

CHIPPEWA FIRE DISTRICT 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Purpose, Mission, Vision, & Goals

Purpose

The purpose of the Chippewa Fire District is to protect and enhance the safety and well-being within our community.

Mission

The Chippewa Fire District is committed to creating a safe community through prevention, preparedness, and effective emergency responses.

Vision

We strive to be the best.

Goals

- Chippewa Fire District will deliver comprehensive safety services of the highest quality.
- Chippewa Fire District will support and maintain a safe, healthy, well-trained, and high-performing workforce.
- Chippewa Fire District will provide high-quality first responder service as part of an integrated emergency medical care system.
- Chippewa Fire District Firefighters will be a community resources for life safety knowledge and information about the Department's services.
- Chippewa Fire District will attract and retain a qualified diverse workforce.

CHIPPEWA FIRE DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Command Staff

Fire Chief Scott Bernette (AEMT)
Deputy Chief Mike Nowak (AEMT)
Deputy Chief Cory Jeffers (AEMT)
Deputy Chief Duane Wallsch
Deputy Chief John Andersen (EMT-B)

Administrative Staff

Rita Erickson

Station 1

Chief 1 DC Mike Nowak (AEMT)
D-11 Capt. Samantha McTaggart
D-12 Capt. Clayton McTaggart
D-13 Capt. Jim Campbell (EMR)
D-14 TO Mitch Bias (EMT-B)
D-15 Capt. Derick Lane (AEMT)
D-16 ATO Charles Holloway

Station 3

Chief 3 DC Cory Jeffers (EMT-A)
D-31 Capt. Josh Rihn
D-32 Capt. Erik Hennlich
D-33 Capt. Jeff Frederick (EMT-B)
D-34 TO TJ Schemenauer
D-35 ATO Josh Zueg (EMR)

Station 6

Chief 6 DC Duane Wallsch
D-61 Capt. Lloyd Bowe
D-62 Capt. Joseph Schindler
D-63 Capt. Ron Dreger
D-64 TO Cory Scheidler

Shift Captains

Capt. Jake Grotthus (CC/EMT-P)
Capt. Ron Wolf (CC/EMT-P)
Capt. Peter Arriola (EMT-P)

On Duty Crews

A-Shift

Capt Peter Arriola (FF & EMT-P)
Andrew Mayer (FF & EMT-P)

B-Shift

Capt Jacob Grotthus (FF & CC/EMT-P)
Olivia Steindorf (FF & EMT-P)

C-Shift

Ron Wolf (FF & CC/EMT-P) *
Tyler Place (FF & CC/EMT-P)

Part-Time

Jenn Struensee (FF & CC/EMT-P)

Inspection Division

Deputy Chief of Fire Investigator/Inspector John Andersen (EMT-B)

Lead Tank Inspector

Rebecca Shervey (FF/EMT-B)

Lead Fire Investigator

Doug Matthews (FF/EMT-B)

Lead Fire Investigator

DC John Andersen (FF/EMT-B)

Calls for Service

The Fire District responded to a total of 2874 calls for service in 2021. Below is a total of the request for service calls over the past three years:

1/1/2021 to 12/31/2021 = 2874

1/1/2020 to 12/31/2020 = 2570

1/1/2019 to 12/31/2019 = 2474

Breakdown of calls for the year

EMS 911	EMS/Fire Stand-by	EMS 911 No Transport	EMS 911 Cancelled	EMS Intercepts	EMS MA Received	EMS MA Given	EMS MA Cancelled	Event Stand by PR	Total EMS Related Request
635	121	288	18	46	16	40	11	1	1176

Transfers	Transfers Cancelled Caller	Transfer Cancelled enroute	Transfer Cancelled Weather	Transfer Cancelled LD After Hrs.	Transfer Cancelled No Crew	Transfer Cancelled No Nurse	Transfer Cancelled no PD	Not Cost Effective/Other	Total Transfer Related Request
745	110	0	22	201	191	0	8	141	1418

