



GREENVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Est. 1972

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



Greenville Volunteer Fire Department
Mission Statement

“To protect and preserve the lives and property of our Greenville residents with the highest levels of fire suppression, rescue services and emergency medical care through continual training, public education and fire prevention programs.”

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF | 3 |
| PERSONNEL | |
| Department organizational chart | 4 |
| Department membership, rank and years of service | 5 |
| Notable membership changes | 6 |
| OPERATIONS | |
| Station, staffing, and apparatus | 7 |
| Call volumes and response summary | 8 |
| Automatic aid, mutual aid, and MABAS | 10 |
| TRAINING | 11 |
| FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION | |
| Fire prevention inspections and code enforcement | 12 |
| Fire prevention and life safety education program | 13 |
| 2011 HIGHLIGHTS | 14 |
| 2012 GOALS | 17 |
| CREDITS | 19 |

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Greenville Residents,

April 2012

I can't believe that a year has passed already, my first year is in. Things are going very well at the department. One of our most recent changes/additions is a second full-time Firefighter, Josh Lambie. Deputy Chief Tim Lambie, EMS Coordinator Mark Evers and I continue to work closely together to make sure things move forward smoothly.

Josh has been with the Greenville fire department for 9 years as a volunteer. For the last year he worked full-time for the Outagamie County Airport fire department. At this time he is in training with Fire Prevention Officer Lt. Eric Kitowski.



Photo courtesy of Julie Lee Photography

When you see Josh, please give him a warm welcome.

Some of the hot topics for this year:

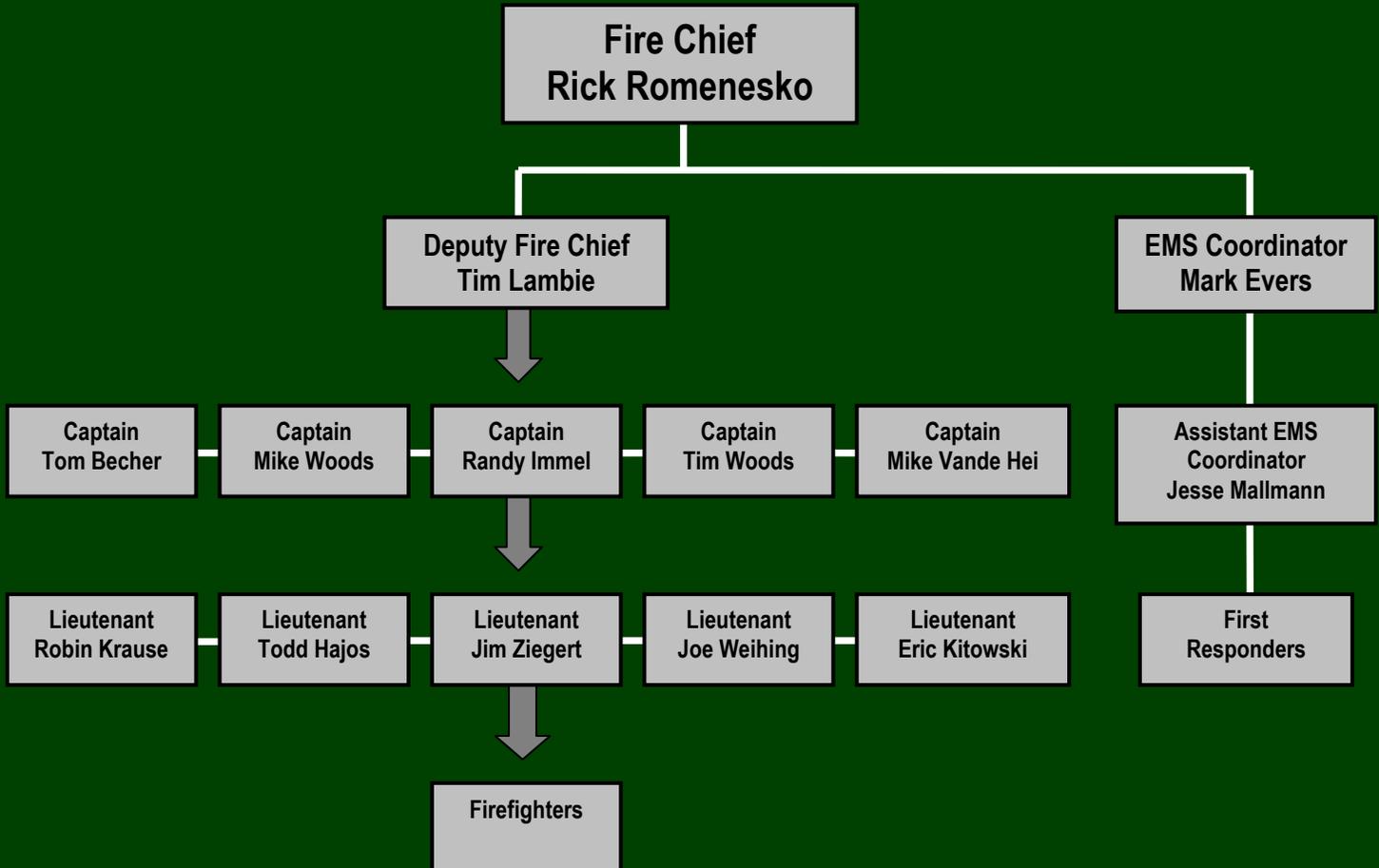
- Radio communications – Outagamie County will change radio communications over to a narrow band radio frequency (700 MHz). That will force Greenville Fire and EMS to purchase all new radios and pagers. We are watching this closely. Grant money was awarded to the County and its municipalities to help offset the high cost of this future radio project.
- This year we have implemented a preventive medical assessment program where firefighters are going in and get a full physical which is put together exclusively for firefighters. This assessment is to help a firefighter find a possible medical issue before it becomes a problem.
- We are in the process at this time of putting on several new firefighters. After their background checks, they will be enrolled in firefighter courses through FVTC for approximately 1 year before becoming a fully involved volunteer firefighter.
- Continued education is a very important part of our business. Our members participate in two practices drills each month, along with class homework. There are also several classes throughout the state that members can attend for different types of training. These include weekend classes for fire fighting techniques and safety. There are also evening classes for fire investigation, arson investigation, and driver/operator classes.
- We will be working on several different mock disaster drills this year along with Greenville First Responder group, Airport Fire and Outagamie County Emergency Management.
- We are honored to have received two large pieces of structural steel from the World Trade Center wreckage and brought them back to Greenville last August. There is a committee that includes fire and EMS personnel to move forward with the construction of a 9-11 Memorial. The planned dedication date is August 25, 2012.

My staff and I at Greenville Fire and EMS look forward to continue supporting a strong and safe environment for the Greenville residents.

