

EAU CLAIRE FIRE & RESCUE



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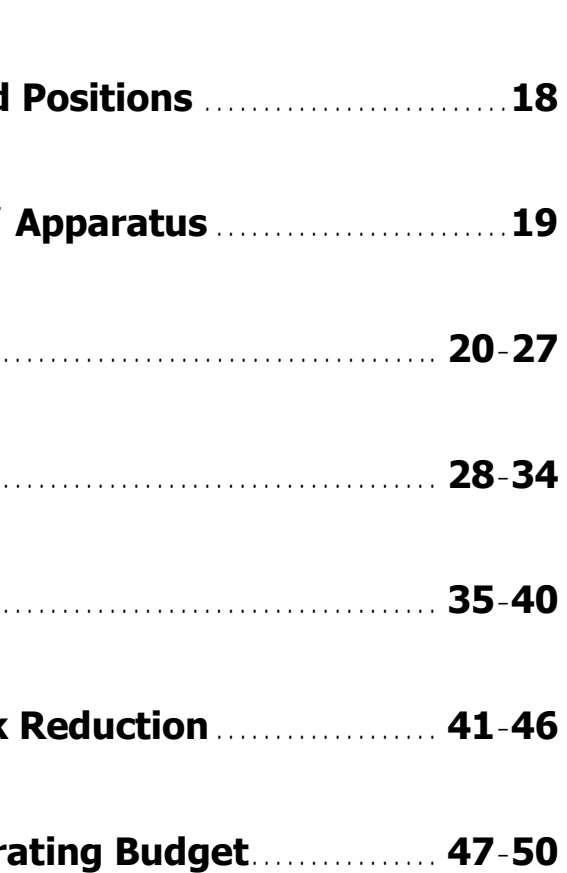
2018

Annual
Report



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March 18, 2019

TO: Police and Fire Commission Members
City Manager Dale Peters



On behalf of the men and women of Eau Claire Fire and Rescue and as fire chief, it is with great pride that I present to you the 2018 annual report that reflects the year's tremendous efforts and achievements. The men and women of this department serve with dedication and honor to ensure our citizens, regional partners, and visitors to our wonderful community receive the highest quality service on a daily basis.

In 2018, the department completed construction of the new fire station #10 on Malden Avenue. I am proud to say we completed this project on-time and under budget. This new fire station improves the response capabilities of the department for both fire and medical emergencies.

This year we successfully implemented a fourth frontline ambulance on the south side of the community in the form of a combination company. Medic 6, housed at station #6, responded to 1,323 medical emergencies for the year. While this combination company platform is sustaining our service delivery today, I recognize increasing demands for our emergency medical services will require additional resources in the future.

I remain grateful to our Regional EMS partners, who agreed to continue contracting with Eau Claire Fire and Rescue for the next ten years to provide Emergency Medical Services to their respective communities. Along with those agreements, the local hospitals: Marshfield Clinic Health System, Mayo Clinic Health System-Eau Claire, Oak Leaf Surgical Hospital, and Sacred Heart Hospital have continued their financial support of the Regional EMS program for the next four years.

I hope you enjoy the pages that follow as I believe you will find this report to be very informative and enlightening as to the activities the department manages on a day-to-day basis. The details of these activities will show how truly busy we are, and I give praise to the 94 men and women of this department whose efforts allow this department to function as efficiently as it does.

I am sincerely grateful to continue serving as fire chief and appreciate the strong support our organization receives from the Police and Fire Commission, City Council, city manager, and fellow City employees as we all strive to improve the quality of service for our citizens. I believe through our combined efforts we will build on past successes and provide for a bright future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Peters".

MISSION STATEMENT

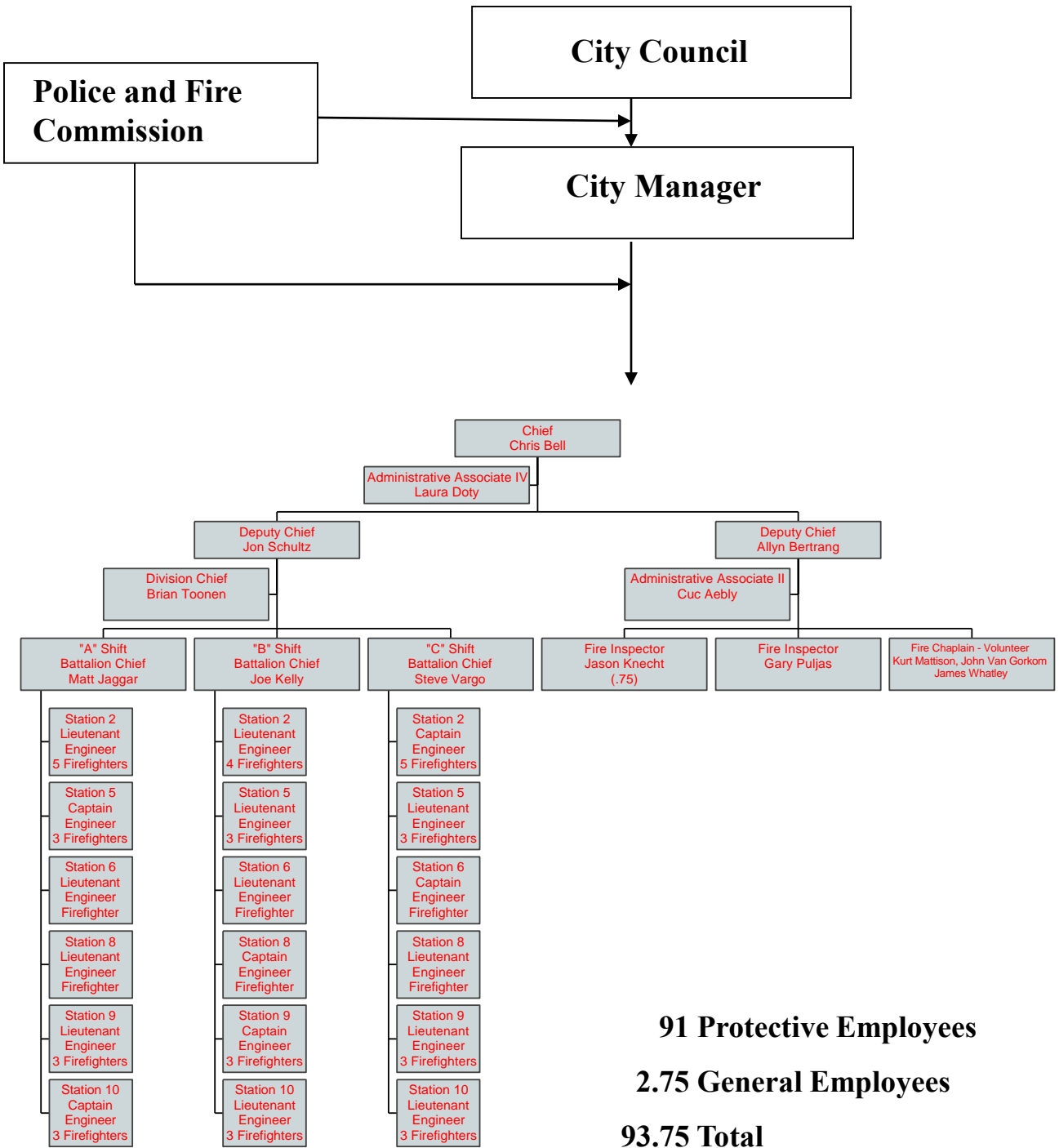
Eau Claire Fire and Rescue's mission is to public health and safety achieved through developing, promoting, and maintaining a comprehensive network of emergency medical services, fire prevention and suppression, technical rescue, and hazard mitigation.

Through progressive education, diligent training, and integrated communication, our team will collectively provide sustainable, high quality services focused on customer satisfaction and the prudent utilization of public funds.

VISION STATEMENT

Eau Claire Fire and Rescue will be a leading regional public health and safety partner by continually and actively promoting excellence in the performance of our duties.

We will support a dedicated membership of honest, accountable professionals who exemplify honor and integrity to build and retain public trust.



91 Protective Employees

2.75 General Employees

93.75 Total

3 Volunteers

**Stations 5, 6, 9 and 10 are
staffed for Paramedic Response**

Police and Fire Commission

	<u>Month Appointed</u>	<u>End of Term</u>
Daniel Kincaid <i>President</i>	May 2013	April 2023
Stephanie Finn <i>Vice-President</i>	January 2014	April 2022
Jill Barland	May 2009	April 2019
Dennis Pope	May 2010	April 2020
Disa Wahlstand	June 2016	April 2021

The Police and Fire Commission consists of five citizens who are appointed by the City Council for five-year terms. The Commission meets the third Thursday bi-monthly.

The Commission appoints the fire chief. The Commission approves or disapproves promotions and has supervision of the hiring process. The Commission certifies an eligibility list of candidates as potential new hires. It may also review citizen complaints, hear formal charges, and take disciplinary action against firefighters.



Chief Officers and Support Staff

Chris Bell
Fire Chief



Allyn Bertrang
Deputy Chief
Prevention-
Community Risk
Reduction



Jon Schultz
Deputy Chief
Operations-EMS



Brian Toonen
Division Chief
Training



Cuc Aebly
Admin Associate II
Prevention-Community
Risk Reduction



Laura Doty
Admin Associate IV
Administration



Steve Vargo
Battalion Chief
Hazardous Materials



Joe Kelly
Battalion Chief
Technical Rescue



Matt Jaggar
Battalion Chief
EMS



Inspectors



Gary Puljas
Inspector



Jason Knecht
Inspector

Captains



Bruce Buchholz
EMT



Dave Whitehouse
EMT



Jamie Burkhardt
Medic-Reserve



Bob Haller
Medic-Reserve



Tony Biasi
EMT



(Vacant)

Lieutenants



Bob Pratt
EMT



Brian Kranz
EMT



Chris Dolen
Medic-Reserve



Shawn Abrahamson
EMT



Andrew Dorn
EMT



Steve Secker
EMT



Jeremy Stary
EMT



Brian Phillips
EMT



Matt Gunderson
Medic-Reserve



Tom Wallin
EMT



Tony Hennings
Medic-Reserve



Brian Dorn
Medic-Reserve

Engineers



Mike Miller
Medic



Jeff Patrow
EMT



Kevin McClellan
EMT



Tom Rebischke
EMT



Scott Mohr
EMT



Todd Frank
Medic-Reserve



Bill Jensen
EMT



Pat Hamler
EMT



Dave Pekol
EMT



Tim Brantner
EMT



Mark Humphrey
EMT



Steve Friederichs
EMT



Dave Strassman
7 EMT



Ryan Hebert
Medic-Reserve



Nils Bergquist
Medic-Reserve



Jeff Dahl
EMT



Benji Norberg
Medic



Isaac Hahn
Medic

Firefighters



Frank Leffelman
EMT



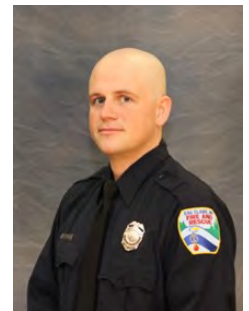
Greg Johnson
EMT



Brian Mero
Medic



Natasha Myre
Medic



Steve Rindt
Medic



Dan Schroeder
Medic-Reserve



Ryan Lesperance
Medic



Josh Olson
Medic



Tim McCaughey
Medic-Reserve



Todd Nutter
Medic



Stephen Weyers
Medic-Reserve



Chris Meyer
Medic-Reserve



Steve Patten
Medic



Nicolas Ledin
Medic



Korey Maves
Medic



Karl Johnson
Medic



Kevin Blaine
Medic



Taylor Quinnell
8 Medic



Schuyler Townsend
Medic



Jordan Watson
Medic



Andrew Robinson
Medic



Kurt Trunkel
Medic



Steve Merkel
Medic



Heather Harsh
Medic



Nathan Much
Medic



Peter Spencer
Medic



Christopher Nyhus
Medic



Shawn Willi
Medic



Michael Linstedt
Medic



Andrew Elbert
Medic



Aaron Crane
Medic



Dustin Quilling
Medic



Brett Klonecki
Medic



Tate Roselius
Medic



Jonathan Beck
Medic



John Sordahl
Medic



Daniel Lein
Medic-Reserve



Peter Colwell
Medic-Reserve



Luke Miller
Medic-Reserve



Logan Joerger
Medic-Reserve



Josh Woodward
Medic-Reserve



Leah Suzan
Medic-Reserve



Matthew Warren
Medic-Reserve



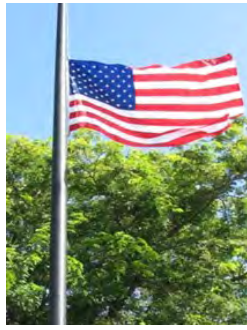
Kyle Frederickson
Medic-Reserve



Brandon Perron
EMT



Lucas Knipfer
EMT



(Vacant)

Medical Director



James Concannon, MD

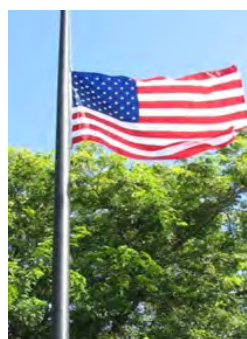
Chaplains



John Van Gorkom



James Whatley



Kurt Mattison

Firefighter Application and Hiring Process

Eau Claire Fire and Rescue utilizes a hiring process approved by the Police and Fire Commission and managed by the City of Eau Claire Human Resource Department. The process is a regional one administered by Chippewa Valley Technical College. Minimum qualifications to be hired with Eau Claire Fire and Rescue are:

- 18 years of age
- Valid driver's license
- High School Diploma or GED/HSED
- Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic at time of hire
- State of WI Firefighter I certification at time of hire
- WI Firefighter II within one year of hire date

In 2017 and 2018, representatives from the Eau Claire Police and Fire Commission and the fire department's administrative chief officers interviewed prospective firefighter applicants to establish the new hire eligibility lists. The department hired four firefighters in January of 2018 from the 2017-18 eligibility list and an additional two firefighters in July of 2018 from the 2018-19 eligibility list.