SWAT Calls	SWAT Trainings	Total SWAT Related Request
9	16	25

Dive/Water Call	Dive Call Cancelled	Total Dive Related Request
5	1	6

Structure Fires	Brush/Grass Fires	Vehicle Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Fire Calls	Fire Calls Cancelled	MA Fire Call	MA Fire Cancelled	PR Events	Total Fire Related Request
6	10	12	53	96	21	36	3	12	249

Percentage by Calls

EMS	Number of Calls	Percentage
Town of Hallie	16	0.82
Village of Lake Hallie	622	31.85
Town of Lafayette	397	20.33
Town of Howard	26	1.33
Intercept	52	2.66
Mutual Aid	63	3.23
Tactical	25	1.28
Transfer Local	286	14.64
Transfer Out	466	23.86
Cancel Transfers	674	

In the District	54.33
Out of District	45.67

Fire	Number of Calls	Percentage
Town of Hallie	6	2.41
Village of Lake Hallie	100	40.16
Town of Lafayette	91	36.55
Town of Howard	8	3.21
Mutual Aid	38	15.26
Dive	6	2.41

In the District	82.33
Out of District	17.67

DISTRICT APPARATUS/EQUIPMENT INFORMATION

Apparatus Testing

ENGINES: All engines passed NFPA annual pump tests.
AERIAL: Truck 1 passed NFPA service testing & pump test.

Equipment Testing

SCBA: All SCBA in service passed NFPA annual testing.
Ladders: All ladders in service passed NFPA annual testing.

Apparatus Location/Roster

District Staff Vehicles

CV1 2020 Ford F150 4X4 (Fire Chief) (Funded by sale of ambulances)
CV2 2014 Ford Edge (DC, Capt., Maintenance Tech)
Tank 1 2017 Subaru (funded by Tank Program)
Tank 2 2018 Subaru (funded by Tank Program)

Station One

Engine 1 2013 Darley 1500/1000
Truck 1 2013 Smeal 105 Aerial 2000/500
Tanker 1 2016 Freightliner/UST 1000/4000 (Tender/Pumper)
Brush 1 2002 F-350 Ford Pickup 200/250 class A foam (funded by Tank Program)
CAR 10 2005 Chev 4x4 2500 HD 4dr. Pickup (funded by Tank Program)
Boat 2017 John Boat with Mercury motor
Medic 1 2020 Ford F550/Lifeline Ambulance
Medic 2 2017 Ford F550/Lifeline Ambulance
Medic 4 2017 Ford F550/ Lifeline Ambulance
UTV 1 2018 John Deere Rescue/Wildland Fire Fighting

Station Three

Engine 3 2016 Freightliner/UST 1500/1000
Engine 33 2016 Freightliner/UST 1500/1000
Squad 3 2016 Pierce Rescue Squad & Air Cascade
Tender 3 2021 Freightliner- Pierce 1000/4000 (Tender/Pumper)
Brush 3 2012 Chev 4x4 3500 (Funded by Tank Program)
Boat 1978 Boston Whaler Rescue Boat /100HP Mercury & Trailer
Dive Van 1996 Chevy Van with dive equipment & 4 bottle cascade
Medic 3 2020 Ford F550/Lifeline Ambulance
ATV 2021 Kubota Rescue/Wildland Fire Fighting

Station Six

Engine 6	2008 Pierce/Dash 1750/1500
Squad 6	2016 Pierce Rescue Squad & Air Cascade
Tanker 6	2021 Freightliner-Danko 300/4000
Brush 6	2007 Ford 4X4 250/350 (funded by Tank Program)
Portable 6	Sykes 3000 GPM trailer mounted pump