Sincerely Chief Romenesko

PERSONNEL

Greenville Fire & EMS Table of Organization



Greenville Fire & EMS Consists of:

12 Fire Officers

44 Total Firefighters

6 EMS Officers

15 Total 1st Responders

6 Firefighters are also Greenville 1st Responders

2 Full-time Firefighter/1st Responders

Membership Length of Service – As of April 2012

(Name, rank, continuous years of service)

Command Staff

| | | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------------|----|---------------|---------------------------------|----|
| Rick Romenesko | Chief/1 st Resp | 21 | Tim Woods | Captain | 25 |
| Tim Lambie | Deputy Chief | 12 | Robin Krause | Lieutenant/1 st Resp | 11 |
| Tom Becher | Captain/1 st Resp | 41 | Todd Hajos | Lieutenant | 8 |
| Mike Vande Hei | Captain | 22 | Jim Ziegert | Lieutenant/1 st Resp | 8 |
| Mike Woods | Captain | 35 | Joe Weihing | Lieutenant | 12 |
| Randy Immel | Captain | 26 | Eric Kitowski | Lieutenant/1 st Resp | 2 |

Firefighters/First Responders

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|-----|-----------------|----------------------------------|----|
| Dave Switchenberg | Firefighter | 12 | Troy Olson | Firefighter | 1 |
| Tim Hanson | Firefighter | 14 | Mike Hills | Firefighter | 19 |
| Jesse Nicholas | Firefighter | 0 | Ted Ebben | Firefighter | 19 |
| Jim Wilke | Firefighter | 11 | Dave Sigl | Firefighter | 5 |
| Tim Immel | Firefighter | 0.5 | Chris Schlechta | Firefighter | 1 |
| Scott Paap | Firefighter | 2 | Pat Ebben | Firefighter | 11 |
| Paul Schroeder | Firefighter | 21 | Chris Thelen | Firefighter | 19 |
| Mike Engels | Firefighter | 4 | Steve Pashcke | Firefighter | 14 |
| Gary Moser | Firefighter | 2 | Mike Benton | Firefighter | 15 |
| Chris Thelen Jr. | Firefighter | 0.5 | Rick Fischer | Firefighter | 5 |
| Mike Peters | Firefighter | 23 | Spencer Jack | Firefighter | 2 |
| Jonathan Schlafer | Firefighter | 1 | Dave Schmidt | Firefighter | 17 |
| John Heenan | Firefighter | 17 | Tim Flunker | Firefighter | 14 |
| Travis Steinacker | Firefighter | 11 | Josh Lambie | Firefighter/1 st Resp | 9 |
| Shannon Lowenhagen | Firefighter | 8 | Chad Miller | Firefighter | 8 |
| Brian Bellile | Firefighter | 0 | Tyler Ernst | Firefighter | 5 |



Photo courtesy of Julie Lee Photography (July 2010)

Notable 2011 Membership Changes

In Memoriam



Photo courtesy of Julie Lee Photography

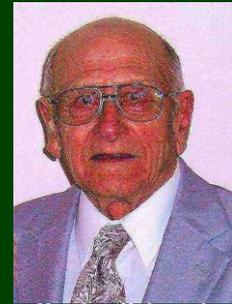
Captain Larry Strey

Born: 2/7/1956

28 years of service

Return to Quarters: January 2011

It is with deep regret and sadness that we remember the passing of Captain Larry Strey and Gordon Schroeder. They served a combined 53 years of service to their community. We salute you and your families. You will always be part of the Greenville Fire Department family, may you rest in peace.



Gordon Schroeder

Born: 1/16/1923

25 years of service

Return to Quarters: April 2011



Rick Romenesko being sworn in as Fire Chief along side Deputy Chief Tim Lambie (January 2011)

As stated in the 2010 annual report, Rick Romenesko was sworn in as Chief of the Greenville Fire Department in January of 2011. Chief Romenesko has a total of 21 years of experience as a firefighter and 1st responder for the Town of Greenville. He also served in the same capacities for the Town of Black Creek prior to moving to Greenville. We as a department, look forward to a bright future under Chief Romenesko's leadership.

Three Greenville Fire Department members retired in 2011. Gary Kelly retired in June after serving 18 years on the department. Nick Czaja retired in April after serving 4 years as a firefighter and first responder. Nick is now a firefighter/paramedic with the City of Fond du Lac Fire Department. Hailey Worden retired in September after serving 1 year on the fire department. We thank all of you for your years of dedicated service to the GFD and the Town of Greenville.



Chris Schlechta



Jonathan Schlafer



Troy Olson



Chris Thelen Jr.



Tim Immel

We welcomed five new firefighters, including Chris Schlechta, Jonathan Schlafer, Troy Olson, Chris Thelen Jr., and Tim Immel to the department. We appreciate their commitment to the Town of Greenville.

Chief Romenesko announced several promotions in 2011. Tim Woods was promoted to the rank of Captain. Joe Wehing and Eric Kitowski were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. We are excited to see these gentlemen take on added responsibility and leadership roles. We wish them continued success.

OPERATIONS

Station, Staffing, and Apparatus

Fire Station #53 W6895 Parkview Dr



The station is staffed by the part-time Chief, 2 full-time firefighter/first responders (the 2nd was added in March 2012). An active roster of 15 first responders and 44 firefighters answer the call to duty 24hrs a day, 365 days of the year.

Engine 5321



2010 Pierce Velocity
Seats 6, Waterous-1250
gpm pump, and 750 gal.
water tank.

Thermal imaging camera, extrication equipment, ventilation fan, master stream device, foam system, and scene lighting.

Pumper/Tanker 5361



2004 Pierce Enforcer
Seats 6, Waterous-1250
gpm pump, and 2500 gal.
water tank.

Thermal imaging camera, 3000 gal. porta-tank, ventilation fan, master stream device, foam system, and scene lighting.

Pumper/Tanker 5362



1997 Pierce/Freightliner
Seats 2, Waterous-1750
gpm pump and 3000 gal.
water tank.

3000 gal. porta-tank, portable generator, ventilation fan, and scene lighting.

Heavy Rescue 5371



2005 Pierce/Freightliner
Seats 10, breathing air
cascade system, Nightscan
light tower, command center,
winch, extrication equipment.

Ice rescue equipment, wildland FF suits, rescue rope, EMS supplies, gas detectors, power tools, spill clean up supplies.

Utility/Command 5381



2006 Chevy 2500HD
Seats 5, 13 gal. on-board
pressurized water supply,
and scene lighting.

EMS equipment, long board, hand tools, spill clean up supplies, and portable generator.

Utility/Brush Truck/Light Rescue 5382



2000 Ford F-350XL Super-Duty, Seats 2
Skid mounted 150 gal. tank with pump and Class A foam.

Scene lighting, extrication & EMS equipment, generator, and wildland firefighting equipment.

Rescue Trailer 5383



Features a Polaris 6-wheeler with skid mounted tank/pump and Class A foam. Off-road rescue cart, ice rescue sled, trench rescue shoring. Cribbing, pumps, long boards, Stokes basket, hand tools, trench jacks and utility rope.

