Annual Report



2022



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April 14, 2023

TO: Police and Fire Commission Members
City Manager Stephanie Hirsch

On behalf of all members of the Eau Claire Fire Department, I am proud to present the 2022 annual report. This group of outstanding individuals serve with great commitment and integrity to ensure our citizens, regional partners, and visitors to our amazing community receive the highest quality service on a daily basis.

In 2022, the Equ Claire Fire Department responded to a record high 10,644 calls for service. The busiest ambulance was Medic 10 with 2,695 calls. The busiest fire apparatus was Engine 2 with 1,409 responses. The busiest area of the city was the Station 2 zone with 1,909 Incidents.

This past year, the fire department remodeled and expanded fire station 6 in anticipation of adding additional personnel. Station 6 currently operates as a combination station with a daily staffing level of three personnel who cross-staff both a fire engine and an ambulance. In November, the City of Eau Claire was successful in receiving favorable support for a protective services referendum. It provided the fire department with six additional firefighters beginning in 2023. This additional staffing will allow the department to fully staff station 6 with three personnel on the engine and two personnel on the ambulance, a staffing model already in place at stations 5, 9 and 10.

I hope you find this report enjoyable to read as it highlights the important service we provide to our community and brings focus on the emergencies we manage on a daily basis. 2022 was my last full year with the organization. The Eau Claire Fire Department has very capable leaders to continue moving forward. I commend the 94 men and women of this department whose efforts allow it to function as effectively as it does. I sincerely appreciate serving as fire chief and am grateful for the guiding support the department receives from the Police and Fire Commission, City Council, and fellow City employees. We all strive to cooperatively and efficiently provide the highest level of service. I am confident 2023 will build upon past successes and continue to provide a safe community for all those we serve.

Fire Chief

Cofin 3000

MISSION STATEMENT

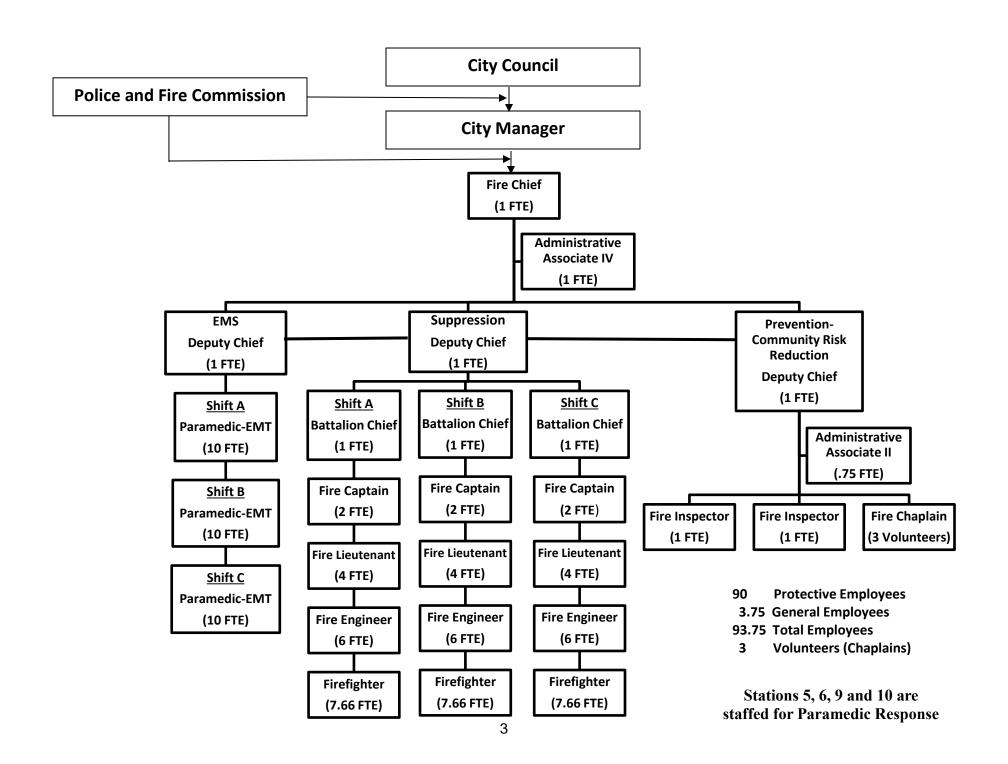
Eau Claire Fire and Rescue's mission is to public health and safety achieved through developing, promoting, and maintaining a comprehensive network of emergency medical services, fire prevention and suppression, technical rescue, and hazard mitigation.

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.



Police and Fire Commission

	Month Appointed	End of Term
Daniel Kincaid President	May 2013	April 2023
Stephanie Finn <i>Vice-President</i>	January 2014	April 2027
Kimberly Cronk	May 2020	April 2025
Selika Ducksworth-Lawton	May 2019	April 2024
Disa Wahlstand	June 2016	April 2026

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 bimonthly.

Its legislative purpose includes the authorization and mandate by state law for the purpose of providing uniform regulation of police, fire, and combined protective service departments. Police and Fire Commissions are intended to keep politics out of personnel decisions, ensuring that hiring is done on merit and any discipline is conducted fairly by an impartial citizen board. The Commission does not establish policy or direct operations for the fire department. The Commission appoints the fire chief, 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



Jon Schultz
Deputy Chief
Operations-EMS



Allyn Bertrang
Deputy Chief
PreventionCommunity Risk
Reduction



Matt Jaggar
Deputy Chief
Operations-Suppression



Joe Kelly Battalion Chief Technical Rescue



Steve Vargo Battalion Chief Hazardous Materials



Brian Toonen Battalion Chief Training



Laura Doty Admin Associate IV Administration 5



Tracy Feck
Admin Associate II
Prevention-Community
Risk Reduction

Inspectors



Jason Knecht Inspector



Shoua Bauer Inspector

Captains



Dave Whitehouse EMT Specialty-Community Risk Reduction/Water Rescue



Jamie Burkhardt Medic-Reserve Specialty-SCBA Training/Maintenance



Bob Haller Medic-Reserve Specialty—Hazardous Materials



Tony Biasi
EMT
Specialty-Suppression



Matt Gunderson Medic-Reserve Specialty-FAST/RIT



Tony Hennings
Medic-Reserve
Specialty—Truck Operations/
Extrication/Station Audits

Lieutenants



Bob Pratt EMT



Shawn Abrahamson EMT



Andrew Dorn EMT



Steve Secker EMT



Jeremy Stary EMT



Brian Phillips EMT



Wallin EMT



Medic-Reserve



EMT



Medic-Reserve



Tim McCaughey Medic-Reserve



Steve Patten Medic-Reserve

Engineers



Scott Mohr **EMT**



Todd Frank **EMT**





Pat Hamler EMT



Dave Pekol EMT



Tim Brantner EMT



Steve Friederichs EMT



Ryan Hebert Medic-Reserve



Medic-Reserve



Jeff Dahl EMT



Ryan Lesperance Medic-Reserve



Todd Nutter Medic



Chris Meyer Medic-Reserve



Kevin Blaine Medic



Andrew Robinson Medic



Steve Merkel Medic-Reserve



Pete Spencer Medic



Firefighters



Steve Rindt Medic-Reserve



Josh Olson Medic-Reserve



Stephen Weyers Medic-Reserve



Nicolas Ledin Medic-Reserve



Korey Maves Medic





Taylor Quinnell Schuyler Townsend
Medic-Reserve Medic



Jordan Watson Medic



Heather Morning Medic



Nathan Much Medic



Christopher Nyhus Medic



Shawn Willi Medic



Michael Linstedt Medic



Andrew Elbert Medic



Aaron Crane Medic



Medic



Dustin Quilling Brett Klonecki Medic



Tate Roselius Medic



Jonathan Beck Medic



John Sordahl Medic



Daniel Lein Medic



eter Colwell Medic



Josh Woodward Medic



Leah Lorenz Medic



Matthew Warren Medic



Lucas Knipfer Medic



Sam Maslonka Medic



Michael Shore Medic



Aaron Kiraly Medic



Grant Hansen Medic



Derek Mroczenski Medic



Curtis Goodale Medic



Joseph Vlcek Medic



Ashley Bauer Medic



Sophia Ritzinger Medic-Reserve



Waylon Froeba Medic-Reserve



Sierra Renderman Medic-Reserve



Rodney Whalen Medic-Reserve



Jordan Jiskra Medic-Reserve



Joel Effertz Medic-Reserve



Brittany Lyons Medic-Reserve



Scott Green EMT



Kalab Evans 9 EMT



Clint Lightell EMT



Daniel Lympus EMT





Riley Strohm EMT

Medical Director



Ethan Young, MD

Chaplains







John Van Gorkom



James Whatley

In 2022, the department lost three retired members from its firefighting family.

