

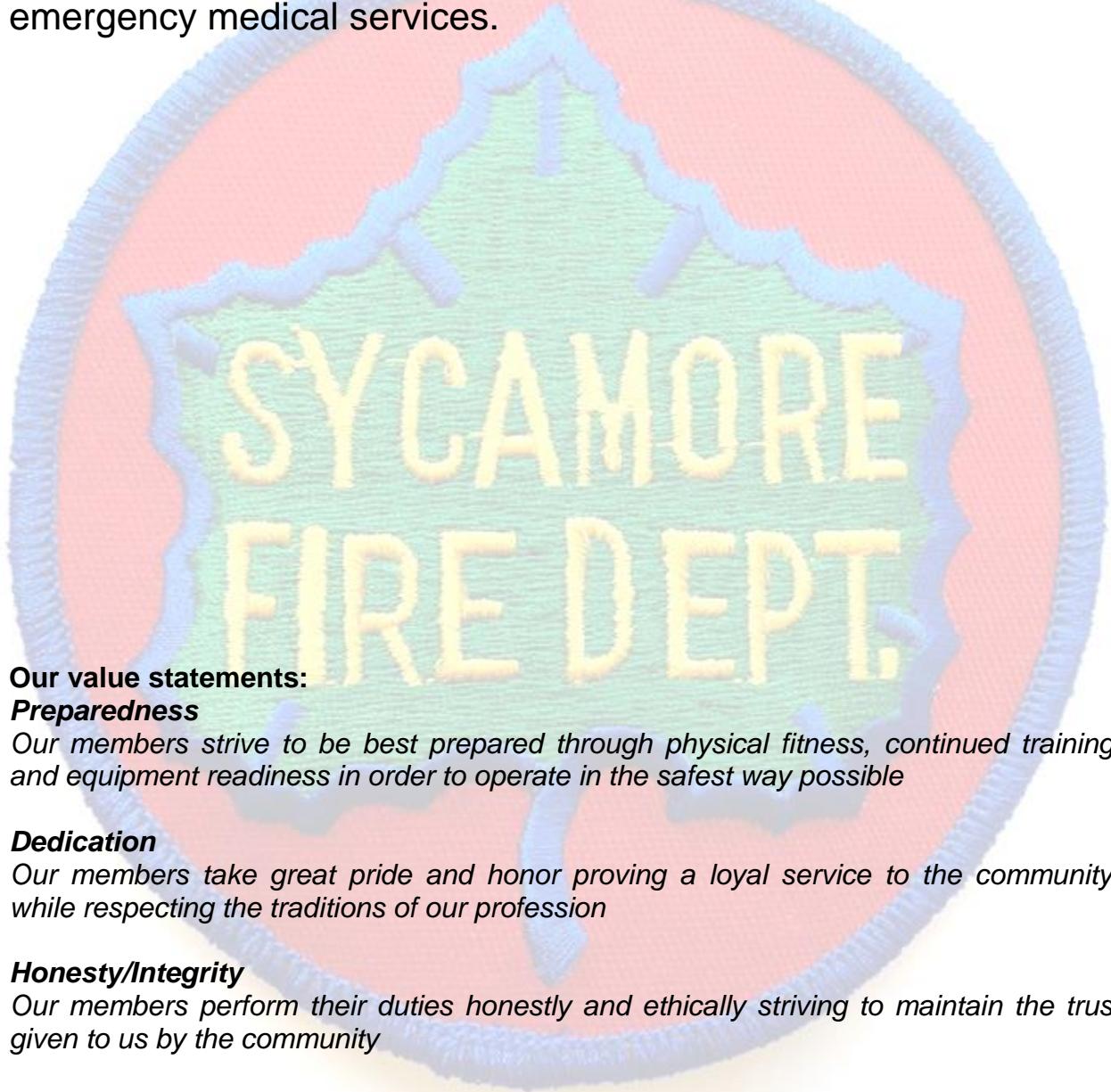
# **City of Sycamore Fire Department**



**FY 2018 Annual Report**

## **The Sycamore Fire Department Mission Statement:**

The mission of the Sycamore Fire Department is to selflessly serve our community with the highest quality professional fire and emergency medical services.



### **Our value statements:**

#### **Preparedness**

*Our members strive to be best prepared through physical fitness, continued training, and equipment readiness in order to operate in the safest way possible*

#### **Dedication**

*Our members take great pride and honor proving a loyal service to the community, while respecting the traditions of our profession*

#### **Honesty/Integrity**

*Our members perform their duties honestly and ethically striving to maintain the trust given to us by the community*

#### **Teamwork**

*Our members work together to achieve a common goal through mutual trust, respect, and loyalty*

#### **Selflessness**

*Our members are bravely willing to sacrifice our needs to serve the needs of the community in the course of performing our duties*

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## Executive Summary

The Fire Department budget for FY 18 was \$3,872,461. Personnel accounted for 96% of the budget (\$3,722,461), while commodities, contractual services, other services, and equipment accounted for \$150,000 or 4% of the budget. The Fire Department continued to look for grant opportunities to supplement the operating budget. In FY 18, the Fire Department applied for nine grants: received one award for \$1,000, had five grant applications denied, and three applications are waiting on a grant award decision.

Requests for emergency service increased significantly (+93 responses) for the third fiscal year in a row and has increased in last 7 of 8 years. This continues the overall trend of increasing emergency response activity. Since FY 2010, we have seen an average growth of requests for emergency service at 3.75% per year.

We have seen a steady increase in citizen assist requests for service (patient lift assist, medical alarm activations, and citizen medical assist requests) over the past four fiscal years. In FY18, we had 178 responses for patient assist, patient lift assist, or medical alarms. This is an increase of 8.5% (+14 responses) from the previous fiscal year.

In FY 18, requests for emergency services increased by 4.25% (+93 incidents) from the previous year. A large part of the service request increase was the result of an increase in non-fire (+70) and fire activity (+19) along with a very slight increase in emergency medical service incidents (+4). Emergency medical responses continue to dominate much of the Fire Department activity with emergency medical responses accounting for almost 79% and fire/non-fire responses accounting for 21% of emergency activity. The majority of the emergency responses (75%) originate in the Fire Station #1 response district (1,722 responses) while the remainder (25%) originate in the Fire Station #2 response district (559 responses).

Some of the most noteworthy emergency responses in FY 18 were: a structure fire at 333 Swanson Road, a structure fire at 311 E. Lincoln Street, a large combine fire on Old State Road, a scrap metal fire at B and O Used Parts, 800 Brickville Road, a structure fire at 401 Mary Ann Circle, and a structure fire at 27640 Annie Glidden Road, Clare.