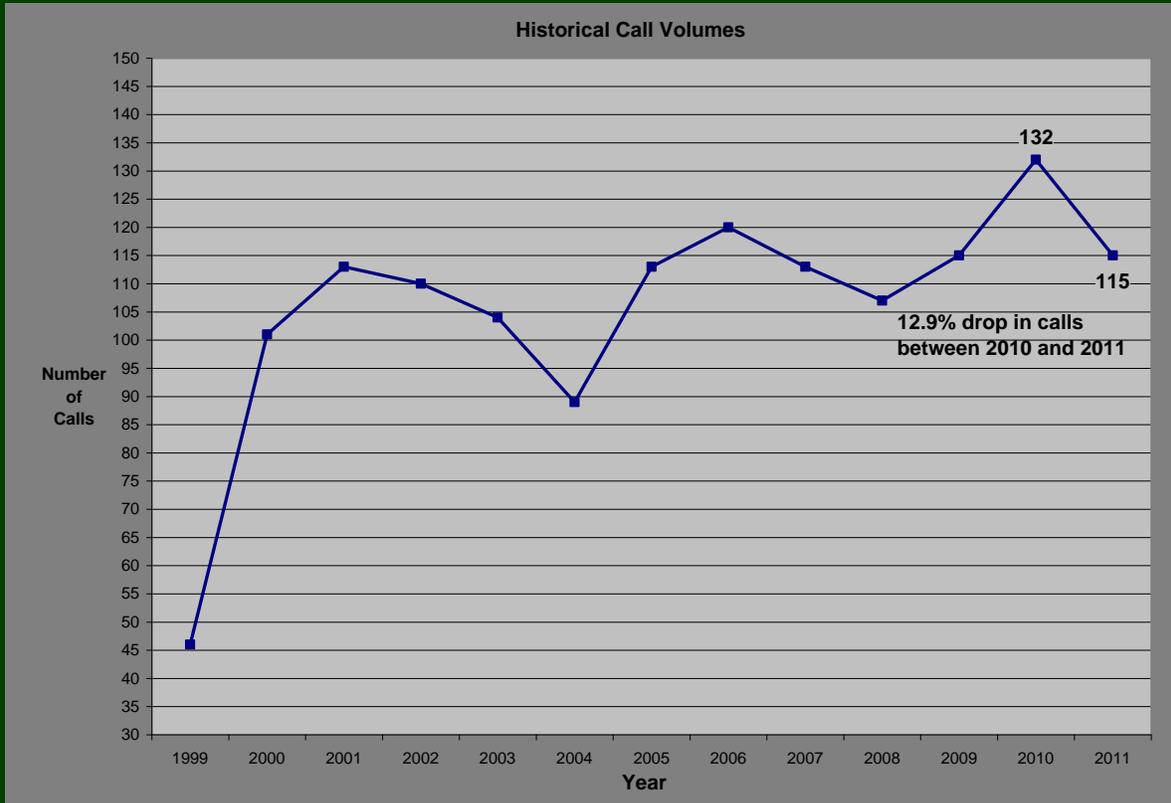
Outagamie County Disaster Trailer



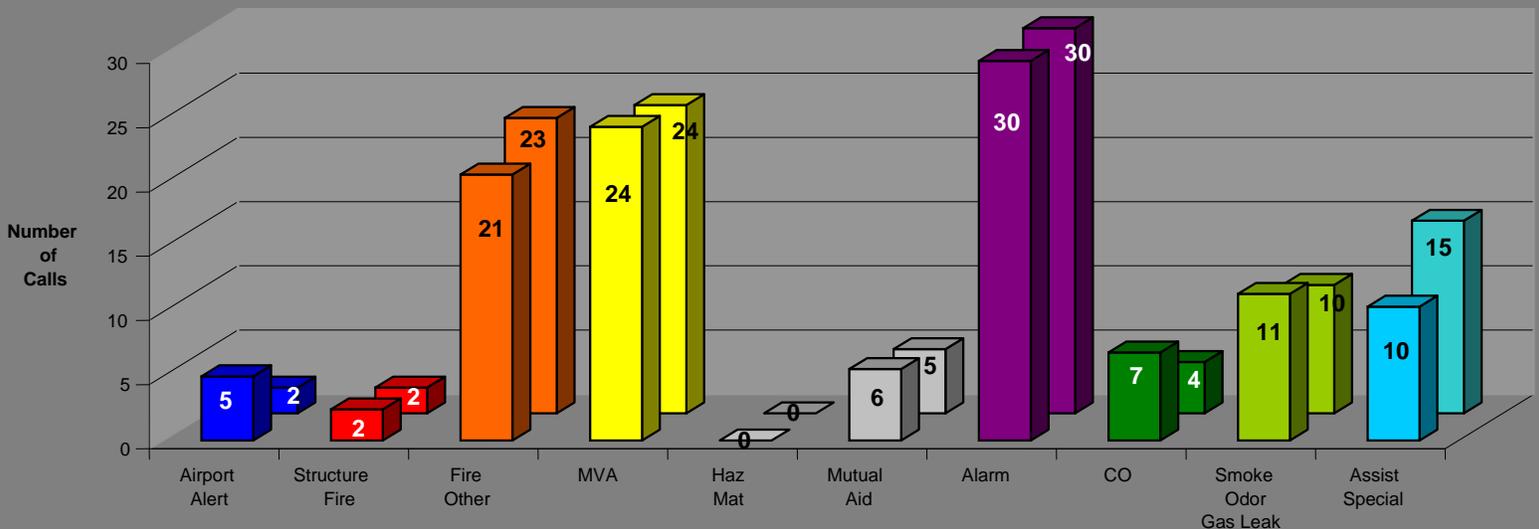
Features a generator, portable lighting, EMS/Triage supplies, and Incident Command supplies, long boards, chemical resistant boots, sand bags, coveralls, sump pumps and hose.