PERSONNEL MOVEMENT

New Hires:

Kyle Frederickson
Jason Knecht
Lucas Knipfer
Brandon Perron
Leah Suzan
Matthew Warren
Joshua Woodward

Promotions:

Jamie Burkhardt to Captain
Brian Dorn to Lieutenant
Isaac Hahn to Engineer
Benji Norberg to Engineer
Levi Vlcek to Engineer

Separations:

Brad Beuscher
Jeff Dykes
Dave Molitor
Levi Vlcek

Retirements:

Greg Stegge (Captain)
Dave Lombardo (Engineer)

Step Increases:

Kevin Blaine to First Class Firefighter

Karl Johnson to First Class Firefighter

Nicolas Ledin to First Class Firefighter

Korey Maves to First Class Firefighter

Steve Merkel to First Class Firefighter

Steve Patten to First Class Firefighter

Taylor Quinnell to First Class Firefighter

Andrew Robinson to First Class Firefighter

Schuyler Townsend to First Class Firefighter

Kurt Trunkel to First Class Firefighter

Jordan Watson to First Class Firefighter

Heather Harsh to Second Class Firefighter

Nathan Much to Second Class Firefighter

Peter Spencer to Second Class Firefighter

Andrew Elbert to Third Class Firefighter

Chris Nyhus to Third Class Firefighter

Michael Linstedt to Third Class Firefighter

Shawn Willi to Third Class Firefighter

Jonathan Beck to Fourth Class Firefighter

Aaron Crane to Fourth Class Firefighter

Brett Klonecki to Fourth Class Firefighter

Dave Molitor to Fourth Class Firefighter

Dustin Quilling to Fourth Class Firefighter

Tate Roselius to Fourth Class Firefighter

SENIORITY RECORD

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Aebly	Cuc	Administrative Associate II	05-08-89
Buchholz	Bruce	Captain	10-01-90
Miller	Michael	Engineer	04-06-92
Kelly	Joe	Battalion Chief	11-02-92
Pratt	Robert	Lieutenant	11-02-92
Patrow	Jeffrey	Engineer	10-04-93
Kranz	Brian	Lieutenant	06-05-95
Schultz	Jon	Deputy Chief	06-05-95
Bertrang	Allyn	Deputy Chief	09-16-96
McClellan	Kevin	Engineer	09-16-96
Dolen	Christopher	Lieutenant	09-16-96
Abrahamson	Shawn	Lieutenant	04-21-97
Bell	Christian	Chief	04-21-97
Vargo	Steven	Battalion Chief	04-21-97
Rebischke	Thomas	Engineer	04-21-97
Mohr	Scott	Engineer	10-20-97
Dorn	Andrew	Lieutenant	04-20-98
Frank	Todd	Engineer	04-20-98
Jaggar	Matthew	Battalion Chief	08-24-98
Whitehouse	David	Captain	08-24-98
Burkhardt	Jamie	Captain	08-24-98
Secker	Stephen	Lieutenant	02-15-99
Leffelman	Frank	Firefighter	02-15-99
Doty	Laura	Administrative Associate IV	06-28-99
Jensen	William	Engineer	11-01-99
Hamler	Patrick	Engineer	11-01-99
Pekol	David	Engineer	05-08-00

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Johnson	Gregory	Firefighter	05-08-00
Stary	Jeremy	Lieutenant	05-08-00
Toonen	Brian	Division Chief	04-09-01
Brantner	Timothy	Engineer	04-09-01
Phillips	Brian	Lieutenant	04-09-01
Humphrey	Mark	Engineer	10-22-01
Haller	Robert	Captain	08-19-02
Friederichs	Stephen	Engineer	08-19-02
Strassman	David	Engineer	08-19-02
Biasi	Tony	Captain	12-09-02
Gunderson	Matthew	Lieutenant	11-29-04
Hebert	Ryan	Engineer	11-29-04
Puljas	Gary	Inspector	01-27-06
Wallin	Thomas	Lieutenant	01-30-06
Bergquist	Nils	Engineer	08-07-06
Dahl	Jeffrey	Engineer	08-07-06
Hennings	Anthony	Lieutenant	01-08-07
Mero	Brian	Firefighter	07-09-07
Myre	Natasha	Firefighter	07-07-08
Rindt	Steven	Firefighter	07-07-08
Norberg	Benjamin	Engineer	07-07-08
Schroeder	Daniel	Firefighter	11-03-08
Hahn	Isaac	Engineer	07-13-09
Lesperance	Ryan	Firefighter	07-12-10
Olson	Joshua	Firefighter	07-12-10
Dorn	Brian	Lieutenant	06-20-11
McCaughey	Timothy	Firefighter	01-09-12

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Nutter	Todd	Firefighter	01-09-12
Weyers	Stephen	Firefighter	03-12-12
Meyer	Christian	Firefighter	08-27-12
Patten	Steven	Firefighter	07-15-13
Ledin	Nicolas	Firefighter	07-15-13
Maves	Korey	Firefighter	07-15-13
Johnson	Karl	Firefighter	07-15-13
Blaine	Kevin	Firefighter	09-30-13
Quinnell	Taylor	Firefighter	02-10-14
Townsend	Schuyler	Firefighter	02-10-14
Watson	Jordan	Firefighter	02-10-14
Robinson	Andrew	Firefighter	02-10-14
Trunkel	Kurt	Firefighter	02-10-14
Merkel	Steve	Firefighter	02-10-14
Harsh	Heather	Firefighter	07-14-14
Much	Nathan	Firefighter	07-14-14
Spencer	Peter	Firefighter	03-09-15
Nyhus	Christopher	Firefighter	07-20-15
Willi	Shawn	Firefighter	07-20-15
Linstedt	Michael	Firefighter	01-18-16
Elbert	Andrew	Firefighter	01-18-16
Crane	Aaron	Firefighter	07-11-16
Quilling	Dustin	Firefighter	07-11-16
Klonecki	Brett	Firefighter	07-11-16
Roselius	Tate	Firefighter	07-11-16
Beck	Jonathan	Firefighter	11-10-16
Sordahl	John	Firefighter	01-23-17

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Lein	Daniel	Firefighter	01-23-17
Colwell	Peter	Prob. Firefighter	07-10-17
Miller	Luke	Prob. Firefighter	07-10-17
Joerger	Logan	Prob. Firefighter	07-10-17
Woodward	Joshua	Prob. Firefighter	02-19-18
Suzan	Leah	Prob. Firefighter	02-19-18
Warren	Matthew	Prob. Firefighter	02-19-18
Frederickson	Kyle	Prob. Firefighter	02-19-18
Perron	Brandon	Prob. Firefighter	07-30-18
Knipfer	Lucas	Prob. Firefighter	07-30-18
Knecht	Jason	Inspector	10-01-18

AVERAGE AGE – 39

AVERAGE YEARS OF SERVICE – 12

**EAU CLAIRE FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 487
ELECTED POSITIONS**

PRESIDENT: Tony Hennings

VICE PRESIDENT: Tom Wallin

SECRETARY: Tim McCaughey

TREASURER: Andrew Robinson

GUIDE: Shawn Willi

SGT-AT-ARMS: Tom Rebeschke

STEWARDS: Todd Nutter (A-Shift)
Isaac Hahn (B-Shift)
Scott Mohr (C-Shift)

TRUSTEES: Jeff Dahl
Korey Maves
Taylor Quinnell

WORKING RELATIONS: Isaac Hahn
Tony Hennings
Karl Johnson
Tom Wallin

OPERATIONS

STATION LOCATIONS

Station 2—216 S. Dewey Street

- ◆ 4 Personnel per day
- ◆ Engine and Reserve Engine
- ◆ Heavy Rescue Unit
- ◆ Hazardous Materials Vehicle
- ◆ Hazardous Materials Equipment Trailer
- ◆ Battalion Chief Command Vehicle
- ◆ Fire Prevention Vehicle
- ◆ Rescue Boat
- ◆ Administrative and Prevention Offices



Station 5—2500 Patton Street

- ◆ 5 Personnel per day
- ◆ 75' Ladder Truck
- ◆ Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance
- ◆ Rescue Boat



Station 6—3020 Golf Road

- ◆ 3 Personnel per day
- ◆ Engine
- ◆ Paramedic Ambulance



Station 8—3510 Starr Avenue

- ◆ 3 Personnel per day
- ◆ Engine and Reserve Engine
- ◆ Rescue Boat



Station 9—3611 Campus Road

- ◆ 5 Personnel per day
- ◆ 105' Ladder Truck
- ◆ Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance (Bariatric Capable)
- ◆ Rescue Boat



Station 10—820 Malden Avenue

- ◆ 5 Personnel per day
- ◆ Engine
- ◆ Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance
- ◆ Brush Vehicle
- ◆ Special Rescue All-Terrain Vehicles
- ◆ Special Rescue Trailers (Tools/Materials)
- ◆ MCI (Mass Casualty Incident) Trailer
- ◆ Dive Boat



Health and Wellness

In 2018, all sworn fire department personnel participated in the respiratory questionnaire surveys that are necessary for personnel to wear Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Questionnaires were reviewed by a physician from Prevea Health.

Per NFPA 1582 –Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments, medical exams are required for all Haz Mat technicians. Prevea Health staff conducted 29 exams of department technicians.

Prevea Health also conducted six pre-employment medical exams and drug screens. These medical exams provide a medical baseline for new employees and ensure that new employees meet the medical requirements to perform the duties of a firefighter.

The City offers flu vaccinations to all its employees free of charge. The vaccinations are administered by the City's insurance carrier, Group Health Cooperative of Eau Claire.

Peer Support Program

In December, 15 fire department employees participated in peer support training along with members of the police department, human resources, communications center, and the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office.

Safety Committees

The department's Safety Committee is coordinated by the deputy chief of prevention as the department's health and safety officer. The Safety Committee meets at least six times a year to discuss health and safety topics. Committee members tour all six fire stations annually to conduct safety audits. The Safety Committee identifies any health and safety issues and brings forth issues requested by other department members. Members make recommendations to fire department administration for solutions to identified concerns.

The deputy chief of prevention participates as a member of the City of Eau Claire Joint Safety Committee to identify and address City-wide health and safety concerns. The committee meets on a quarterly basis at different locations throughout the city.



New Fire Station 10

In July, the fire department opened its new station #10 at 820 Malden Avenue. The new station replaces the former station 10 at 559 N. Hastings Way, which was built in 1949.

The new station was designed by Eau Claire's Five Bugles Design. A design team from the fire department worked with architects to create a space to meet the needs of the community and the department. The new station is 18,000 square feet and includes six separate dorm rooms and five apparatus bays. Its training room has a capacity for 32 personnel. A SCBA fill station allows crews to fill air bottles and cascade systems for our apparatus. The project came in slightly under its \$4.99 million budget. The location was chosen to provide better response to the city's northeast side and houses Engine 10 and Medic 10, along with their five personnel.