On the personnel side, we welcomed Mike Mathey as a Paid-on-call Firefighter/Intern.

In FY18, 13,173 training hours were performed by Fire Department personnel with 11,337 hours performed in-house. As a result of this effort, ten fire department personnel attained 14 fire certifications through the Office of State Fire Marshal.

During this past year, a number of items were placed into emergency service.

- New SCBA air compressor/fill station (grant funded)
- New mobile training prop (grant funded)
- New attack and supply fire hose (grant funded)
- New video laryngoscopes for four ambulances
- New hydra-rams for two fire engines
- New replacement AED (partially grant funded)
- New Rapid Deployment Craft (RDC)

## Year in review - emergency response activity FY 2018

Requests for Emergency Services	2,281	
<b>Total Emergency Medical Service Responses</b>	<b>1,796</b>	<b>78.7%</b>
<b>Total Fire and Non-fire Responses</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>21.3%</b>
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<b>EMS Responses</b>	<b>1,796</b>	
Patients seen	1,938	
Patients Transported	1,220	
BLS Transports	510	41.8%
ALS Transports	710	58.2%
<u>Patients not transported</u>	716	
Care given	53	
Refused care	663	
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Advanced life support service upgrade (intercept) provided to neighboring jurisdiction	2	
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<b>Fire Suppression Responses</b>	<b>78</b>	
Structure Fire	41	
Vehicle / Motor home	9	
Cooking (confined to container)	5	
Outside (rubbish & equipment)	5	
Refuse (dumpster, trash contained)	5	
Brush Fire	13	
Chimney	0	
<hr/>		
<b>Non-fire Responses</b>	<b>407</b>	
False / Malicious Alarms	199	
Good Intent	97	
Burning Complaints	11	
Hazardous Conditions	81	
Service Calls	19	
<hr/>		
<b>Additional response information</b>		
Motor Vehicle Accidents	176	
Extrications	3	
Mutual Aid & Automatic Aid Given	124	
Mutual Aid & Automatic Aid Received	47	

Total Fire Dollar Loss = \$778,525

## Department Overview

The first fire company of the Sycamore Fire Department was officially organized in 1860 just a year after the Town of Sycamore was incorporated in 1859. The Sycamore Town Board approved a \$250 expenditure in May 1860, to buy ladders, hooks, chains, axes, ropes, and buckets necessary to complete the organization of a Hook and Ladder Company. In March 1871, a Special Council Meeting was held to buy land 16' x 62' for \$200 to build a brick firehouse with a \$200 bond sold to fund the building. Later, an appropriation was approved for \$1,500 to fund the firehouse, carriage, ladders, hoses, and rubber buckets for the Hook and Ladder Company.

The Sycamore Fire Department provides Fire Suppression, Rescue, Emergency Medical Services, Hazardous Materials First Responder, Fire Prevention, and Public Education services to approximately 20,000 citizens. This service area includes the City of Sycamore (18,519) and the Sycamore Fire Protection District (approximately 2,500). Overall, we service an area of approximately 62 ½ square miles (City of Sycamore - 9.74 square miles).

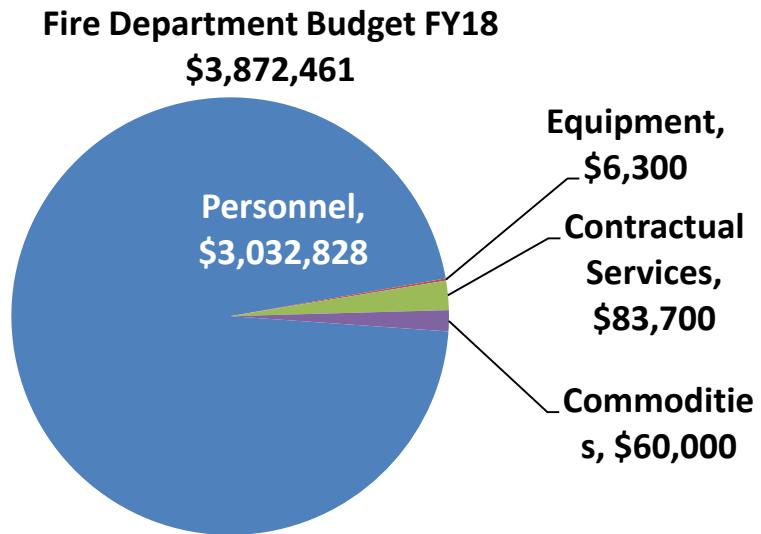
The Sycamore Fire Department is a combination fire department providing 24-hour emergency response, operating out of two fire stations with 36 sworn and 1 civilian employee. The Department is divided into two divisions; an administrative division and an operations division. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) 2016 rating for the City of Sycamore is a Class 4 and the ISO rating for the Sycamore Fire Protection District (unincorporated area outside the city) is a Class 8B.

### Fire Department authorized personnel strength and equipment

The Department's authorized personnel strength is as follows: Fire Chief - 1, Assistant Fire Chief - 2, Fire Lieutenant - 7, Firefighter/Paramedic - 19, Paid-on-call Firefighter - 18, and Fire Secretary - 1. The Fire Department maintains four fire engines (two ALS), four Advance Life Support (ALS) Ambulances, a heavy rescue squad, two brush/grass units, three Command vehicles, a utility vehicle, a reserve Command vehicle, and a water rescue boat and trailer.

### Fire Department budget

The Fire Department budget for FY 18 was \$3,872,461. Personnel accounted for 96% of the budget (\$3,722,461). Commodities, contractual services, other services, and equipment accounted for \$150,000 or 4% of the budget.



# Administrative Division activities



**Fire Station #1 - 535 DeKalb Avenue**



**Fire Station #2 - 2100 Frantum Road**



# Administrative Division activities

## Administrative Division - overview

The Administration Division consists of the Fire Chief, two Assistant Fire Chiefs, and one Administrative Secretary. The Administration Division provides the support for the Operations Division activities which includes: operation budget preparation and administration, grant application and administration, emergency vehicle and equipment repair and maintenance, fire station facility repairs and maintenance, fire and emergency medical service continuing education training, computer system and related software support, fire prevention program including public fire education, and special event planning.

## Personnel changes - new hires

In FY 18, the Fire Department welcomed one new member:

- Mike Mathey started as a POC Firefighter/Intern on May 1, 2017.