2011 Call Volumes and Response Summary

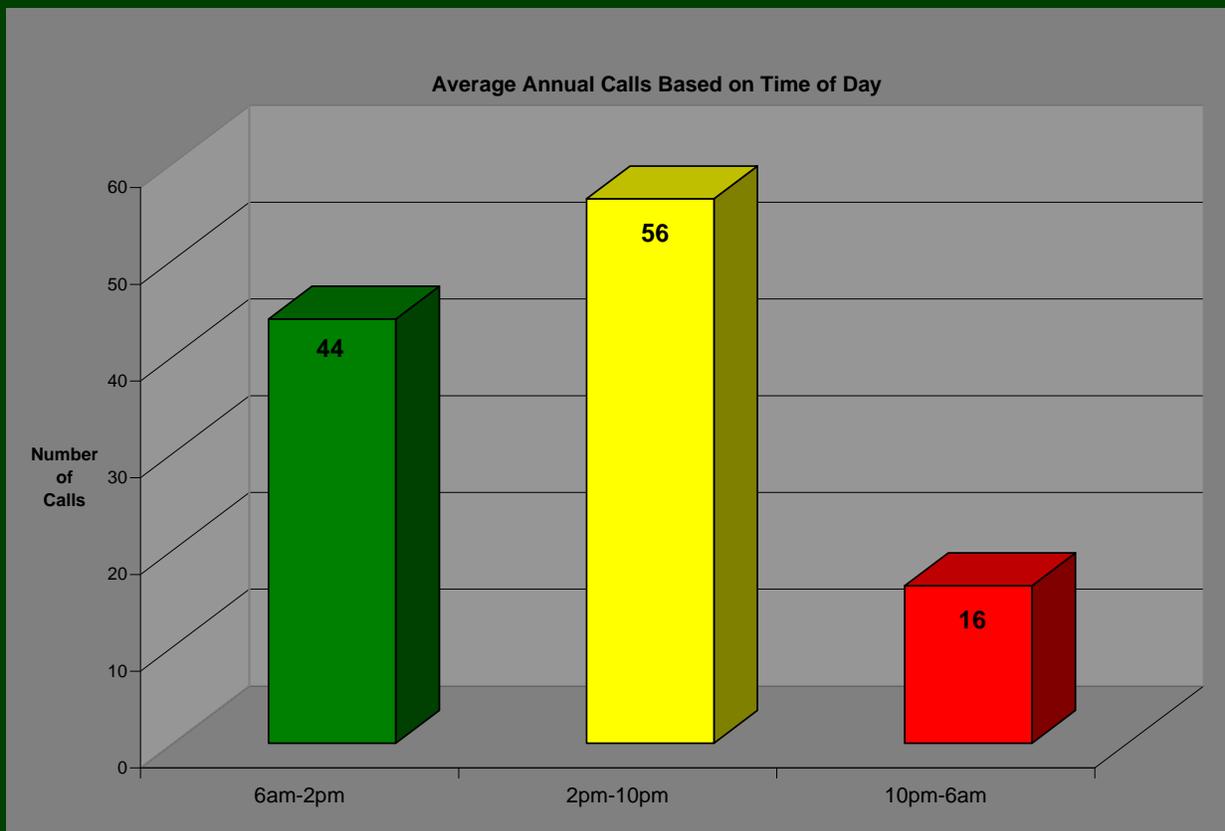
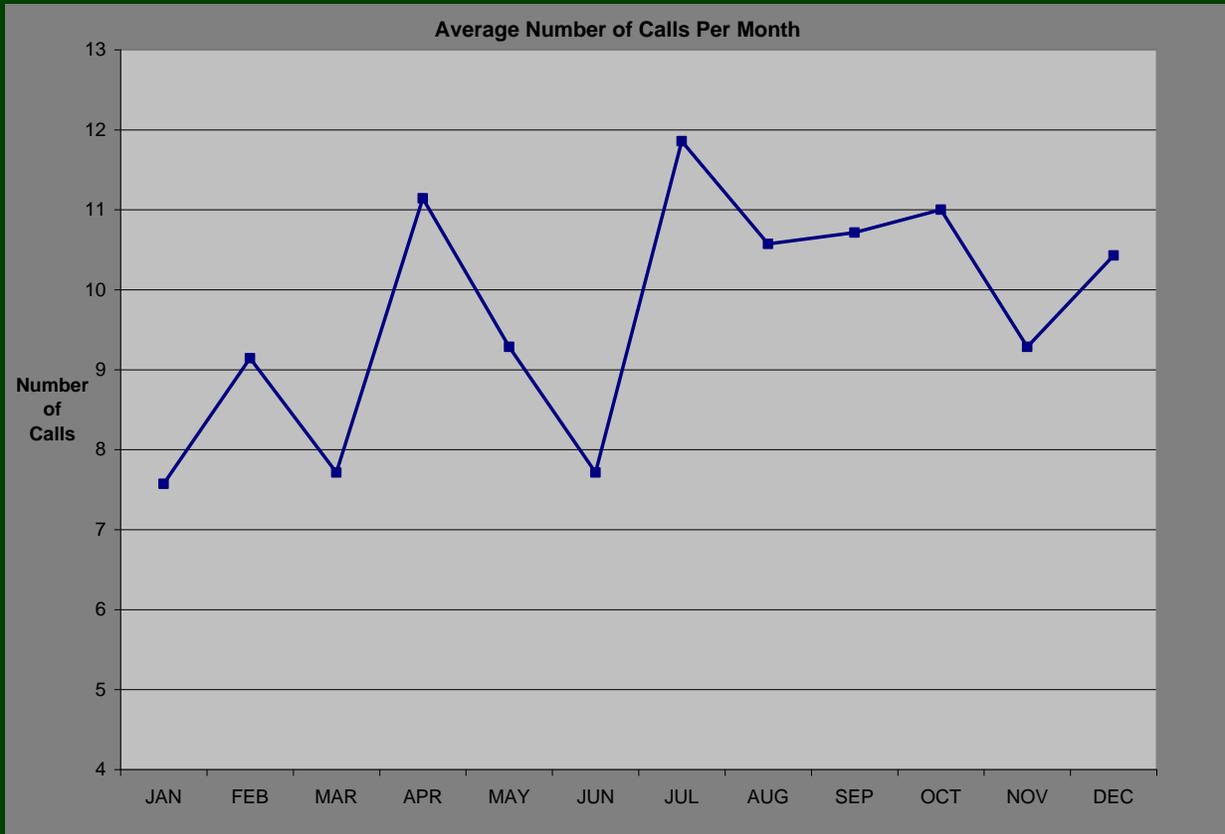
In 2011, the Greenville Fire Department responded to 115 calls. The total number of calls for 2011 decreased by 12.9% from 2010. The Greenville Fire Department responded to 25 fire calls (6 of which were structure fires), 24 MVAs (Motor Vehicle Accidents), 2 Outagamie County Airport Alerts, and 5 mutual aid calls. There was a 31.4% reduction in motor vehicle accidents between 2010 and 2011. This was a significant decrease since MVAs account for many of the fire department's calls for service.



Front Row: Average Annual Calls Based on Type 2005-2011 Data
Rear Row: Calls Based on Type for 2011 Only