The design places an emphasis on cancer prevention. Separate ventilation systems prevent contaminated air from reaching the apparatus floor and other areas such as training rooms and living quarters. In addition, the station is equipped with diesel exhaust systems to clear out fumes from the fire apparatus. The station is equipped with a gear extractor to clean contaminated turnout gear and a washer and dryer to clean station wear after a fire. One of the biggest measures taken for cancer prevention was the installation of two decontamination showers. These showers are used to do a gross decon immediately after a fire. This allows crews to shower and clean contaminants off the skin. The steam from the shower serves to extract potentially dangerous particulates introduced to the firefighter's body during his/her actions fighting a fire. Research has shown firefighters have more than a 50 percent greater chance of developing cancer than other occupations. Many of the dangers are absorbed into the body through the skin. It has been established that sitting in a steam shower or sauna can help reduce the amount of dangerous toxins absorbed.



Division Goals for 2019

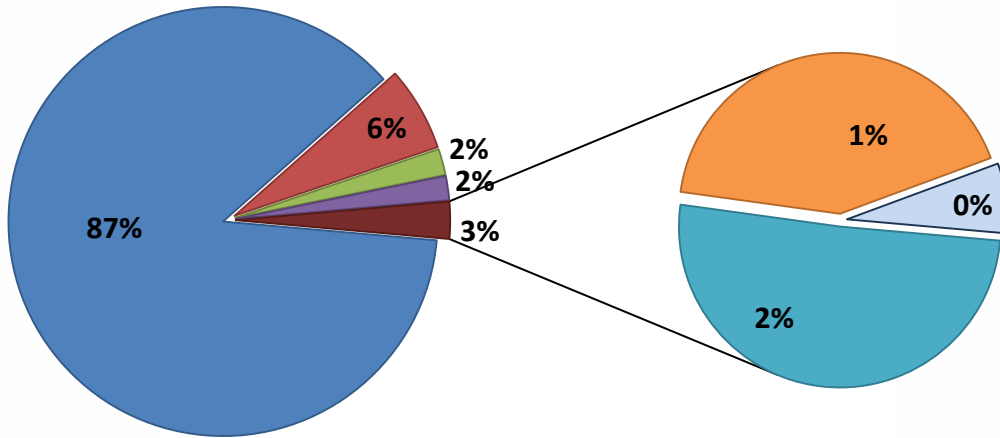
- Implement Target Solutions as the department's new web-based training platform that comprises both online courses and hands-on, instructor-lead drills. This new training platform will allow personnel to complete and manage fire, EMS, hazardous materials, and leadership development training online, which allows for better tracking of certifications and training for license renewal.
- Incorporate the department's existing EMS training program into the new Target Solutions platform while maintaining compliance with the State of Wisconsin licensure requirements for continuing education.
- Promote employee development by creating engaging growth opportunities focused on high quality service and customer satisfaction while improving the public health and safety of our community. This is achieved through progressive education, diligent training, and integrated communication.



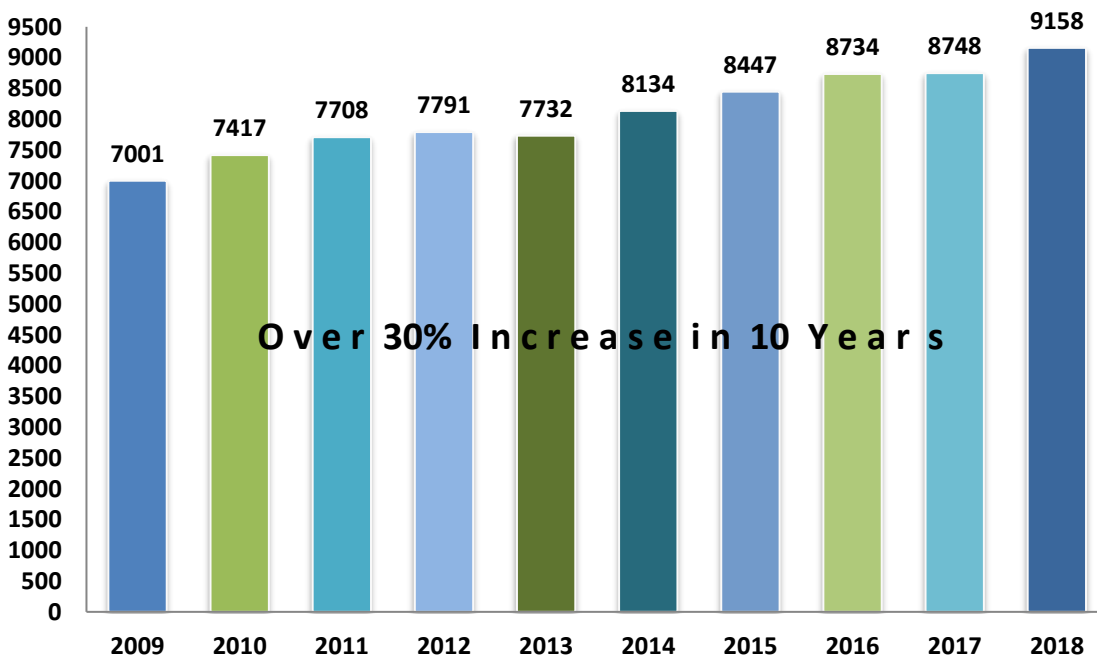
Response Breakdown

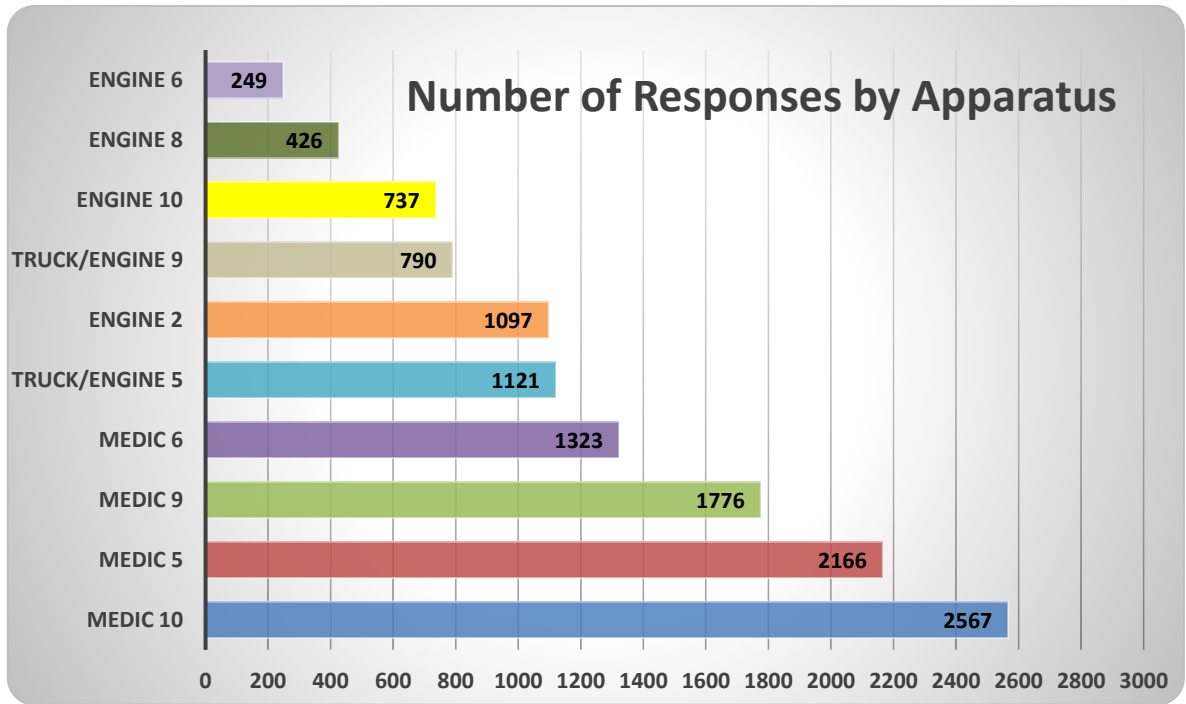
- EMS - 7,973
- Automatic Alarms - 581
- Good Intent - 181
- Hazardous Conditions - 167
- Service Calls - 130
- Fire - 108
- Special Request - 18

TOTAL - 9,158

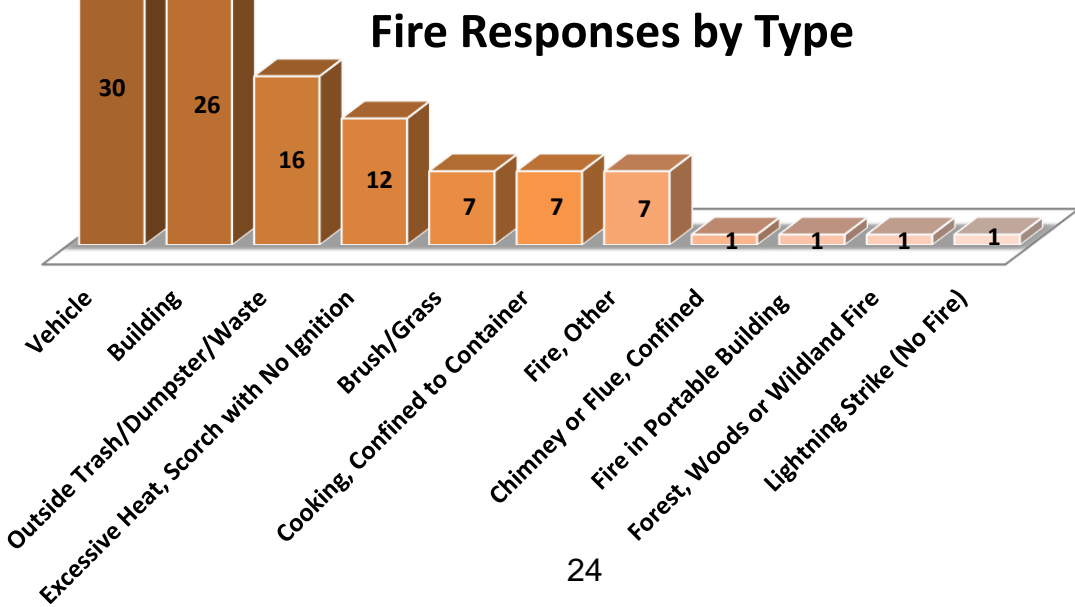
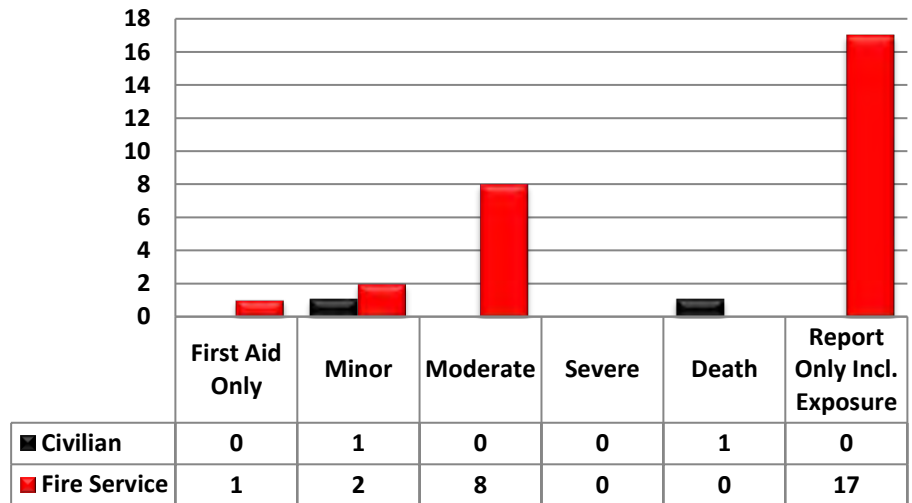