## Personnel changes - resignation

- POC Firefighter Owen Wilkins resigned on June 20, 2017.
- POC Firefighter David Bartelt resigned on October 30, 2017 to take full time employment in the Bartlett Fire Protection District.

## Service awards

Annual service awards were presented to City employees at the December 4, 2017 City Council Meeting. The following Fire Department personnel were recognized:

• Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Saxton	5 years
• Assistant Fire Chief Art Zern	5 years
• Firefighter/Paramedic Dustin Ruby	10 years
• Firefighter/Paramedic Andy Powers	10 years
• Firefighter/Paramedic Bill Reynolds	15 years
• Fire Lieutenant Dan Marcinkowski	25 years

## Grant applications and awards

The Fire Department continues to look for grant opportunities to supplement our operating budget. In FY 18, the Fire Department applied for nine grants. The following is a description of the grant application and the disposition of the grant application:

- A grant request (\$1,000) was submitted (June 2017) to the Allstate Insurance Company for three small portable thermal imaging cameras. The grant was approved and the equipment was purchased and placed into service.
- A grant request was submitted (July 2017) to the Enbridge for a surplus pickup truck vehicle from its fleet program. The grant was denied.
- A grant request (\$9,950) was submitted (January 2018) to the Enbridge Company for portable radios. We are currently waiting on a grant award decision.
- A grant request (\$550,000) was submitted (January 2018) through the Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant (AFG) program for a replacement pumper tender fire engine. The fire engine grant has been denied.
- A grant request (\$291,975) was submitted (January 2018) through the Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant (AFG) program for powered stretchers for the four ambulances and a sprinkler system for Fire Station #1. The powered stretcher application was denied and we are currently waiting on a grant award decision on the sprinkler system application.

- A grant request (\$85,000) was submitted (January 2018) through the Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant (AFG) program for replacement portable and mobile radios as part of an AFG Regional grant. The Regional Grant has been denied.
- A grant request (\$26,000) was submitted (February 2018) to the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) for radio communications equipment. The OSFM Small Tool and Equipment grant has been denied.
- A grant request (\$5,000) was submitted (March 2018) to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to upgrade a cardiac monitor with CO capability. We are currently waiting on a grant award decision.
- Received a \$1500 grant (October 2017) from the Sycamore Veterans Club for the purchase of portable suction unit for the ambulance.

### **Company Officer promotional examination/establishment of promotional list**

Fire Department Administrative staff assisted the Human Resources Director and Board of Fire and Police Commission with the facilitation of the company officer promotional examination. This entailed the establishment of the written test study guide, provision of study guide materials, the formal award of Chief points, and participation in the oral interview process. The new promotional list was established on November 15, 2017 and is established for three years.

### **Quartermaster program**

Lt. Darrin Hepker continues to serve as the Department's Quartermaster. He facilitates the procurement and replacement of Department issued uniforms and firefighting structural fire gear for new and existing employees. In FY 18, we replaced two sets of out of date structural turnout gear and purchased replacement helmet liners, firefighting gloves, and fire helmets from the capital budget.

### **Vehicle maintenance program**

The Fire Department currently has a fleet of four fire engines (2 ALS), four ALS ambulances, two brush fire vehicles, one heavy rescue squad, three Chief (Command) vehicles, one semi-rigid inflatable boat, one reserve Command vehicle, and one utility vehicle. Assistant Fire Chief Art Zern oversees the Department's vehicle maintenance program. Lt. Dan Marcinkowski serves as the Department's Mechanic Coordinator and Lieutenant Adam Honiotes, Firefighter/Paramedics Brad Belanger and Eric Walker serve as the Mechanic Assistants. In FY 18, we performed periodic preventive maintenance in-house on Fire Department vehicles and performed or facilitated repairs as needed to various vehicles in the fleet. The most noteworthy activities were:

- Completed required annual fire pump testing of all fire engines (4)
- Completed required annual NFPA vehicle inspection on all fire engines (4) and Squad #2
- Replaced Medic #2 tires (2)
- Repaired Car #3 brakes
- Replaced Squad #2 brakes
- Repaired Engine #4 axle track arm and fan hub

### **Tools and equipment maintenance program**

Assistant Fire Chief Art Zern oversees the Department's tool and equipment maintenance program. In FY 18, we performed periodic preventive maintenance and repair on most Fire Department tools and equipment. The most noteworthy activities were:

- Completed required annual testing of all ground ladders

- Completed required quarterly air quality tests on breathing air compressor
- Completed required annual service on breathing air compressor
- Completed required annual service on the hydraulic rescue tools
- Completed annual service on the cardiac monitors and automated external defibrillators
- Completed required scheduled high pressure air bag testing
- Completed annual ambulance patient stretcher maintenance
- Completed required scheduled self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) cylinder hydro testing and recertification
- Completed annual flow test on all SCBA regulators
- Completed required annual portable fire extinguisher maintenance
- Completed required annual electrical glove testing
- Repaired Station #1 breathing air compressor

### **Fire Station - facility maintenance**

Assistant Fire Chief Art Zern oversees the Department's facility maintenance and repair program. Maintenance and repair of the fire station buildings are performed by the Mechanic Coordinator, the Mechanic Assistant, Public Works personnel, and outside contractors. The most noteworthy activities during FY 18 were:

- Facilitated required annual Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) boiler inspection at Fire Station #1
- Facilitated required annual OSFM wheel chair lift inspection at Fire Station #1
- Completed required annual service on emergency generator at Fire Station #2
- Completed required annual testing of sprinkler system at Fire Station #2
- Completed required annual testing of fire alarm system at Fire Station #2
- Completed annual carpet cleaning at Fire Station #1 and #2
- Installed pit covers in Maintenance Shop
- Repaired Station #1 apparatus floor plymovent diesel exhaust system
- Completed Station #1 and #2 spring HVAC system maintenance and fall heating system maintenance
- Repaired Station #1 roof leak
- Repaired Station #2 roof leak

### **Fire Station - facility improvements**

As part of the 2016 Fire Department Strategic plan, a study was suggested to review the costs to repair Fire Station #1. In early May 2017, we advertised for a request for proposal (RFP) to conduct a deferred maintenance study on Fire Station #1. In September 2017, the city council approved a contract with Kluber Architects and Engineers for \$9,450. In early January, 2018, Chris Hansen of Kluber presented the completed study to the city council. The study included three phases of investment. The first phase (Phase #1) improvements are aimed at life safety issues. Phase #1 improvements are anticipated to cost \$100,000 and planned to be implemented in FY19.