Vehicles Sold/Retired

1992 Ford/Pierce 1500/1000
1993 Ford 4X4 150/300
1994 Ford 4X4 150/250
1996 Snowmobile/Rescue Sled & Trailer
1997 Freightliner/Pierce 1500/1000
1999 Argo ATV and Trailer
2000 Freightliner/Danko 300/4000
2000 Freightliner/Danko 300/4000
2013 Dodge Van
2015 ATV Rescue and Trailer

FIRE TRAINING/INFORMATION

Station Officers and Training Officers conducted and coordinated training outlined in the 2021 District Training Schedule. Training had to be modified to follow the recommendations the Center for Disease and Control and Chippewa County Health Department based on the recommend restrictions for COVID-19 pandemic. The District held in-person and online training options.

The Fire District Officers met 6 times in 2021. The Officers met in person with the option for virtual attendance for all meetings. The Officers discussed and updated many of the Fire District Standard Operating Procedures with the input of the members. Also, there were 5 online training sessions for the Officers in 2021.

The Fire District Health and Safety Committee met 6 times in 2021. The Committee met in person with the option for virtual attendance for all meetings. At these meetings, any health-related, close calls, or safety concerns were review. Also, there were several Minimum Operating Guideline (MOG) for training updated in 2021.

EMS REPORT

2021 was a very exciting year for the Chippewa Fire District EMS section. The Chippewa Fire District continues to evolve to meet the service needs of our great communities and neighboring communities. We are constantly reminded of the delicate balance of service

delivery and organizational wellness. Below is a brief highlight of the happenings within Chippewa Fire District EMS section for 2021.

With the retirement of the Career Assistant Chief of EMS and that position not being filled, the EMS Division did some restructuring. The Fire Chief assumed all responsibility formerly done by the Assistant Chief of EMS. The position of Lead Medic was replaced with a Captain position on each duty crew. The Captains were assigned duties and given the responsibility to lead and manage their crews per current policies and procedures.

Chippewa Fire District had 14 Emergency Medical Tech Basics take a refresher course and 5 of our Emergency Medical Tech Basics upgraded to Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians through CVTC Chippewa Falls.

EMS crews did numerous station tours and attended community events representing the Fire District.

Capt. Peter Arriola was assigned the duties of EMS training for the District.

Capt. Ron Wolf was assigned the duties of EMS equipment ordering and maintenance

Capt. Jake Grotthus was assigned the duties of Fire and TEMS operations.

Following CDC and Chippewa County Health Department guide lines for COVID-19 we again started doing in person daily shift trainings with duty crew members and monthly evening trainings for our medical responders to train together. We also continued to offer online training option for members as well.

EMS crews again started doing fire inspections which had been on hold due to COVID-19 per Deputy Chief of Fire Prevention.

Shift Captains worked with the Fire Chief to updating District EMS Protocols, Standard Operating Procedures, Suggested Operation Guide lines (SOG) that relate to EMS.

Chippewa Fire District TEMS Review

Chippewa Fire District Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) section within the Chippewa Fire District EMS section had the command taken over by Capt. Jake Grotthus with the retirement of the lead contact person for the District TEMS team.

The TEMS unit added several new members in 2021. They were sent to TEMS Team training and will be attending further schooling and trainings in 2022. The team responded to a total of 25 events for service which was 2 events more than 2022. (9 Callouts & 16 Training)

Our dedicated TEMS Medics have been busy staying up to date with the ever changing environment we live in the past year. Our onsite training has been limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Two TEMS medics were fitted for new protective gear which was acquired from Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office budget.

Our TEMS group has been training with the regional quick response team to bring them up on medical training while they are deployed in a hazard zone during civil unrest.

Chippewa Fire District command staff continues to meet with our regional response partners yearly to discuss improvements in delivery of our services to the communities we serve for Fire, EMS & SWAT.

FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

The Chippewa Fire District conducts Fire Inspection and Prevention activities under the scope of Wisconsin State Statutes 101.14, 101.575 and Wisconsin Administrative Code Comm. 14. Such Fire Inspection and Prevention activities are funded out of the Wisconsin Fire Insurance Fund of 2% of fire insurance premiums paid to the State of Wisconsin. The 2% fire dues fund as it is called has been a part of the State of Wisconsin Fire Insurance Commissioner's Office since before Wisconsin became a state in 1848. Each municipality of the Fire District receives a 2% Fire Dues payment prior to August 1 each year. Totals for 2021 are based on 2018 evaluation as follows:

Town of Hallie	\$ 2,254
Town of Howard	\$ 3,159
Town of Lafayette	\$ 28,457
Village of Lake Hallie	\$ 32,057
Elk Mound FD.	\$ 1,527
<u>Ridgeland</u>	<u>\$ 510</u>
Total	\$ 68,264

Fire Inspections conducted by municipality in a normal year; this year limited due to State of Wisconsin DSPS emergency rule suspending fire inspections.

Town of Hallie	1
Town of Howard	7
Town of Lafayette	77
Village of Lake Hallie	263
Elk Mound	74
<u>Ridgeland</u>	<u>41</u>
Total	463

Wisconsin Administrative Code also requires other activities to qualify for 2% Fire Dues. Those activities include:

1. Keeping a map of the territory served by the Chippewa Fire District
2. A current roster of members of the department

3. The date and location of fire prevention inspections performed, violations found and corrective action taken.
4. Time, date and location of structure fires, and the number of fire department members responding
5. Number, duration of, and attendance at fire department meetings
6. Number, duration of, topic of and attendance at fire department training sessions.
7. Number, duration of, topic of and attendance at public fire education related activities
8. A copy of the fire department budget and or a summary of fire dues expenditures
9. A record of public building and places of employment located within the territory of the fire department.

The Chippewa Fire District is in compliance with ss 101.14, ss 101.575 and Wisconsin Administrative Code DSPS. 314 and is eligible for Wisconsin 2% Fire Dues for the year 2020.

The Chippewa Fire District also performs the following inspections and services for the community:

1. CBRF (Home Health Care Facilities).
2. Fireworks Permit Inspections.
3. Fire Prevention Education Stillson School, individual and group tours at the Stations.
4. Halloween Fire prevention activities for Lake Hallie and Lafayette.
5. Participates in supporting the Chippewa Valley Fire Safety House.
6. New Construction Inspections for Fire Suppression, Fire Alarm Systems, Fire Safety Systems and Construction.
7. Enforces Fire Burning Regulations in the Towns of Hallie, Lafayette, Howard and the Village of Lake Hallie.
8. Responds to Fire Safety request for services and provides information on Wisconsin Fire Safety Rules and Regulations from its residents.
9. Approves requests for Knox Box installations.
10. Responds to complaints and requests from other local governmental agencies for assistance in enforcement and code interpretation.
11. Performs Air BNB inspections in the Town of Lafayette.

Fire Investigation

The Chippewa Fire District is in compliance with: ss 165.55 Arson investigation (1) The Chief of the fire department or company of every City, Village, or Town in which a fire department or company exists, and where no fire department or company exists, the Mayor, Village President or Town Clerk shall investigate or cause to be investigated the cause, origin and circumstances or every fire occurring in his City, Village, or Town when the damage exceeds \$500. Where any investigation discloses that the fire may be of incendiary origin, he shall report the same to the State Fire Marshal. Fires in the Chippewa Fire District are investigated per the above statutory mandate.

2022 Fire Prevention Goals

1. Conclude all inspections by November 15.
2. Adopt State Administrative Fire Code in each municipality.
3. Complete transition to paperless inspections.
4. Research Hardware/software for using computer based wireless hotspots for inspections and preplans.
5. Educate car repair and body shop owners to place fire suppression systems in spray booths and continue enforcement actions.
6. Work to expand Fire Safety Public Education at Stillson School from Kindergarten to include grades 1-3.
7. Expand 4 year old fire education program at Day Care Centers.

