid:

Agency	Received Automatic Aid from Crystal Lake	Provided Automatic Aid to Crystal Lake
Algonquin/Lake in the Hills FPD	20	27
McHenry Township FPD	19	23
Nunda Rural FPD	5	7
Huntley FPD	15	24

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Fire Suppression Response Times For Each Station

	Station 1	Station 3	Station 4
Average Alarm Processing Time	0:55	0:56	0:53
Average Turn Out Time	1:10	1:09	1:08
Average Travel Time	4:32	4:29	4:47
Average Alarm To Scene Time	5:48	5:43	6:00

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department EMS Response Times For Each Station

	Station 1	Station 3	Station 4
Average Alarm Processing Time	0:58	0:52	1:02
Average Turn Out Time	1:13	1:09	1:11
Average Travel Time	5:01	5:10	5:30
Average Alarm To Scene Time	6:18	6:23	6:44

Fire Prevention Bureau

Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention– Chris Kopera

The Fire Prevention Bureau is a key link between the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department and the business community. They work in an effort to protect the citizens and visitors in Crystal Lake against the loss of life and property, through its enforcement of adopted fire codes. The Fire Prevention Bureau ensures code compliance through the thorough examination of building plans, inspection of buildings, structures, and facilities, and application of fire and life safety codes and standards.

Providing education to building designers, contractors, business owners, and their employees about fire prevention practices can reduce the chance of fire in their business. The goal of enforcement is to reduce fire hazards, as well as mandating the proper installation and maintenance of a building's fire and life safety features.

Plan Reviews

During calendar year 2020, the Fire Prevention Bureau completed 378 plan reviews. The Fire Prevention Bureau strives to complete plan reviews within the following timelines for the requesting department or contractor; within 10 business days for 1st reviews and within 5 business days for resubmittals. The annual goal is to have 98 percent of the reviews completed within the timeframes. For the calendar year 2020, 96.34% of the reviews were completed within the timeframes.

Fire Inspections

In 2020, the Fire Prevention Bureau completed 588 inspections. The number of inspections completed this year was significantly less than in previous years due to the effects of COVID-19. Inspections involve fire and suppression system installations, construction status, occupancy, and life safety/target hazard to name a few.





Fire Plan Review

Type of Plan Review	Number of Reviews 2018	Number of Reviews 2019	Number of Reviews 2020
Building Permit	235	301	235
Sprinkler System	64	51	38
Fire Alarm System	73	61	44
Wet Chemical/Clean Agent	9	5	7
PUD	20	27	6
SUP	4	6	7
Special Event	30	42	3
TUP	0	0	0
Variation	2	0	8
Cursory	37	24	11
FOIA	68	40	19
County-Resident./Commercial	10	2	0
Annexations	0	1	0
Total	**552**	**540**	**378**

Inspections / Code Enforcement

Inspection Type	Number of Inspections 2018	Number of Inspections 2019	Number of Inspections 2020
Construction/Status	351	374	270
Fire Alarm	94	81	62
Sprinkler System	114	123	67
Hood or Other Suppression	49	16	11
Life Safety Follow Up/Target Hazard	136	99	44
Occupancy	116	127	118
Special Event	12	20	8
Mobile Food Truck	12	13	8
Total	**884**	**853**	**588**

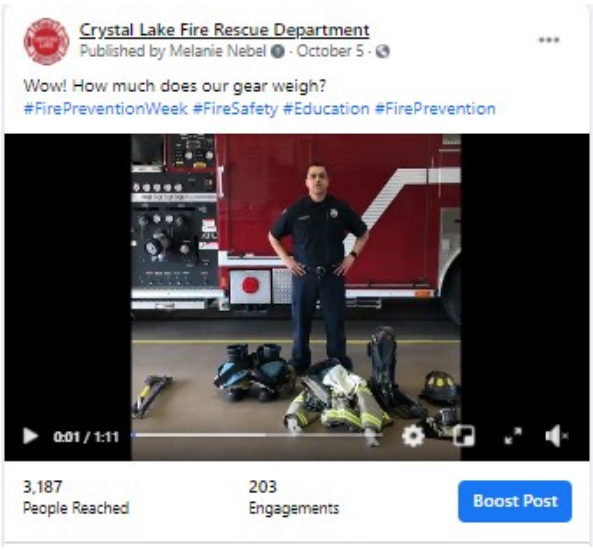
Public Education

Public Education Coordinator – Karyn Dorfman

As part of our Fire Prevention Bureau, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department coordinates public education visits, events, and lessons throughout the year to educate the public about fire and health safety. COVID-19 greatly impacted our ability to safely attend community events and present these lessons in person for most of 2020. On the upside, these limitations helped us find new and creative ways to present and promote safety.