### **Computer system improvement**

Fire Chief Peter Polarek oversees the Department's computer system including software and hardware. In FY 18, we continued to maintain the Fire Department computer system working with our IT contractor KMB Computing.

## **Fire Prevention Program**

Assistant Fire Chief Art Zern oversees the Department's Fire Prevention program which includes public fire education. Throughout the year, various fire prevention needs are addressed which include: review of building plans for new construction for fire and life safety code compliance; the management of the Knox Box (secure key box) program, dealing with code enforcement/fire safety issues as they arise, monitoring third party fire alarm, sprinkler system, and hood/duct inspections for compliance and follow up, if needed. We continue to utilize the service of the Compliance Engine. The Compliance Engine collects (at no cost to the city) organizes and categorizes inspection reports from third party contractors who inspect, test, and maintain fire protection systems. This web based computer program allows us to be more efficient in the monitoring of required sprinkler, fire alarm, and hood/duct annual or semi-annual testing requirements. We are able to track and drive code compliance, reduce false alarm activity, and provide safer communities through third party inspection reporting and maintenance.

### **Knox Box program - commercial**

A Knox Box is a small, wall-mounted safe that holds building keys for Fire Departments to retrieve in emergency situations. Since 1995, any building in Sycamore protected with an automatic fire alarm, automatic fire suppression system (sprinkler system) or is inaccessible as a result of security measures are required to have a Knox Box. In an emergency, Fire Department personnel using the Knox Box can quickly enter a building without having to force entry. With the maturity of the City of Sycamore Knox Box program, building keys potentially can be outdated with the change of owners/occupants or entry door lock changes. The Fire Department's challenge is to keep those building keys current in each Knox Box.

### **Fire Prevention - public education activities**

Firefighter/Paramedic Ian Wheeler serves as the Department's Fire Prevention Education Coordinator. He coordinates all public fire education activities and oversees the six members performing various presentations. Throughout the year, the Public Education group provided presentations to various age groups at outside locations and at each of the fire stations. A significant portion of the public fire education effort is Fire Prevention Week. October 8-14, 2017 was designated as the national Fire Prevention Week. With heavy demand for fire prevention presentations during this five day window, our local fire prevention week has expanded to almost the entire month of October. We use the national Fire Prevention Week theme as the foundation for the various month long activities. This year's theme was "Every Second Counts: Plan Two Ways Out!" For a better part of three weeks, the Fire Prevention Team members made presentations to children from pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. They visited every Sycamore grade school. During the month of October, we estimate that we make contact with over 3,000 school children. In addition to the presentations, a fire drill was conducted and successfully completed in every elementary school. The group continued to emphasize four key points during the presentations: 1) Test, and if necessary, replace batteries in smoke detectors; 2) Test, and if necessary, replace batteries in carbon monoxide detectors; 3) Talk to parents about an escape plan in case of fire; and 4) What would you do if your friends wanted you to play with fire. In addition to presentations at schools for children, the public education group did over 30 fire station tours/safety presentations for pre-school and special needs children.

Members of the public education group participated in the following:

- Continued the monthly fire prevention press releases to the local media with various fire safety and seasonal safety messages to the public.
- Participated in the Target National Night Out.
- Participated in Sycamore Chamber of Commerce, Tuesdays on the Town - Touch a Truck event.
- Supported several CPR courses for members of the community.

### **Fire Prevention - Fire Department Open House**

Rainy weather caused the cancellation of the October 14, 2017, the Fire Department sponsored an Open House event at Fire Station #2. Fire Public Education Coordinator Ian Wheeler organized a three hour open house with a variety of activities but very wet and windy conditions forced the cancellation for safety reasons.

### **Fire Prevention - Juvenile Fire Setter Program**

Fire Lieutenant Jim Ward continues to lead a county wide coalition of multiple agencies tasked with helping juvenile fire setters, their families, and protecting the community at large from this growing problem of juvenile fire setting. This year, 3 fire setter cases were handled by the members of the coalition in DeKalb County. The program is one certified by the Office of the State Fire Marshall and Jim recently became a certified instructor to train others to become juvenile fire setter interventionists. Jim continues to lead the DeKalb County Juvenile Fire Setter Coalition which is comprised of members of local fire and police departments, the DeKalb County Sheriff's Department, the DeKalb County State's Attorney's Office, the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), local mental health agencies and providers, local school district staff, the DeKalb County Youth Services Bureau, and the DeKalb County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

### **Knox Box program - residential loan program**

The Fire Department partnered with the Family Service Agency and the Roberts Family Foundation to establish a residential Knox Box program. This program targets residents of the City of Sycamore and the Sycamore Fire Protection District with existing medical or physical conditions which could render them unable to open a locked door in an emergency. Like the commercial Knox boxes, a residential Knox-Box is a 4" by 5" safe - like device that is designed as a rapid entry system allowing secure emergency access for the fire department. The residential Knox-Boxes are designed to be installed over the top a resident's front entry door. When a fire breaks out or there is a medical emergency, a Knox-Box device allows for immediate entry into buildings and properties without forced entry, damage, or delay. If an emergency arises, the first responders are able to access the Knox Box for the house keys to allow entry into the house without forcing entry or waiting for a key holder. In FY18, we loaned twelve residential Knox boxes and had three returned to be reissued.

### **Special event permit review**

The City of Sycamore permits approximately 60 special events a year ranging from the temporary closure of a downtown city street to catered events on private property. Assistant Chief Zern provides the Fire Department safety review of all special event permit requests as part of an overall city review during the special event season (May-November).

### **Firefighter behavioral health presentations**

Assistant Fire Chief Art Zern continued to participate with the Illinois Firefighter Peer Support Team which is a group of Illinois firefighters and mental health professionals that serve in a peer driven support network for firefighters. This group's mission is to serve the fire service family by providing trained peer supporters who can give confidential, appropriate and supportive assistance.

### **Firefighter cancer prevention efforts**

Within the past year, a number of studies have confirmed that firefighters are at greater risk for cancer due to the exposure to the byproducts of combustion. The literature has shown that firefighters have a greater number of cancer diagnoses and cancer-related deaths than the general U.S. population. The studies are showing the following:

- Cancer is a leading cause of firefighter deaths in the United States
- Cancer has caused over 60% of career firefighter line of duty deaths since 2002
- Studies have shown that firefighters have increased risk of certain cancers the longer they spend working in the fire service
- Heat from structure fires adds to the danger of exposure to toxic chemicals - with every 5 degrees in increased body temperature, skin absorption rates can increase by as much 400%

To reduce the risk to Sycamore Firefighters, a committee composed of Fire Department management and labor personnel were tasked with the development of a comprehensive approach to reducing the cancer risk to firefighting personnel. The committee has provided a number of recommendations for general awareness and education of fire personnel, post fire actions at the scene of the emergency, and post fire actions back at the fire station. A comprehensive cancer awareness and prevention standard operating guideline was developed and supporting equipment and supplies have been purchased.