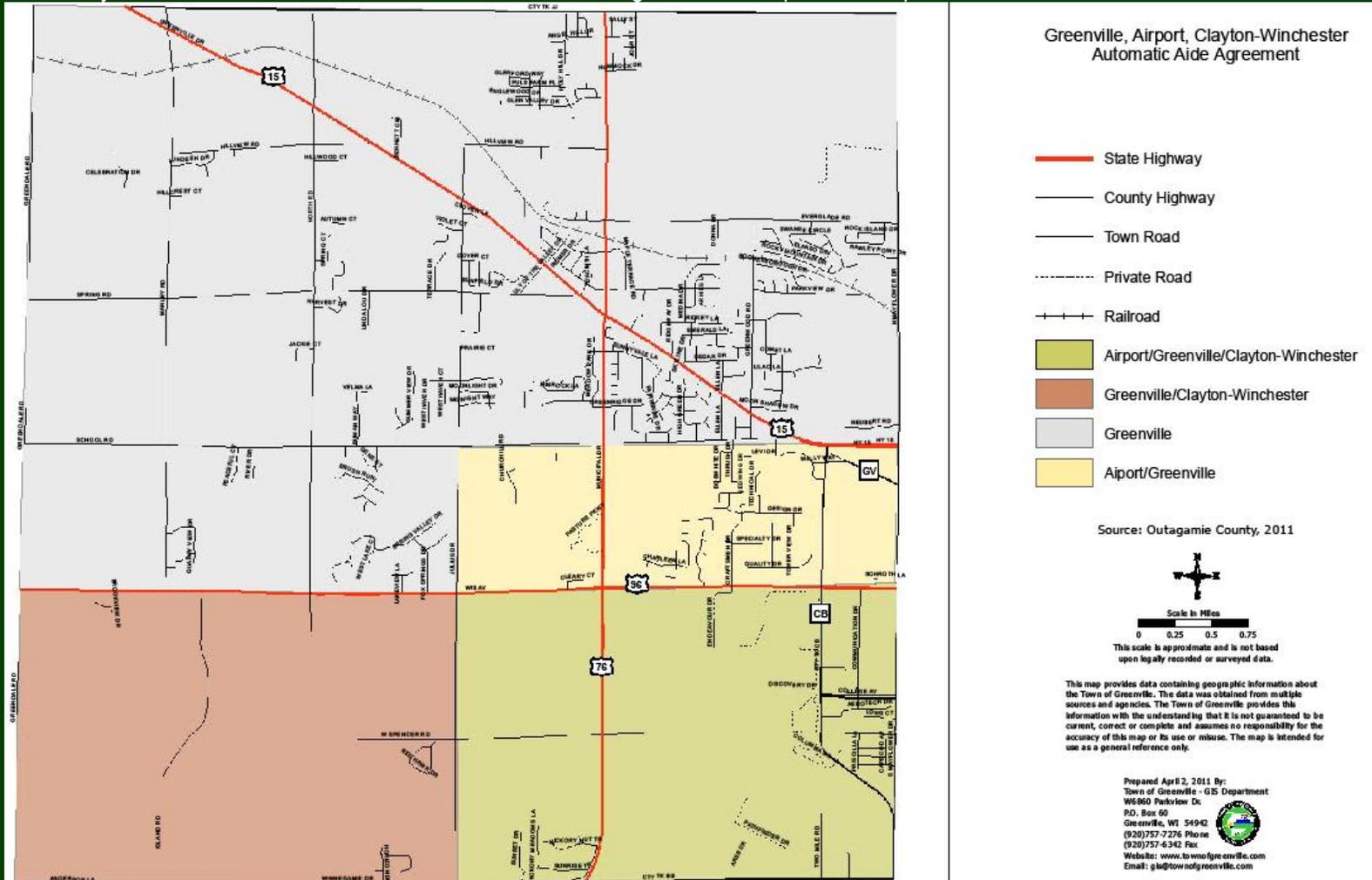


Data from 2005 - 2011 used for the charts below.



Automatic Aid

The Town of Greenville has Automatic Aid agreements with the Outagamie County Airport and Clayton/Winchester Fire Departments. Automatic Aid is assistance that is dispatched automatically by a contractual agreement between two fire departments, communities or fire districts. In 2011, Greenville Fire responded to 2 automatic aid structure fire calls into the Clayton/Winchester fire district. Automatic aid was also given to the Airport Fire Department for 2 aircraft alert calls.



Response areas within the Town of Greenville given by Automatic Aid departments

Mutual Aid

The Town of Greenville also has Mutual Aid agreements with surrounding fire departments. Mutual Aid is assistance that is dispatched, upon request, by the responding fire department. Mutual Aid agreements are in place with the following fire departments: Dale, Ellington, Center, Grand Chute, Hortonville, and Town of Menasha. Greenville fire provided mutual aid for 1 call in 2011 to the Town of Ellington.

M.A.B.A.S.

In the event of a large incident, the MABAS system (**Mutual Aid Box Alarm System**) provides for even more assistance from departments located beyond the towns listed above. MABAS is a mutual aid measure that may be used for deploying fire, rescue and emergency medical services personnel in a multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-agency response. Participation in the mutual aid program is voluntary. The Greenville Fire Department is a MABAS member department and could be called upon to respond for aid to departments within the system. Greenville Fire apparatus were requested via the MABAS system twice in 2011. The first was for an apartment fire in Grand Chute and the second was for the bowling alley fire in downtown Pulaski. Greenville fire requested a MABAS dispatch in November of 2011 for a residential structure fire. This incident had a very good outcome. Fire damage was mainly contained to a single bedroom, adjoining bathroom and the attic directly above. The favorable outcome was based, in part, on the quick response by our mutual aid departments.

TRAINING

All candidates hired are required to successfully complete 60-100 hours of classroom training. This training which includes both structural and wildland firefighting skills is done through Fox Valley Technical College in conjunction with the NFPA



Greenville firefighters practice relay pumping between apparatus.

1001 standard (Standard for firefighter professional qualifications). Many firefighters go on to take State of Wisconsin certification tests for enhanced qualifications such as Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Driver/Operator-Pumper, Fire Officer and Fire Inspector. 2011 was another busy training year for the Greenville Fire Department. Along with multiple other fire departments and agencies, the GFD participated and took part in the planning of a mock aircraft crash at the Outagamie County Airport. This drill is conducted every three years to test emergency services' response to such a disaster. All of those involved successfully executed their tasks. Thanks to all who took part in this exercise to help ensure our readiness for such an emergency.



Greenville firefighters use a donated school bus to practice extinguishing a vehicle fire.

Greenville firefighters are trained at a high level in firefighting and rescue operations. Training leads to proficient, efficient, and safe execution of tasks on emergency scenes. The Greenville Fire Department is fortunate to have access to two buildings used for live fire training. We also have access to wrecked vehicles for rescue/extrication training. "Live" scenario trainings are invaluable to firefighters in providing an opportunity to put table-top instruction to actual practice in a non-emergency and relatively safe atmosphere. Examples of such trainings are depicted in the photos to the left and below.

Greenville Fire Department firefighters trained a total of 1686.5 hours in 2011.

***"Ours is a serious job,
Take what we do seriously,
Train like it's real,
Be safe and have fun"***

The scheduled department trainings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month. Below are just a few examples of training topics:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Ice Rescue | R.I.T. Rescue |
| SCBA Confidence Course | Vehicle Extrication |
| Hose-line Operations | Driver Skills |
| Pump Operations | Ladder Rescue |
| Roof Ventilation | Forcible Entry |
| Hazardous Materials | Search & Rescue |



Lt. Jim Ziegert and firefighters Chad Miller and Josh Lambie man a hose-line as they put out a garage fire at a Greenville training site.

FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Public fire prevention and life safety education has been proven to be one of the most effective and cost efficient methods of reducing not only the number of fires, but also the number of deaths and injuries that result from fires. The Greenville Fire Department offers residents of Greenville the latest techniques for not only surviving a fire and other hazards, but also gives them knowledge and skills to prevent emergencies from occurring. The goals of the Greenville Fire Department's Fire Prevention & Public Education Programs are to provide the residents, visitors, and businesses of Greenville protection against loss of life and property by fire and other hazards through:

Fire Prevention Inspections & Code Enforcement

- Fire and life safety inspections of all commercial, multi-family residential, health care, church, and school buildings.
- Maintenance of the Knox Box program, which controls emergency access to buildings and other secure areas for fire operations.
- Investigation of citizen complaints of potential fire code violations.



Overloaded outlet



Obstructed fire extinguisher

Greenville fire inspectors are charged with inspecting approximately 320 commercial occupancies. State statutes require a minimum of 2 inspections in non-overlapping 6-month periods totaling a minimum of 640 inspections per year. Raising that total are follow-up inspections that are done when code violations are discovered (follow up inspections are based on a specific violation criteria). These are done to ensure the owners/occupants correct code deficiencies and bring their occupancies to satisfactory levels of fire and life safety. 32 follow-up inspections were required for the 1st half of 2011, while only 5 were required for the 2nd half of 2011. This statistic reflects increased fire code compliance by local business owners. We commend them for their commitment to safety of both staff members and patrons.

