



Winchester
Fire and Rescue
2013
ANNUAL
REPORT

From the Fire Chief



The following report outlines the department activity for the Winchester Fire and Rescue Department for calendar year 2013. We are a combination fire and rescue system comprised of both career and volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel. The four volunteer owned and operated fire stations provide an unsurpassed amount of state-of-the-art fire and rescue apparatus and equipment as well as operational and administrative personnel. In-turn, the City of Winchester supplements this service with guaranteed 24 hour a day, 365 days per year fire and rescue personnel.

This combination of equipment and personnel strives to provide the community with the highest level of professional public safety services that include fire protection, advanced emergency medical care, hazardous materials response, public education, and facility inspections/testing.

Department Services

- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Suppression
- Hazardous Materials Mitigation
- Fire Investigations
- Fire Safety Inspections
- Public Education
- Child Safety Seat Installations
- Smoke Detector Installations
- Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention
- Fire/EMS coverage for local Public Events
- Tactical Emergency Medical Operators for the Police SWAT Team
- Operation of the Regional Fire Training Center

Commitment to our Customers

- Provide the highest quality of service to the citizens and visitors of Winchester
- Support and maintain a safe, healthy, well-trained workforce
- Be a community resource for life safety information and knowledge
- Attract and retain a qualified and diverse career and volunteer workforce
- Be accountable to our community for demonstrable results
- Be a recognized leader of a fire and rescue service that is dedicated to excellence
- Support the combination system of career and volunteer system
- Be a leader by supporting our regional public safety partners
- Be innovative and proactive in our approach to community issues
- Believe in our role as stewards of public trust

Our Mission

To develop and deploy a coordinated service delivery mechanism through which the Community is provided public safety services in a professional and cost effective manner. The mission will comprehensively address Emergency Communications, Fire, EMS, and Hazardous Materials Operations involving career and volunteer personnel, while coordinating operational and support functions with internal and external agencies and individuals.

Our Leadership Philosophy

We believe that all members want to do the best work possible. When all of us share responsibility for creating a work environment with clear goals, mutual support and opportunities for continuous learning, we can achieve our goals. We realize our full potential through teamwork, respect for each other, sharing information and support for individual creativity and initiative. Teamwork, Common Goals and Leadership at all levels, will result in **SUCCESS!**

2013 Accomplishments

The department handled 5,605 calls for service which is a decrease of over 151 incidents from 2012.

- Over \$50 million in property saved from fire incidents
- Over 6,395 citizens of all ages came in contact with our public education programs and 131 child safety seat installations were completed
- Installed 20 smoke detectors and replaced numerous batteries in existing smoke detectors
- Our career and volunteer members participated in over 10,000 hours of continuing education training
- Hired six personnel to include a new Fire Chief, Executive Secretary and four firefighters
- Promoted two Battalion Chiefs and two Lieutenants
- Created and implemented department Training/Health and Safety Officer
- Department participated in the Annual Christmas parade and the re-establishment of an annual picnic for all career and volunteer personnel
- Participating in the development of the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Incident Management Team to include jurisdictions as far south as Rockingham and Page Counties
- Continued support and attendance at the National Fire Academy and the Virginia Fire Officer Academy
- Our Winchester Professional Firefighters Union Local 3401 collected over \$21,191.00 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during the Labor Day weekend fill-the-boot campaign. In addition, they raised \$2,545.93 for the Free Clinic for Every Woman's Life program during the breast cancer awareness campaign where members sold pink t-shirts.
- Rouss Fire Company serves as the host agency for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank Network. During 2013, they dispensed over 48,060 pounds of food to those in need; serving over 4,435 patrons. A total of 96 volunteers who devoted 1,106 hours of service were utilized to make this program a success.



Goals for 2014

- Increase staffing levels to move toward compliance with the NFPA 1710 consensus standard
- Ensure the health and safety of our career and volunteer personnel
- Enhance our juvenile fire setter intervention program
- Assist with the 800 MHz radio communication project
- Develop and gain approval of a departmental strategic plan
- Completion of a Public Fire Education manual
- Implementation of training for the Shenandoah Valley Regional Incident Management Team (IMT)
- Provide fire prevention education to all Winchester Public School children K through 4th grade
- Complete a fire and rescue facility and training center master plan
- Implement an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class at John Handley High School.

Emergency Activity

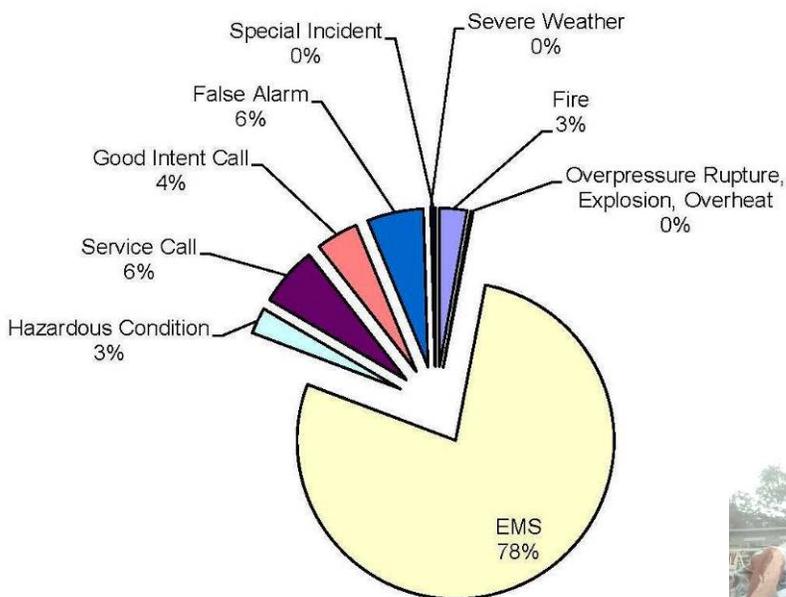
5,605 Total Incidents
(4,357 EMS, 1,248 Fire)

Mutual Aid Given and Received
Given to Frederick County – 512
Received from Frederick County – 181

Dollar Loss vs. Dollar Saved
\$771,812 Loss vs. **\$51,517,304** Value

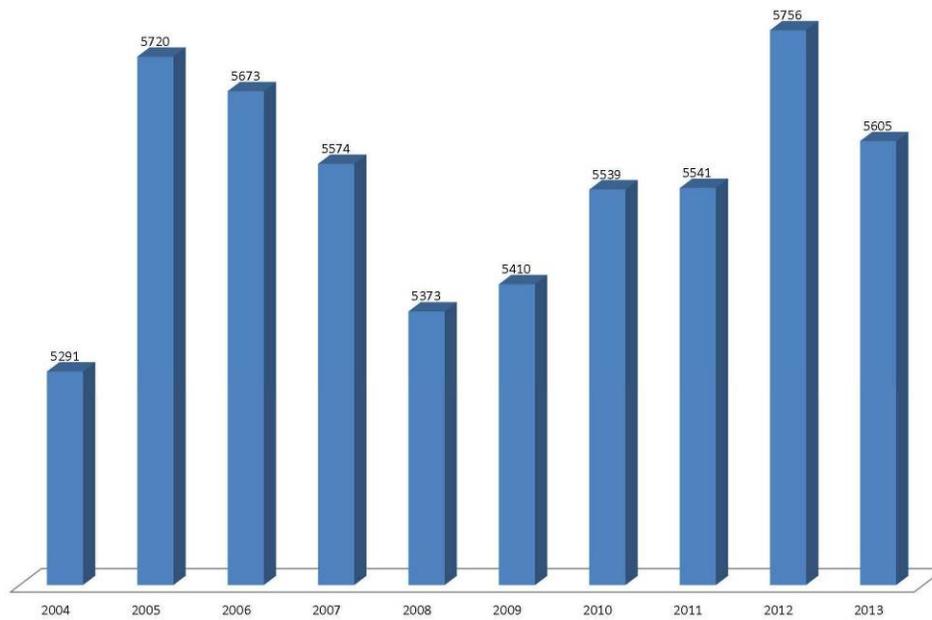
Incident Casualties
6 firefighter casualties
7 civilian casualties (2 fatalities)

