



## FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Christian M. Bell, Chief

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Emergency Calls .....	911
Administration .....	715/839-5012
Inspections/Investigation .....	715/839-4825
After Hours .....	715/839-5013
E-mail .....	ecfire@eauclairewi.gov
City Website .....	www.eauclairewi.gov

### NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE:** January 24, 2018  
**TO:** All News Media  
**FROM:** Prevention / Inspections Division  
**SUBJECT:** ADOPT A FIRE HYDRANT

Eau Claire Fire and Rescue is asking residents of the Eau Claire community for their help in clearing snow and ice build-up from around fire hydrants. There are approximately 3,560 public fire hydrants within the city limits of Eau Claire.

Snowfalls and the associated plowing can lead to fire hydrants becoming obstructed and covered from view.

At a fire, fire personnel must quickly locate and access a water supply source from the closest fire hydrant. A hydrant buried in snow is difficult to locate, and valuable time must be spent digging it out. The time spent accessing a water supply may delay the fire attack allowing a fire to grow and prevent potential rescues.

For this reason, Eau Claire Fire and Rescue urges citizens to "Adopt a Fire Hydrant" in their neighborhoods for the winter season to ensure easy access for emergency responders. Clear snow from around the fire hydrant, 3 feet in all directions, and shovel a path from the street to the fire hydrant. These actions will allow fire personnel to quickly locate a fire hydrant and obtain a water supply for firefighting operations.

Please also take a few moments to make sure your home or business address is clearly visible from the roadway. The more readily we are able to identify your home or business, the quicker our crews will be able to arrive at your location and initiate life-saving actions.

If you have any questions about fire safety, please call the department's Fire Prevention Division at 839-4825.