### **Physical Fitness committee formed**

In FY 18, a physical fitness committee consisting of administrative staff and shift personnel was formed to begin looking at our existing physical fitness program and to see if we can make changes to achieve greater participation and ultimately, to see improved employee fitness results. The committee is in the early stages of developing a plan.

# Operations Division activities

## Shift Assignments April 30, 2018

### Shift 1

**Lt. T. Hickey**  
**Lt. J. Ward**

**FF B. Belanger**  
**FF S. Flatter**  
**FF J. Pink**  
**FF E. Walker**  
**FF N. Young**  
**FF D. VanDusen**

**POC FF J. Turner**  
**POC FF/Intern M. Mathey**

### Shift 2

**Lt. S. Penn**  
**Lt. A. Honiotes**

**FF B. Reynolds**  
**FF P. Dulzo**  
**FF D. Ruby**  
**FF I. Wheeler**  
**FF M. Hardesty**  
**FF M. Anderson**

**POC FF T. Lampkins**  
**POC FF/Intern L. Wright**

**Swing**  
**Lt. D. Hepker**  
**FF A. Powers**

### Shift 3

**Lt. D. Marcinkowski**  
**Lt. R. Gustafson**

**FF B. Maciejewski**  
**FF B. Thompson**  
**FF E. Carlson**  
**FF E. Saxton**  
**FF N. Perez**  
**FF C. Conlon**

**POC FF C. Hickey**



# **Operation Division activities**

## **Emergency operations overview**

Requests for emergency services were up by 4.25% (+93) from FY 17. Emergency medical responses increased slightly (+4) in activity, while both fire and non-fire responses increased (+89) significantly.

## **Significant emergency incidents**

The most noteworthy emergency responses in FY 18 were:

- Structure fire at 333 Swanson Road on June 5, 2017.
- Structure fire at 311 E. Lincoln Street on June 6, 2017.
- Scrap metal fire at B and O Used Parts, 800 Brickville Road, on July 8, 2017.
- Combine fire on Old State Road west of Route 64 on October 9, 2017.
- Structure fire at 401 Mary Ann Circle on April 30, 2018.
- Structure fire at 27640 Annie Glidden Road, Clare on April 30, 2018.

## **New water rescue boat placed into emergency service**

In August, 2017, a new water/ice rescue platform (Rapid Deployment Craft) was placed into emergency service after personnel orientated and trained with the new equipment.

## **Emergency medical services**

The Fire Department operates four Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances. The Sycamore Fire Department participates with the Kishwaukee Hospital Emergency Medical Services System and operates under the medical direction of the emergency room physicians at Kishwaukee Hospital. Assistant Fire Chief Todd Turner oversees the Emergency Medical Services program with the assistance of Firefighter/Paramedic Bill Reynolds who serves as the Department's Paramedic Coordinator.

## **Emergency medical services - updated medical protocols**

In late FY18, representatives from the Kishwaukee Hospital Emergency Medical Services System (KCHEMASS) started training on the implementation of the new Region #1 medical Protocols. The new protocols incorporate new and updated medical procedures, and new medications.

## **Emergency medical services – new MedVaults on ambulances (4) and ALS Engines (2)**

As a result of the addition of numerous controlled substances (medications) in FY18, we needed to increase the security of storing the medicines. Six Knox MedVaults were purchased and installed on four ambulances and two fire engines. The secure safe like devices will allow access by trained medical personnel yet prevent unauthorized access.

## **Emergency Medical services continuing training and education**

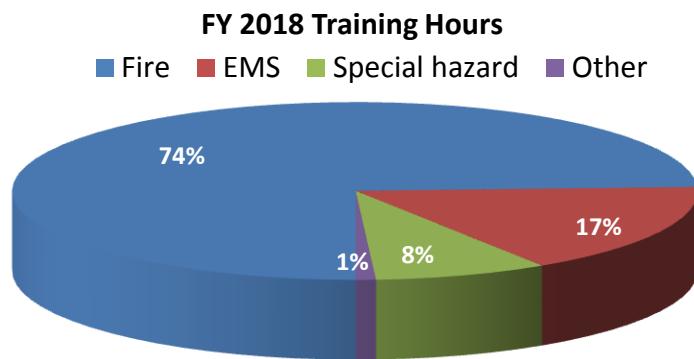
The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) requires all certified paramedics to successfully complete 25 hours of continuing education each year and emergency medical technicians - basic to complete 15 continuing education hours per year. The required continuing medical education is provided to both Fire Department paramedics and emergency medical technician - basics by the Kishwaukee Hospital EMS System staff. In December 2017, all Fire Department certified paramedics successfully completed the Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) recertification course.

## Training program - Target Solutions

In order to continue to improve our in-house training program, Assistant Chief Todd Turner researched web-based training platforms to plan for and document training activities for all Fire Department personnel. He selected Target Solutions and began implementation on October 1, 2017. The program is user friendly and helps to facilitate the capture of a variety of previously undocumented training activities. For example, in FY 17, we reported 7,960 total training hours performed by fire personnel with 6,152 hours performed in-house. In FY 18, we reported 13,173 total training hours performed by fire personnel with 11,337 hours performed in-house. This equals over 165% increase in total training hours reported. The 11,337 total in-house training hours reported in FY18 was significantly higher than the 6,152 hours reported in FY17. This change equals over an 184% increase. Apparently, we had been under reporting our training component while increasing the reporting of qualified training activities. The Target Solutions program has helped to properly capture and document relevant training activity.

## Fire basic and continuing training

Assistant Fire Chief Todd Turner oversees the Department's fire training program which includes both in-house and outside training schools. Overall, 13,173 training hours were performed by Fire Department personnel with 11,337 hours performed in-house. Much of this documented training provides reinforcement and refresher (continuing education) training of achieved fire service certifications. For in-house training, Assistant Chief Turner assigns various monthly continuing fire education training topics, provides supporting training information, and the required training is delivered through training committee instructors and company officers to shift personnel.