Incident Type Summary

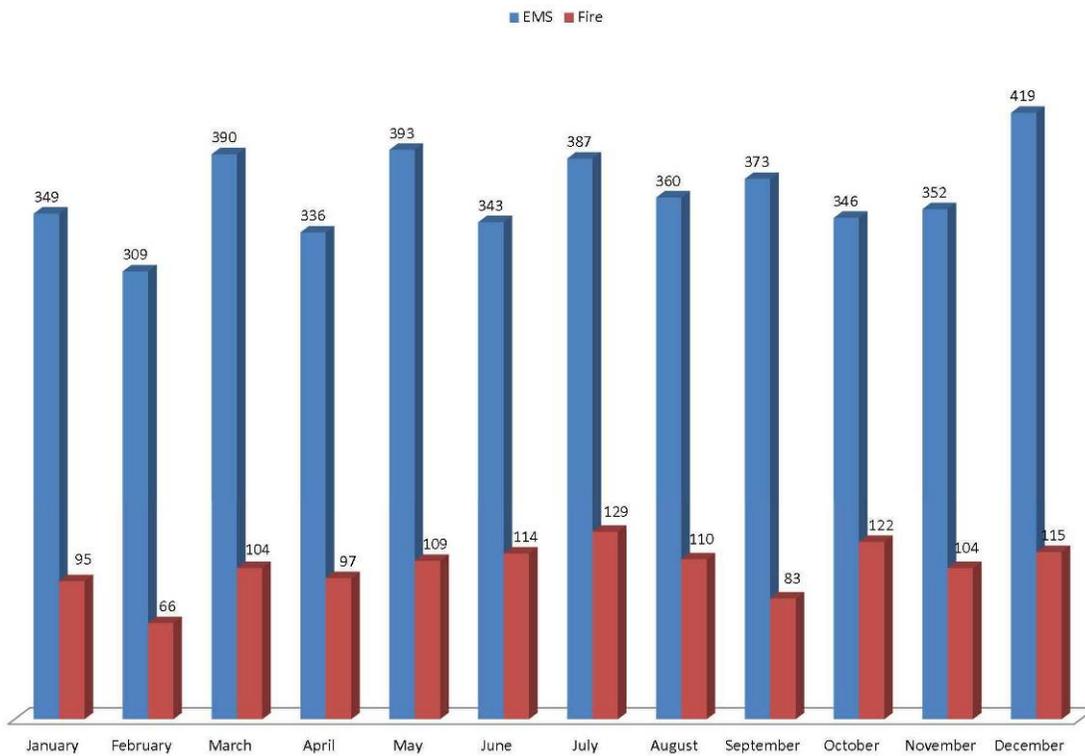


Emergency Activity, Continued

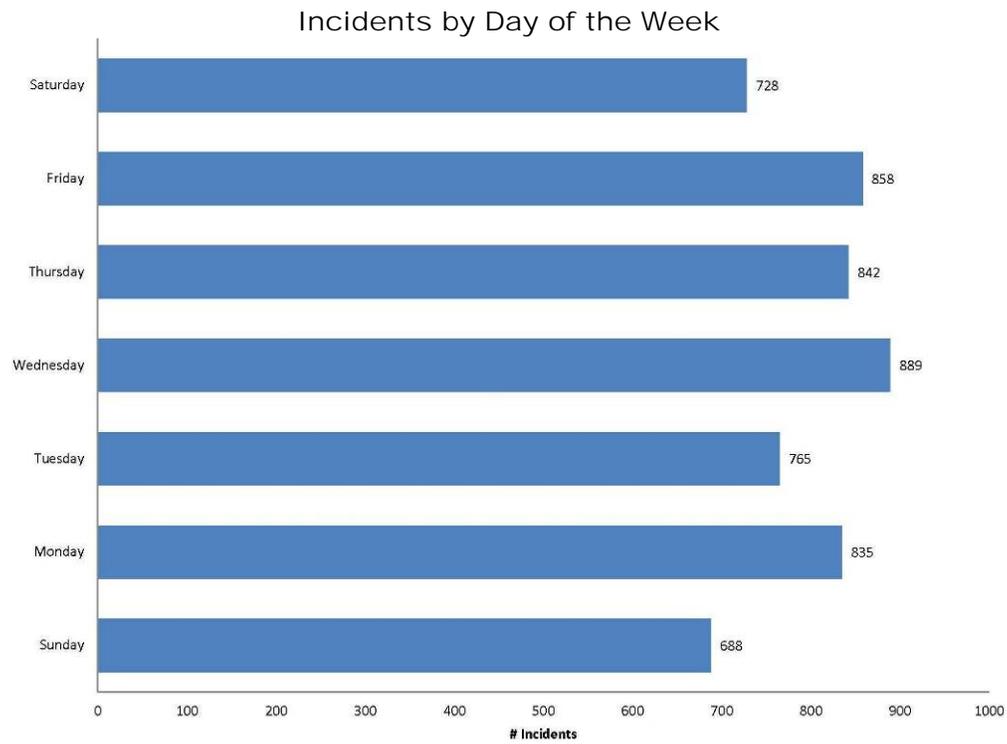
10 Year Incident Summary



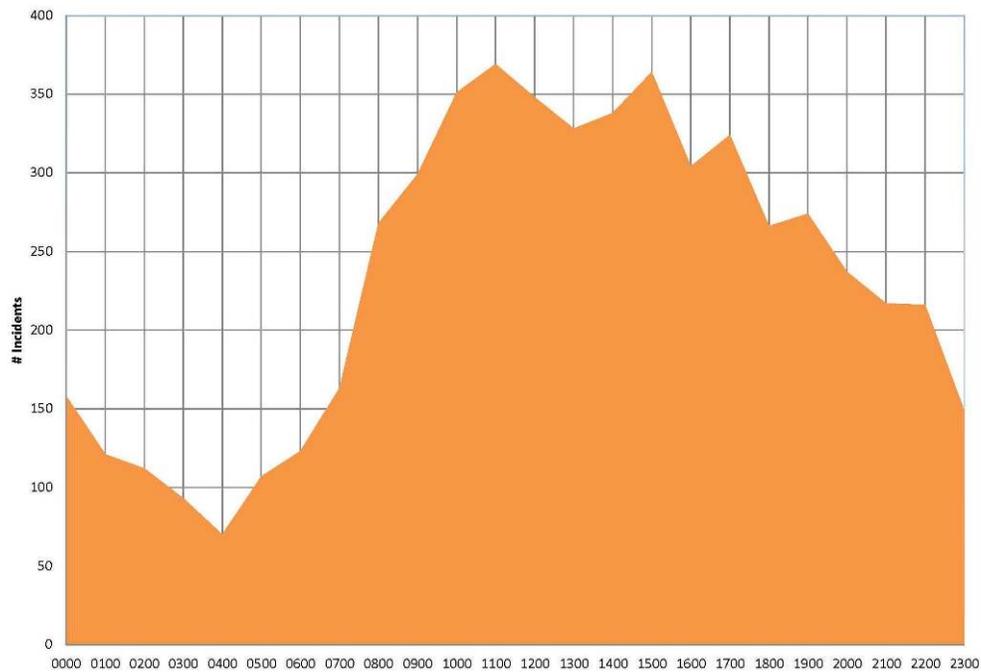
Incidents by Month



Emergency Activity, Continued



Incidents by Hour of the Day
Average 1 incident every **94 minutes**, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year



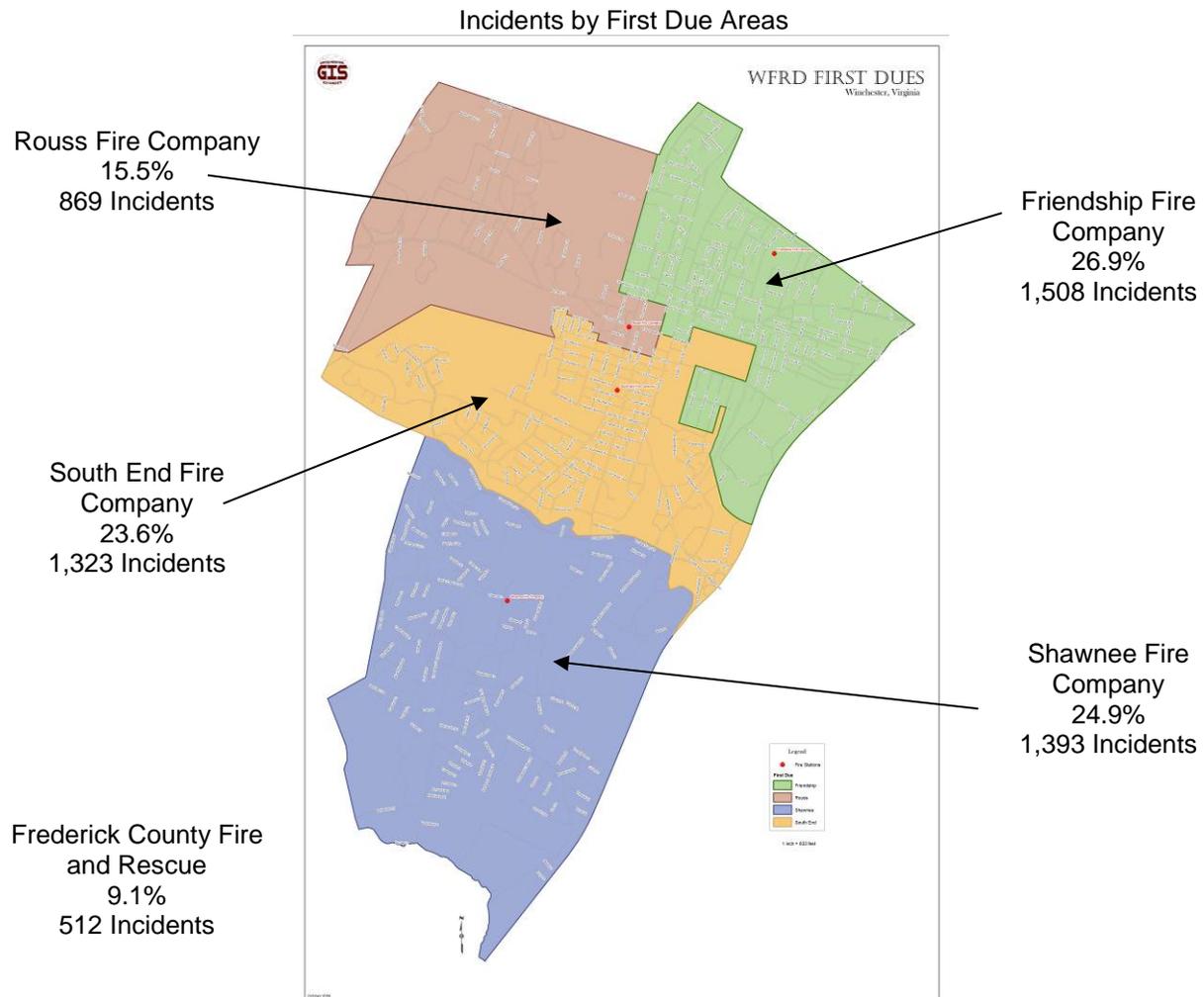
Responses by Districts

First due districts are geographic response designations designed to provide the most direct and expedient fire and rescue response to an emergency incident. Depicted below is how the City of Winchester is divided to provide public safety coverage for emergency responses. For Fire and EMS incidents, South End fire station covers the area designated for Rouss fire station as Rouss only provides aerial ladder service for fire and first responder service for EMS incidents. The percentages depict the number of incidents that originated in these areas.

Friendship Fire Station
Rouss Fire Station
Shawnee Fire Station
South End Fire Station

Company 1
Company 2
Company 4
Company 5

627 N. Pleasant Valley Road
3. S. Braddock St.
2210 Valor Dr.
17 W. Monmouth St.



Department Funding, Grants, other Revenue Generation

Name of Funding Source	Summary	Amount Received
General Fund Fire Budget	FY2014 approved funding provided by City revenues to support Fire and Rescue Fire/EMS services	\$4,923,700.00
General Fund Hazmat Budget	FY2014 approved funding provided by City revenues to support Fire and Rescue Hazmat services	\$41,800.00
Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)	Funding from VDEM to support the Winchester/Frederick Area 4 Contract Hazmat Team	\$15,000.00
Department of Homeland Security Hazmat Equipment & Training	Grants awarded to be used for Hazmat training and equipment	\$24,100.00
Virginia Department of Fire Programs "Aid to Locality Fund"	State funding derived from fees collected from the insurance industry and distributed to localities based on population for the purchase of firefighter safety equipment and public education materials	\$74,733.00
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services "Four-for-Life" Fund	State funding derived from DMV fees used for Emergency Medical Services equipment and training	\$21,734.44
Assistance For Firefighter (AFG)	Awarded to Friendship Fire Company for Firefighter self-contained breathing apparatus	\$102,980.00
Fire Marshal Division	General fund revenue generated from new construction plan review and fire suppression system inspections	\$6,322.91
EMS Revenue Recovery	Department funding generated from fees for providing Emergency Medical Services transports	\$1,011,665.13
TOTALS		\$6,222,035.48

Emergency Medical Services

The Winchester Fire and Rescue Department provides Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to the residents and visitors of Winchester by utilizing six EMS transport units that are owned and maintained by three of our volunteer stations. The department staffs three of the EMS transport units at the Advanced Life Support level each day.

