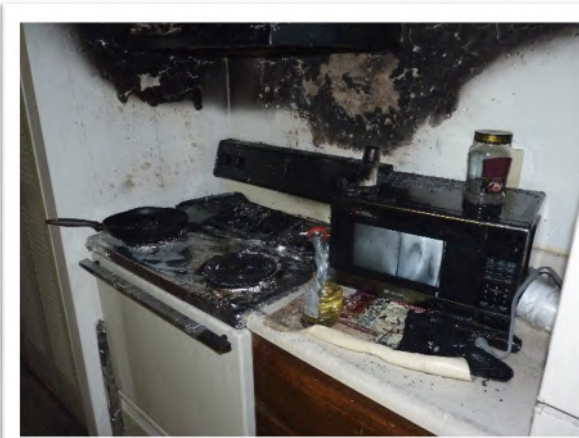




Fitchburg Fire Department

2016 ANNUAL REPORT





CHIEF'S WELCOME

February 27, 2017

Citizens of Fitchburg
Mayor Arnold
City Council Members
Police and Fire Commission Members
Public Safety and Human Services Committee Members

With my introduction to the City of Fitchburg, 2016 was a busy year for the Fitchburg Fire Department. Over the past year, we evaluated common practices, challenged the status quo, and worked to reinforce our core principles. For me, it was a learning year- taking time to understand the history of the Fitchburg Fire Department and the proud traditions that have established our firefighters as leaders in our profession. I'm honored to be associated with this group.

Once again, Fitchburg Fire Rescue responded to over 2000 calls for service- topping the previous year's numbers. Our prevention efforts were accomplished through inspection, education, and outreach. And readiness was achieved through a very active training schedule (using a variety of platforms- departmental, company-level, and individual training methods).

In an effort to anticipate the emergency needs of the City of Fitchburg, we have addressed the following through our 2016 work plan:

- Automatic aid agreements were updated with Verona, Oregon, and Town of Madison
- Two career positions were introduced to our roster
- Fitchburg's Emergency Medical Responder Operation Plan was submitted to the State
- We continued to work with the Fire Department Station Oversight Committee- Breaking ground and starting construction on the West Fire Station

The following major projects/activities were implemented in 2016:

- Fire Chief was hired
- Radio infrastructure was installed (Fitchburg Verona Analog Tactical Subsystem for coverage and redundancy, Gateway for radio interoperability)
- Dane Comm went live following the reprogramming of existing radio equipment
- A new 105' Aerial Platform was ordered from Pierce Manufacturing
- Equipment inventory and administrative practices were audited by Finance- the audit resulted in a higher level of internal administrative control

It was a full year; and it started with an assessment of our core values, our mission, and our vision. This needed to be more than a pet-project from a new fire chief... it needed to be a direct expression of our organizational identity. The men and women of the Fitchburg Fire Department took this task seriously and identified our organization as one that serves, learns, respects, and leads. In my observation, I couldn't agree more!

This annual report represents only a portion of our total effort. Please feel free to contact me if more information is needed. Sincerely,

Joe Pulvermacher
Fire Chief



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CORE VALUES

Honesty & Integrity
Pride & Ownership
Passion & Professionalism

MISSION STATEMENT

The Fitchburg Fire Department strives:

To Serve

by providing care through a dedicated and dependable response.

To Learn

*by exercising readiness through repetition and vigilance.
We will train to our limits... (not afraid of failure in a training environment)
as we work toward competence and confidence.*

To Respect

*by exhibiting teamwork, honor, and accountability at all levels-
continually treating others in a way that we would want to be treated.*

To Lead

*through initiative and service excellence,
we are committed to be an example in our profession and in our community.*

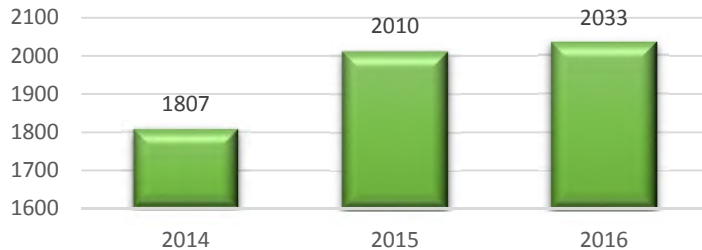
VISION

The Fitchburg Fire Department will confidently address the needs of community risk reduction. We will work to exceed expectations in education and outreach, inspection, and response.