Bob Anderson, Engineer, Dates of Service: 01/01/49—12/31/84

Duane Books, Deputy Chief, Dates of Service: 05/02/49—01/03/83

Larry Kolve, Lieutenant, Dates of Service: 01/13/69—01/12/97



PERSONNEL MOVEMENT



New Hires:

Kalab Evans

Scott Green

Clint Lightell

Daniel Lympus

Brittany Lyons

Jordan Ortmann

Riley Strohm

Matthew Wilson



Promotions:

Tony Hennings (Captain)

Steve Merkel (Engineer)

Steve Patten (Lieutenant)

Andrew Robinson (Engineer)

Pete Spencer (Engineer)



Separations:

Brittany Lyons (Firefighter)

Luke Miller (Firefighter)

Benji Norberg (Engineer)

Matthew Wilson (Firefighter)

Alison Windhorst (Firefighter)

PERSONNEL MOVEMENT



Retirements:

Bruce Buchholz (Captain)

Jeff Patrow (Engineer)

Tom Rebischke (Engineer)

Step Increases:

Pete Colwell to First Class Firefighter Leah Lorenz to First Class Firefighter Luke Miller to First Class Firefighter Matthew Warren to First Class Firefighter Joshua Woodward to First Class Firefighter Lucas Knipfer to Second Class Firefighter Grant Hansen to Third Class Firefighter Aaron Kiraly to Third Class Firefighter Sam Maslonka to Third Class Firefighter Michael Shore to Third Class Firefighter Alison Windhorst to Third Class Firefighter Ashley Bauer to Fourth Class Firefighter Waylon Froeba to Fourth Class Firefighter Curtis Goodale to Fourth Class Firefighter Derek Mroczenski to Fourth Class Firefighter Sierra Renderman to Fourth Class Firefighter Sophia Ritzinger to Fourth Class Firefighter Joseph Vlcek to Fourth Class Firefighter



	<u>NAME</u>		RANK	<u>DOH</u>
	Kelly	Joe	Battalion Chief	11-02-92
ı	Pratt	Robert	Lieutenant	11-02-92
ı	Schultz	Jon	Deputy Chief	06-05-95
ı	Bertrang	Allyn	Deputy Chief	09-16-96
ı	Abrahamson	Shawn	Lieutenant	04-21-97
ı	Bell	Christian	Chief	04-21-97
ı	Vargo	Steven	Battalion Chief	04-21-97
ı	Mohr	Scott	Engineer	10-20-97
ı	Dorn	Andrew	Lieutenant	04-20-98
ı	Frank	Todd	Engineer	04-20-98
	Jaggar	Matthew	Deputy Chief	08-24-98
	Whitehouse	David	Captain	08-24-98
	Burkhardt	Jamie	Captain	08-24-98
	Secker	Stephen	Lieutenant	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
	Stary	Jeremy	Lieutenant	05-08-00
	Toonen	Brian	Battalion Chief	04-09-01
	Brantner	Timothy	Engineer	04-09-01
	Phillips	Brian	Lieutenant	04-09-01
	Haller	Robert	Captain	08-19-02
	Friederichs	Stephen	Engineer	08-19-02
	Biasi	Tony	Captain	12-09-02
	Gunderson	Matthew	Captain	11-29-04
	Hebert	Ryan	Engineer	11-29-04
1				



<u>NAME</u>		RANK	<u>DOH</u>
Wallin	Thomas	Lieutenant	01-30-06
Bergquist	Nils	Engineer	08-07-06
Dahl	Jeffrey	Engineer	08-07-06
Hennings	Anthony	Captain	01-08-07
Myre	Natasha	Lieutenant	07-07-08
Rindt	Steven	Firefighter	07-07-08
Hahn	Isaac	Lieutenant	07-13-09
Lesperance	Ryan	Engineer	07-12-10
Olson	Joshua	Firefighter	07-12-10
Dorn	Brian	Lieutenant	06-20-11
McCaughey	Timothy	Lieutenant	01-09-12
Nutter	Todd	Engineer	01-09-12
Weyers	Stephen	Firefighter	03-12-12
Meyer	Christian	Engineer	08-27-12
Patten	Steven	Lieutenant	07-15-13
Ledin	Nicolas	Firefighter	07-15-13
Maves	Korey	Firefighter	07-15-13
Blaine	Kevin	Engineer	09-30-13
Quinnell	Taylor	Firefighter	02-10-14
Townsend	Schuyler	Firefighter	02-10-14
Watson	Jordan	Firefighter	02-10-14
Robinson	Andrew	Engineer	02-10-14
Merkel	Steve	Engineer	02-10-14
Morning	Heather	Firefighter	07-14-14
Much	Nathan	Firefighter	07-14-14
Spencer	Peter	Engineer	03-09-15
Nyhus	Christopher	Firefighter	07-20-15

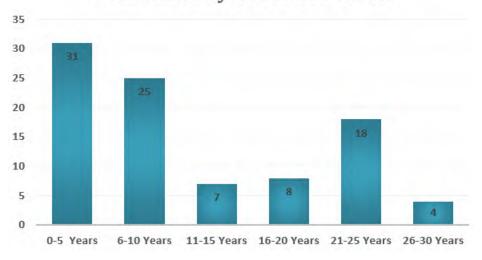


<u>NAME</u>		RANK	<u>DOH</u>
Willi	Shawn	Firefighter	07-20-15
Linstedt	Michael	Firefighter	01-18-16
Elbert	Andrew	Firefighter	01-18-16
Crane	Aaron	Firefighter	07-11-16
Quilling	Dustin	Firefighter	07-11-16
Klonecki	Brett	Firefighter	07-11-16
Roselius	Tate	Firefighter	07-11-16
Beck	Jonathan	Firefighter	11-10-16
Sordahl	John	Firefighter	01-23-17
Lein	Daniel	Firefighter	01-23-17
Colwell	Peter	Firefighter	07-10-17
Woodward	Joshua	Firefighter	02-19-18
Lorenz	Leah	Firefighter	02-19-18
Warren	Matthew	Firefighter	02-19-18
Knipfer	Lucas	Firefighter	07-30-18
Knecht	Jason	Inspector	10-01-18
Maslonka	Samuel	Firefighter	07-08-19
Shore	Michael	Firefighter	07-08-19
Kiraly	Aaron	Firefighter	07-08-19
Hansen	Grant	Firefighter	12-26-19
Mroczenski	Derek	Firefighter	02-01-21
Goodale	Curtis	Firefighter	02-01-21
Vlcek	Joseph	Firefighter	02-01-21
Bauer	Ashley	Firefighter	02-01-21
Ritzinger	Sophia	Firefighter	02-01-21
Froeba	Waylon	Firefighter	02-01-21
Renderman	Sierra	Firefighter	02-01-21



<u>NAME</u>		RANK	<u>DOH</u>
Feck	Tracy	Administrative Associate II	03-29-21
Whalen	Rodney	Prob. Firefighter	07-08-21
Jiskra	Jordan	Prob. Firefighter	10-11-21
Effertz	Joel	Prob. Firefighter	10-11-21
Bauer	Shoua	Inspector	12-06-21
Lyons	Brittany	Prob. Firefighter	05-04-22
Green	Scott	Prob. Firefighter	09-12-22
Evans	Kalab	Prob. Firefighter	09-12-22
Lightell	Clint	Prob. Firefighter	09-12-22
Lympus	Daniel	Prob. Firefighter	09-12-22
Ortmann	Jordan	Prob. Firefighter	09-12-22
Strohm	Riley	Prob. Firefighter	09-12-22