Fire Prevention and Life Safety Education Program

- Fire station tours
- Community parades
- Home fire safety inspections
- Fire extinguisher training for businesses
- Public appearances at local events (ex. National Night Out and Catfish Races)
- Fire Prevention Month (October)-Safety presentations given to students at local schools and day care centers (Firefighters visit the schools with fire apparatus).
- GFD/EMS Annual Open House during Fire Prevention Week
- Fire prevention and life safety information that can be found at the Greenville Town Hall, Public Safety building, the Town's quarterly newsletters, and on the fire department and first responder websites www.townofgreenville.com/dept-fire/



Greenville Engine 5321 on display at Community Park during the National Night Out event (8-2-11)



Lt. Todd Hajos demonstrates the use of fire extinguishers at the GFD & EMS Open House (8-13-11)

The fire station is open to public tours during daytime business hours Monday-Friday and/or by appointment. Tours give the public an opportunity to see the fire station, apparatus, and equipment up close to become more familiar with what is used on emergency scenes.

Home fire safety inspections are free to residents who would like help pointing out hazardous conditions in their homes, providing suggestions on how to eliminate the hazards, and assist with emergency preparedness.

Fire extinguisher training is offered to local businesses. We instruct employees how to properly use fire extinguishers for specific types of fires.

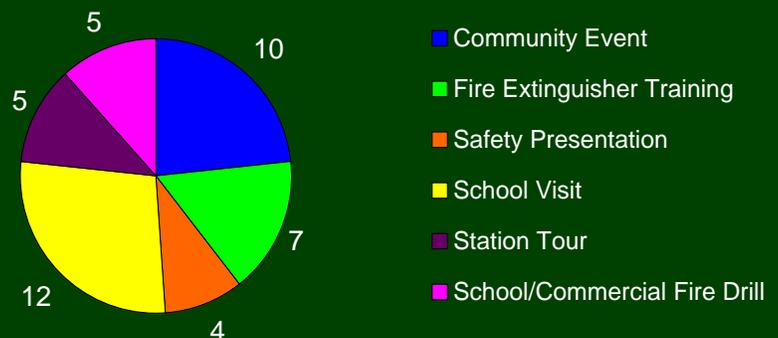
Fire Prevention Month (October) includes fire crew visits to local schools and day care facilities to teach children the basics of fire safety, familiarize them with what a fire fighter looks like in protective clothing, and to let them see the fire apparatus up close. The month's activities culminate with the Fire Department and EMS Open House. Some highlights of this event include station tours, fire extinguisher demonstrations, car seat inspections, various apparatus on display, a mock emergency demonstration, and a visit by the Theda Star helicopter (weather permitting). Food and beverages are also served.



Theda Star on display at the GFD/EMS Open House (8-13-11)

The GFD participated in 43 public education events in 2011. The time committed to these events totaled 65.75 hours.

730 adults and 1066 children took part in the public education.



2011 HIGHLIGHTS

The Greenville Fire Department maintains a membership of approximately 50 firefighters. In early 2011, the Greenville Fire Department reviewed its staffing volume and determined that a recruitment process was necessary. By January 10th, 3 new volunteer firefighters were added (Chris Schlechta, Jonathan Schlafer and Troy Olson). Tim Immel and Chris Thelen Jr. were added to the roster in July. Their dedication to the Town and the fire department is appreciated (photos on page 6).

In 2010, Greenville fire officers and town officials also looked at the day to day workload involved with a department and municipality of this size. Those duties include: Fire/Life safety inspections on commercial buildings and businesses including follow-ups, and pre-fire plans, light apparatus/equipment maintenance, response to fire/EMS calls, fire prevention/education activities, reports, data entry, and assist with training set-ups. Based on a review of that workload, the committee created a full time Fire Prevention Officer position and began an internal hiring process late in the year. Eric Kitowski was promoted to this position and began the duties of the Fire Prevention Officer in January of 2011. Eric Kitowski and Joe Weihing were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in spring. Tim Woods was promoted to the rank of Captain at that same time. The promotions gave them added administrative fire crew responsibilities.



Due to new NFPA requirements and after many years of dependable service, Engine 8 was retired from active fire service duty in 2010. The truck was sold to the North Dakota Chapter of "Guardians of the Ribbon" which is also part of www.pinkfiretrucks.org Engine 8 has found a new calling and will be used by



Photo courtesy of www.pinkfiretrucks.org

these organizations to raise money and awareness for the fight against breast cancer. The truck was recently painted pink and will be taken to various charity events across the country (see photo to the right). It will be part of the Pink Heals Tour attending community cancer awareness events. The current fleet of fire trucks is decorated with over 40,000 signatures from women who have survived cancer. Engine 8 is currently being prepared for this new duty. We are proud to know that Engine 8 is serving such a worthy cause.

In October, a new BullEx I.T.S. Xtreme fire extinguisher training system. The system is a safe and effective way to train people on the proper use of portable fire extinguishers. It will be utilized for commercial fire extinguisher trainings as well as for live fire demonstrations at community events such as the Greenville Fire & EMS Open House. See photo to the right.



Photo courtesy of Stihl USA

With a generous donation by Diane Julius, the fire department purchased a chainsaw designed specifically for use in the fire service. She requested that the fire department purchase something that it needed. This saw will be placed on Engine 5321 and will aid in roof ventilation operations and for clearing fallen trees/limbs during severe weather incidents. We are truly grateful for the donation from Diane. The saw will be a fitting tribute to the late Chief Dave Julius who was an avid woodsman.