In 2020, we were able to continue our "Adopt-A-Firefighter" program. This program pairs a firefighter with a local elementary school students. Throughout the year, the firefighter presents specific fire safety lessons to the same group of students. The firefighter, teacher and students get to know one another. The students look forward to seeing "their firefighter" up to five times during the school year. During COVID, we worked diligently with the teachers to schedule virtual visits with each classroom so that they can continue to interact and learn about fire safety through their bi-monthly lessons. Although teachers, students, and the firefighters are anxious to return to in-person visits, we remain cautious as to protect the health of the staff and students. We are hopeful that next year we can return in person, and continue to build and expand the program.

Our Fire Prevention Week Open House was converted into a week-long virtual Open House through social media. Throughout Fire Prevention Week (October 4-10, 2020), we shared many different educational videos, safety messages, and fun activities. Traditionally, attendees of our Open House would only see what is on display at Station 1. We used this virtual opportunity to create station tour videos that showcased the stations and apparatus housed at Fire Stations 3 and 4. Additionally, we were able to share videos from some of our regular partners in fire safety, including a video from the Crystal Lake Police Department about car seat safety, a video from SEECOM about what to expect when you call 9-1-1, and a LifeNet helicopter landing demonstration video.





Throughout the year, we used social media as a platform to share fire safety activities for children and encouraged residents to create and practice escape plans with their families especially during the "Stay at Home" phase of the pandemic. We also created "virtual tour" videos to share with schools and groups who aren't able to come visit the station as they normally would. Throughout the pandemic, we received an outpouring of support and uplifting messages from members of the community which have been greatly appreciated.



Each year, we have a goal to "Keep the Wreath Red" by increasing fire safety awareness during the holiday season. From Thanksgiving through January 1st, green wreaths with red bulbs are hung on the outside of each of the three Crystal Lake Fire Rescue stations. In the unfortunate event of a holiday related fire, a red bulb is replaced with a white bulb. We are happy to report that all 3 wreaths remained red for the entire holiday season in 2020.



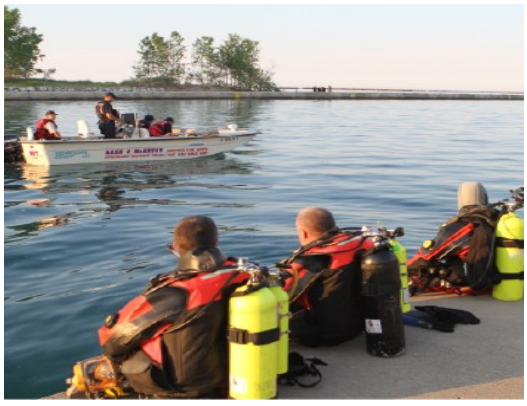
Specialized Rescue Teams

Dive Rescue Team Coordinator – Lieutenant Christopher Bedore

Training

The Crystal Lake Dive Rescue Team typically trains a minimum of once a month and like most fire departments, COVID-19 greatly impacted this. The team currently has six divers. Four additional personnel expressed interest in becoming divers, but the pandemic had forced all classes to be cancelled.

- In January, the Dive Rescue team began the year with their annual SCUBA skills assessment. This includes a 500 yard swim, 15 minute water tread with hands out of the water, 800 yard snorkel swim, and a 100 yard inert diver tow in full gear. These skills are requirements for membership on the MABAS Divisions 4 & 5 Dive Team.
- Multiple dive drills were conducted at the Three Oaks Recreation Area during the year.
- During the winter months, the team conducted ice dives. This involved a simulated and submerged victim under the ice, as well as conducting search patterns.
- Training drills allow each diver to test their skills, as well as work and test all equipment such as the surface supplied air systems, dive suits, SCUBA gear, and communications equipment.
- The Dive Rescue Team hosted a multi-team open water drill with the MABAS Divisions 4 & 5 Sonar team. The teams worked on identifying victims according to bystander reports and sonar equipment responses. This showcased the importance of the two teams working together in a water recovery incident to locate the victim in the quickest time possible.