## Training hours FY 18

Overall, 13,173 training hours were performed by Fire Department personnel. Training hours are divided into four categories:

- Fire training (9,784 hours) - includes fire equipment, fire apparatus, building construction, electric vehicle response, driver's training, fire operations review, fire investigation, and various fire drills.
- Emergency Medical Service (EMS) training (2,189 hours) - includes required continuing monthly medical training in various areas which enable the paramedics to meet the hourly requirements by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).
- Special hazards training (1,076 hours) - included hazardous materials and technical rescue response training.

- Other training (125 hours) – this category includes the review of SOG's, Policy, and Procedures, review of streets, required NIMS training, firefighter and officer orientation, and safety training.

### **Training program - Fire Department Training Committee**

In order to improve our in-house training program, Assistant Chief Todd Turner solicited six interested shift personnel to participate in a committee that is charged with the development of the monthly training calendar as well as assisting with the delivery of monthly in-house training courses.

While most of the training is performed in-house, some of the training is provided through recognized regional fire training academies.

In FY 18, the following personnel attending outside training (1,836 hours):

- Fire Lieutenants Darrin Hepker, Adam Honiotes, and Ryan Gustafson successfully completed the Incident Safety Officer course.
- Assistant Chief Todd Turner successfully completed the Fire Department Safety Officer course.
- Fire Lieutenant Jim Ward successfully completed Tactics and Strategy II, and Leadership 3 and 4 courses.
- Fire Lieutenants Jim Ward, Adam Honiotes, and Ryan Gustafson successfully completed the ICS 300 and 400 courses.
- Fire Lieutenant Ryan Gustafson successfully completed the Fireground Company Officer course.
- Lieutenant Adam Honiotes, and Career Firefighter/Paramedics Bill Reynolds, Mike Hardesty, and Matt Anderson successfully completed the RIT Rescue Technician courses.
- Career Firefighter/Paramedic Scott Flatter successfully completed the Leadership I course.
- Career Firefighter/Paramedic Erik Carlson successfully completed the Vehicle and Machinery Technician course.
- POC Firefighter/Intern Mike Mathey successfully completed the Basic Operations Firefighter, Hazardous Materials 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Operations, Fire Service Vehicle Operator, and Technical Rescue Awareness courses.
- Lieutenant Darrin Hepker, and Career Firefighter/Paramedics John Pink, Eric Walker, Erik Carlson, Ian Wheeler, Matt Anderson, Eric Saxton successfully completed the Wildland Firefighter training course.
- Career Firefighter/Paramedic Christian Conlon successfully completed the Advanced Firefighter course.
- Career Firefighter/Paramedic Patrick Dulzo successfully completed the Training Program Manager course.
- Lieutenant Adam Honiotes and career Firefighter/Paramedics Andy Powers successfully completed the Water Rescue Operations and Watercraft Technician courses.
- Lieutenant Dan Marcinkowski and career Firefighter/Paramedic Brad Belanger successfully completed the Heavy Rescue Academy course.
- Career Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Thompson successfully completed the Managing Fire Officer course through the National Fire Academy.
- Career Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Thompson successfully completed the "Shaping the Future" course through the National Fire Academy.

- Career Firefighter/Paramedics Nick Young and Eric Saxton successfully completed the Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings course.

### **Training certifications**

As a result of the training activities, a number of fire department personnel attained fire certifications (14) through the Office of State Fire Marshal's (OSFM) in this fiscal year. The newly achieved certifications were for Basic Operations Firefighter (1), Advanced Technician Firefighter (1), Fire Officer 1 (3) Fire Officer II (1), Fire Service Vehicle Operator (1), Hazardous Materials Operations (1), Health and Safety Officer (1), Water Operations (2), Watercraft Technician 2), and Vehicle and Machinery Technician (1).

### **Hands on training – new Mobile Training prop**

In early January 2018, the Sycamore Fire Department received delivery of a FEMA grant funded mobile training prop. This prop will allow on duty personnel to practice a number of practical techniques such as roof ventilation, forcible entry, and metal bar cutting.

### **Hands on training - joint fire training with DeKalb Fire Department at acquired structures**

On June 14-15, 2017, the Sycamore Fire Department worked with the DeKalb Fire Department to train in a number of one and two-story houses slated for demolition. Over the course of three days, crews participated in joint training evolutions consisting of fire attack, search and rescue, and peaked roof ventilation.

### **Hands on training – water flow testing**

In conjunction with annual fire hose testing, the Fire Department facilitated the pressure and gallon per minute testing of various attack fire hose layout configurations. This accurate information is critical in determining the amount of water needed and the correct application rate to effectively suppress hostile fires in the modern high BTU fire environment.

### **Hands on training - surface water rescue and ice rescue**

The Fire Department facilitated surface water rescue and ice rescue response practice on the small lake/ponds in Sycamore in August 2017 and April 2018. We practiced small boat evolutions with the semi-rigid inflatable boat and practiced victim rescue techniques in the water with simulated near drowning victims. Crews also practiced with the new Rapid Deployment Craft (RDC) in order to incorporate this new adjunct into our emergency response plan.

### **Hands on training - active shooter training**

The Fire Department continues to work to prepare emergency response personnel and refine operational procedures in order to effectively respond to the active shooter incident. In FY 18, the Fire Department participated in a third annual joint exercise with the Police Department in an effort to continue to validate response procedures and continue to develop the needed teamwork for these specialized responses. As a result of the efforts to date, we believe that the Fire Department is much better prepared to respond to these incidents. The Fire Department plans to continue to build upon the established operational guidelines as well as the continued partnership with the Police Department.

### **Personnel - POC Firefighter program**

The Paid-on-call (POC) Firefighter program is designed to supplement the career staffing of the Fire Department. Paid on call firefighters are required to meet minimum training requirements, minimum activity requirements, and required ride time. The Fire Department currently employs seven POC Firefighters (including one Chaplain classified as a POC Firefighter and three POC Firefighter/Interns). There were no new hires in FY 18.

### **Personnel - POC Firefighter/Intern program**

The Intern program is a three year commitment where POC Firefighter/Interns agree to work four, 24 hour shifts per month (non-compensated) with an assigned firefighting shift in addition to attending a full college course load. The program requires the POC Firefighter/Interns to complete the following coursework over the course of three years: Basic Operations Firefighter certification, Emergency Medical Technician - Basic licensure, and Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic licensure. In FY 2018, we advertised and hired one new POC Firefighter/Intern in May 2017. The Fire Department is authorized up to six college interns and we currently have two Interns working through the program. POC Firefighter/Intern Mike Mathey successfully completed the course requirements for Basic Operations Firefighter certification. He is currently working on his Basic Operations certification testing. POC Firefighter/Intern Logan Wright started paramedic training in September 2017. The paramedic training program encompasses classroom instruction and clinical experience over an 11 month period. In addition, the paramedic students are required to complete 500 hours of ride time on the ambulance to gain field experience. It is anticipated that Logan will complete the paramedic training course and requirements by August 2018, and he will be eligible to challenge the state license exam shortly thereafter.