10-Year Total Responses





Fire Casualties

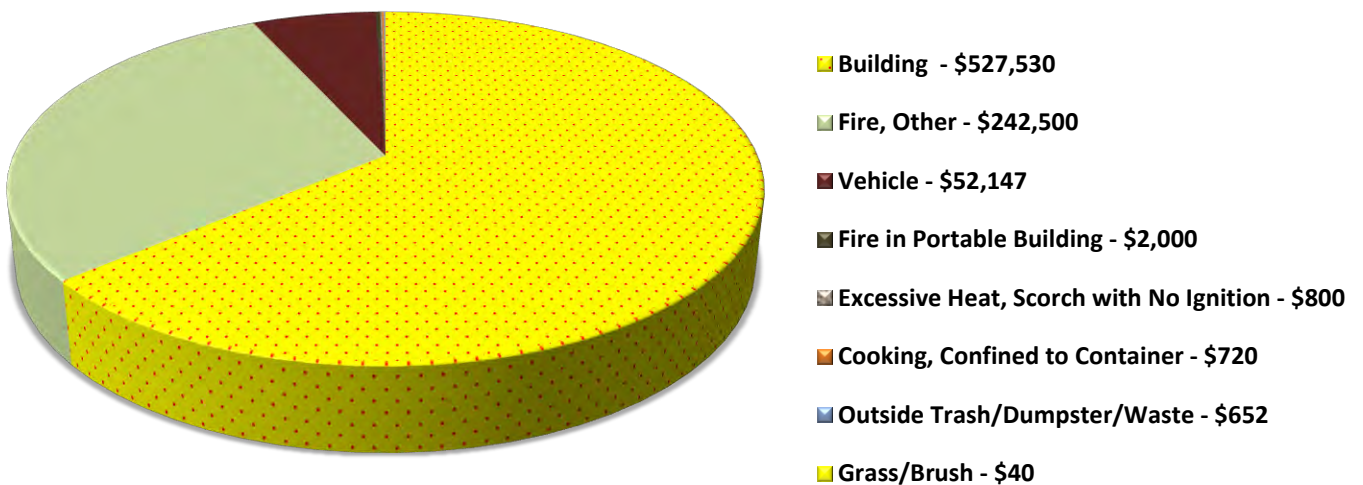




TOP 10 FIRES BY CAUSE AND DOLLAR LOSS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CAUSE</u>	<u>DOLLAR LOSS</u>
03-24-18	6426 Prairie Park Dr.	Accidental / Undetermined	\$270,000
09-18-18	800 Wisconsin St.	Manufacturing Machine Malfunction	\$220,000
06-05-18	301 Water St.	Incendiary	\$ 68,000
04-10-18	3316 Oakland St.	Careless Discard of Smoking Materials	\$ 53,000
12-09-18	1106 Mondovi Rd.	Malfunctioning Hair Vacuum Appliance	\$ 45,000
05-26-18	1135 W. MacArthur Ave.	Careless Use of LP Gas Torch	\$ 33,000
05-01-18	1311 Summit St.	Undetermined	\$ 24,700
03-27-18	1703 Sherwin Ave.	Electrical	\$ 11,000
03-16-18	2328 Eddy Ln.	Incendiary	\$ 10,000
08-02-18	800 Wisconsin St	Manufacturing Machine Malfunction	\$ 10,000

TOTAL FIRE LOSS FOR 2018 = \$826,389





OPERATIONS

Water Rescue Operations

Eau Claire Fire and Rescue is currently staffed with 83 firefighters, all of whom are trained in the many aspects of water rescue. With two major river systems in our community, we respond to emergencies involving ice, swift water, SCUBA and water rescue in both lake and river water bodies. Unpredictable currents, seasonal flooding, and underwater debris and entanglements combine to present a very challenging environment for rescuers.

The Eau Claire Fire Department Dive Rescue unit consists of 16 rescue divers certified in Advanced Open Water and Ice Diving. Some dive personnel have completed additional technical certifications for Rescue, Cave, and Divemaster. In 2018, department personnel logged over 779 hours of training in different aspects of water rescue. Water safety educational presentations were combined with a quarterly SCUBA training at ECASD middle schools to provide all students an opportunity to learn while observing rescue divers practicing skills in a more controlled environment.



2018 Highlights

The steady growth in popularity and usage of our area waterways contributed to 12 water-related emergency incidents.

- In February, personnel entered the Chippewa River on foot to get a flotation device to a person in the water. This section of the river did not allow for boat access due to shallow water areas. Firefighters wearing cold-water rescue suits assisted him to the shoreline. Multiple personnel were required to move the person up the steep riverbank and onto an ambulance cot. The person was treated and transported to an area hospital.
- In March, firefighters responded to the Chippewa River for a person in the water. Fire personnel attempted to assist the victim to shore by throwing a rescue rope. The victim was shivering and made no attempt to reach for the rope. A firefighter in a cold-water suit entered the water and made direct contact with the individual. He was assisted to shore, provided treatment, and transported to an area hospital.

OPERATIONS

- In December, personnel responded to a person who had fallen through thin ice on Half-Moon Lake in the middle of the night. Rescuers observed an individual clinging to the ice edge and in verbal contact with Eau Claire Police. A firefighter secured him using a personal flotation vest and then moved him onto an inflatable rescue craft. The victim and rescuer were then pulled off of the thin ice and to shore where the individual was treated and transported to an area hospital.

Hazardous Materials Team (HMT)

The team is comprised of 42 members trained to the Technician or Specialist level who can respond to hazardous materials emergencies that affect life safety, property, and/or environmental conservation. The HMT is a joint venture between Eau Claire Fire and Rescue and Chippewa Falls Fire and Emergency Services as part of the State of Wisconsin Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team and is designated as a Type I (one of two in the state) team. Team members participate in monthly training throughout the year including various exercises with other state and local resources. The team is continually updating and maintaining its equipment, which includes detection and identification of unknown substances and radiological detection.

2018 Highlights



- Incident Responses
The HMT worked with an area bomb squad and law enforcement to assess the presence of explosive materials and/or chemical compounds found at an incident scene.

On two occasions, the HMT worked with law enforcement agencies to survey confiscated material for the presence of hazardous materials.

The HMT responded to and surveyed an incident involving a radiological material that was improperly discarded.

- Training
Team members attended monthly training within our departments, in addition to training sessions conducted by the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene and the 54th Civil Support Team (CST) based in Madison.



Several team members attended Hazardous Material Specialist training at Colorado and Nevada FEMA facilities; the training highlights were then presented to all team members.

- Equipment Purchased
The HMT purchased four new Level A Hazardous Materials suits and several new intrinsically safe portable radios to utilize at incident scenes. The team's leadership aggressively pursues available grant monies for equipment purchases.

TRAINING

In 2018, the Training Division focused on implementing a universal theme on which to center the monthly training sessions. Monthly multi-company, hands-on-training sessions were held to accomplish the goals and objectives specific to the department's operations and industry standards. Additional self-study and company training opportunities based on the monthly theme were distributed through the use of a monthly training bulletin.

The Training Division staff includes a division chief and all captains and lieutenants who are assigned a training specialty. Training specialties are assigned to officers who lead the instruction of multi-company trainings. During the firefighter recruit academies, line personnel who express interest in training are selected to help facilitate the development of the new recruits.

2018 Highlights

- **New Personnel**
Six new recruits graduated from two separate recruit academies. Recruits entered the academies with various state fire and paramedic certifications and skills. Their skills were assessed and refined to reflect the organization's operations and procedures.
- **Fire Training**
Multi Company training was conducted monthly and centered on a variety of disciplines from firefighting to technical rescues. The Training Division worked with other City departments and area businesses to acquire structures throughout the city to offer a realistic and diverse training environment.
- **EMS Training**
ECFD partnered with Chippewa Valley Technical College to provide a combination of classroom and hands-on training for all paramedics and EMTs. This fulfilled the refresher and continuing education requirements approved through the Wisconsin EMS Section to maintain licensures. The department's medical director, Dr. James Concannon, assisted with overview of this and other in-house EMS training.
- **Hazardous Materials Training**
The Haz Mat team continued to work on accomplishing the training requirements set forth by NFPA 472 by meeting the job performance requirements over a two-year cycle. Selected team members were sent to obtain specialist certifications by attending FEMA funded training around the country. A competency drill was conducted in May with the 54th Civil Support Team out of Madison. The two-day drill took place in Chippewa Falls and Eau Claire and involved the mitigation of Haz Mat incident.
- **Fire Service Supervisory Training Program**
The first phase of an officer development program was implemented. This program was established to provide field training for prospective fire officers. It also allows the



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trainee to perform in the capacity of a fire officer and receive direct supervision and immediate feedback.

- **Training Videos**

In collaboration with the City's Information Technology Department, ECFD established a YouTube training channel that allows members to view past training sessions. It proved to be a good platform for users to view video tutorials and for equipment review and orientation.

Captains' Specialty Activities

- Technical Rescue – Capt. Bruce Buchholz

In February, the recruits reviewed the confined space equipment and were given scenarios by Lt. Drew Dorn to become familiar with the equipment and the Suggested Operating Guidelines (SOGs) the department uses for emergencies.

Also in February Lt. Bob Pratt held vehicle extrication training for the new recruits. A local salvage yard provided a car on which to use the tools and sharpen employee skills. Each shift was given a couple of vehicles to practice cutting apart. The instructors were Lt. Brian Phillips (lead), Lt. Pratt, and Lt. Tom Wallin.

New recruits Kyle Frederickson, Leah Suzan, Matthew Warren, and Josh Woodward were given high and low angle rescue training in March. After reviewing the equipment, Capt. Buchholz gave each recruit the opportunity to do patient packaging, hauling, repelling, and operating the belay line. Also in March the recruits practiced firefighter survival techniques. This included moving a down firefighter, ladder bails, window bails, rope bails, wire entanglements, air conservation techniques, and calling for a MAYDAY.

In April, Lt. Dorn (lead), Lt. Tony Hennings, and Lt. Wallin provided instruction to all department members on horizontal confined space training.

The ambulances were equipped with body armor for active shooter incidents. All department members had familiarization training on the equipment for proper donning and specs.

In July, Lt. Dorn, Lt. Hennings, and Lt. Jeremy Stary provided vertical shoring for light collapse rescue training for all personnel. Attendees were provided with Paratech Systems equipment and demonstrated the ability to properly assemble temporary post shoring for building collapse scenarios using "T" spot shore and double "T" shore. Personnel were then given building materials to build "T" spot shore, double "T" spot shore, window shore, and a door shore.



TRAINING

In August, Capt. Buchholz provided new firefighter recruits Brandon Perron and Lucas Knipfer with a high and low angle rescue class. After reviewing the equipment, Capt. Buchholz gave each recruit the chance to do patient packaging, hauling, repelling, and operating the belay line.

Also that month the recruits reviewed the confined space equipment and were given scenarios by Lt. Dorn to get familiar with the equipment and the SOGs (Suggested Operating Guidelines) the fire department uses for emergencies.

Lt. Matt Gunderson worked with the new recruits covering air transfer UAC, MMR swap, face piece swap, EBBS, SCBA harness drag, and FAST drills.

With the increase of active shooter incidents, in October the department conducted rescue task force training and scenarios. Lt. Dorn was the lead instructor and was assisted by Div. Chief Brian Toonen and Capt. Burkhardt.

The power extrication tools on Squad 2 have been upgraded and refurbished. The hoses have been upgraded to OSC (One Step Coupler). The electric pump and the gas pump have been refurbished. With these improvements, the equipment is expected to last several more years.

Hazardous Materials – Capt. Jeff Dykes

The Eau Claire Fire Department Tier 1 Haz Mat team started the first of its two-year training rotation in 2018. The two-year rotation is scheduled to ensure all job performance requirements (JPRs) are covered within the two-year window. This will be the first full rotation under the new Level A team member training focus where team members undergo more in-depth training while periodically including all Level B team members when appropriate topics are covered.

In January, all Tier 1 team members took part in foundational terminology training that covered JPR 9 and NFPA 7.3.5. All team members conducted research and personal study prior to the training, which required a terminology and research worksheet. Team members then came together to discuss the terms, many of them advanced and scientific. Lastly, all team members were required to test one Level A haz mat suit. Historically, one team member would test all suits; however, after discussion it was determined advantageous to have all team members proficient in the suit testing procedures to further diversify our members' skills and knowledge.

In February, Capt. Burkhardt and Lt. Brian Kranz attended the annual Wisconsin Association of Hazardous Materials Responders (WAHMR) conference in Stevens Point. Both attended numerous break-out sessions covering a variety of topics from air monitoring to meth lab operations. Capt. Burkhardt and Lt. Kranz also attended the Wisconsin State Haz Mat team coordinators meeting that preceded the conference.