Technical Rescue Team Coordinator – Lieutenant Dan Grischow

Incidents

There were no calls for service by the Technical Rescue Team (TRT) during 2020. Much of this was due in part to the effects of COVID-19 such as people working from home and stay at home orders.

Equipment

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue continues to house the two MABAS 4 & 5 specialized rescue roll off containers. These containers are equipped with tools and specialized equipment that team members use to handle almost any type of specialized rescue incident. One container has the equipment needed for vertical, confined space, and structural collapse rescues. The other container is specifically designated for trench rescue.

Training

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue TRT technicians attended multiple drills in 2020 including the following disciplines:

- Rope Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- Trench Rescue
- Structural Collapse

Crystal Lake's eight TRT technicians attended over 200 hours of rescue training in 2020. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, many trainings were cancelled or the amount of participants allowed at trainings were limited. Crystal Lake hosted a confined space drill in January, structural collapse training in July, and in October, a rope rescue drill at a Crystal Lake Public Works facility. Our technicians provided manpower and equipment for five other drills held in different communities around McHenry County.

Haz Mat Team Coordinator – Lieutenant Dan Grischow

Crystal Lake Hazardous Materials Team members, like the TRT members, are part of the MABAS Divisions 4 & 5 Specialized Response Teams. This involves an annual commitment of at least 40 hours of hazardous materials training. Technicians train with specialized monitors, fully encapsulated Level A suits, and a host of other specialized equipment. The Haz Mat Team is responsible for controlling and mitigating hazardous materials incidents, including: identification, assessment, containment/confinement, and decontamination.

Incidents

The Crystal Lake Hazardous Materials Team responded to one incident in 2020.

- In May, technicians responded to Wauconda for a muriatic acid spill. The spill was contained in under an hour.

Training

Crystal Lake has four Hazardous Materials Technicians. Crystal Lake technicians attended over 120 hours of continuing education during 2020. Like the other special rescue disciplines, the pandemic limited training abilities until virtual online trainings could be arranged. Crystal Lake technicians also conducted an annual hazardous materials awareness review for all Fire Rescue personnel.





Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

EMS Coordinator – Lieutenant Heidi Olsen

EMS Statistics – 2020

Transport Destination	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Northwestern McHenry	1,122	26.41%
Northwestern Woodstock	501	11.79%
Northwestern Huntley	1,300	30.60%
Advocate Good Shepherd	240	5.65%
Advocate Sherman	35	0.82%
Other	3	0.07%
Non-Transport	1,048	24.66%
Total	**4,249**	**100%**

EMS Incident Outcome	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Hospital Transport	3,201	75.34%
Non-Transport	1,048	24.66%
Total	**4,249**	**100%**

Services Provided	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Advanced Life Support	1,970	46.36%
Basic Life Support	2,279	53.64%
Total	**4,249**	**100%**

Regulatory Compliance

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department operates a total of 6 ambulances, 3 engines, and 1 ladder truck that carry basic and advanced life support equipment. This equipment is regulated by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Due to CoVID-19, IDPH was not conducting site visits for inspections. The Department self-inspections on each vehicle mandated by the State.

Pandemic Response

Equipment

COVID-19 concerns triggered the implementation of new first-in EMS boxes. These boxes contain basic assessment tools that can be utilized by one member while their partner prepares the ambulance for the patient. The intent was to reduce potential exposures to responding EMS personnel. The structure of the box allows for ease of use and decontamination versus a soft bag that would need to be laundered.



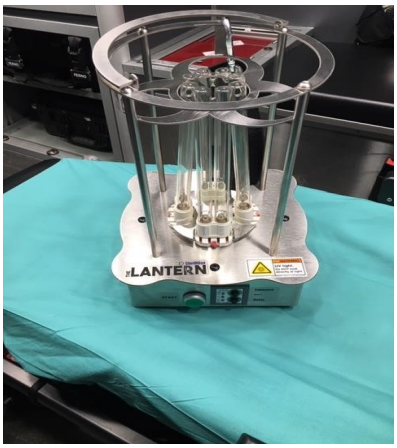
Disinfection

Disinfection procedures became amplified throughout the world due to the pandemic. The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department improved some of the techniques it utilizes to disinfect our ambulances, equipment, and stations. This includes the purchase of ultraviolet-C (UV-C) lights for each station. Utilizing these lights allows for a quick disinfection, in addition to wiping down surfaces and has become an effective way to sterilize an area. These eliminate microbiological contaminants, including bacteria, viruses, molds, spores, and even beta-lactams and pinworms. It is safe on materials and leaves no residues. It is non-corrosive and can be used on electronic components.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Working with a suspected COVID patient required Fire Rescue personnel to don goggles, N95 mask, procedure gloves and gown several times a day at the height of the pandemic. Many of these items were in high demand and difficult to locate for most healthcare providers. As part of the City's preparedness efforts in anticipation of a pandemic, we did not experience a shortage of the required PPE to protect our personnel.