Enforcement Action in 2021 enforcement was down due to DSPS Emergency COVID 19 Order

- referrals to Wisconsin DNR
- 9 notices of violation issued
- 9 warning citations issued
- 3 Secure building order issued
- 10 citations issued for burning related issues
- Continued billing for unattended fires and improper burning per state statutes

Plans reviewed and Conditional Approvals Letters generated

- The View Tavern, Lafayette
- Riverview Veterinary Clinic, Lake Hallie
- Lake Wissota Animal Hospital, Lafayette

Permits issued:

- Fireworks tents (3)
- Fireworks display (3)
- Adult family homes (8)
- Wedding Barn (1)
- Foster Care (2)
- Air BNB (11)

Analysis of Fire Incidents

There were 249 Fire calls in 2021.

Fire loss was \$174,402 which is down from 2020.

There were 17 structure related fires in 2021 which is down.

6 of the 17 structure fires were in 1 and 2 family dwellings.

December had the largest number of fire calls (29) January had the least (7).

Saturday had the largest number of fire calls (44).

Time of day most calls occurred was between 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm.

Average Response Time District in minutes

Town of Hallie	6 minutes
Town of Howard	8 minutes
Town of Lafayette	6 minutes
Village of Lake Hallie	5 minutes
Mutual Aid	27 minutes

Fire Calls by month:

January	7
February	21
March	25
April	21
May	20
June	25
July	21
August	18
September	24
October	18
November	20
December	29

Fire Calls by day:

Sunday	21
Monday	40
Tuesday	34
Wednesday	34
Thursday	40
Friday	36
Saturday	44

Average response of firefighters:

Average all calls	8 Paid on Call	2 Career	10 Total
Average Structure Fires	20 Paid on Call	4 Career	24 Total

Underground/Aboveground Storage Tank Program

Flammable/Combustible/Hazardous Tanks

Plans reviewed for new installs	7
Tank installation inspections	87
Tank removal inspections	106
Annual permit inspections	565 sites
Orders for non-compliance	53

Inspectors: (6) Rebecca Shervey, DC John Andersen, Shaylee Dechow, Chuck Geottl, Chief Scott Bernette, and Tim Walker.

We serve 249 Fire Departments in 28 counties for the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP). To date annual inspections are approximately 51%. Last years annual inspections were able to be made up to about 99% with all of us putting in many long hours after vaccinations.

The Tank Program is still having the issue with the <5k ASTs being all removed from payable inspections starting Oct 2019. This change caused CFD to lose 872 of the 1408 tanks we had in addition almost all plan reviews since we only did the reviews for tanks <5k. We did take on 81 more FD which added 536 inspectable tanks.

The tank division has been urging several representatives to add a new bill to get the statue language corrected, in doing so 2 bills were created. Both had sponsors and multiple co-sponsors. Inspector Shervey, Chief Bernette, and Deputy Chief Anderson had been invited to testify at 2 different hearings at the capital. With some concessions to the agriculture community, it now didn't have any nay votes at the last hearing.

DATCP has recently decided to go through a reorganization, at this point the only real effect it has on the LPOs directly is who we report to. Instead of our 1 LPO coordinator for the entire state, we have been assigned to different regional petroleum supervisors. CFD now reports to Doug Dummer. In speaking with the new Bureau Director Joe Smith, he has stated that they do not plan to change the LPO program. This spring a new contract will be sent to us, I do anticipate it to be at least another 3-year contract.

Dive Team

Calls

Date:	Description
2-22-21	Dive assist CCSO
5-15-21	Mutual aid City of Chippewa Falls
6-21-21	Mutual aid City of Chippewa falls person on train bridge
6-30-21	Mutual aid City of Chippewa Falls person on bridge
8-8-21	Missing kayaker
8-15-21	Visibly unoccupied boat

Personnel:

Total members 24

Total Divers 12

Total Support only 12