In 2013, department members responded to 4,357 EMS related incidents or 78% of the total call volume experienced for the year. Of these 4,357 incidents 3,429 patients were treated and transported to Winchester Medical Center to receive further medical treatment. This resulted in 1,466 needing Basic Life Support (BLS) services and 1,963 needing Advanced Life Support (ALS) services.

Basic Life Support is provided by personnel certified at the Emergency Medical Technician level or higher. These personnel are trained to perform pre-hospital treatment procedures that may sustain life for victims of cardiopulmonary resuscitation, bleeding, shock, injury, and medical emergencies.

Advanced Life Support is provided by personnel certified at the Emergency Medical Technician - Enhanced, Intermediate or Paramedic level. ALS is a set of life-saving protocols and skills that extend BLS to further support circulation and provide an open airway and adequate ventilation (breathing). ALS personnel are trained and certified to perform skills such as intravenous cannulation, manual cardiac defibrillation, 12-lead EKG interpretation and medication administration.

The EMS community in Virginia is governed and regulated by the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (VOEMS). It is through VOEMS that Winchester Fire and Rescue Department is inspected bi-annually and licensed to provide EMS in the City of Winchester. In addition, the department is part of the Lord Fairfax EMS Council (LFEMSC) region, a contract agency of the VOEMS.

The LFEMSC is comprised of EMS agencies from the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah, Warren and the City of Winchester. Each jurisdiction has three representatives on the LFEMSC board of directors. The LFEMSC is responsible for developing regional patient treatment guidelines that the Winchester Fire and Rescue Department utilizes. We provide EMS to Winchester under the Medical Direction of emergency room physician Dr. Chris Turnbull.

A vital component of the Department's Emergency Medical Services division is the "Fee for Service" Revenue Recovery Program (RRP). The RRP went into effect July 1, 2006, using a philosophy of "Your Care First" to provide the best emergency medical care possible to our residents and visitors. We provide around-the-clock quality emergency medical care with competence, compassion, and an intense sense of duty to the people we serve.

Our RRP is based on concern for the medical and financial health of our city residents. We have designed the program to minimize the out-of-pocket costs for city residents. Uninsured residents will be treated with compassion and provided with options to ensure financial hardship is avoided. There is no charge for emergency medical treatment if the patient is not transported.

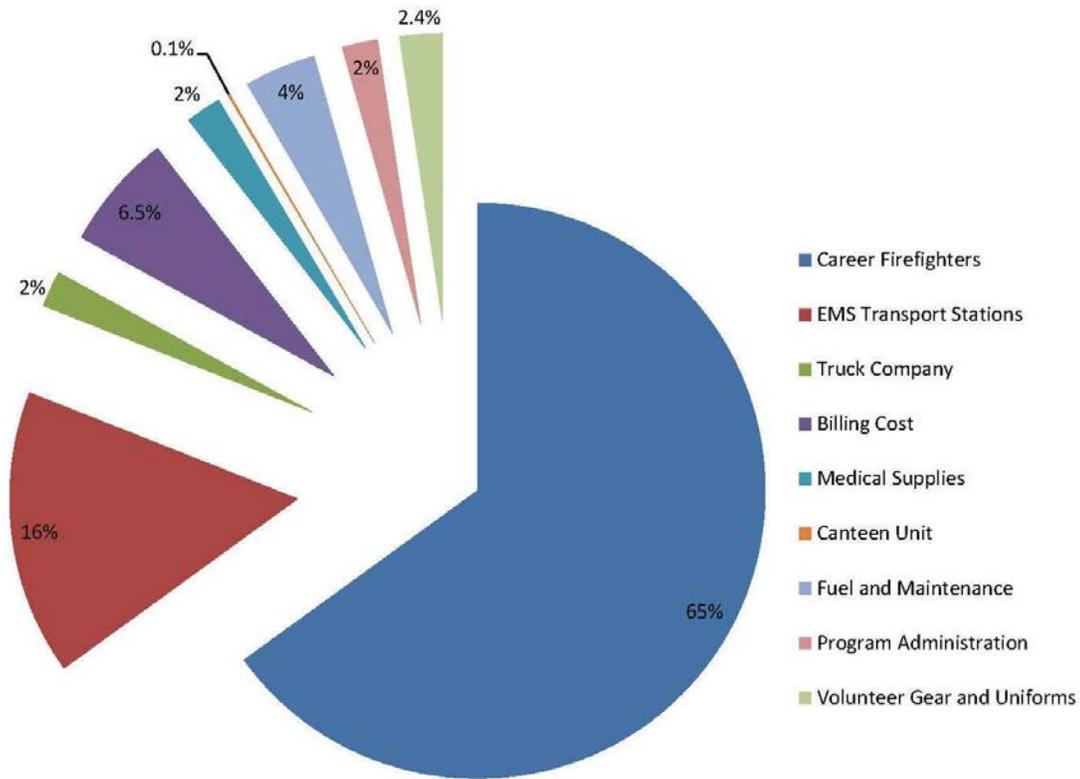
Since inception the RRP has allowed the department to hire an additional seven Firefighter/EMT's to serve the City. In addition, the RRP has provided more than \$1,000,000 in additional revenue for disbursement to our four volunteer stations.

We want residents to know without fail, that no one will ever be denied service because of inability to pay or for lack of health insurance. Our commitment is to provide the best EMS care possible. We are proud and honored to serve you!

EMS Revenue Recovery

2013	Total Billed	Payment Adjustment	Net Collectable	Total Paid by Insurance	Patient Payment	Refunds	Total Deposit
January	\$153,219.00	\$27,662.28	\$125,556.72	\$92,961.02	\$5,211.39	\$588.22	\$97,584.19
February	\$127,133.10	\$23,483.61	\$103,649.49	\$83,099.27	\$7,896.07	\$0.00	\$90,995.34
March	\$173,863.80	\$28,086.54	\$145,777.26	\$59,672.99	\$4,455.13	\$1,069.55	\$63,058.57
April	\$147,371.10	\$23,613.50	\$123,757.60	\$89,470.87	\$8,664.46	\$1,363.88	\$93,793.59
May	\$149,750.00	\$27,396.59	\$122,353.41	\$73,188.72	\$5,316.95	\$0.00	\$78,505.67
June	\$147,275.00	\$28,495.72	\$118,779.28	\$70,807.61	\$4,699.21	\$130.06	\$75,376.76
July	\$162,940.00	\$29,077.91	\$133,862.09	\$78,111.51	\$7,413.38	\$0.00	\$85,524.89
August	\$154,507.00	\$32,272.97	\$122,234.03	\$73,528.51	\$6,674.02	\$786.97	\$79,415.56
September	\$168,585.00	\$36,138.00	\$132,447.00	\$62,215.42	\$4,021.36	\$0.00	\$66,236.78
October	\$154,659.00	\$31,826.91	\$122,832.09	\$97,671.85	\$5,189.38	\$0.00	\$102,861.23
November	\$143,059.00	\$25,784.77	\$117,274.23	\$80,177.99	\$1,259.84	\$1,066.84	\$80,370.99
December	\$187,121.00	\$29,243.81	\$157,877.19	\$91,187.58	\$6,753.98	\$0.00	\$97,941.56
TOTALS	\$1,869,483.00	\$343,082.61	\$1,526,400.39	\$952,093.35	\$67,555.17	\$5,005.52	\$1,011,665.13

EMS Fund Allocation



Staffing and ISO

Winchester Fire and Rescue currently has eighteen personnel assigned to each of the three 24 hour rotating shifts to help supplement the volunteer staffing. Personnel leave management affects our daily staffing levels. The department maintains a minimum of twelve personnel working each day. NFPA 1710 is a standard that sets minimum criteria for the effective and efficient emergency operations to protect the safety of the public and fire department employees.