Apparatus & Equipment

Apparatus Coordinator – Lieutenant Jim Sustek

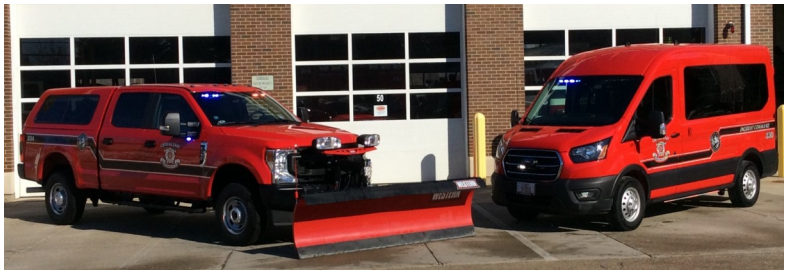
In 2020, the Apparatus Workgroup developed new fire pumper specifications for a future purchase. The workgroup also developed specifications for two new ambulances which are projected to be delivered in May 2021.

New Vehicles in 2020

- A replacement command car
- A replacement Incident Command/Shift Commander van.
- A new pickup truck with snow plow.

All apparatus replacements follow the City's fleet replacement schedule that promotes efficiency and fiscal responsibility.





Compliance with Industry Standards

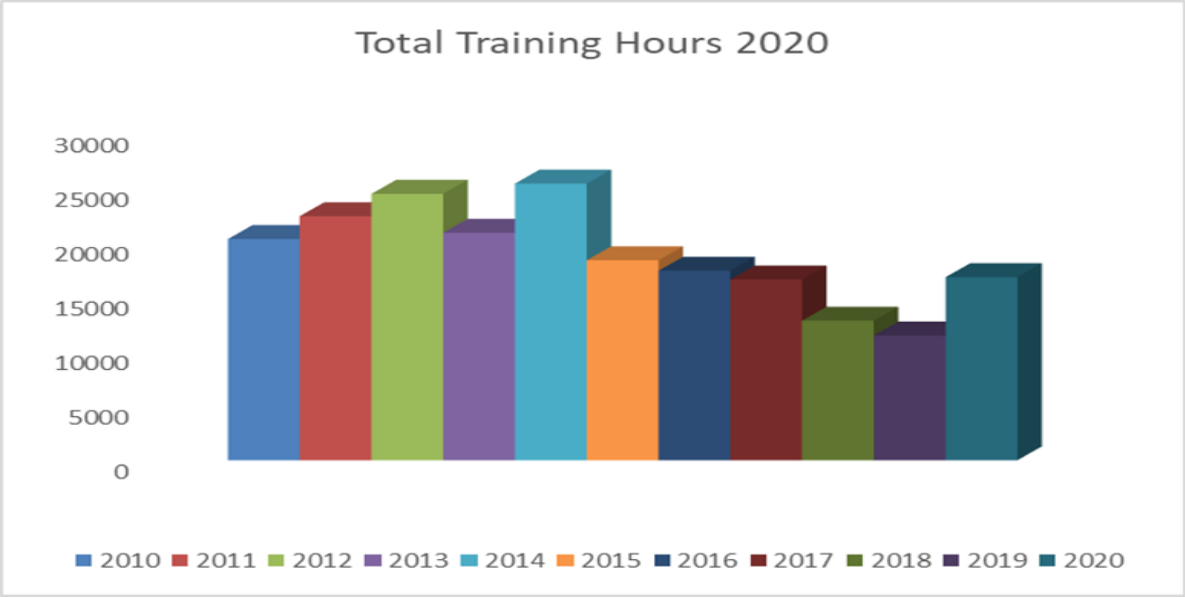
Where applicable, all apparatus passed their annual Department of Transportation (DOT) inspections, Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) ground and aerial ladder testing, State EMS inspections, and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) pump testing.