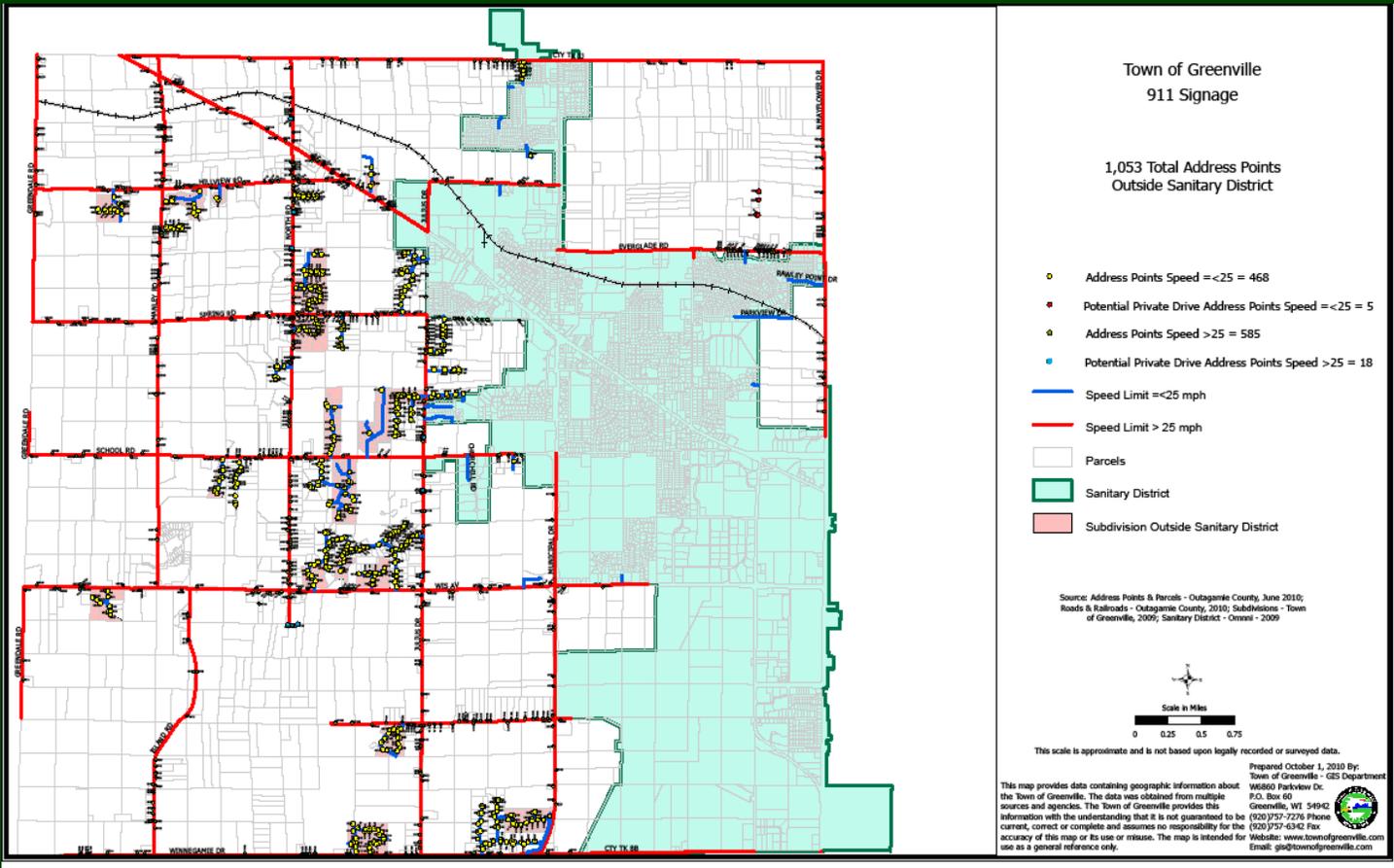


Photo courtesy of BullEx

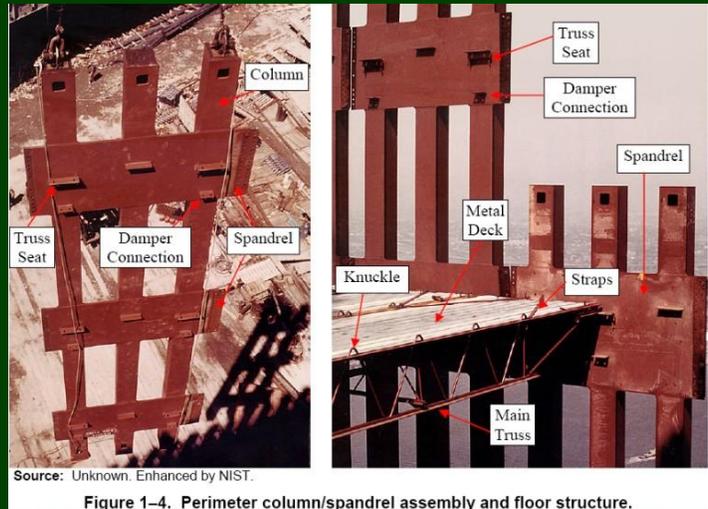


Uniform address signage is a project that was near and dear to the heart of Chief Dave Julius and all Greenville emergency responders. Installation of the signs began in 2010 and the project was completed in 2011. The new signs are standardized to have the same look for each address, are reflective, and are on the same side of the road as the actual residence/building. Responding to the correct address has been greatly improved, especially at night. Greenville Fire and 1st Responders, as well as law enforcement, Gold Cross ambulance, and utility companies are extremely grateful. Responding units and delivery vehicles no longer create a hazardous road condition by changing their direction of travel due to

missing the proper address. Signs were installed in 2 phases. The 1st phase involved sign installation outside the sanitary district. The 2nd phase involved installing the remaining signs.



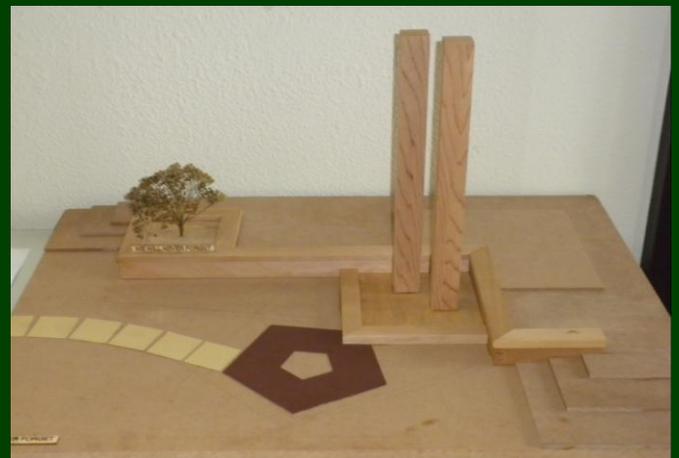
In spring of 2011, Greenville Fire and 1st responder members learned of the Port Authority of NY/NJ World Trade Center Artifacts Program. The program began in early 2010 to solicit proposals for WTC steel to be used in public displays. Proposals were submitted by fire departments, police departments, communities, government facilities, museums, etc. 1027 steel artifacts from the WTC wreckage were designated for this program. In early summer, the Port Authority accepted the proposal that was submitted on behalf of the Fire Department, 1st responders, and Town of Greenville. Greenville



became one of approximately 23 sites in Wisconsin to be granted the responsibility of displaying WTC artifacts. On Saturday August 27th, the Town of Greenville received 2 structural beams recovered from the World Trade Center wreckage after 9-11. They are both approximately 13 feet in length and 2700 lbs each. They were part of the exoskeleton of the towers that everyone is familiar with. See the photos above. The artifacts were escorted into Greenville by a 19 agency, 35 emergency-vehicle procession. People lined the procession route that started in Kaukauna. They waved, saluted, held American flags, or stood in silent reflection as the beams rolled by. The procession was followed by a Veterans/Fire/EMS Appreciation Ceremony where several speakers reflected on the events of 9-11 and on what the pieces represent. It was an emotional and solemn experience for all who took part.



The artifacts are on permanent loan by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for the use in a public memorial that will be constructed in 2012. The 9-11 Memorial will be part of the memorial square at the west end of the public safety building. The dedication date has been set for August 25, 2012. Below is a model of the memorial design created by Greenville resident and FVTC instructor Jim Beard.



Elements incorporated in the memorial will symbolize those lost on Flight 93, at the Pentagon and at Ground Zero. The memorial will be a solemn and physical connection to the events of September 11th and to ensure we "never forget" those who lost their lives on that day. The Town of Greenville, Greenville Fire, and Greenville EMS are proud to have the honor of being the caretakers of these pieces of national history.

2012 GOALS

A very important project that the fire department is involved in is the completion of the 9-11 Memorial. A 9-11 Memorial committee has been formed to manage the project. It is composed of Jim Beard (the memorial's designer), members of Town Government, firefighters, first responders, members from the Parks department, the Chair for the Park Commission, and a member of the Wisconsin AmVets. They will be tasked with completing the memorial by the August 25th, 2012 deadline as well as sourcing vendors for the various aspects of the memorial's construction. A dedication will be held on August 25th prior to the Town of Greenville Parade.