### **Special Teams - MABAS Division #6**

Fire Department special team (Hazardous Material and Technical Rescue Team) training development continues through grant funding from the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF). ITTF funding is used to pay tuition and back fill to send members of the Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue Team to required basic training.

**Hazardous Material Response Team continuing training** – Team members Firefighter/Paramedics Bob Maciejewski, Scott Flatter, John Pink, Erik Carlson, Nick Young, and Eric Saxton attended MABAS Division #6 continuing education in FY 18. In order to keep the Hazardous Material Technicians up on the latest techniques and to sharpen their skill set, they each have the opportunity annually to attend one of three Department of Homeland Security (DHS) sponsored courses. The three courses are: the Response to Terrorist Bombings (IRTB) Course at New Mexico Tech, Socorro, NM; the Haz Mat Technologies: Sampling, Monitoring, and Detecting for CBRNE course at Anniston, Alabama; and the Response to Radiation/Nuclear Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents in Mercury, Nevada. In FY18, Firefighter/Paramedics (and HM Techs) Nick Young and Eric Saxton attended the IRTB course at New Mexico Tech.

**Technical Rescue Team continuing training** – Team members Fire Lieutenants Shaun Penn and Adam Honiotes, and Firefighter/Paramedics Bill Reynolds, Dustin Ruby, Andy Powers, Mike Hardesty attended MABAS Division #6 continuing education in FY 18. In April 2018, the MABAS Division #6 Technical Rescue Team was invited to participate in a technical rescue exercise at the National Guard facility in Marseilles, IL. Fire Lieutenant Adam Honiotes and Firefighter/Paramedics (and Technical Rescue Techs) Bill Reynolds, Andy Powers, and Mike Hardesty participated in the twelve hours exercise. The exercise involved collapse or damaged light weight and concrete structures.

**Fire Investigation Team continuing training** - Team members Lieutenants Dan Marcinkowski, Jim Ward, Ryan Gustafson, and Firefighter/Paramedics Pat Dulzo, Brad Belanger, and Eric Walker attended fire investigator continuing education as part of the fire investigator certification maintenance requirements.

**Statewide Urban Search and Rescue Team (IL-TF1)**

Fire Chief Peter Polarek (Task Force Leader) and career Firefighter/Paramedic Erik Carlson (Hazardous Material Specialist) continues to serve members of the State's Urban Search and Rescue Team (IL-TF1).

**Fire Station and emergency vehicle maps**

Lt. Darrin Hepker continues to maintain all of the Fire Department map books and response maps for both fire stations and fire department emergency vehicles.

**SCBA maintenance and repair**

Firefighter/Paramedic Scott Flatter oversees the maintenance and repair of all of the Department's self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). This effort includes the required flow test of all SCBA air packs (28), RIT packs (3), the required annual SCBA face piece testing with each firefighter (37), and the required quarterly breathing air quality testing of the breathing air compressor.

**Atmospheric monitoring instruments/thermal imaging camera maintenance and repair**

Firefighter/Paramedic Erik Carlson oversees the maintenance and repair of all of the Department's atmospheric monitoring instruments and thermal imaging cameras. He calibrates the atmospheric monitoring instruments quarterly to ensure dependable and accurate response readings.

**City emergency planning - implementation of the five year plan continues**

FY 18 was the second year of a five-year plan to provide for improvements to the city's capability in responding to disaster events. Improvements focused on city personnel training, physical improvements to the city's designated Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and development of a city emergency operation plan (EOP).

Year two improvements included the following:

- Ensuring that existing and new employees successfully complete the IS 100 and IS 700 on line courses.
- Locally host the ICS 300 and ICS 400 courses for supervisors.
- Continue the development of city department related annexes for the City's Emergency Operation Plan (EOP).

**City emergency planning - Sycamore hosts Incident Command courses**

As part of the City Emergency Planning improvement plan, the City of Sycamore hosted the delivery of Incident Command system (ICS) 300 and ICS 400 at the Police Department classroom facility on November 14-15, 2017 and November 29-30, 2017. Many Fire Department Officers, Police Department personnel, and City Officials successfully completed these required courses.

**Firefighters wear pink in October**

For the entire month of October, all on-duty City of Sycamore Firefighters wore a special navy/pink Fire Department uniform t-shirt to show support for Breast Cancer Awareness. The t-shirts featured the traditional pink ribbon and pink lettering of the

Breast Cancer Awareness Foundation entwined with the Sycamore firefighters' motto of "Pride and Honor".