The Winchester Fire and Rescue Department was evaluated by the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) in 2012 for our fire protection capability. "ISO collects and evaluates information from communities in the United States on their structure fire suppression capabilities. The data is analyzed using our Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS™) and then a Public Protection Classification (PPC™) number is assigned to the community."



The City of Winchester earned a PPC rating of class 4 from this evaluation. "Class 1 represents an exemplary fire suppression program, and class 10 indicates that the areas fire suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria." Our PPC rating of class 4 places us in the top 15% of fire departments nationwide and in the top 6% in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Geographically ISO recommends that the City of Winchester maintain three engines and one aerial device in service each day. In addition, to maintain our Emergency Medical Services needs on a daily basis we also must maintain three Advanced Life Support ambulances in service. The following chart depicts the personnel/apparatus recommended by NFPA and ISO compared to our current situation.

NFPA 1710 Recommendation	ISO Recommended Apparatus	Current WFRD Minimum
4 personnel on each engine	3 Engines- 4 personnel	3 Engines-1 personnel
4 personnel on each truck	1 Truck – 4 personnel	1 Truck-1 personnel
2 ALS personnel on each medic unit	-	3 Medic Units-2 ALS/BLS personnel
2 Command Officers	Command Officer(s) - 1	Command Officer – 1

1 Engine or Truck will have 2 personnel

NFPA 1710 Facts

NFPA 1710 is a standard that sets minimum staffing criteria needed for effective and efficient fire department operations for a 2,000 square foot residence.

NFPA 1710 Background

In 2001, after 10 years of research and debate, the NFPA issued the 1710 standard. This standard sets the minimum criteria for staffing of firefighter crews, and how they will respond and operate at emergency scenes. These guidelines were developed for public safety, firefighter safety, and the protection of personal property.

NFPA 1710 Requirements

Firefighters will respond with a minimum of four personnel on each apparatus. First arriving firefighters must arrive at the emergency scene within four minutes of the dispatch center receiving the call 90% of the time. All personnel needed to meet 1710 must arrive within eight minutes.

NFPA 1710 Is a Protection Plan for the Community

NFPA 1710 offers protection for the local economy by providing a consistent amount of personnel to the communities' emergencies for Fire and Emergency Medical Services.

NFPA 1710 Enhances Public Safety

By responding quickly to a fire, we keep a small incident small. When responses take more than a few minutes, losses escalate substantially, resulting in a greater loss of life and property.

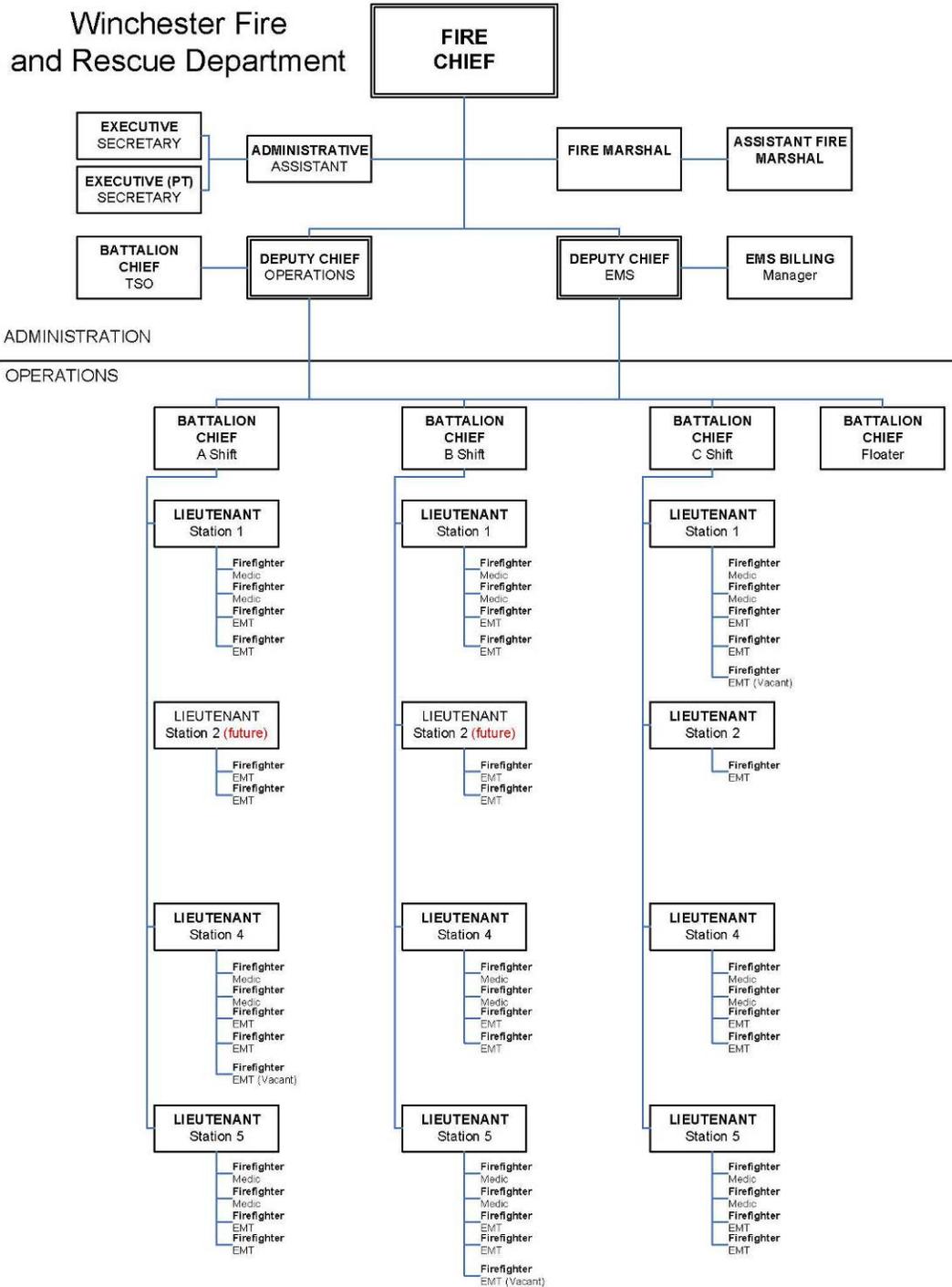
NFPA 1710 Will Save Lives

NFPA 1710 applies the documented and proven science of fire behavior and emergency medicine to the basic resources required for effective fire department deployment. It allows a community to determine if the resources allocated for all emergencies are sufficient to control the incident and protect lives and property.