In late 2011, the fire department and Town Board approved the hiring of a 2nd full-time firefighter/first responder based on workload and safety concerns. An internal hiring process was started in early 2012. The Town Board approved the hire of Firefighter and First Responder Josh Lambie. Josh has 9 years of experience as a Greenville firefighter. He was also a full-time firefighter with the Outagamie County Airport Fire Department for approximately 1 year. Josh is well respected in the community and brings quite a bit of firefighting experience to the table (esp. his background with Airport Fire operations). We are enthused to have him as a full-time firefighter/first responder and congratulate him on this career achievement.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has mandated that our regional radio communications get upgraded from wide band VHF to narrow band VHF by mid-2013. This means that ALL portable, station, vehicle radios and pages also get upgraded. This system will allow for clearer communications, increased interoperability with mutual aid resources, and will free up the main county dispatching radio channel which is currently being over-loaded. There will be a capital investment for the Town of Greenville. Some of this cost will be offset by a government grant that Outagamie County was awarded. A committee of fire & EMS personnel has been put together to become educated about the project and to select radio equipment for the upgrade in 2013.

The fire department website was updated in 2011, however, the construction of the base-layout is not yet complete. We will continue to update/overhaul it as time permits as we see it being an extremely valuable resource for residents and others that are interested in our Town and fire department.

A Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) is a team of two or more firefighters and equipment dedicated solely to search and rescue of other firefighters in distress. In the past, such a team was put together only as needed and did not have the specific title of "RIT". As we move to the future and standardize our operations and terminology with other departments, the GFD will be designating specific equipment and personnel for RIT operations at all structure fire scenes. As stated before, the RIT equipment is dedicated solely to the task of rescuing firefighters in distress. In 2012, the GFD will be purchasing equipment designated for RIT teams such as: rescue rope, RIT equipment drag-bags, knives, flashlights and other hardware. These teams and equipment will aid in firefighter safety and help to ensure that "we all come home".

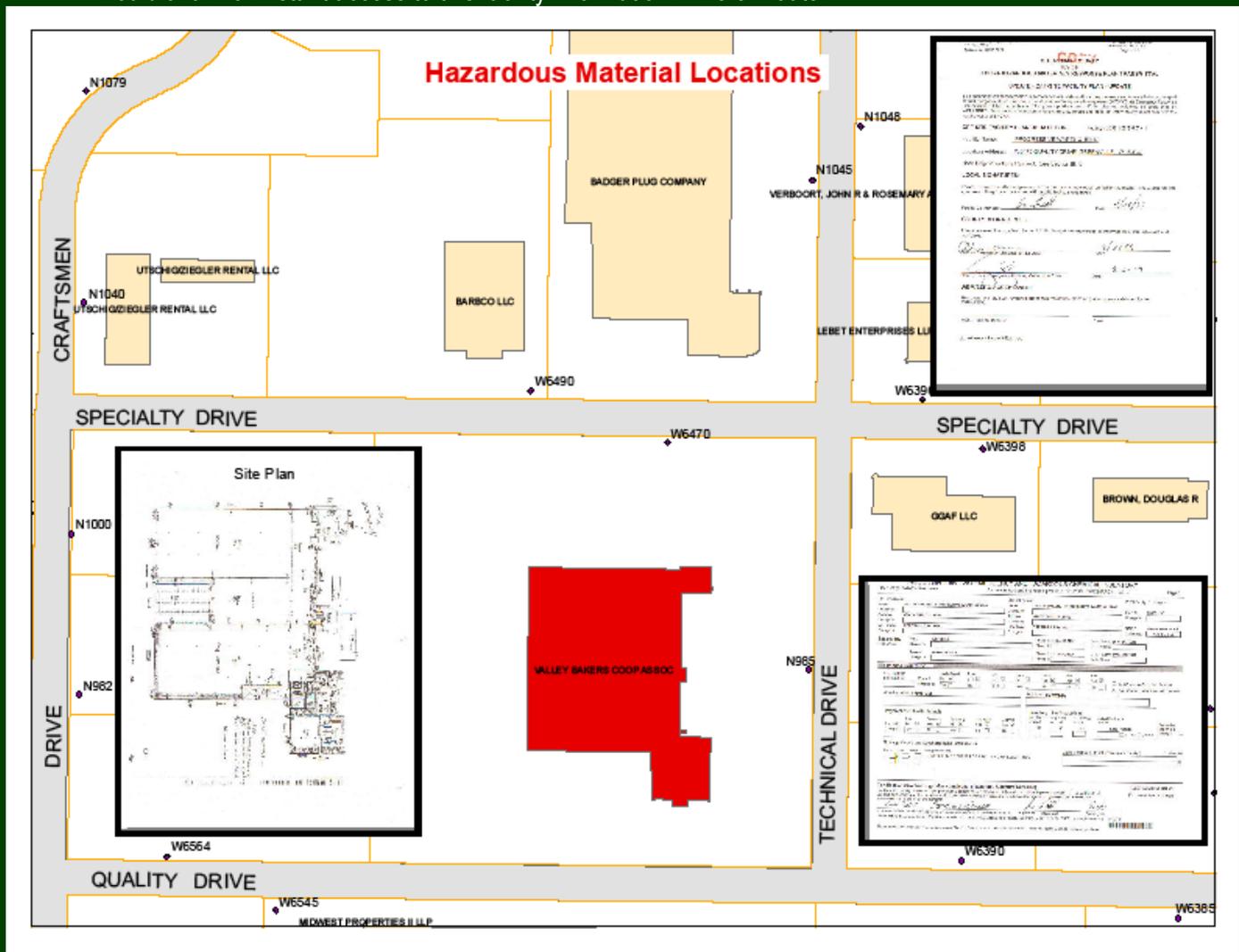
In October 2011, the Town of Greenville determined that a study was needed to investigate Fire and EMS Staffing and Capital Improvement needs. The study will develop a long range plan to address these needs. It had been several years since the last study was completed so the Town budgeted for a new one to be conducted in spring of 2012 by RW Management Group, Inc. Look to the 2012 Annual Report for the findings of this study.

We will be implementing a preventive medical assessment program where firefighters will get a firefighter specific physical. This assessment will help a firefighter find a possible medical issue before it becomes a problem.

The Greenville Fire, GIS (Geographic Information System), and Public Works departments will be working closely on several mapping/information projects. These projects are intended to help better define emergency response areas for both mutual/automatic aid coming into Greenville as well as the Greenville Fire Department's response into surrounding communities. This project should be completed in the 2nd quarter of 2012

Additionally, Jennifer Tovar (Greenville GIS) is conducting a hazardous material inventory within the Town of Greenville. The maps, information, and software resulting from this project will show locations which contain hazardous materials, the material type, and location of the hazards within a facility. Benefits from this project will include:

- Tabletop preplanning/training with department members without having to visit the actual facility. "Preplanning includes identify building construction, floor plans, exposures, evacuation routes, and hazardous materials. It can mean the difference between life and death. By identifying building hazards and combustibles, as well as exits for rapid egress, utilities shut-off locations and firewalls, firefighters will have a better understanding of the situation and potential hazards, which may result in more lives saved and reduced property damage. The more information that can be generated by a fire pre-plan, the better prepared the first responders can become upon arrival."
From: "Why Develop Fire Pre Plans?" (www.emergency-response-planning.com)
- In the event of a fire or hazardous materials call to such facilities, a fire department member at the fire station could pull up the facility floor plan and hazardous materials location(s) then share this information with first in fire crews.
- Future MDTs/MDCs (Mobile Data Terminals or Mobile Data Computers) mounted in Greenville Fire apparatus would allow for instant access to this facility information while en route.



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Photos courtesy of: Greenville Fire Department
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