TRAINING

In March, Capt. Dykes presented a Chemical Properties class to all department members, as well as to all Chippewa Falls Fire and Emergency Services members. The class was based on previous training acquired at Volk Field. Contained within the lesson plan was a new chemical research worksheet to help team members identify the properties of a known substance and gain the necessary knowledge to implement an Incident Action Plan (IAP). The worksheet was revised and updated throughout the class, resulting in a comprehensive evaluation of the chemical that both departments can use on future incidents.



In April, all Tier 1 team members conducted realistic leak training on a one-ton chlorine container. The prop was placed in low visibility conditions with smoke. Team members donned Level A suits and made entry to apply the leak kit. Team members found this training both beneficial and challenging, with each evolution producing a more efficient response. The training was possible due to CVTC letting the department use its one-ton prop. This training satisfied the 1B and 3A JPR.

In May, ECFD invited railcar experts from Union Pacific to conduct familiarization training with a hands-on application. Joe Eichten presented a railcar review from a haz mat perspective to all Tier 1 members. Topics included identification, rail contact resources, leak mitigation, safety, and roles/responsibilities. He also provided valuable resources to the ECFD that will allow our organization to better respond to railcar incidents in the future. This training fulfilled the 1C JPR.

In June, all Tier 1 members conducted a site pre-plan of Eau Claire's American Ice plant where a large amount of ammonia is in use and thus considered a high risk entity. The owner of American Ice, Bob Moelter, conducted a thorough review of his operations including risks and leak mitigation. Team members reported their appreciation of Bob's thoroughness and felt better prepared to mitigate a leak if an incident were to occur. Further training is scheduled for American Ice later in 2018 during which team members will construct and implement an IAP. This training satisfied, in part, JPRs 8C and 11 in conjunction with NFPA 7.3.

Suppression – Capt. Bob Haller

January began with the implementation of a combination station at Station 6. A combination station utilizes either an engine or an ambulance staffed by a three-person crew depending on the type of call for service that is received. Historically, Station 6 housed a front-line ladder truck company with a reserve engine staffed with an officer, engineer, and firefighter. In December of 2017, the ladder truck was moved to Station 5, and the engine from Station 5 was moved to Station 6. At the beginning of the year, the reserve engine was moved to Station 2 and the reserve ambulance was moved to Station 6, where the reserve ambulance began responding to EMS calls in its newly created EMS district.

TRAINING

The Strategies and Tactics Committee continues to evaluate the needs of the department in its fire suppression activities. The 2.5 inch pre-connect hose lines are being upgraded with smooth-bore nozzles to allow for improved fire attack. Personnel also are evaluating the use of battery-powered tools such as chainsaws. Battery-powered tools are less prone to failure on the fire ground due to reduced oxygen, they do not create increased carbon monoxide levels, and they keep volatile chemicals such as gasoline from being exposed to fire on the scene. Portable radio communications are being evaluated and potentially upgraded with channel locks and repeater time-outs. These upgrades should help the firefighter stay on the appropriate radio frequency and prevent the channel from being locked open from a radio failure.

Suppression responses were successful in the second half, as evidenced by the “Keep the Wreath Green” initiative over the holiday season having only one red bulb representing a reportable structure fire. This is a good indicator that prevention and suppression activities are working efficiently and effectively in its efforts to reduce fires in the city.

The Strategies and Tactics Committee continues to evaluate equipment needs and fire suppression tactics. Portable radios have been reconfigured with channel locks and repeater timeouts. This should help the firefighter stay on the appropriate radio frequency and prevent the channel from being locked open from a radio failure.

Special Rescue – Capts. Jamie Burkhardt and Dave Whitehouse

In March 1, fire recruit training in water/ice rescue was held at Half Moon Lake, the YMCA and Station 2. The new firefighters reviewed and demonstrated various water and ice rescue techniques and were evaluated for swimming abilities.

The department received a new SeaArk 2072 CUB water rescue boat. This larger boat allows for dramatically increased stability when performing water and SCUBA operations and has the capacity to safely transport both sufficient personnel and the required equipment necessary for SCUBA operations. The boat was placed at Station 10 and incorporates many needed features. A fold-out dive/recovery platform allows divers to be safely supported when entering and exiting the water. It allows for the donning/doffing of SCUBA equipment while divers are seated inside the boat. This will reduce damage and potential injuries like we’ve experienced in the past when hoisting the equipment over the side rails of our previous boats. This platform will be fitted to allow the transport of drowning recoveries without the need to place victims inside the boat, greatly reducing bio-hazard exposures associated with these types of incidents. Also incorporated is a pair of side grab rails for divers to secure themselves while in water alongside the boat. Further, the boat is outfitted with a side imaging sonar unit to allow for ECFD map display and depth information.

Two new Lowrance sonar units have been installed on Boat 5. These were offered to the department through ECPD. The HDS-12 side scanning sonar unit provides a very large HD display, which will enhance the ability to identify drowning victims more clearly with greater definition. This was mounted towards the bow on a swivel base to allow a dedicated sonar operator better visibility when searching. A smaller HDS unit was

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installed near the stern to provide the boat operator with ECFD mapping and depth information to increase safe navigation. These units are networked and can share information and display options.

ECFD personnel completed bathymetric mapping of the lower Chippewa River from Maple Street to south of the Short Street Bridge. This water depth map was loaded into sonar units on ECFD boats normally responding to this area. The map will allow for more accurate navigation of this section of the Chippewa River where many shallow areas have caused damage to our equipment in the past. The lighted sonar displays will increase boat operator confidence and safety when navigating at night. This map is available to be displayed on mobile phone/tablet applications. Mapping of the upper Chippewa River began during boat training in May.

In February, SCUBA rescue training for all dive rescue personnel was held at ECASD middle school pools. This training allowed personnel to review basic SCUBA skills in a very controlled environment while providing a great learning opportunity for the middle school students. Fire Prevention personnel presented water safety information to students as they observed the rescue divers train.

In May, SCUBA rescue training for all dive rescue personnel was held on the upper Chippewa River near Mt. Simon Park. This boat-based training was held in mild current areas where deep water also was present. Divers encountered large obstacles that presented challenging operations for both divers and support personnel. This training was combined with boat operation sessions due to limited schedule opportunities. Personnel familiarized themselves with the operation of the new dive rescue boat and the new larger motor on Boat 5. Personnel were provided the opportunity to use the new sonar equipment on Boat 5 and familiarize themselves with their operation.

Personnel continued bathymetric mapping of the Upper Chippewa River in Dells Pond. Third quarter SCUBA rescue training for all dive rescue personnel was held on Dells Pond in July. This training allowed personnel to review SCUBA search patterns and dive operations while operating from dive rescue Boat 10. Personnel worked in a low visibility environment with greater depths. Personnel also practiced recovery of small objects using fine-search techniques.

In August, training in water and ice rescue was held for new fire recruits at Riverview Park and at fire station 2. The firefighters reviewed and demonstrated various water and ice rescue techniques and were evaluated for swimming abilities.

Fourth quarter SCUBA rescue training for all dive rescue personnel was held at Half Moon Lake in October. Attendees practiced shore-based search operations and locating an object thrown from bridge.

On November 8, personnel responded to a report of a missing person in the Chippewa River. ECFD personnel used side scanning sonar to search for the possible drowning victim over a number of days. Bruce's Legacy also assisted with this operation. Altoona

TRAINING

FD and Township FD were dispatched the same day to a second possible drowning in the Eau Claire River.

All department personnel took part in ice rescue training on Half Moon Lake in December. This training gave personnel an opportunity to review ice rescue techniques using cold water rescue suits, ice/water rescue victim slings, and the RDC (Rapid Deployment Craft).

On December 8, ECFD personnel rescued a person who had fallen through thin ice on Half Moon Lake. The victim was removed from the water using the RDC and then treated by EMS personnel.

Training in the latter months of 2018 shifted to winter operations and ice rescue. Several swift water rescue suits were identified as needing repair. In the summer months, the suits are used during both water rescues and training evolutions to maintain proficiency in rescue techniques. With this use, several suits develop tears in the rubber head and wrist seals that are designed to prevent water from entering the suits. These repairs will be completed over the winter. Other specialty items include the compressed air cascade system at station 8. This compressor system provides the ability to fill our self-contained breathing apparatus, or air bottles, that we use during structure fires. In the fall, the system required servicing by 5 Alarm Fire and Safety to repair and replace a carbon monoxide valve. Repairs were completed during December.

The department took possession of a heavy-duty trailer for dive rescue Boat 10. This larger trailer was requested to better accommodate the increased loads expected with the additional equipment required for rescue operations.



Medical Director

In February, the department's EMS Division welcomed Dr. James Concannon as its new Medical Director, succeeding Dr. Stephanie Wagner. Dr. Concannon is a part of Infinity Healthcare and is on-staff as an emergency department physician at Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire and St. Joseph's Hospital in Chippewa Falls. He also is Associate Medical Director and Quality Director for emergency services in Chippewa Falls. Dr. Concannon is a board-certified emergency physician who attended medical school at Creighton University and completed his residency at University of Illinois Hospital. His previous EMS experience is as a trauma center EMT and Medical Director for Kenosha County and Kenosha Fire Department.

2018 Highlights

- Defibrillators Purchase

In January, the department took delivery of six Physio Control Lifepak 15 monitor defibrillators for the ambulances and ten Lifepak 1000 Automatic External Defibrillators for the fire apparatus. EMTs and paramedics were trained in their use, and the new pieces of equipment were placed into service in February. These defibrillators replaced devices that were ten years old and contained outdated technology. The LP15s allow EMS crews to quickly transmit EKGs to the receiving hospital pre-arrival to help decrease the time to definitive treatment. They also allow for transmission of data from the monitor to the electronic Patient Care Report for more accurate reporting.



Lifepak 15 Defibrillator - \$30,000

- New Ambulance

The department took delivery of a new ambulance in February, and it was placed into service at station #5. This ambulance is an additional truck that was needed due to moving an ambulance to station 6 bringing our fleet total to 7 paramedic equipped ambulances.

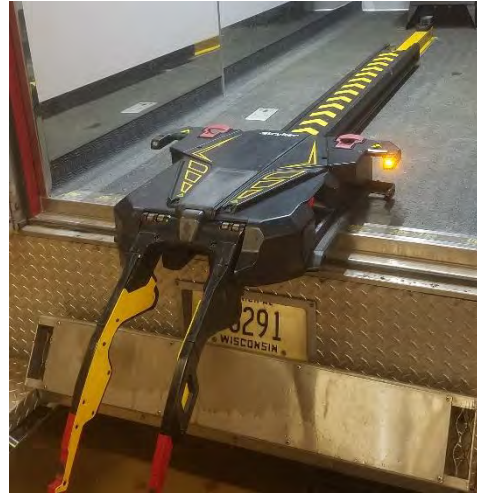


EMS

The department added a new Stryker cot and power load system to this new truck. The power load is a load assist device that limits lifting of our patients when loading them into the ambulance.



Stryker Ambulance Cot - \$17,000

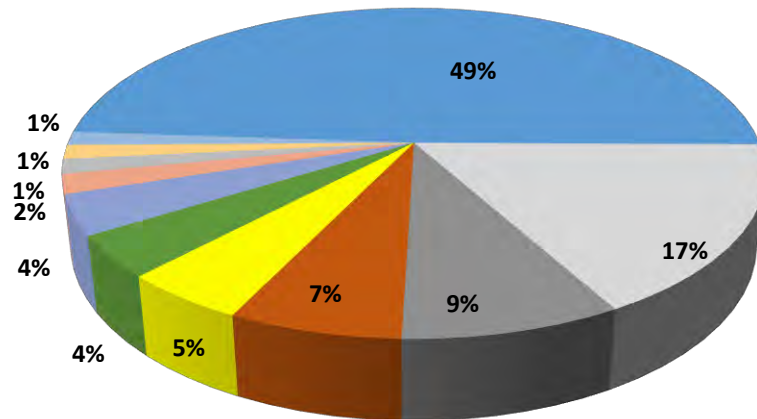


Power Load System - \$22,500

- **Ambulance Placement at Station 6**
In January, an ambulance was placed in service at Station 6 on Golf Road in addition to the fire apparatus. That station's three-person crew began operating as a combination company - meaning they respond with either an ambulance or an engine depending on the type of incident dispatched. With this addition, the fire department has four primary ambulances to respond to EMS incidents.
- **Regional EMS**
The contracts for providing EMS transport to the local municipalities were restructured with a new funding model to take effect in 2019. The ten-year agreements phase out the subsidies provided to the municipalities by Marshfield Clinic Health System, Mayo Clinic Health System-Eau Claire, Oak Leaf Surgical Hospital, and Sacred Heart Hospital over the next four years while transferring the cost of the service to the individual municipalities over the next ten years. Eau Claire Fire and Rescue provides regional EMS transport to the City of Altoona; Village of Fall Creek; Towns of Brunswick, Clear Creek, Drammen, Lincoln, Ludington, Pleasant Valley, Seymour, Union, and Washington in Eau Claire County; and the Towns of Rock Creek and Spring Brook in Dunn County, as well as the City of Eau Claire.