OPERATIONS – Deputy Chief Chad Grossen

Requests for Service - 3 Years

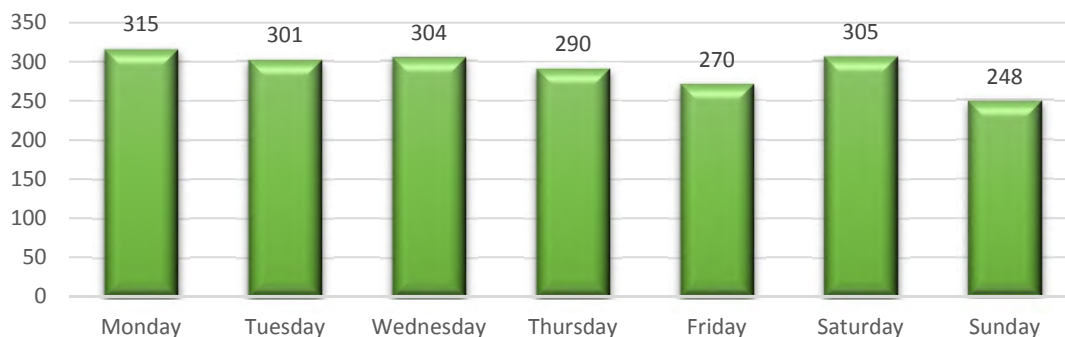


The City of Fitchburg Fire Department responded to 2,033 requests for service during 2016. While not a significant increase since 2015, this does reflect a 61% increase in overall call volume since 2006.

The 2,033 called from 2016 included:

2014	2015	2016	Type of Response
12	13	26	Structure Fire
993	1226	1220	EMS Assists (including Priority Medical Dispatch calls)
648	594	654	Still Alarms (alarm sounding, car fires, odor investigations)
16	32	30	Automatic aid to Oregon, Verona and the Town of Madison
14	15	29	Mutual Aid Given
75	94	97	Motor Vehicle Crash
28	25	20	Public Service (lock-outs, water removal, etc.)
2	4	5	Hazardous Materials Incident
19	7	11	Assist Law Enforcement

Requests by Day of the Week - 2016



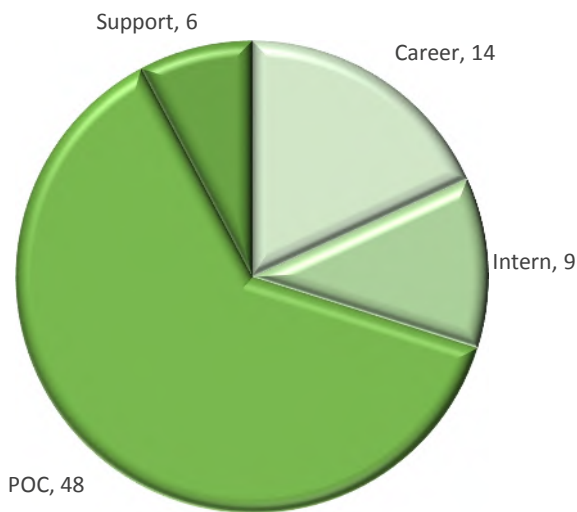


PERSONNEL – Deputy Chief Richard Roth

STAFFING

The Fitchburg Fire Department is a combination fire department that staffs two engine companies and one supervisory command car. The command car is staffed by one of the department’s sworn officers. Each engine company crew consists of a company-level fire officer, a driver and two firefighters.