Recommended Minimum Staffing on Initial Alarm

Description	Number of Personnel
Incident Commander (IC)	1
Aide to Incident Commander	1
Initial Attack Line	2
Initial Back-up Line	2
Support Person	1
Search and Rescue Team	2
Ventilation Team	2
Initial Rapid Intervention Team	2
Pump Operator	1
Aerial Operator	1
TOTAL	15

Organization Chart



Cost of a New Firefighter

The first year of employment is the most critical in developing a firefighter for a long career in the emergency services field. Personnel selection is based on many factors but the number one goal is to employ the best possible person that can provide the service expected from our citizens. The chart below is a comprehensive list of first year expenditures that are endured by the city to bring a new firefighter on board. New personnel are required to train for a minimum of six months before being considered operational and counted towards our minimum daily staffing level. This cost analysis does not include the additional man hours that are needed by existing department personnel to ensure these individuals are trained to meet the Department's/industry standard.



New Firefighter Cost Analysis

Starting Salary	1	\$35,630.40	\$35,630.40
Benefits	1	\$10,689.12	\$10,689.12
Holidays Pay	1	\$2,056.00	\$2,056.00
Background Investigation	1	\$75.00	\$75.00
Polygraph	1	\$90.00	\$90.00
Physc. Evaluation	1	\$300.00	\$300.00
Physical	1	\$700.00	\$700.00
Training Manual	1	\$30.00	\$30.00
Firefighter Handbook	1	\$75.00	\$75.00
Department ID's	3	\$1.00	\$3.00
Accountability Tags	6	\$0.50	\$3.00
Street Map	1	\$0.25	\$0.25
Bunker Jacket	1	\$1,260.00	\$1,260.00
Bunker Pants/Suspenders	1	\$1,068.50	\$1,068.50
Leather Fire Boots	1	\$325.00	\$325.00
Gloves	1	\$92.00	\$92.00
Hood	1	\$32.00	\$32.00
Helmet	1	\$241.99	\$241.99
Helmet Shield	1	\$39.00	\$39.00
Gear Bag	1	\$36.40	\$36.40
Scott Mask	1	\$350.00	\$350.00
Mask Bag	1	\$13.00	\$13.00
40mm Adapter	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Scott Cartridge	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Coveralls	1	\$137.58	\$137.58
Station Uniforms/wk.	52	\$6.25	\$325.00
T-shirts	5	\$7.00	\$35.00
Work Boots	1	\$144.00	\$144.00
Beanie Hat	1	\$10.35	\$10.35
Baseball Hat	1	\$15.20	\$15.20
Rain Jacket	1	\$80.00	\$80.00
Winter Jacket	1	\$212.50	\$212.50
PT Pants	1	\$17.90	\$17.90
Running Shoes	1	\$83.00	\$83.00
Shirt Badge	2	\$77.50	\$155.00
Patches	10	\$0.99	\$9.90
Class A Uniform	1	\$425.00	\$425.00
Written Test	1	\$12.50	\$12.50
PAT Test	8	\$25.00	\$200.00
Locker	1	\$464.41	\$464.41
TOTAL Cost			\$55,437.00

Department New Employment/Retirements



Fire Chief Allen Baldwin
New Employment



PFF Tyler Brown
New Employment



PFF Jeffrey Hartman
New Employment



PFF Scott Matthews
New Employment



PFF Jeremy Greenbacker
New Employment



Exec. Secretary Betsy Maynard
New Employment



Fire Chief Scott Cullers
Retirement



H. Donald Whitacre
Retirement

Awards & Recognitions



Deputy Chief Eddie McClellan
2013 Sons of American
Revolution EMS Provider Award



Lieutenant Jon Henschel
Promotion to Battalion Chief



Lieutenant James Orndorff
Promotion to Battalion Chief

2013 LFEMSC Janet P.
Carbaugh Award for Outstanding
Pre-Hospital Educator



FF/EMT Tech. Dustin Amtower
2013 VA Fire Officer Academy
Graduate



PFF Tyler Brown
Operational Clearance



FF/EMT Ryan Steele
Operational Clearance



2013 Lord Fairfax Emergency Medical Services Council Award

The Winchester Fire and Rescue Department (WFRD) were recognized for the second time in seven years as the Outstanding EMS Agency. Receipt of this award is contributed to the dedication and service provided by the career and volunteer personnel of the WFRD during 2012. These professionals responded to more than 4,300 EMS calls for service and recorded 1,500 hours of continuing education training. In addition, the department responded to 21 cardiac arrests and had a return of spontaneous circulation on eight of those incidents. This equates to a 38% resuscitation rate.

Training/Health and Safety

Addition of the Training/Health and Safety Division

In 2013 the department added the position of a Training/Health and Safety Officer (TSO). This individual will develop and oversee all training/health and safety issues for both career and volunteer personnel. This will better position the department to conform to the many fire and rescue service standards such as NFPA and VOSHA. In addition, the TSO will serve as the on-scene incident safety officer to ensure personnel are functioning as safe as possible with the many hazards that are faced. We are the only fire department in the region that has these two important functions combined.



Goals of the Training/Health and Safety Division

- *Become compliant with VOSHA, NFPA, VAOEMS, and other regulations/consensus standards*
- *Reduce injury/illness to Winchester Fire and Rescue personnel*
- *Increase training opportunities for both department personnel and the public*
- *Be an overall high performing organization with-in the City of Winchester and surrounding jurisdiction's*

Training

In 2013, the department has been busy with training compliance in the EMS, fire, and hazmat services. There are many disciplines that have to be mastered in order to provide a quality service to the citizens and visitors of our city. Every one of our first responders are required to be certified at one of the following prior to responding to emergency incidents: Emergency Medical Technician, Firefighter I, Hazmat Operations, Emergency Vehicle Operator, Health Care Provider CPR. Personnel's operational ability is limited to their level of training.



Virginia OEMS Recertification Requirements

EMT – B	36 hours every 4 yrs.
EMT – E	36 hours every 3 yrs.
EMT – I	48 hours every 3 yrs.
EMT – P	72 hours every 3 yrs.
Must maintain valid CPR certification	
3 hour recert every 2 years	

National Registry EMS Certifications

EMT-P and EMT-I, 72 hours every 2 years.
Must maintain valid CPR certification, 3 hour recertification every 2 years

LFEMSC requirement

EMT - I and EMT – P, must maintain ACLS, 8 hour recertification every 2 years.



Department Requirements for EMT-I and EMT-P and TEMO members

ITLS recertification, 8 hours every 2 years, PALS recertification, 8 hours every 2 years,

Public Education

Child Safety Seat installers need 8 recertification hours every 2 years, plus seat installs in front of an instructor.

Training Hours by Discipline

Fire	7,137.28
EMS	4,140.20
Hazmat	707.58
Law/Fire Marshal	253.50
City Required	102.55
Recruit	2,584.28
TOTAL	14,925.39



Winchester/Frederick Fire Academy

Volunteers spend more than 600 hours to become certified firefighters.