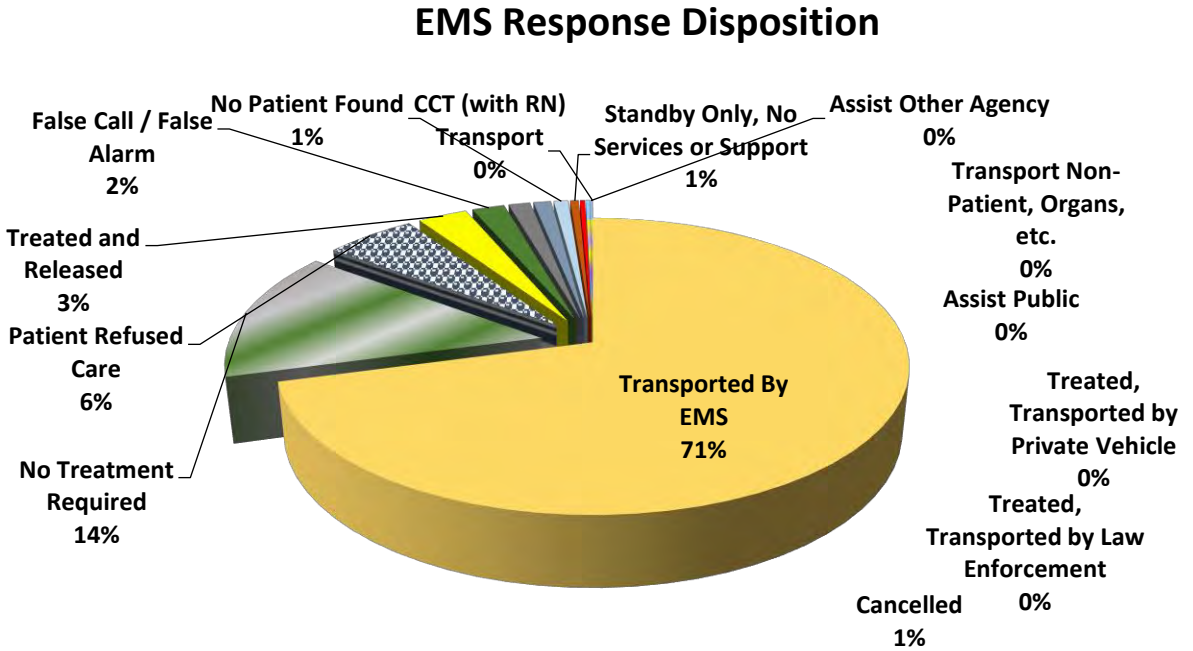
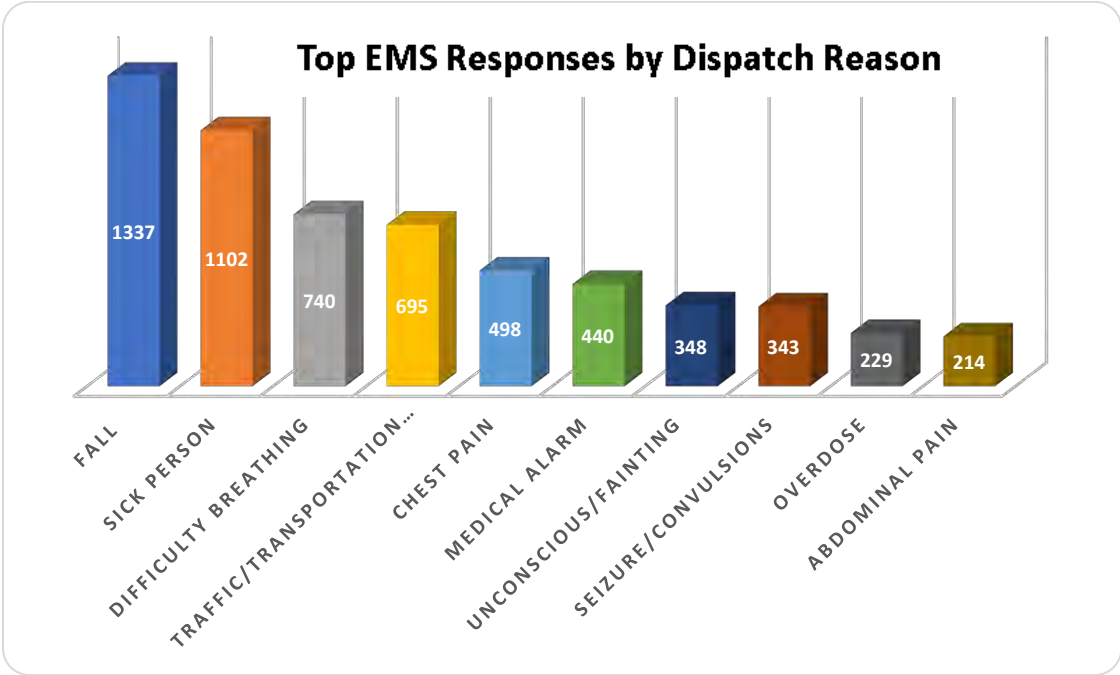
Regional EMS Responses

■ Altoona - 853	■ Washington - 291	■ Union - 149	■ Seymour - 117
■ Fall Creek - 85	■ Brunswick - 71	■ Pleasant Valley - 68	■ Ludington - 33
■ Rock Creek - 25	■ Spring Brook - 24	■ Lincoln - 23	

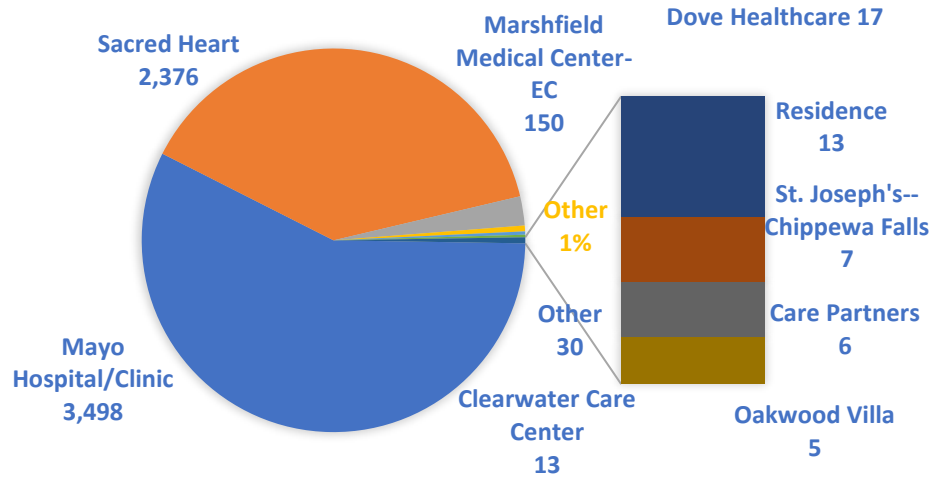


- **Multi-Agency Active Shooter Drill**
 In May, fire department EMTs and paramedics took part in a multi-agency active shooter drill at the University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire. Department EMTs and paramedics worked with ECPD, ECSO, and UWEC police as a Rescue Task Force to provide care and extricate and transport multiple patients in a simulated mass shooting drill.
- **Cardiac Arrest Responses**
 Fire department personnel responded to 97 patients in cardiac arrest for the year. EMS crews were able to restore a pulse to 29, or 30%, of these patients prior to arrival at the hospital. This success can be attributed to teamwork among dispatch, law enforcement, and fire and EMS personnel. Dispatch-assisted CPR, quick response, early CPR by law enforcement and first responders, and Eau Claire Fire paramedics providing high quality CPR, defibrillation and advanced life support while remaining on-scene for the duration of the arrest have shown to improve survivability rates from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest.