Training Bureau

Bureau Chief of Training – Richard Kaiser Jr.

Training is key to ensuring benchmark emergency service delivery to our community. Training requirements for Crystal Lake Fire Rescue personnel are outlined by several organizations such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL), and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department personnel participated in over 15,000 hours of training in order to acquire new skills and remain proficient in all areas of emergency operations.

Training during the 2020 calendar year was one of the most difficult to accomplish due to the COVID-19 virus. Beginning in March and continuing into the first quarter of 2021, training sessions were modified to meet the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) specialized rescue team trainings were halted to minimize spreading of the virus among other fire departments. Within the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department, training was scaled back initially and eventually re-worked to conform to social distancing requirements to keep personnel safe. As time progressed, virtual training became the standard where those trainings could be instituted. To date, the McHenry / Western Lake County Emergency Medical Services System (MWLCEMSS) is providing remote learning opportunities to maintain our paramedics skills.



In 2020, Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department personnel logged **15,139** hours of training. Each member participated in approximately **237** hours of training for the year, or **23.65** hours of training monthly per person.

Professional Development and Certifications
Some of the certification courses attended by Department personnel in 2020 are as follows:

- *Severe Weather Spotters Class*
- *Water Operations*
- *Advanced Technician Firefighter*
- *Confined Space Operations*
- *CPR Instructor Recertification*
- *Fire Inspector I*
- *Hazardous Materials Incident Command*
- *Fire Department Incident Safety Officer*
- *Rope Operations*
- *Structural Collapse Operations*
- *Trench Operations*
- *Vehicle and Machinery Technician*
- *IRMA Harassment Training*
- *Blue Card Command Training*

The following list reflects additional educational opportunities that were made available to Department personnel both in-house and at offsite locations:

- *Company Fire Officer*
- *Advanced Fire Officer*
- *Blue Card Command Training*
- *Fire Ground Company Officer*
- *Fire Ground Operational Drills (ladders, water supply, hose, etc.)*
- *Sprinkler Hydraulics Review*
- *Kinder Morgan Pipeline Familiarization and Safety*
- *Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Competency Drills*
- *Fire & Arson Investigation Continuing Education*

Safety Committee

Chairman — Bureau Chief Richard Kaiser Jr.

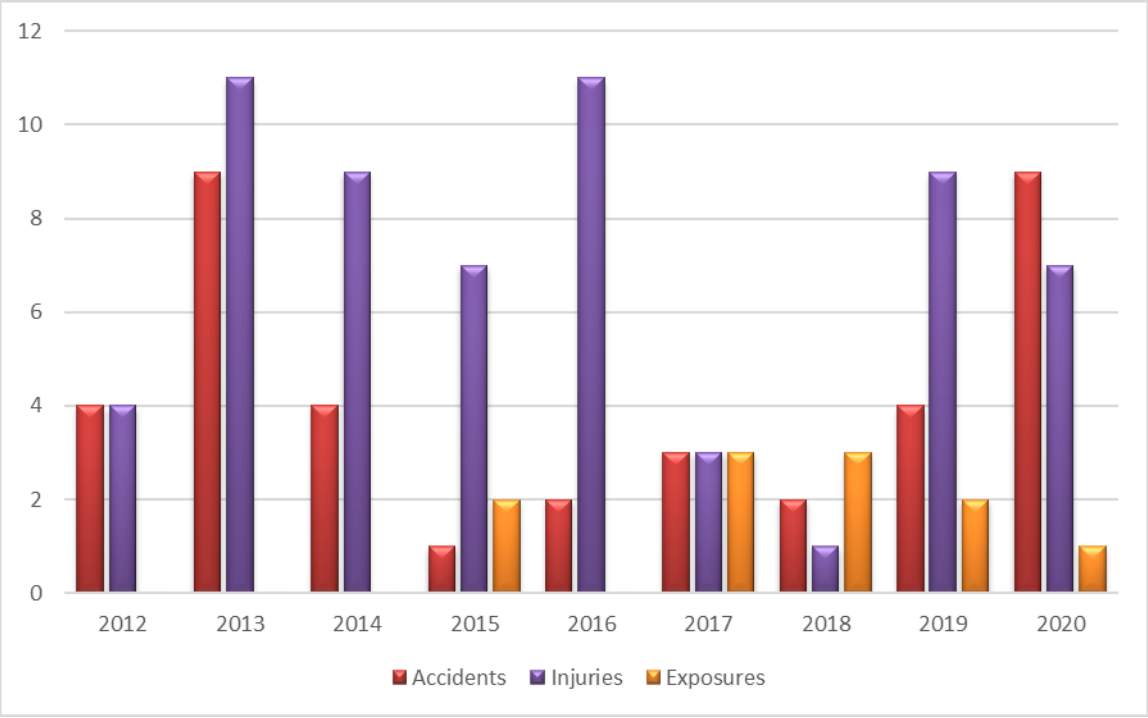
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department continues to emphasize safety in our work practices and procedures. The health and safety of our personnel is paramount to be able to effectively perform our duties. The Department's Safety Committee continues to be an integral part of the City's risk management plan.