Personnel by Years of Service



AVERAGE AGE — 39.25

AVERAGE YEARS OF SERVICE — 11.5

EAU CLAIRE FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 487 ELECTED POSITIONS

PRESIDENT: Tom Wallin

VICE PRESIDENT: Brian Phillips

SECRETARY: Luke Knipfer

TREASURER: Aaron Kiraly

GUIDE: Pete Colwell

SGT-AT-ARMS: Aaron Crane

STEWARDS: Todd Nutter (A-Shift)

Andrew Robinson (B-Shift)

Scott Mohr (C-Shift)

TRUSTEES: Grant Hansen

Dan Lein

Schuyler Townsend

WORKING Andrew Robinson

RELATIONS: John Sordahl

Tom Wallin Shawn Willi



STATIONS - APPARATUS - STAFFING



Fire Station 2—216 S. Dewey Street

- Built 1941
- Administrative and Prevention offices
- 4 Personnel per day plus battalion chief and administrative and prevention staff
- Battalion Chief Command Vehicle
- Engine
- Hazardous Materials Vehicle
- Rescue Boat
- Heavy Rescue Unit
- Fire Prevention Vehicle
- Fire Chief Vehicle



Fire Station 5—2500 Patton Street

- Built 1975
- 5 Personnel per day
- 110' Aerial Platform Ladder Truck
- Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance
- Rescue Boat

STATIONS - APPARATUS - STAFFING



Fire Station 6—3020 Golf Road

- Built 1985
- 3 Personnel per day
- Engine
- Paramedic Ambulance



Fire Station 8—3510 Starr Avenue

- Built 1970
- 3 Personnel per day
- 107' Aerial Ladder Truck
- Rescue Boat
- Special Rescue All-Terrain Vehicle

STATIONS - APPARATUS - STAFFING



Fire Station 9—3611 Campus Road

- Built 1999
- 5 Personnel per day
- Engine and Reserve Engine
- Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance (Bariatric Capable)
- Rescue Boat
- Special Rescue Trailers (Tools/Materials)



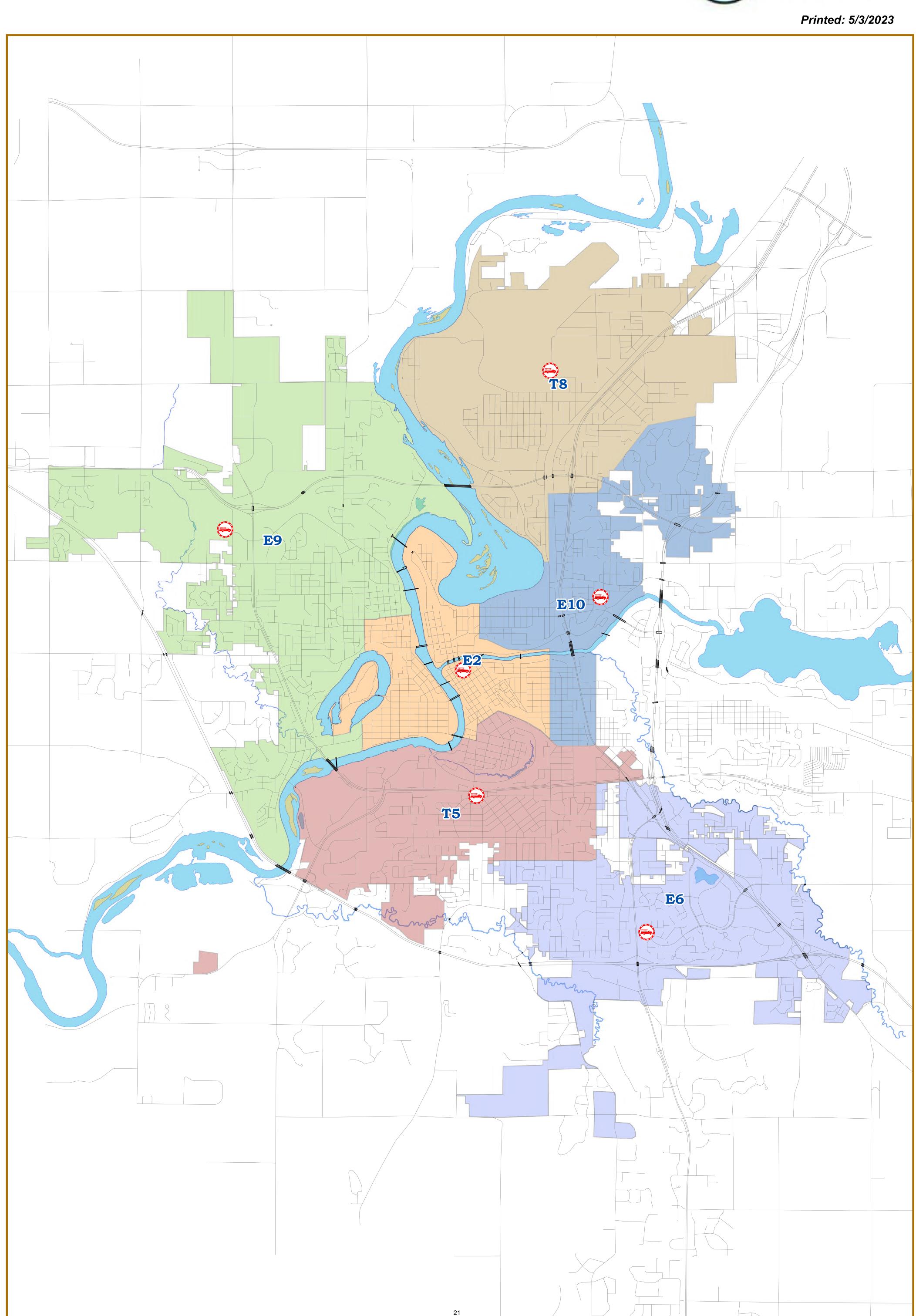
Fire Station 10—820 Malden Avenue

- Built 2018
- 5 Personnel per day
- Engine and Reserve 100' Ladder Truck
- Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance
- Hazardous Materials Equipment Trailer
- MCI (Mass Casualty Incident) Trailer
- Heavy-Duty Support Vehicle
- Dive Boat
- Brush Truck
- Special Rescue All-Terrain Vehicle



Fire Response Areas City of Eau Claire





The Suppression Operations Division is the largest division within the department and is under the direct supervision of Deputy Chief Matt Jaggar. This division is charged with enhancing our community by providing safe, effective, and efficient emergent and non-emergent services. The division's primary goals encompass life safety, incident stabilization, and property conservation.

The Suppression Operations Division is responsible for the overall planning, management, and training for fire suppression; hazardous materials response; ice, water, and dive rescue; high and low angle rescue; confined space rescue; trench rescue; and vehicle disentanglement and extrication. Deputy Chief Jaggar, Battalion Chief Vargo, Battalion Chief Toonen, and Battalion Chief Kelly aggressively evaluate the effectiveness of the department's ability to keep up with the changing environment of the fire service. This is accomplished through operational benchmarking, progressive training, and adherence to required and industry best standards.





Mutual Aid, Town of Wheaton Barn Fire

N. Hastings Way Fire

Facilities

The department started a remodel and addition project at fire station 6 located at 3020 Golf Road. The project was designed by Lien & Peterson Architects and completed by Rhom Construction. A design team consisting of both department and City Engineer Division personnel worked with architects to create a space to meet the needs of the community and the department. 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. The station is equipped with diesel exhaust systems to clear out fumes from fire apparatus; 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 is the installation of two decontamination showers. These showers are utilized to conduct a gross decon immediately after a fire. It has been established that sitting in a steam shower or sauna can help reduce the amount of dangerous toxins absorbed into the body through 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. Substantial completion and occupancy of station 6 is forecasted for March 2023.