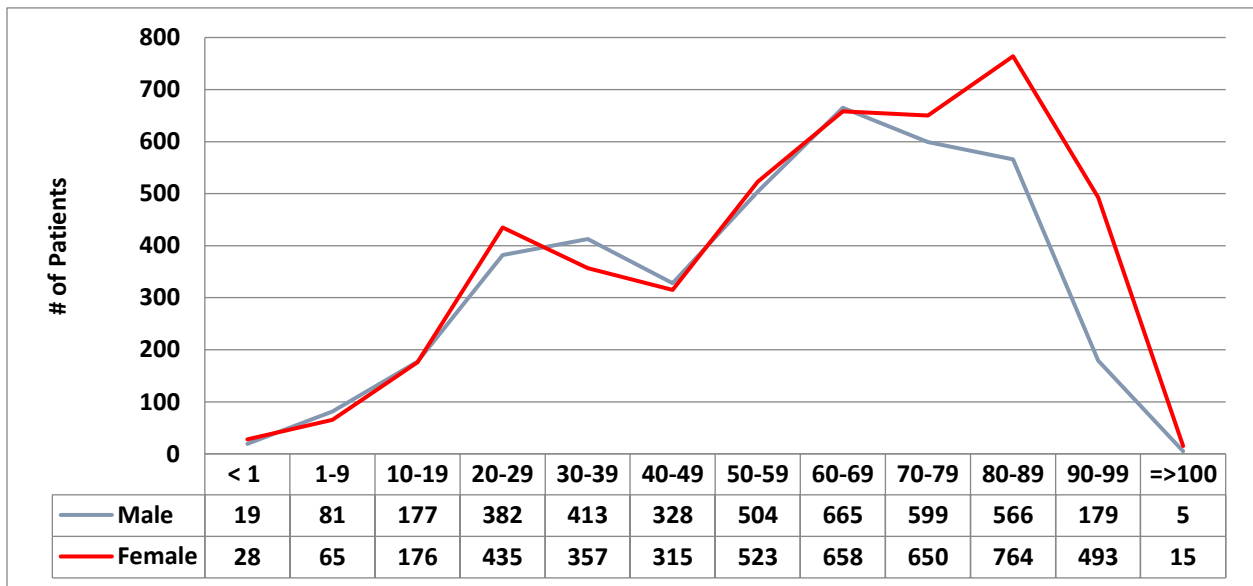




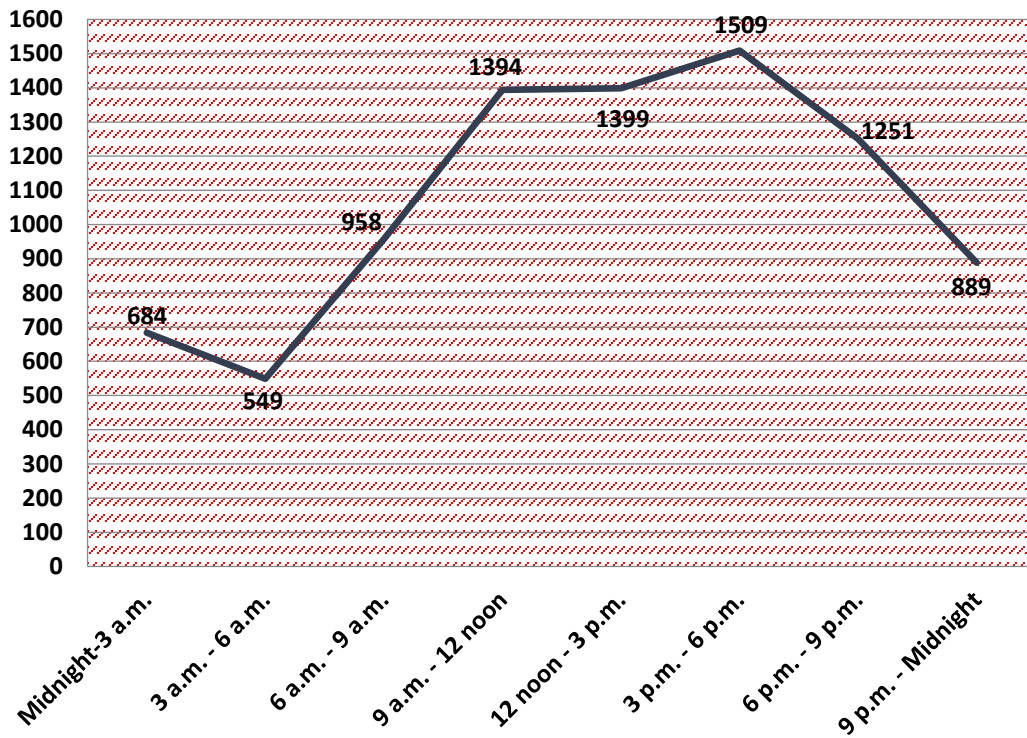
Patient Transport Destinations



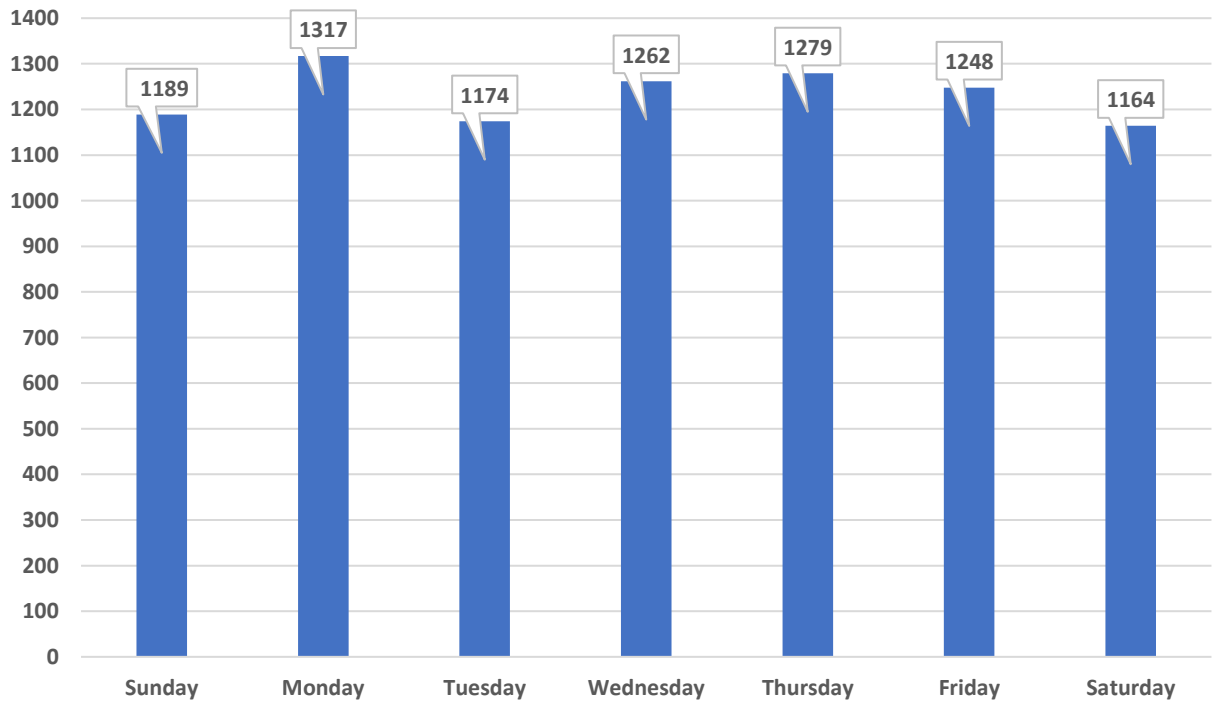
Patient by Age and Gender



Fire-Medic Units EMS Responses by Hour of Day



Fire-Medic Units EMS Responses by Day of Week



PREVENTION- COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Eau Claire Fire and Rescue is responsible for investigating and determining the cause and origin of all fires within the City of Eau Claire. These fires include but are not limited to: structure fires, vehicle fires, vegetation fires, rubbish fires, and fire of suspicious or unknown origin and cause. Initially at all fires, the investigation process is started by on-scene suppression personnel. The continuance of the investigation is conducted by the two fire inspectors from the Prevention-Community Risk Reduction Division. In 2018, personnel conducted 59 fire investigations.

Fire department inspectors also provide training and education to suppression personnel for fire investigation related topics. Inspectors participate in periodic training throughout the year and keep up-to-date certifications related to fire scene investigations.

Personnel Changes

Jason Knecht joined the department as a civilian fire inspector in October. Inspector Knecht was a 20-year employee with the City of Eau Claire at the time of transfer to the fire department from the Communications Center.

Training and Certifications

To stay current on fire and building codes, the fire inspectors attend and participate in code update and professional educational conferences and seminars. These conferences include the Wisconsin IAAI Arson spring conference and the fall WSFIA Fire Inspectors' conference.

In February, D.C. Bertrang and five company officers participated in *40-Hour Fundamentals of Fire Investigation* training. The training was hosted by Eau Claire Fire Rescue and Chippewa Valley Technical College and conducted by instructors from the International Association of Arson Investigators.

Significant Cases

A focus of the division in the area of fire investigation continues to be arson. Collaborative efforts are made in arson cases - working with the Eau Claire Police Department, the Eau Claire County DA's office, and the State Fire Marshall's office. Commonly, arson cases may take months or years to close.

This year the fire inspectors investigated three fire incidents caused by arson. These included structure fires on Eddy Lane and Water Street, along with one wildland fire on Pine Ridge Road.

Several fires during 2018 were started by improperly discarded cigarettes. Division staff will address this issue within the community in 2019 with a goal of no fires related to smoking materials.

PREVENTION- COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Follow-Up Investigations/Actions

The fire inspectors conducted 38 follow-up investigations for minor fire incidents and other calls for service. Follow-up investigation includes reviewing reports, logs, and photos completed by line personnel for completeness. When necessary, inspectors follow up with community members for additional information and to offer assistance. All effort is made to educate the involved parties for future fire safety and risk reduction.

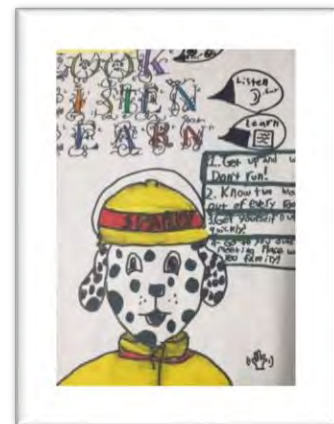
Juvenile Firesetter Program

Fire inspectors participate in the Juvenile Firesetter Program for at-risk children who have started fires. This is done in a proactive effort to intervene with children and help them learn to make different choices concerning fire safety. In 2018, there were three incidents within the city in which juveniles were suspected. Through investigation, it was determined the fires were started by juveniles. In a joint effort with the Eau Claire Police Department and Eau Claire County Juvenile Intake Services, the children involved met with a fire inspector to learn the dangers of fire and how severe the outcomes of their actions could have been. It is the intent of the Juvenile Fire Setter Program that these proactive steps can change behavior and prevent the juvenile's behavior from escalating.

Student Education

In April and May our department personnel—along with police, funeral home staff, and the local hospitals—presented Prom programs to local high school students. This program brings awareness to the issues of alcohol and driving. The department supplies an engine crew, an ambulance crew, and the deputy chief of prevention to participate in a mock drinking-and-driving crash scene.

As an annual community education initiative, fire prevention education in the schools was held in the fall. Personnel from the engine and ambulance companies presented programs to students in grades K – 3 at 18 schools. A fire inspector was available at each school to help set up and troubleshoot any problems with the program or equipment. All students again received coupons from Taco John's with a message reminding parents to change the batteries in their smoke detectors. There is a 3rd Grade Fire Prevention Poster Contest that incorporates the fire prevention theme for the year. This year's theme was, "**Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere.**" The winners of the contest, a male student from Longfellow Elementary and a female student from Robbins Elementary, each received a new bicycle and helmet.



In spring, the ambulance companies—along with inspectors —presented the spring water and medical emergencies safety program to students in grades 4 and 5. Inspectors provided instruction to the 4-year-old kindergarten program, EC4T. There were over 800 children at 19 sites involved in this program.

Fire Inspections / 2% Dues

Department members conduct annual fire inspections of all businesses within the city to ensure code compliance with SPS 314 and NFPA 1. The primary goal is to identify fire and safety hazards within businesses and provide assistance to owners and occupants to mitigate any hazards.

For the year, fire department line personnel conducted 4,989 fire inspections of businesses within the City of Eau Claire. Additionally, Prevention personnel conducted many follow-up inspections for violations found during the initial inspections. As the result of these fire inspection and fire prevention efforts, \$206,684.85 was reimbursed to the City of Eau Claire by the State of Wisconsin.

Prevention staff conducted 72 fire drills in 2018.

Plan Reviews / Inspections

The City of Eau Claire assesses fees for fire sprinkler plan reviews and inspections; kitchen hood inspections; adult family home and group home inspections; tent inspections; fire alarm inspections, and new business license inspections. This year was a very busy construction season with many plan reviews being done. The following reviews and inspections were done in 2018: Sprinkler System Hydro Tests – 30; Sprinkler System Inspections – 33; Water Main Hydro Tests – 20; Construction Projects Plan Review – 45; Adult Family Homes – 19; Tent Inspections – 49; License Inspections – 49; Mobile Food Kitchen Inspections – 7; Open Flame Performances – 1; Fireworks Retail Sales – 19; Fire Alarm Systems – 33; Hood Systems – 48; Fireworks Displays – 11; and Extinguisher Training – 13.

It is common for the Prevention Division to receive reports of unsafe living conditions. Prevention personnel were involved in four situations involving unsafe living conditions. These situations are specific to the individual but on average require multiple visits and ongoing contact to resolve.

B.C. Joe Kelly is a certified aboveground/underground storage tank inspector. During 2018, he conducted 120 inspections at 29 sites. Some sites contain multiple tanks to be inspected. There also were 10 tank removals and 4 tank installs requiring multiple inspections per site.

Code Enforcement

Throughout the year the fire inspectors work with and advise developers, contractors, and owners on construction projects. The inspectors provide code enforcement, mandatory construction inspections of sprinkler systems, site visits and fire safety advice as it relates to their specific project needs.

Product Safety/Recall

Personnel continue to identify and report information for appliances and other equipment that is involved in or potentially involved in causing fires. Identification of these products aids in tracking trends related to fire loss. Often, manufacturers recall products based on trends identified by fire service investigations.

Community Outreach Programs

In 2018, community outreach programs continued to reduce risk within the city by providing activities and programs during non-emergency situations. Some of the activities included:

- Smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector installations in homes where these devices are not currently present or working. The Division targeted homes at greater risk due to inability to obtain devices or a reduced likelihood of self-rescue should an emergency occur.
- Participation in the wellness fair at UWEC providing on-site information and answering questions from event participants.
- Participation in the Doll and Pet Parade and Heroes Night at an Eau Claire Express baseball game. At both events, members of the community were able to view fire department equipment and talk with personnel about fire safety.
- Safety Camp at Carson Park. This day camp is for children entering fourth and fifth grades. D.C. Bertrang presented a program on water safety to over 100 participants on the first day of camp. Line personnel showed children fire engines and demonstrated fire safety with the use of the fire safety house.
- The National Night Out Against Crime is a national police department awareness program that strengthens neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, thus sending a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back against crime. This annual event was held at Owen Park in August. An engine crew, an ambulance crew, and Sparky the Fire Dog spent several hours displaying to community members the equipment we use to help keep the community safe and answered any questions they had. This event attracts well over 2,000 participants.
- Personnel were involved with the Kids Expo, a safety event for the children of the Chippewa Valley and surrounding areas. This event draws 2,000-4,000 adults and



PREVENTION- COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

children. At this event, families are able to view fire apparatus and equipment and ask questions.

- Department personnel were invited to nine block parties in the city. At these events, personnel are able to meet people within the community and participate in the block party event.
- Throughout the year, the department received 42 requests for public education. These requests included: fire station tours, career awareness, and ride-a-longs.