EMS Training

In the past year our providers have recertified in Pediatric Advanced Life Support. This course prepares us for treating life threatening emergency to our pediatric population to include ages birth to 17 years of age. Also, there was a major upgrade of our regional EMS patient treatment protocols to better align with our regions within the Commonwealth. Every department EMS provider was required to attend an eight hour in-service training on the protocols. The in-service training included the addition of new medications for use by our advanced life support providers, new skills for placement of surgical cricothyrotomies, additional techniques for placing an intubation tube.

Fire Training

The department spent numerous hours on fire related training to include the latest hose deployments, search and rescue techniques, fire attack, firefighter down, vehicle extrication, pump operations, and aerial operations. The training division and life safety division work together; in order to gain access and do walk-throughs of buildings under construction for increased firefighter knowledge in the event of an emergency. It is documented through many historical fires that building construction/building codes have been contributing factors in fires where there has been a large loss of civilian life.



Hazmat Training

Winchester Fire and Rescue Department is also the lead agency for the state funded Regional Hazardous Materials Team that is comprised of members from the Winchester and Frederick County Fire and Rescue Departments. Initial training to become a Hazardous Materials Technician is 80 hours in length and conducted by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. Each year Haz-Mat team members are required to complete 24 hours of continuing education requirements to maintain certification. The Haz-Mat team covers emergency response to chemical spills for northern Shenandoah County, all of Frederick, Warren, and Clarke counties.

TEMO

We continue to support Winchester Police Department with a team of Tactical Emergency Medical Operators (TEMO). These individuals have received 40 hours of specialized training that allows them to provide emergency medical assistance to the Winchester Police Department SWAT team. This year we added four new team members bringing our total number of team members to eleven.

Public Education and Outreach

The department has 9 personnel certified as child safety seat inspectors/installers. This certification is a vigorous 40 hour course that contains a practical component for the participant to properly install the various styles of child safety seats. Although there are many child safety seat manufacturers there are only four different styles of safety seats. The certification is valid for a two year period and requires eight hours of classroom/practical training to maintain certification.

We have joined forces with the Winchester Public Schools to enhance their health profession track. In doing so, we are providing Healthcare Provider level CPR to the students at John Handley High School (JHHS) enrolled in the health professions classes. In the fall of 2014 we will have personnel teaching an Emergency Medical Training course at JHHS. Students successfully passing this course will be certified in the Commonwealth of Virginia as Emergency Medical Technicians and have a marketable job skill.

Life Safety Division

Overview

The Life Safety Division is charged with conducting plans review, fire inspections, public education and the investigation of fires, explosions, complaints and environmental crimes. Included with that is the enforcement of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, City of Winchester Fire Prevention Code, and the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code. The work of the Life Safety Division is carried out by two full-time employees, the Fire Marshal and Assistant Fire Marshal along with assistance from the department's operational personnel, Frederick County Fire Marshal's Office, and the Winchester Police Department.



Guiding Principles

- Prevention of fire through proactive public education, inspections, investigation, and fire code enforcement.
- Mitigation of the effects of hazardous materials accidents and crimes on human life and the environment.
- Maintain or improve the existing level of customer service and flexibility in application of the codes.

Achievements

In 2013, the Life Safety Division continued progressing in a positive direction with the addition of Assistant Fire Marshal Matthew (Matt) Gearhart. Matt's appointment to this position marks the first time in more than two and a half years that the division was able to operate at full staff. This addition has allowed our division to continue providing the services of the past along with adding some new goals for the future. For the first time in nearly 10 years the department was able to conduct inspections on nearly all of the restaurants throughout the city for a total increase of 122 inspections, not counting re-inspections. We were also able to update and expand our Knox Box access program to include the installation of Knox FDC Caps to help business owners fight vandalism and theft of their much needed fire sprinkler systems.



In the area of Community Education our department conducted fire safety education for kindergarten through fourth grade in all four of the city's elementary schools. The department's Public Education Committee rejuvenated an old puppet program that was utilized more than 25 years ago and received great reviews from all four schools. In addition, our committee partnered with the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley to put on a fire department program to promote health and wellness. This program focused on the importance of healthy eating habits and being active to maintain good cardiac and mental health.



The committee designed and constructed a child sized firefighter obstacle course to let the children see what it is like to crawl low in smoke, rescue a victim, and pull hose to extinguish a simulated fire.



Investigations

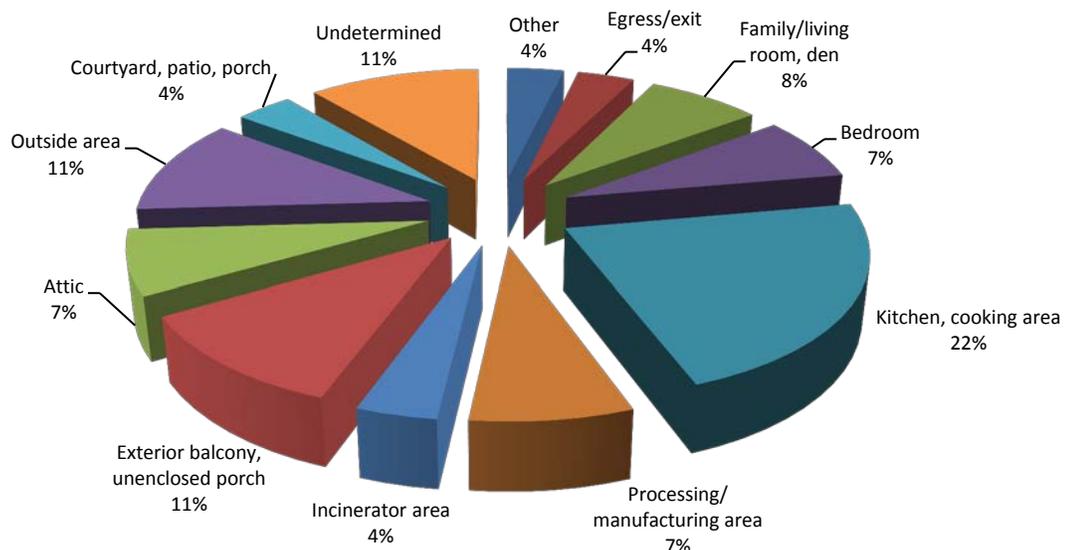
After a fire is extinguished the Fire Marshals have the responsibility of determining how that fire occurred and the circumstances surrounding the situation. This is accomplished by first locating the area of origin and then narrowing that down to a specific point of origin and then determining an exact cause. The cause of a fire is classified in one of four ways: *unintentional, incendiary, natural, or undetermined*. At the completion of the investigation an investigative report and case file is put together to document the activities of the investigation. In the event that a fire is determined to be incendiary in nature and found to be a criminal offense, the Fire Marshal will work with the Commonwealth Attorney's Office to have the offender prosecuted and brought to justice. In some situations this will be a joint investigation with the Criminal Investigations Division of the Winchester Police Department.