2016 Staffing Levels



Staffing Definitions:

Career – Full-time personnel, made up of 9 firefighters, 3 lieutenants, 1 deputy chief and the fire chief

Intern – Madison College Fire Science student who live at one of our firehouses

POC – Paid-on-call firefighters who work scheduled shifts and help with larger incidents, such as structure fires

Support – POC members who provide additional support as needed to crews at an emergency scene

LENGTH OF SERVICE

David Berman, <i>Lieutenant</i> -- 20 years	Jeff Berman, <i>Captain</i> -- 15 years
Adam Dorn, <i>Firefighter</i> -- 10 years	Jon Engelhart, <i>Firefighter</i> -- 10 years
Brad Hageman, <i>Firefighter</i> -- 5 years	

HIRED IN 2016

Marshall Angst	Jordan Larson	Dan Ramirez (career staff)
Benjamin Brees	James Marquardt	Spencer Rindfliesch
Michael Demcak	Brad Nimz	Dustin Roder
Noah Engelhart	Troy Patton	Chris Schmid
Dan Heibel	Joe Pulvermacher	Dave Zuehlke (career staff)

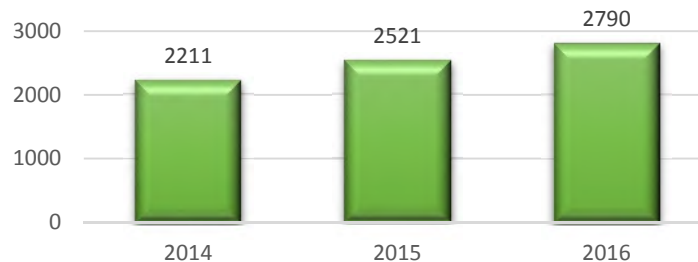


PREVENTION & INSPECTION – Deputy Chief Chad Grossen

Each year, the fire department performs fire inspections in every public building and place of employment, once or twice per year, in accordance with Safety and Professional Services requirements.

In 2016, 2,790 inspections were performed on 1,303 properties. The majority of the inspections were routine fire prevention inspections, but inspectors also conducted occupancy inspections, life safety system acceptance inspections and follow-up or re-inspections.

Fire Inspections - 3 Years



FIRE INVESTIGATION – Deputy Chief Richard Roth

Members of the City of Fitchburg Joint Police and Fire Investigation Team works to determine whether the cause of a fire was accidental, intentional, or undetermined. Once the investigation is completed, affected insurance companies may choose to investigate further (in the case of an accidental fire, or one that is listed as undetermined) or, when the cause is found to be intentional, an additional criminal investigation may begin. When the cause of a fire is listed as “undetermined,” the investigators were unable to find definitive evidence pointing to any one specific cause.

In 2016 there was an estimated total fire loss of \$440,000.





PUBLIC EDUCATION – Firefighter Adam Dorn

The City of Fitchburg Fire Department promotes fire and life safety education for all Fitchburg residents and its visitors through fire education programs and events throughout the year.



Classroom Visit -- La Petite Academy

The Public Education Division and the on-duty crews coordinate with area schools, daycare facilities and elderly housing complexes to deliver fire safety presentations throughout the year. These presentations consist of basic fire and life safety tips, home escape planning and drills, and firefighter responsibilities.



Firehouse Tour – Swim’N’Gym Summer Camp



July 4 Neighborhood Bike Parade

Public Education Activities include:

- Portable fire extinguisher training
- Home fire safety inspections
- Emergency planning for area businesses
- Firehouse tours for groups or individuals
- Public appearances at community events

The department hosts its annual open house in October. This is the largest single event promoting fire and safety education to the community and includes a variety of fire and life safety learning activities for kids and adults. With the help of area businesses, community organizations, and other city departments, the open house attracts between 250 and 3500 visitors annually from all over Dane County and southern Wisconsin.



SUPPORT SERVICES – Division Chief Gary Heberling

The Support Services Division of the City of Fitchburg Fire Department is responsible for new vehicle design and procurement, the specification and purchasing of new fire equipment and protective clothing, the maintenance, repair, and disposal of all existing department vehicles and equipment, and some of the maintenance of the City's fire stations and their grounds.