Apparatus

The department maintained a modern and effective fleet of apparatus, as members from both the fire department and the City's fleet management division worked together to purchase and place into service a new 107' aerial ladder truck. Additionally, personnel worked proactively and diligently to maintain and repair apparatus to keep all vehicles in a state of readiness.



Truck 8

Equipment

Radios

The department purchased four new portable radios with the new Truck 8. These radios will replace radios that have been in service for many years and were due for replacement. In addition to the portable radio purchases, Truck 8 is now outfitted with Bluetooth headsets to assist with clear communications among crew members while responding to emergencies and also provide hearing protection while responding lights and siren to the scene of emergencies.

Training

Suppression

Suppression training was conducted for all crews. The training tower and splash tower were utilized for above-ground fire attack training, which encompassed the use of drop-bags for preconnected attack lines and the standpipe bag equipment with hose bundles. These training evolutions are key due to the high risk of above-ground fire attack and the low frequency of incident occurrence. Additionally, all crews participated in training utilizing two acquired structures on Menomonie Street. Crews practiced single firefighter hose-bundle deployment, single firefighter extension ladder throws, and engineer pump operations.

Truck Company Operations

Using a house that had been slated for demolition and donated by a generous community member, personnel conducted various truck company training sessions. Vertical ventilation training was conducted with the training focused on "bread and butter" roof operations - accessing via ground and roof ladders. The main point of emphasis was chainsaw operations. Each individual was tasked with using a chainsaw to cut a ventilation hole on a pitched roof.

FAST (Firefighter Assistance and Search Team / RIT (Rapid Intervention Team)
All department members participated in Rapid Intervention Training (RIT) at an acquired structure located on Water Street. This two-story, wood-framed structure offered the opportunity to train in a realistic environment, thus enabling members to utilize hand tools and power tools to make breaches through common building materials encountered in real world situations. This was the first time the department has focused on drills involving a firefighter through the roof. With the increased use of lightweight wood-framed construction throughout response districts, there is an increased risk of firefighters falling through roof structures that have been compromised by fire below while conducting vertical ventilation operations. Fire department members were trained for situations of a firefighter partially through the roof and rescued from the roof and also for situations of a firefighter completely through the roof and into the attic area. The latter consisted of interior ceiling breaches to locate and remove the downed firefighter from the attic area.

There is a limited amount of resources for these types of drills, but as a group we were able to come up with the safest and most efficient techniques through trial and error.

SCBA Training/Maintenance

Department's SCBA technicians participated in a one-day online recertification course that covered the operation, inspection, disassembly, assembly, and overhaul of each operating system within an SCBA. This course is a requirement for each technician every six years. Department-wide training also was provided for all members on SCBA operation, maintenance, and cleaning to increase the knowledge, proficiency and longevity of our equipment. A large portion of this training included the use of CVTC's confined space trailer that allowed for several scenarios requiring members to use entanglement techniques and team skills to pass through the trailer.

Additionally, department training was conducted on the orientation and operation of two newly purchased line-supplied air carts. The air carts provide a stationary air supply that can be positioned near an entrance with crews connecting rubber air lines to their masks, allowing them to breathe clean air. The air cart allows the firefighter to maintain a lower profile when entering environments where space is limited. In addition to training, SCBA mask fit tests was conducted for each employee to ensure a proper fit. Fit testing is required once a year and ensures each member's mask maintains a proper seal in a contaminated environment while performing functional movements.

Water Rescue Operations



Eau Claire Fire and Rescue is 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, open water, and dive rescue in both lake and river water bodies. Low water clarity, underwater debris, entanglements, unpredictable currents, and seasonal flooding combine to present extremely challenging environments for rescuers.

New recruits completed the water rescue portion of the new recruit academy. During the pool time, recruits completed a basic Watermanship evaluation; donned swift water suits, and practiced basic water surface rescue techniques. On the Chippewa River at Riverview Park, the new recruits received training on boat launching operations and sonar search. They attended a classroom session during which a water rescue overview and sonar theory were presented.

Additionally, department members completed annual ice rescue training at Half Moon Lake. Personnel re-familiarized with ice rescue suits and the water rescue sling. Personnel completed ice rescues on thin ice and utilized the oceanic Rapid Deployment Craft (RDC) to access victims among broken ice and open water. SCUBA rescue training for all dive rescue personnel was held at Dells Pond on the Chippewa River. This training location was chosen due to high usage by the public for many water activities including fishing, kayaking, and swimming. Conditions included limited visibility with moderate current. Divers completed boat-based dive operations using arc search patterns. Support personnel worked on controlling search patterns and assisting divers with deployment.



Ice Dive Training, Lake Wazee

Hazardous Materials Team (HMT)

Since 1996, the cities of Eau Claire and Chippewa Falls have jointly contracted with the State of Wisconsin to provide regional response to Level A hazardous materials emergencies. This 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 consists of 28 members from Eau Claire Fire and Rescue and 14 members from Chippewa Falls Fire and Emergency Services and is part of the State of Wisconsin Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team. The team 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.

Throughout the year, Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene personnel provided training on sampling unknown hazardous materials to regional hazardous materials team members. Using specialized equipment, personnel attempted to identify the unknown substances and then sent the results back to the laboratory for confirmation. The State Lab personnel reviewed the results and provided the team with information on the unknown substances, along with real world background on how the samples were obtained. Additionally, the department trained on the new Sensit P-400 multi-gas personal meter. The new meters work by air sampling the diffused gases that may be occupying a space without the need for a pump. Once department members were adequately trained on the use of the Sensit P-400, the devices were placed on all frontline fire apparatus. Furthermore, hazmat team members trained with the 54th CST and the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene on identifying and classifying Radiological/Nuclear materials by utilizing the equipment the hazmat team has at its disposal.



May Haz Mat Training

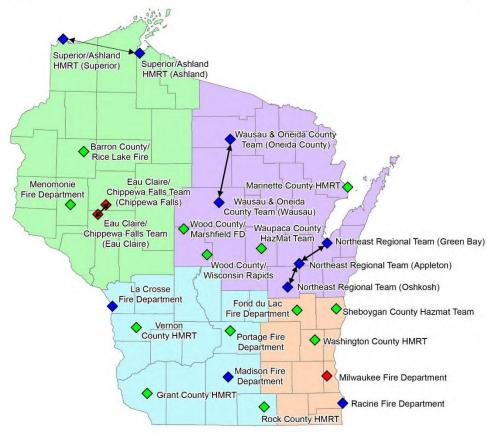
Haz Mat Tier 1 Team Members

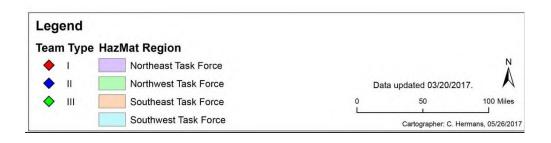
Steve Vargo	Shawn Abrahamson	Jamie Burkhardt	
(Coordinator)	(Supervisor)	(Supervisor)	Al Bertrang
Tony Biasi	Tim Brantner	Jeff Dahl	Brian Dorn
Matt Gunderson	Isaac Hahn	Bob Haller	Pat Hamler
Ryan Hebert	Tony Hennings	Matt Jaggar	Joe Kelly
Ryan Lesperance	Scott Mohr	Steve Patten	Dave Pekol
Bob Pratt	Andrew Robinson	Jon Schultz	Steve Secker
Jeremy Stary	Brian Toonen	Tom Wallin	Dave Whitehouse



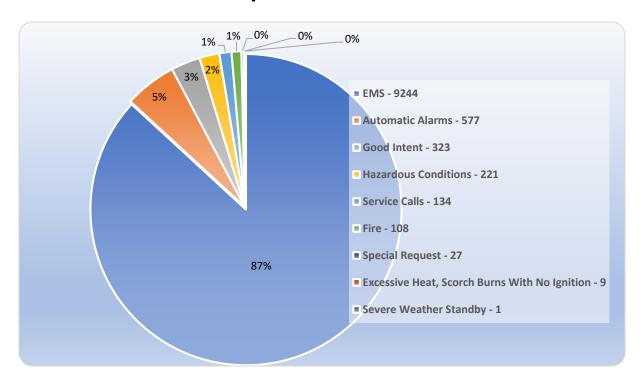
Wisconsin's Hazardous Materials Response System 🏑