Emergency Preparedness and Special Events

The Prevention Division continues work in partnership with other departments and agencies to ensure the City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire County stay prepared for any and all emergencies that might occur. Examples of those collaborative efforts are:

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Committee (PHEP) meets regularly to discuss health and safety-related issues within Eau Claire County that affect all facets of our community. The PHEP committee is coordinated by the Eau Claire City/County Health Department.

The Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office leads the Child Abduction Response Team (CART), which takes proactive approaches to prevent the abduction of children and has pre-planned systems in place for locating and rescuing children who have been abducted. The deputy chief of prevention is the department's representative on the CART committee.

In 2018, the Chippewa Valley Air Show took place at the airport, and the Eau Claire Marathon occurred across a large portion of the city, beginning and ending at Carson Park. Both large-scale events require emergency operations planning. The Prevention Division took a lead role in pre-planning both events and in putting an emergency operations plan in place prior to the events. Both events draw many thousand participants and spectators.

PREVENTION- COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

For the year, the City of Eau Claire had 108 special events within the city limits. The department is a partner in the planning of all special events within the city and in many cases has a presence at or participation in the event activities.

Fire department personnel also provide services to events outside the city limits. Examples include the Silvermine Invitational Ski Jump, Blue Ox Music Festival, Eau Claire Music Fest, and Winterfest.

Division Goals for 2019

- Implement a college safety program for high school seniors and incoming college freshmen and introduce these students to the community-wide RAVE system for emergency notifications.
- Implement a drug and alcohol awareness program for 6th graders in the Eau Claire middle schools.
- Implement a process improvement plan with the goal of improving fire code enforcement through engagement with the community and business owners.
- Implement a fire safety and risk reduction program for senior citizens by working collaboratively with other governmental and non-profit agencies that provide services to senior citizens.



**Grand Opening of the Bitty City Fire Station
at the Children's Museum of Eau Claire**

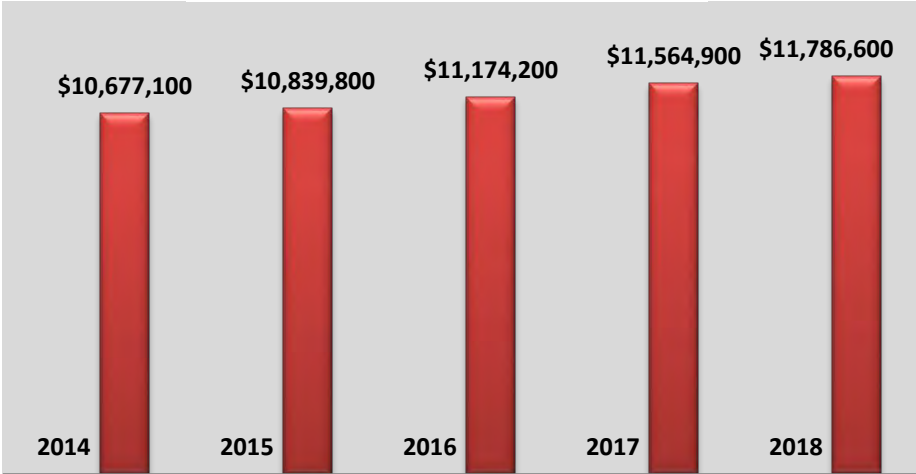


Grants

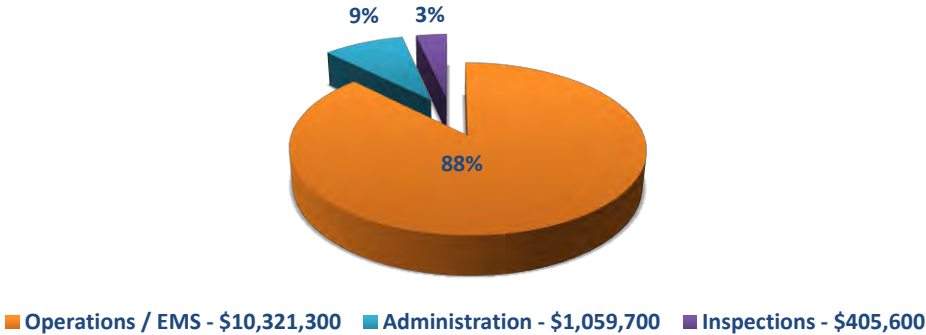
In 2018, the department applied for a Forestry Fire Protection grant with the Wisconsin DNR for the purchase of personal protective equipment. The grant was awarded with a 50% match. Purchases of this equipment will be made in the spring of 2019.

Application was made for Assistance to Firefighters grant monies through the Department of Homeland Security to purchase two load systems for ambulances and seven automatic chest compression devices. Awards will be announced in 2019.

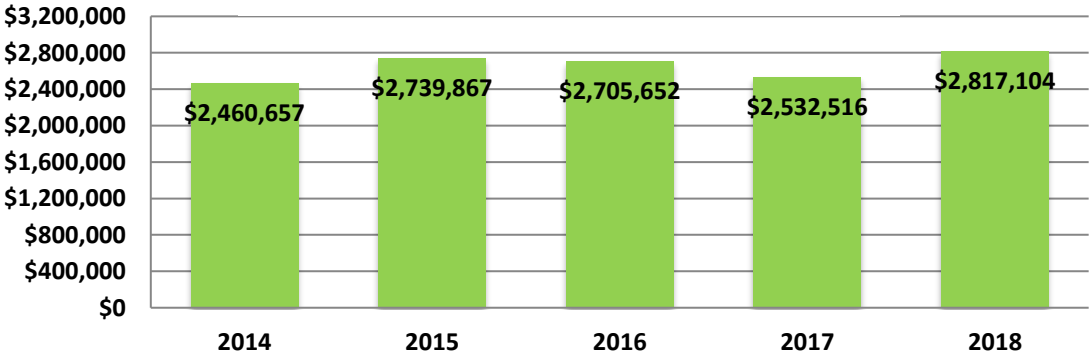
5-Year Budget Comparison



Operating Budget by Division



Net Ambulance Revenue





City of Eau Claire 2019 Adopted Operating Budget

Fire & Rescue Department: Overview

Eau Claire Fire & Rescue is responsible for rendering fire prevention, fire suppression, hazardous materials, special rescue services and emergency medical services for the City of Eau Claire. Its emergency medical services response area includes surrounding communities consisting of 11 townships, 1 village and 1 city. The department also manages the Hazardous Materials (Haz Mat) Response program to provide statewide hazardous material spill response. Response is provided 24 hours a day, 365 days a year from six stations.



Fire & Rescue Department Expenditure Summary

	2017 Actual	2018 Adopted	2018 6 Month Actual	2018 Projection	2019 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 10,189,234	\$ 10,484,000	\$ 4,891,099	\$ 10,286,843	\$ 10,840,000
Contractual Services	906,736	896,800	456,375	903,100	909,200
Utilities	77,877	90,000	45,843	79,200	92,400
Fixed Charges	128,661	128,100	63,950	128,100	128,100
Materials & Supplies	169,638	187,700	91,262	239,200	184,100
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	<u>\$ 11,472,146</u>	<u>\$ 11,786,600</u>	<u>\$ 5,548,529</u>	<u>\$ 11,636,443</u>	<u>\$ 12,153,800</u>

	2017	2018	2019
Administration			
Authorized Full-Time			
Fire Chief	1.00	1.00	1.00
Administrative Associate IV	1.00	1.00	1.00
Total FTE Positions	<u>2.00</u>	<u>2.00</u>	<u>2.00</u>
Operations-EMS			
Authorized Full-Time			
Deputy Fire Chief	1.00	1.00	1.00
Division Fire Chief	1.00	1.00	1.00
Battalion Chief	3.00	3.00	3.00
Fire Captain	6.00	6.00	6.00
Fire Lieutenant	12.00	12.00	12.00
Fire Equipment Operator	18.00	18.00	18.00
Firefighter	47.00	47.00	47.00
Total FTE Positions	<u>88.00</u>	<u>88.00</u>	<u>88.00</u>
Prevention- Community Risk Reduction			
Authorized Full-Time			
Deputy Fire Chief	1.00	1.00	1.00
Lead Fire Inspector	1.00	1.00	0.00
Fire Inspector-Civilian	0.75	0.75	1.75
Administrative Associate II	1.00	1.00	1.00
Total FTE Positions	<u>3.75</u>	<u>3.75</u>	<u>3.75</u>



City of Eau Claire 2019 Adopted Operating Budget

Fire & Rescue Department - Administration Expenditure Summary

	2017 Actual	2018 Adopted	2018 6 Month Actual	2018 Projection	2019 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 895,282	\$ 872,200	\$ 454,750	\$ 843,900	\$ 1,028,600
Contractual Services	70,932	82,200	41,574	75,700	84,700
Utilities	73,310	86,000	42,327	72,300	87,400
Fixed Charges	3,200	3,200	1,600	3,200	3,200
Materials & Supplies	6,608	16,100	4,240	10,600	28,600
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	\$ 1,049,331	\$ 1,059,700	\$ 544,490	\$ 1,005,700	\$ 1,232,500

Fire & Rescue Department - Operations / EMS Expenditure Summary

	2017 Actual	2018 Adopted	2018 6 Month Actual	2018 Projection	2019 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 8,894,918	\$ 9,220,800	\$ 4,270,057	\$ 9,099,543	\$ 9,408,800
Contractual Services	824,834	808,800	411,812	822,300	818,700
Utilities	4,567	4,000	3,517	6,900	5,000
Fixed Charges	119,861	119,300	59,550	119,300	119,300
Materials & Supplies	160,441	168,400	86,116	226,900	152,300
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	\$ 10,004,621	\$ 10,321,300	\$ 4,831,052	\$ 10,274,943	\$ 10,504,100

Fire & Rescue Department - Community Risk Reduction Expenditure Summary

	2017 Actual	2018 Adopted	2018 6 Month Actual	2018 Projection	2019 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 399,034	\$ 391,000	\$ 166,291	\$ 343,400	\$ 402,600
Contractual Services	10,971	5,800	2,988	5,100	5,800
Fixed Charges	5,600	5,600	2,800	5,600	5,600
Materials & Supplies	2,590	3,200	906	1,700	3,200
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	\$ 418,195	\$ 405,600	\$ 172,986	\$ 355,800	\$ 417,200



City of Eau Claire 2019 Adopted Operating Budget

Hazardous Materials Response

The Hazardous Materials Response Fund was established in 1996 to account for responses to hazardous materials spills. The Northwest Wisconsin Hazardous Materials Taskforce is a joint venture between Eau Claire Fire and Rescue and Chippewa Falls Fire and Emergency Services. The team is contracted with the State of Wisconsin to deliver hazardous materials response to a statewide area – primarily northwestern Wisconsin. City of Eau Claire tax dollars are not used to operate the team; the State of Wisconsin provides grant funding. The team is designated a Type 1 team (one of only two in the state) and thus capable of responding to incidents involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

42 Personnel are assigned to the Hazardous Materials Response Team

- 29 Members from Eau Claire Fire Department.
- 13 Members from Chippewa Falls Fire Department.



Hazardous Materials Budget Summary

	2017 Actual	2018 Adopted	2018 6 Month Actual	2018 Projection	2019 Adopted
Revenue s & Other Financing Sources:					
Intergovernmental	\$ 95,160	\$ 116,000	\$ 59,131	\$ 87,000	\$ 116,000
Charges For Services	-	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
Miscellaneous	931	300	850	1,200	300
Revenue s & Other Financing Sources: Total	<u>96,091</u>	<u>118,300</u>	<u>59,981</u>	<u>90,200</u>	<u>118,300</u>
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	47,551	48,900	25,619	47,600	48,900
Contractual Services	19,859	24,400	14,485	22,100	24,400
Utilities	134	1,200	247	400	1,200
Fixed Charges	3,000	3,000	1,500	3,000	3,000
Materials & Supplies	14,524	19,700	1,468	12,700	19,700
Contributions & Other Payments	36,626	28,100	16,979	28,100	28,100
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	<u>121,694</u>	<u>125,300</u>	<u>60,298</u>	<u>113,900</u>	<u>125,300</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Sources over Uses	<u>\$ (25,603)</u>	<u>\$ (7,000)</u>	<u>\$ (317)</u>	<u>\$ (23,700)</u>	<u>\$ (7,000)</u>
Available Fund Balance:					
Restricted:					
Grant Proceeds	\$ 144,872			\$ 121,172	\$ 114,172
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 144,872</u>			<u>\$ 121,172</u>	<u>\$ 114,172</u>