VEHICLE PURCHASES

2016 Ford Explorer Interceptor- Purchased through the State of Wisconsin Vehicle Contract Pricing Program to replace the 2003, ½-ton Suburban (Car 24) and is utilized by Chief Pulvermacher as his assigned vehicle.



Pierce Quantum 105" Aerial Platform – Ordered from Pierce Manufacturing of Appleton Wisconsin in January 2016 to replace the 1993 Seagrave Apollo 105' aerial platform. Delivery is expected in April 2017. The Seagrave will be sold. Its market value is undetermined as it did not pass its last UL Certification test.



Photo courtesy of Reliant Fire Apparatus

The 2007 Chevrolet ¾-ton pickup was converted to a brush truck and is now designated as Brush 1. Partial funding for an Ultra-High Pressure water/foam skid unit obtained through the 2015 State of Wisconsin Forest Fire Protection Grant process and purchased in 2016 was used in the conversion project. The 2002 E-One Jackrabbit previously designated as Brush 1 was sold.





VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

Vehicle maintenance and repairs encompass a significant portion of our department's budget. The department currently maintains 11 fire apparatus, 5 passenger vehicles, 4 trailers, and an ATV. The Support Services Division strives to maintain all of the department's vehicles per the manufacturer's specifications and in compliance with DOT and NFPA standards to ensure their readiness in the event of an emergency, and to get the best performance and longevity out of them. In addition to using outside maintenance vendors, the department has been working with City vehicle maintenance staff to identify ways that some work can be done in-house, both to save money and to minimize the out of service time for apparatus.

In 2016, Engine 1 had its scene lighting retrofitted with LED lights, which provide a more cost effective and energy efficient source of light for all emergency responders during evening, night and early morning incidents. Engine 2 previously received this upgrade in 2015.

All Department diesel-powered vehicles were retrofitted with Ward NO SMOKE or NO SMOKE 2 direct source exhaust capture systems. As each vehicle has its own system, the exhaust particulates and gasses are removed/treated before they leave the exhaust pipe. Funding for project is a part of the new fire station CIP.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Electric Positive Pressure Ventilation Fans -Two units were purchased to replace ineffective negative pressure box fans carried on Engines 1 and 2. These fans will allow the engine companies to accomplish our most common ventilation needs (ie; smoke/odors from cooking fires) and not hold additional resources (Ladder 1, Squad 2, automatic-aid vehicles) on scene.

Fire Hose- 1700 feet of 2 ½" hose was ordered to replace hose that was manufactured before 1987 per NFPA 1962, 2013 edition. Some 3" hose was also ordered to replace hose that failed testing in 2016.



MISCELLANEOUS

In support of the City's programs to be more energy efficient and reduce our overall carbon footprint, older vehicles are replaced with ones that have more efficient engines and their associated pollution control systems expel fewer pollutants into the atmosphere. Additionally, we have switched to more energy efficient lighting, heating/cooling equipment, windows, faucets, etc. as replacements are required.



TRAINING – Deputy Chief Richard Roth / Lieutenant Robert Kunze

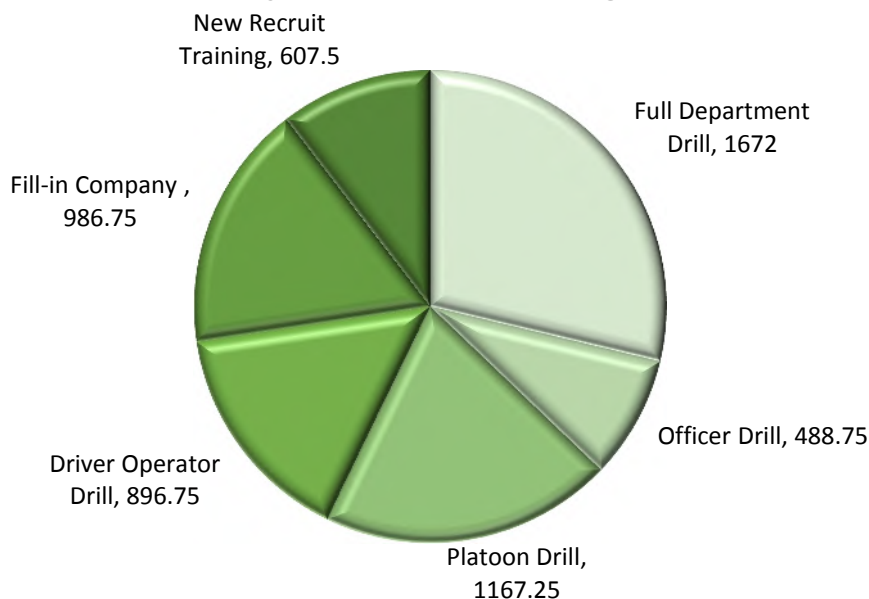
The training division of the fire department is responsible for delivering a training and safety education program that complies with the regulatory requirements of Chapter SPS 330, Wisconsin Administrative Code, and prepares all fire department personnel to appropriately deal with the risks that they face. The training must be provided on a monthly basis, it must be based on the department's current policies and procedures for emergency scene operations and it must be delivered by qualified instructors.