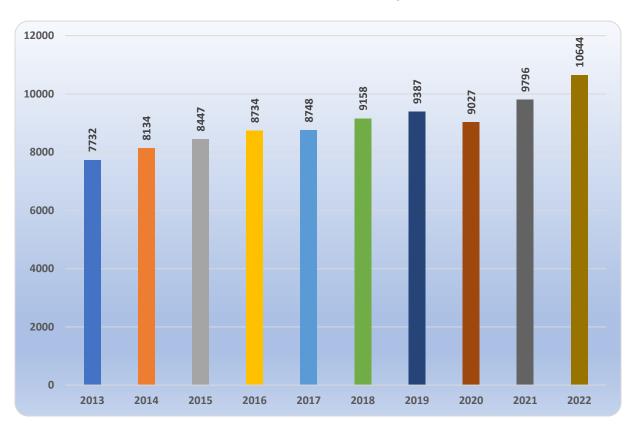


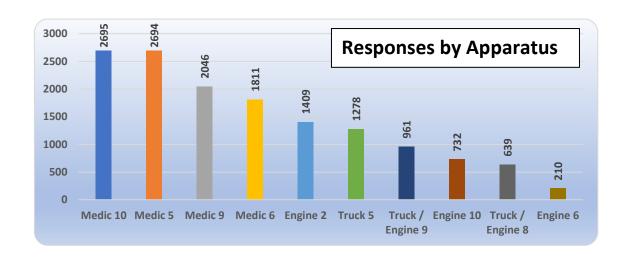


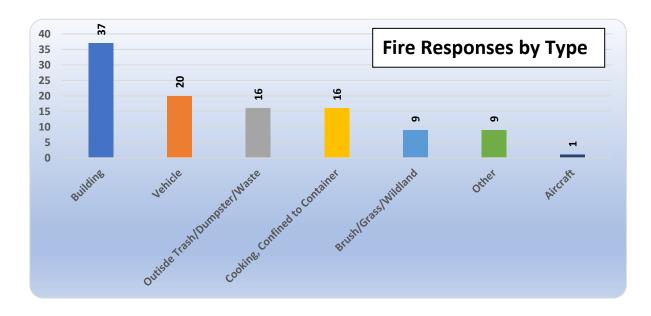
Response Breakdown

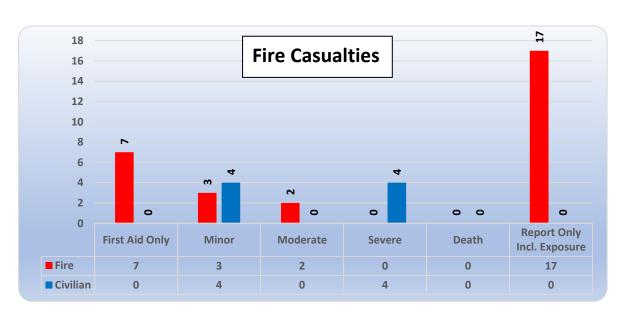


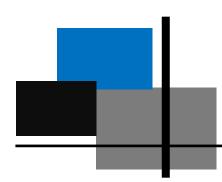
10-Year Total Responses











TOP 10 FIRES BY CAUSE AND DOLLAR LOSS

DATE	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CAUSE</u>	DOLLAR LOSS
05-22-22	2235 N. Clairemont Ave.	Spontaneous Combustion / Oily Rags	\$999,000
05-16-22	534 E. Riverview Dr.	Spontaneous Combustion / Mulch	\$275,000
01-21-22	735 Hobart St.	Arson	\$184,400
02-03-22	618 E. Grand Ave.	Electrical	\$167,000
07-13-22	706 Hobart St.	Undetermined	\$152,000
12-16-22	1020 Zephyr Hill Ave.	Propane Heater Ignited Spilled Gas	\$112,000
01-12-22	2525 Boardwalk Cir.	Child Playing with Lit Incense	\$105,000
12-27-22	5707 Christopher Dr.	Curtains in Contact with Baseboard Heater	\$100,000
01-11-22	2916 Moon Ave.	Hot Ash from Fireplace	\$ 90,000
09-06-22	1018 Birch St.	Candle Tipping onto Mattress	\$ 88,500



The department provides paramedic level emergency medical care to residents of and visitors to the city of Eau Claire, as well as 14 municipalities outside the city limits. Department EMTs and paramedics also provide inter-facility transports among local hospitals and EMS standby for various special events. All EMS incidents are dispatched through the Eau Claire County Emergency Communications Center. 911 calls are triaged into five categories by telecommunicators trained in Emergency Medical Dispatch. In 2022, ECFD EMTs and Paramedics responded to the following calls from least to most serious: Lift Assist – 495; Alpha – 1,957; Bravo – 2,012; Charlie – 1,833; Delta – 2,428.



Medical Direction

Dr. Ethan Young (Sacred Heart Hospital – Envision Health) is the department's medical director. Dr. Aaron Triplett (Mayo – Eau Claire) is an associate medical director. On-line medical direction is provided by Sacred Heart Hospital, Mayo Clinic Health System – Eau Claire and Marshfield Medical Center – Eau Claire.

Personnel / Apparatus

All fire department personnel are licensed through WI DHS. Twenty-eight personnel are licensed at the EMT level, sixty-three are licensed at the Paramedic level, and four are licensed at the Critical Care Paramedic level. In addition, 52 individuals maintain their certification with the National Registry of EMTs.

Four primary ambulances are staffed by two paramedics 24/7. Three reserve ambulances are staffed with both EMTs and paramedics on an as-needed basis. The department also maintains an ambulance equipped to safely care for bariatric patients. All fire department apparatus are equipped with Basic Life Support equipment and an Automatic External Defibrillator. Ambulances are equipped with Advanced Life Support equipment including IV supplies, advanced airway equipment, and a Lifepak 15 cardiac monitor defibrillator with capability to

transmit 12-lead EKGs to the hospitals from the patient's bedside. Ambulances are also equipped with Cradlepoint technology which utilizes FirstNet for data transmission of 12-lead EKGs and CAD information. EMTs are trained to give 6 medications and Paramedics give 31 medications for various patient conditions.

Training

The department utilizes Target Solutions for management of personnel licensure and certifications. This online training platform delivers accredited paramedic and EMT continuing education courses that have been created by subject matter experts. Courses feature engaging interactions, videos, real-life scenarios, and audio narration to ensure a fulfilling learning experience. Target Solutions also provides an advanced system for scheduling, delivering, tracking, and reporting training hours, thus streamlining the process and making it more efficient. Target Solutions also provides valuable online fire department training written to the NFPA's codes and standards, plus accredited EMS continuing education, OSHA, EVO, HR, and more.

ECFD personnel must attend EMS "refresher" training on a three-year cycle. In 2020, the department became a State recognized EMS training center, thus allowing us to tailor our EMS refresher hours to fit organizational needs. This includes training hours in Airway, Respiration and Ventilation; Cardiovascular Emergencies; Medical Emergencies; and Trauma and Operations. To maintain licensure, EMTs must have 40 refresher hours, and paramedics must have 60 refresher hours. The training is comprised of online lectures and testing; practical evolutions; EMS incident review with the department's medical director; and utilization of CVTC's Human Patient Simulator Lab. All EMS personnel must maintain certification in Healthcare Provider CPR, and paramedics must maintain certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support biannually. ECFD has trained instructors and equipment to provide annual CPR, ACLS and PALS training.



PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support) Training



Paramedics also attended training on dementia awareness and caring for patients experiencing a mental health crisis.