Below are several of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's activities during the past year in the promotion of a safe working environment:

- Continued driver education training
- Continued mandated Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) training and mask fit-testing
- Continued promotion of the Department's Behavior Observation Program to identify areas of improvement for personal safety.
- Developed and delivered focused monthly safety messages

Accident/Injury Investigations

The Fire Rescue Department Safety Committee conducted a total of 14 accident/injury/exposure investigations for the year 2020. The following graph shows a comparison between previous years' accident/injury/exposure incidents:



*2015 is the first year we began to track exposures separate from injuries.

Fire Investigation Program

Lead Investigator—Deputy Chief Christopher Olsen

In 2020, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department investigated a total of nine fires within our jurisdiction. Our investigators are often able to work closely with fire investigators from other jurisdictions, as well as law enforcement and the Office of State Fire Marshal.

Fires are classified in one of four categories including: Accidental, Incendiary, Natural, or Undetermined. Most of the fires we investigate fall into the accidental or undetermined categories. Although the investigator may be able to determine where the fire originated, it is not as easy to determine the exact cause. Oftentimes, it takes specialized testing to determine the exact cause. This is primarily the responsibility of the insurance company's fire investigators.



A candle or cooking left unattended for a short time can cause damage to the house such as this kitchen above.



Improper use of electrical extension cords can lead to extensive damage in a building.

Station Locations



Fire Station One
100 W. Woodstock Street



Fire Station Three
844 Virginia Road



Fire Station Four
8705 Bard Road

Department Roster

Officers	Position
Paul DeRaedt	Fire Rescue Chief
Christopher Olsen	Deputy Fire Rescue Chief
Christopher Kopera	Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention
Richard Kaiser Jr.	Bureau Chief of Training
Jerry Larsen	Battalion Chief – Black Shift
Casey Cork	Lieutenant
John Volenec	Lieutenant
Brian Tamason	Lieutenant
William Whyte	Battalion Chief – Red Shift
Heidi Olsen	Lieutenant
Darrell Cook	Lieutenant
James Sustek	Lieutenant
Bob Kohley	Battalion Chief – Gold Shift
Dan Grischow	Lieutenant
Chris Angelo	Lieutenant
Chris Bedore	Lieutenant
Joyce Stevenson	Lieutenant

Support Staff

Linda Olszak	Administrative Assistant
Karyn Dorfman	Administrative Assistant
Art Lutherus	Fire Inspector
Chris Williams	Fire Inspector

Department Roster

Firefighter/Paramedics

Aiello, Mike
Bergstrom, Garret
Borst, Nick
Brechbiel, Bob
Bucheger, Adam
Chociej, Kamil
Delgado, Sergio
Forsberg, Joe
Fowles, Adam
Geyman, Michael
Gualdoni, James
Gundlach, Amanda
Hagen, Kim
Hagen, Scott
Havemann, Ed
Hurley, Mike
Jakubowicz, Ray
Kaltenbach, Dave
Kauke, Bryan
Kempe, Kyle
Kerley, Tim
Klug, Matt
Kownacki, Kevin
Kreher, Rich
Landwer, Mark
Leuck, Matt
Linneman, Tom
Lucas, Mike
Marino, Brian
Menzimer, Brian
Miller, Megan
Muscavitch, Ryan
Newton, Matt
Odishoo, Tim
Pace, Palmer
Pireh, Martin
Rosner, Joe
Ryan, John
Seyl, Robert
Smith, George
Spivey, Jim
Sypura, Andrew
Szatkowski, Dane
Thuma, Matt
Vega, Ramon
Walker, Curt
Williams, Dan
Wisz, Rob