In order to be a member of the Wisconsin Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), the fire department is also obligated to ensure that our firefighters are trained at least to the level of Certified Firefighter I as determined by the Wisconsin Technical College System's Fire Service Training Office.

TRAINING HOURS

Department personnel participated in a cumulative total of 9,819 training hours in 2016. 5,819 of these hours were provided in-house, most of which was presented by our members:

Internally-Delivered Training Hours



The remaining 4,000 training hours were spent at off-site locations such as Madison College, the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire-Rescue International training conference, along with numerous other external training opportunities provided by neighboring communities and departments.

TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS



Miles Paratus at Volk Field (6-5-16 and 6-6-16)



Live house burn at Nesbitt road (8-20-16)



Live house burn at Purcell Road (9-10-16)





FIRE SCIENCE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Since 1975, the Fire Science Internship Program has been providing an opportunity for Madison College students, who are enrolled in the two-year Fire Science program, to live and work with the Fitchburg Fire Department.

The internship program has a total of 9 spots:

- 3 first-year interns live and work, primarily, at Firehouse 1
- 3 second-year interns live and work, primarily, at Firehouse 2
- 3 third-year paramedic interns live at Firehouse 2 and work, primarily, with FitchRona EMS, and as time allows, may also continue to respond as POC firefighters



2016 Interns:

Grant Langer, *Third year*
Nicholas Milewski, *Third year*
Zachary Kersten, *Third year*

Lucas Knipfer, *Second year*
Spencer Rindfliesch, *Second year*
Erin Statz, *Second year*

Marshall Angst, *First year*
Ben Brees, *First year*
Jordan Larson, *First year*



FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT



FITCHBURG, WI
Est. 2011

Established in September of 2011, the Fitchburg Fire Department's Honor Guard was formed to honor and remember firefighters.

The Honor Guard is a branch of the Fitchburg Fire & Rescue Association, and is not an official element of the department or the City; but represents the department and our City at funerals, memorial services and any other function authorized/requested by the chief of the department.

The following are three of the events that Fitchburg Honor Guard members attended in 2016:

01-03-2016	Allenton Fire Department	Allenton, WI	Active Duty Funeral
04-07-2016	Milwaukee Honor Guard Clinic	Milwaukee, WI	Clinic
04-15-2016	Topeka Fire Department	Topeka, KS	Active Duty Funeral
04-22-2016	Fire on Ice Hockey Tournament	Madison, WI	Presentation of Colors
05-03-2016	FFD Promotion/Swearing In	Fitchburg, WI	Recognition Ceremony
05-21-2016	Honor Ride	Fitchburg, WI	Presentation of Colors
07-19-2016	FFD- West Station Groundbreaking	Fitchburg, WI	Presentation of Colors
10-08-2016	Wisconsin Firefighters Memorial	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	Final Alarm Ceremony
10-09-2016	Dane County Fire Chief's Parade	Madison, WI	Presentation of Colors
10-26-2016	Wisconsin Fire Inspector's Conference	Wisconsin Dells, WI	Presentation of Colors