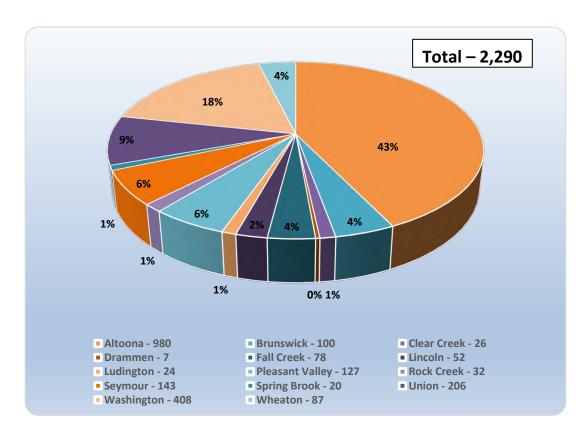
Forty-five paramedics are trained in Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI). This procedure involves administering medications to a patient that allow the paramedic to manage the airway more effectively. This training is conducted annually with the department's medical director.

EMS equipment updates included the McGrath Video Laryngoscope and new child safety restraint systems for transporting children in the ambulance.

EMS protocol updates included Bradycardia and the addition of a Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD) protocol.

Regional EMS

Fourteen municipalities around the city of Eau Claire are contracted with ECFD for ambulance service. Department personnel continue to work closely with the first responders sponsored by the contracted municipalities by providing training and equipment. The success of the EMS system is largely dependent on the dedication of volunteer first responders from these outlying municipalities. In most instances, they are first on the scene to begin patient care before an ECFD ambulance arrives. To support the local first responder agencies, the City reimburses the contracted municipality \$10 for every response at which a first responder is present.



Other Agency Collaboration

Department staff participate in the Eau Claire County Child Death Review Team and Opioid Death Review Team. These teams are comprised of representatives from EMS, law enforcement, the local medical community, human services, and schools. Team members analyze deaths of Eau Claire County residents within each category with the hopes of preventing these tragedies from occurring in the future.

The department reports to CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival), a national database that tracks all aspects of cardiac arrest incidents with intent to improve survivability of out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest incidents. In 2022, ECFD EMTs and paramedics responded to 77 patients in cardiac arrest and were able to restore a pulse on 18 of these patients.

ECFD staff are also participants in various regional EMS committees such as the Northwest Wisconsin Health and Emergency Readiness Coalition, the Northwest Regional Trauma Advisory Committee, and the Chippewa Valley Technical College EMS Advisory Committee.

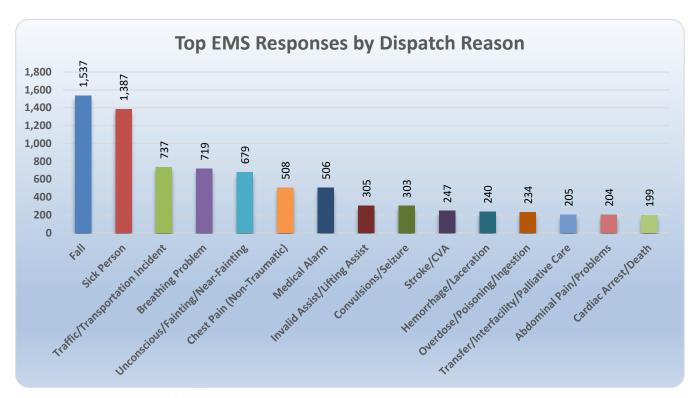
ECFD is a clinical training site for paramedic students and fire medic interns from CVTC, WWTC, and WITC for those students to complete the field internship portion of their training. In

2022, students rode with ECFD paramedics concentrating on Basic Life Support skills and Advanced Life Support skills, as well as completing 288 hours for their final field internship training. Students develop professional and technical skills while performing assessments and formulating a treatment plan for sick and injured patients under the supervision of ECFD paramedics. These students work with our personnel in our fire stations and at emergency incidents operating as part of our EMS team. This program provides students the firsthand opportunity to develop valuable knowledge and skills not otherwise available. In addition to EMS students, ECFD offers observational ride-along opportunities to UWEC Kinesiology students, local first responders, Eau Claire County telecommunicators, and local hospital employees, as well as the general public. The department also partners with the Eau Claire Area School District and provides education to all 4th grade students on emergency medical services detailing how to recognize different medical emergencies and when to call 911

Falls Prevention

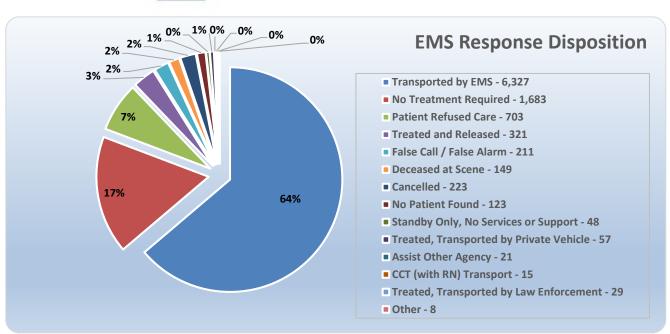
Efforts continue by members of the Eau Claire Falls Prevention Coalition to prevent falls in the community. The coalition includes Eau Claire Fire and Rescue, the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County, Mayo Clinic Health Systems, and Sacred Heart Hospital. It is the goal of this program to provide resources to fall patients and assist them with fall prevention services to help them stay independent in their homes. Each apparatus on Eau Claire Fire and Rescue is supplied with fall prevention brochures to distribute to patients who experience falls. With authorization from the patient, response personnel gather contact information and forward it to the Aging and Disability Resource Center for follow-up support.

EMS OPERATIONS

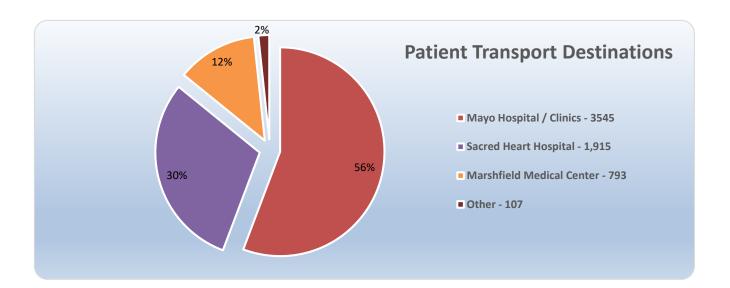


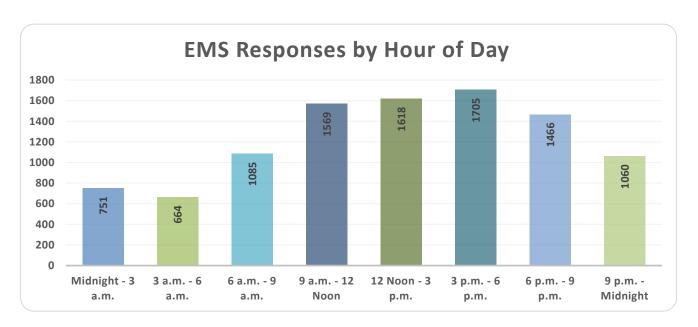


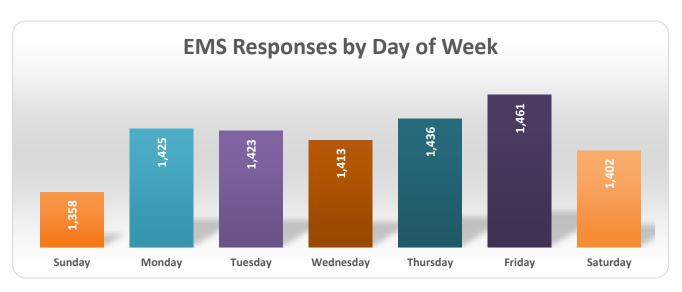
The Star of Life is the universal symbol of emergency medical care. The six bars represent six distinct phases of an EMS response – detection, reporting, response, on-scene care, care in transit, and transfer to definitive care.



EMS OPERATIONS







PREVENTION-COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Prevention/CRR continues to streamline City-wide initiatives for the health and safety of City personnel, as well as those in the general public. Initiatives include the City joint safety team; department safety teams; employee health and safety training; emergency planning; audits and inspections; and risk identification and reduction. Division personnel partner with other City departments including Risk Management, County departments, and private partners in emergency preparedness through the creation, implementation, and maintenance of emergency plans, notification systems, exercises, and practices.