Cause of Ignition – Structure Fires	Qty.
Intentional	8
Unintentional	97
Failure of equipment or heat source	27
Act of nature	3
Cause under investigation	40
Cause undetermined after investigation	21

Investigation Statistics	Qty.
Incident Investigations	16
Arrests Made	5
Civilian Fatalities	2
Civilian Casualties	5
Fire Service Casualties	6

Area of Fire Origin - Structures Related Only



Plans Review



The new development or redevelopment of properties and buildings requires a regulatory process to ensure that all fire safety and code requirements are complied with. The Fire Marshal reviews site development plans for the need and placement of fire department access to roads, hydrants, and other fire service features. They also review new construction plans for fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, and special hazard suppression systems so that a fire protection permit can be issued for a contractor to conduct the approved installation. This responsibility fosters a great working relationship between the Fire and Rescue Department and the City's Zoning and Inspections staff.

Plan Review Type	Qty.	Revenue
Site Development Plans	17	\$0
Fire Suppression Systems	26	\$1805.90
Fire Alarm Systems	14	\$1014.90
Fire Sprinkler Systems	35	\$3502.11
General Fund Totals	92	\$6322.91

Fire Inspections

Through fire code inspections we are able to educate owners and occupants of commercial properties in how to maintain a fire safe environment for their customers. We accomplished this with our two Fire Marshals along with the assistance of our operational firefighters. Our operational firefighters conduct annual inspections on all City owned and operated properties and our Fire Marshals conduct annual inspections in our healthcare, daycare, and other state regulated care facilities. In addition, the Fire Marshals also conduct seasonal and special event inspections throughout the year. Our special event inspections include the inspection of vendor stands and tents for the various festivals sponsored by the City. These inspections are conducted at no charge to the occupants and/or owners.

In addition to fire code inspections, the division is responsible for conducting acceptance testing on the fire protection systems that we approve through plan review. Once a contractor has completed their project they contact the Fire and Rescue Department to schedule an inspection of their installation. These inspections are conducted as part of the permitting process at no additional charge to the contractor.

Inspection Type	Qty.	Revenue
Fire Inspections	238	\$0
Fire Re-Inspections	254	\$0
Massage Establishment Inspections	2	\$0
Fire Alarm Acceptance Tests	14	\$0
Fire Sprinkler Acceptance Tests	49	\$0
Hood Suppression Acceptance Tests	22	\$0

Public Recognition and Community Support

The Department is actively engaged in public education and safety awareness to the community to help minimize the loss of life and property.





Chaplain Program

The Winchester Fire and Rescue Department Chaplaincy program offers encouragement and support to those who are facing a loss subsequent to a fire, accident or health incident. The Chaplains assist visitors and citizens of Winchester in addition to the men and women who put their lives on the line to serve and protect our community by meeting spiritual and emotional needs in times of crisis.

Winchester Fire and Rescue offers a Chaplaincy program which provides comfort and counsel as well as referrals to appropriate community agencies within Winchester and Frederick County. The Chaplains provide assistance in contacting family members and/or church pastors as needed. The Chaplains act as liaisons between the visitors and citizens of Winchester and fire and rescue personnel. The Chaplains do not replace the home church pastor.

Communications between one and the Chaplains are always considered confidential. Any volunteer or career personnel may choose to utilize the services of a Chaplain at any time. Any fire department officer or member who is made aware of any situation which may need Chaplain Services can contact the Senior Chaplain.

Our Winchester Fire and Rescue Chaplains are:

- Ordained
- Skilled in pastoral care
- Prepared to service in the crisis zone
- Able to demonstrate a commitment to the fire service
- Committed to learning the skills necessary to effectively relate to and minister firefighters and EMS personnel

Pictured from top to bottom: Senior Chaplain Mark Ransom, Chaplain Darrel Taylor, Chaplain Kent Woodward, Reverend Victor Gomez, Father Michael Dobbins. Not pictured: Tim DeLaughter and Brendan Bartlett



Retirement

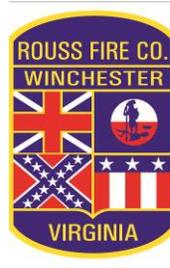
H. Donald Whitacre

September 1979 to September 2013
34 Years of Dedicated Career & Volunteer Service



WFRD thanks Battalion Chief Donald Whitacre for his hard work and dedication in serving the citizens of Winchester.

2013 Volunteer Leadership



Friendship Fire Company – Station 1

President Brian Bannister
Chief Bobby Luttrell
Deputy Chief Sean Grubbs
Treasurer Brian Jenkins

Rouss Fire Company – Station 2

President Tim Clark
Chief Dusty Bowers
Deputy Chief Jesse Walther
Treasurer George Dove

Shawnee Fire Company – Station 4

President Karl Liedke
Chief Ray Hess
Deputy Chief John Pine
Treasurer Jay Bailey

South End Fire Company – Station 5

President Brandon Krippner
Chief Billy Moreland
Deputy Chief James Blocker
Treasurer Diane Tumblin

Friendship Fire Company

2013 Station Runs: **2,124**



Station 1 - Friendship Fire Co.

627 N. Pleasant Valley Road, Winchester, VA 22601

540-667-6961

Year built 1976

APPARATUS



Engine 1 2010 Pierce Arrow XT



Wagon 1 1997 Seagrave Marauder



Medic 1-1 1999 Freightliner FL-50



Medic 1-2 International 4300



Utility 1 2001 Chevy Suburban & **Gator 1**

Rouss Fire Company

2013 Station Runs: **963**



Photo by Brandon Jones

Station 2 - Rouss Fire Co.

3 S. Braddock St., Winchester, VA 22601

540-662-5529

Year built 1895

APPARATUS



Ladder 2 1992 Simon/LTI Spartan



Truck 2 1998 Pierce Dash



Serv 2 2002 Ford F-350

Shawnee Fire Company

2013 Station Runs: **1,833**



Station 4 - Shawnee Fire Co.

2210 Valor Drive, Winchester, VA 22601

540-662-0855

Year built 2001

APPARATUS



Engine 4 2006 Pierce Lance



Wagon 4 1996 Seagrave Marauder



Medic 4-1 2009 International 4300



Medic 4-2 1998 Ford E-450



Utility 4 1999 Ford F-350

South End Fire Company

2013 Station Runs: **2,575**



Station 5 - South End Fire Co.

17 W. Monmouth St., Winchester, VA 22601
540-665-0007

Year built 1958, Addition 1981

APPARATUS



Engine 5 2002 Pierce Dash



Wagon 5 2008 Pierce Contender



Medic 5-1 2007 GMC



Medic 5-2 2001 Ford E-450



Utility 5 2001 Chevy Tahoe



Canteen 5 2001 GMC Yukon

Winchester Fire and Rescue Administration



Timbrook Public Safety Center

Station 6 - Headquarters

231 E. Piccadilly St., Suite 330, Winchester, VA 22601

540-662-2298

Year built 2002

APPARATUS



FC-6 2010 Ford Explorer



OPS-6 2007 Ford Explorer



EMS-6 2010 Ford Explorer



FM 6-1 2008 Ford Explorer



FM 6-2 2005 GMC 2500



BAT 6 2014 Chevy Tahoe



SAFETY 6 2006 GMC 2500



Hazmat 6 1990 International



Leak & Spill 6 2006 International



Leak and Spill Trailer



Mass Casualty Tent



Cover photo courtesy of Shenandoah Valley Fire on the 1019 Berryville Ave. structure fire on April 10, 2013

For more information regarding this report or any other questions, please contact us at (540) 662-2298 or visit us on the web at <http://www.winchesterva.gov/fire/>