Fire Investigations/Significant Cases

Per state statute, Eau Claire Fire and Rescue is responsible for investigating and determining the cause and origin of all fires within the city of Eau Claire. Personnel responded to 108 fire-related incidents in 2022, with 37 of those being building fires. Eight fires were identified as suspected arson cases and an additional six where arson could not be ruled out. There was an estimated property loss of \$2,231,890 and an estimated contents loss of \$767,796. Investigations are initially conducted by on-scene personnel, with in-depth investigations then conducted by the department's fire inspectors/investigators. All efforts are made by Prevention personnel during follow-up investigations to educate parties involved for future fire safety and risk reduction.

During 2022, no fires resulted in a death. The fire with the highest dollar loss (property and contents) was an estimated \$999,000. There were six additional fires resulting in estimated dollar loss exceeding \$100,000. Sixteen fires originated in a kitchen area or were the result of cooking. The United States Fire Administration (USFA) lists kitchen fires as the most prevalent cause of fires in the United States.

Pre-Plans and Target Hazards

Department personnel have continued with efforts to identify target hazards within the city to ensure accurate and up-to-date information is available to minimize and mitigate hazards at these locations. Target hazard facilities include but are not limited to locally defined occupancies that pose specific risks to occupants and/or fire service responders during an emergency.

Student Education

Annually, department personnel provide fire and safety education in the schools during the spring and fall months. Personnel provided fire safety educational outreach to approximately

3,500 students in 2022.



Fire Prevention Presentation Flynn Elementary

PREVENTION-COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Youth Fire Setting Program

Prevention Division personnel participate in the Youth Fire Setting 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. It is the intent of this program that proactive steps can change behavior and prevent a youth's behavior from escalating.

Fire Inspections / Code Enforcement / 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 guidance to owners and occupants to eliminate hazards. For the year, fire crews conducted 5,377 fire inspections of 3,661 occupancies. In addition, Prevention personnel conducted 261 follow-up inspections on fire code violations noted during the crew inspections. As the result of these fire inspection and fire prevention efforts, \$265,714 was reimbursed to the City of Eau Claire by the State of Wisconsin. Prevention staff continue to conduct plan reviews, public education and specialty training sessions.

Throughout the year, Prevention staff 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 specific to each project.

Prevention Division staff regularly receive reports of unsafe living conditions, and personnel work with other departments and agencies to resolve these circumstances. The factors involved are specific to the individual but on average require multiple visits and ongoing contact to resolve.

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.

Special Events

The Prevention/CRR Division participates in the planning of all special events within the city. In many cases, department personnel have a presence at and participate in the event activities. In 2022, Eau Claire had 79 unique special events and 295 total events including recurring events such as the Farmers' Market, Food Truck Friday, etc.

Community Outreach Programs

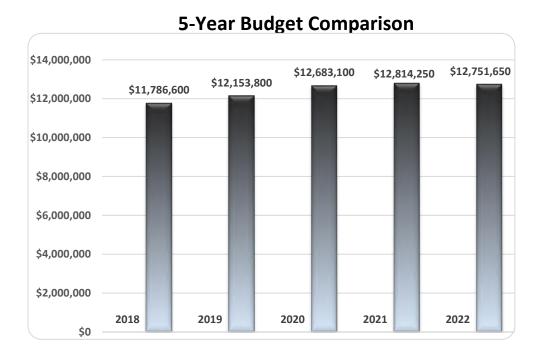
These programs are designed to reduce risk within the city by providing activities and programs during non-emergency situations. Some of the activities include smoke detector distribution and installation; fire safety training; and fire extinguisher training.

FINANCIALS

Grants

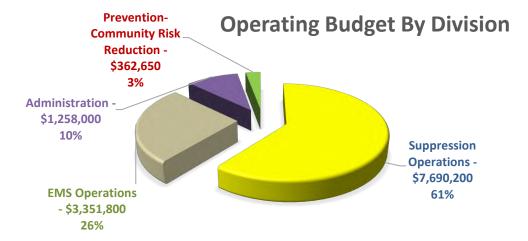
In 2022, the Eau Claire Fire Department received:

- A Forest Fire Protection (FFP) grant from the Wisconsin DNR in the amount of \$6,157. Monies from the grant were used to purchase eight sections of forestry hose, one mobile radio, and two portable radios. This grant required a 50% match from the City.
- In addition to the regular annual funds received from the WI Department of Health Services EMS Section's Funding Assistance Program (FAP), the department was awarded \$56,175 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. One-half of that award was received in 2022, with the second half to be received next year. These funds were used to purchase EMS equipment and supplies including laryngoscopes, ambulance cot mattresses, and defib. monitor supplies, as well as CPR instructor training for personnel.

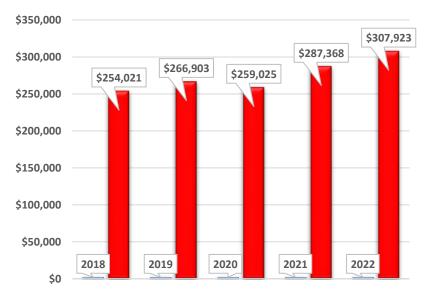




FINANCIALS

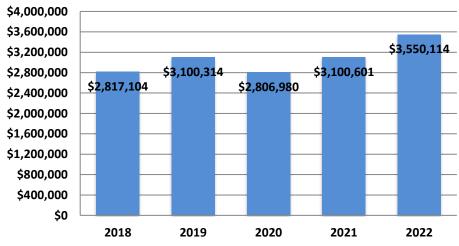


General Revenue



Includes department-based general revenue such as that from Two Percent Dues, Storage Tank Inspection Fees, Group Home Inspection Fees, Special Events, Burn Permits, etc. Note: Effective 7/1/22, the State eliminated the Local Program Operator program, so the department no longer conducts storage tank inspections.

Net Ambulance Revenue





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										
	2021 Actual	2022 Adopte d	2022 6 Month Actual	2022 Projection	2023 Adopte d					
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:										
Personnel Services	\$11,720,496	\$11,336,100	\$ 5,354,756	\$11,336,688	\$12,707,900					
Contractual Services	883,857	949,550	501,681	961,655	997,600					
Utilities	110,195	96,000	59,609	96,000	106,800					
Contributions & Other Payments	17,190	13,000	4,300	13,000	17,000					
Fixed Charges	128,080	155,000	62,072	155,000	155,000					
Materials & Supplies	256,569	202,000	119,213	211,238	238,000					
Other Financing Uses	64,500									
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	<u>\$13,180,886</u>	<u>\$12,751,650</u>	<u>\$6,101,631</u>	\$12,773,581	<u>\$14,222,300</u>					





City of Eau Claire 2023 Adopted Operating Budget

Fire & Rescue Department - Administration Expenditure Summary

Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:	2021 Actual		2022 Adopted		2022 6 Month Actual		2022 Projection		2023 Adopted	
Personnel Services	\$	968,830	\$	1,107,800	\$	450,908	\$	1.107.800	\$	1,124,500
Contractual Services	\$	79,784	\$	104.000	\$	49,525	\$	89,963	\$	112,000
Fixed Charges	\$	3,200	\$	30,100	\$	1,600	\$	30,100	\$	30,100
Materials & Supplies	\$	13,619	\$	16,100	\$	3,767	\$	16,100	\$	16,100
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	\$	1,065,433	\$	1,258,000	\$	505,800	\$	1,243,963	\$	1,282,700

Fire & Rescue Department - Emergency Medical Services Operations Expenditure Summary

	2021 Actual	2022 Adopted	2022 6 Month Actual	2022 Projection	2023 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 2,850,482	\$ 2,789,900	\$ 1,312,666	\$ 2,871,711	\$ 3,581,200
Contractual Services	437,405	417,700	240,673	429,805	447,700
Utilities	10,640	7,000	6,773	10,800	7,000
Contributions & Other Payments	17,190	13,000	4,300	13,000	17,000
Fixed Charges	180	200	(1,878)	200	200
Materials & Supplies	178,944	124,000	86,508	135,787	149,000
Other Financing Uses	11,200				
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	\$ 3,506,041	\$ 3,351,800	<u>\$ 1,649,043</u>	\$ 3,461,303	\$ 4,202,100

Fire & Rescue Department - Prevention-Community Risk Reduction Expenditure Summary

	2021 Actual		2022 Adopted		2022 6 Month Actual		2022 Projection		2023 Adopted	
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:										
Personnel Services	\$	371,467	\$	347,800	\$	168,857	\$	342,972	\$	354,000
Contractual Services	\$	6,002	\$	6,050	\$	3,050	\$	6,050	\$	6,100
Fixed Charges	\$	5,600	\$	5,600	\$	2,800	\$	5,600	\$	5,600
Materials & Supplies	\$	2,600	\$	3,200	\$	335	\$	3,200	\$	3,200
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	\$	385,669	\$	362,650	\$	175,042	\$	357,822	\$	368,900

City of Eau Claire 2023 Adopted Operating Budget

Fire & Rescue Department - Suppression Operations Expenditure Summary

Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:	 2021 Actual		2022 Adopted		2022 6 Month Actual		2022 Projection		2023 Adopted	
Personnel Services	\$ 7,421,576	\$	7,090,600	\$	3,417,651	\$	7,090,600	\$	7,648,200	
Contractual Services	360,665	\$, ,	\$	208,433	\$	372,961	\$	431,800	
Contractual Services	\$ 300,003	Ф	421,800	Ф	200,433	Ф	3/2,901	Ф	431,800	
Fixed Charges	\$ 119,100	\$	119,100	\$	59,550	\$	119,100	\$	119,100	
Materials & Supplies	\$ 61,406	\$	58,700	\$	28,604	\$	58,700	\$	69,700	
Other Financing Uses	\$ 53,300	\$		\$		\$		\$	<u>-</u>	
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	\$ 8,016,047	\$	7,690,200	\$	3,714,237	\$	7,641,361	\$	8,268,800	

Hazardous Materials Budget Summary

	2021 Actual	2022 Adopted	2022 6 Month Actual	2022 Projection	2023 Adopted		
Revenues & Other Financing Sources:							
Intergovernmental	\$ 123,484	\$ 116,000	\$ 28,989	\$ 116,000	\$ 116,000		
Charges For Services	9,533	2,000	-	2,000	2,000		
Miscellaneous	183	300	205	300	300		
Revenues & Other Financing Sources: Total	133,200	118,300	29,194	118,300	118,300		
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:							
Personnel Services	48,949	51,100	26,777	51,100	48,200		
Contractual Services	22,154	24,900	18,996	24,900	24,900		
Utilities	88	1,200	-	1,200	1,200		
Fixed Charges	3,000	3,000	1,500	3,000	3,000		
Materials & Supplies	19,814	19,700	4,266	19,700	22,100		
Contributions & Other Payments	22,445	28,100		28,100	28,100		
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses: Total	116,449	128,000	51,540	128,000	127,500		
Excess (Deficiency) of Sources over Uses	\$ 16,752	\$ (9,700)	\$ (22,346)	\$ (9,700)	\$ (9,200)		



On NOV 8th I called 911 from Pagons who so I replied I was howing struke suppliers hortyse was for your food response. Everyor was carry preferenced guich hortyse the operator was storyed or the sine with me. I how had a good receiving out appreciate your part in carry and appreciate your part in carry

Thank you so much for welcoming me into your house for my BLS clinicals. I had you for all 3 shifts, and I thoroughly enjoyed my time working with y'all. I learned so much, and will carry the skills with me throughout school. You all were patient with me, and willing to teach me some ALS. I am deeply appreciative of that. In spite of having a heatic schedule and profession, you invested time and dedication to help me develop the future, and working alongside you as my program progresses. Thank you once again, for being an outstanding group of clinical preceptors. Stay safe out there.

Sincerely,

Good afternoon Chief Schultz!

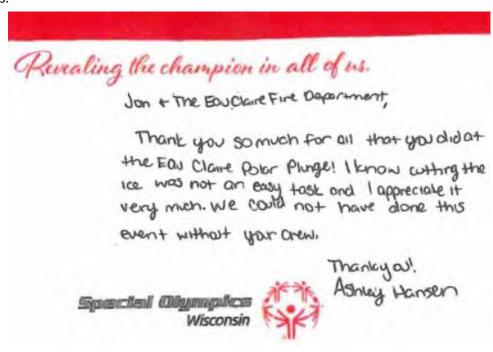
I wanted to take a quick moment to thank you and your team for the fantastic presentation for our Cub Scouts at Pack 238! We had an end-of-the-year party on Memorial Day, and many of the kids were still talking about getting to see the ambulance, and the three of you!

I appreciate you all, not only for taking time out of your busy schedules for our Pack, but more importantly for all that you do to keep my family, my neighborhood and our community so safe! I am forever thankful to have people like you and your team at the end of a 911 call, should I ever need it!

Please send my thanks on to your crew, and know that you made a tremendously positive impact in the lives of those kids!

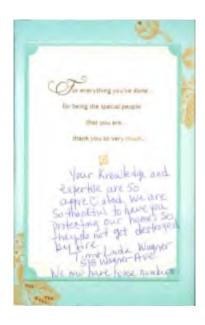
-Brad

My name is (redacted) and I am the (redacted) of the man that was unfortunately killed Tuesday morning at Fairfax and Damon. I am a first responder and work for Local Government EMS down in Southwest Florida. I know that the men and women who make the choice to serve others in their time of need are a rare breed, and unfortunately it can be a thankless job at times. I don't want that to be the case when it comes to the men/women who responded to my (redacted) call for help, because I've been in their shoes.



I just wanted at give a huge thank you to the 2 paramedics that were sent to (redacted) on Monday Jan 13t at approximately 3:00 pm. Our resident was very scared and anxious about being transported via ambulance and these 2 gentleman calmed him, made it fun, explained everything every step of the way. When I arrived at the ER the first thing the resident said was "that was so fun and not scary at all" The absolute best crew we have ever had at (redacted) in the 18 years I have worked here. Thanks to all of you for everything you do day in and day out!!!





Good Morning,

HUGE THANK YOU to the DEC team for providing funds for lan's birthday gift AND to the awesome folks (Matt and Ellen and their teams) for coordinating such a fun tour and party! Ian was elated with the gifts, cupcakes and tour of the fire station! In addition to Ian saying "it was the best birthday", Grandma was sincerely appreciative of all the people that had a hand in helping make the day extra special for

Thank you,

lan!





For More Information

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_____ @eauclairefire

Fx: 715.839.1696

ecfire@eauclairewi.gov

https://www.eauclairewi.gov/government/our-divisions/fire-department

Recruitment

http://firedepartmenthiring.com/

Partnerships and Affiliations

Eau Claire Fire and Rescue is grateful to the many public and private agencies with which we partner to serve our community; most of them are listed below. Thank you!

Altoona Fire Department

Sacred Heart Hospital

Black River Falls EMS

Town of Brunswick

Chippewa Falls Fire & Emergency Services

Town of Clear Creek

Chippewa Fire Protection District

Town of Drammen

Chippewa Valley Regional Airport

Town of Lincoln

Chippewa Valley Technical College

Town of Ludington

City of Altoona Town of Pleasant Valley
Eau Claire County Town of Rock Creek
Eau Claire County Fire Chiefs Association Town of Seymour

Eau Claire Firefighters Community Charity Town of Spring Brook

Eau Claire Police Department Town of Union

Eau Claire Sheriff's Office Town of Washington

IAFF Local 487 Town of Wheaton

Marshfield Clinic Health System Township Fire Department

Mayo Clinic Health System Village of Fall Creek

Mayo Clinic Transport Services Wisconsin DNR

Oak Leaf Surgical Hospital Wisconsin Emergency Management