### **Special events - Sycamore "Turning Back Time" Car Show**

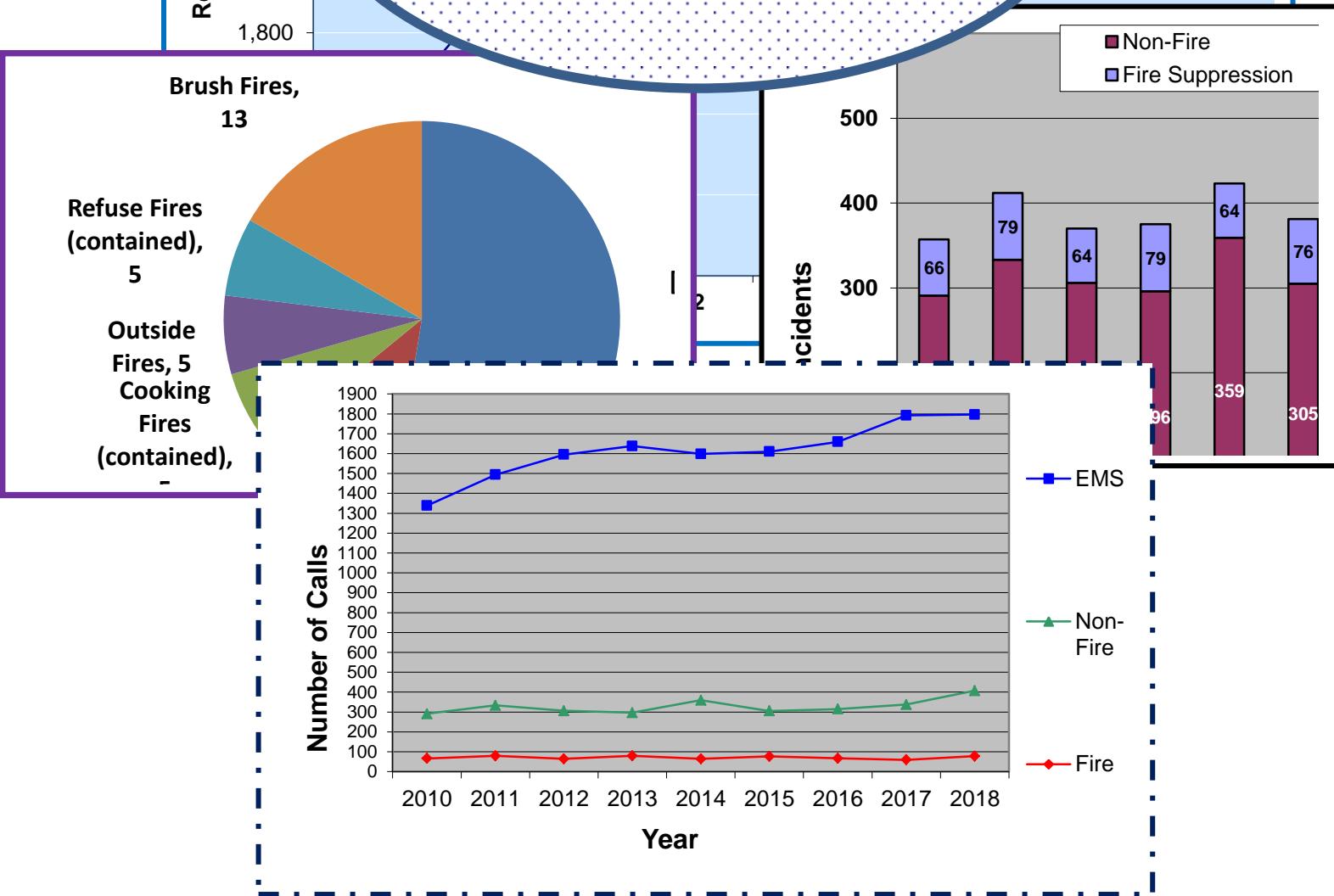
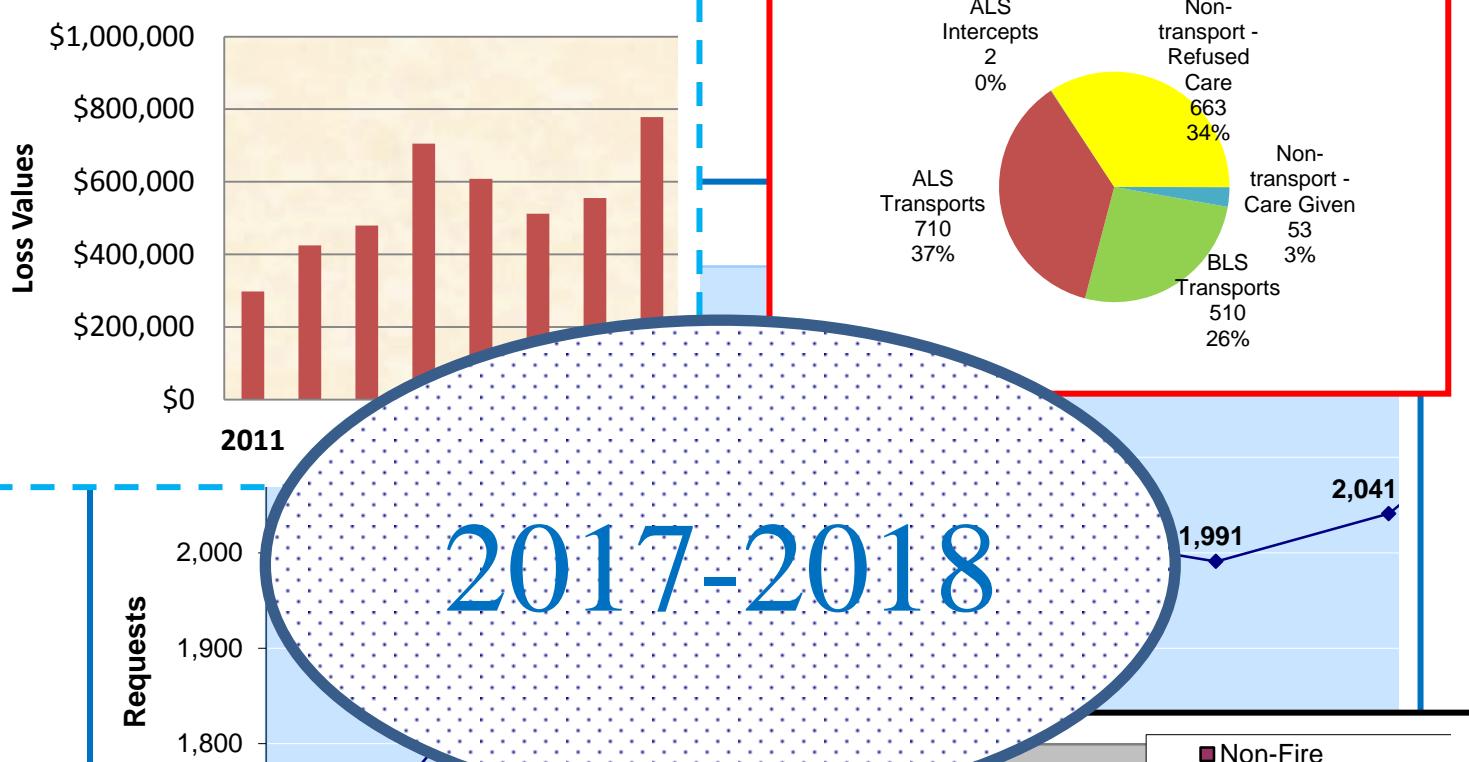
The Fire Department actively participated in the safety review of the Annual Car Show layout as well as facilitate the event on-site emergency response. On July 30, 2017, the Fire Department staged two fire personnel in the middle of the downtown area providing an event first aid station and emergency first response within the car show area. It is estimated that the Car Show attracts approximately 10,000 visitors to the downtown area.

### **Special events - Sycamore Pumpkin Fest**

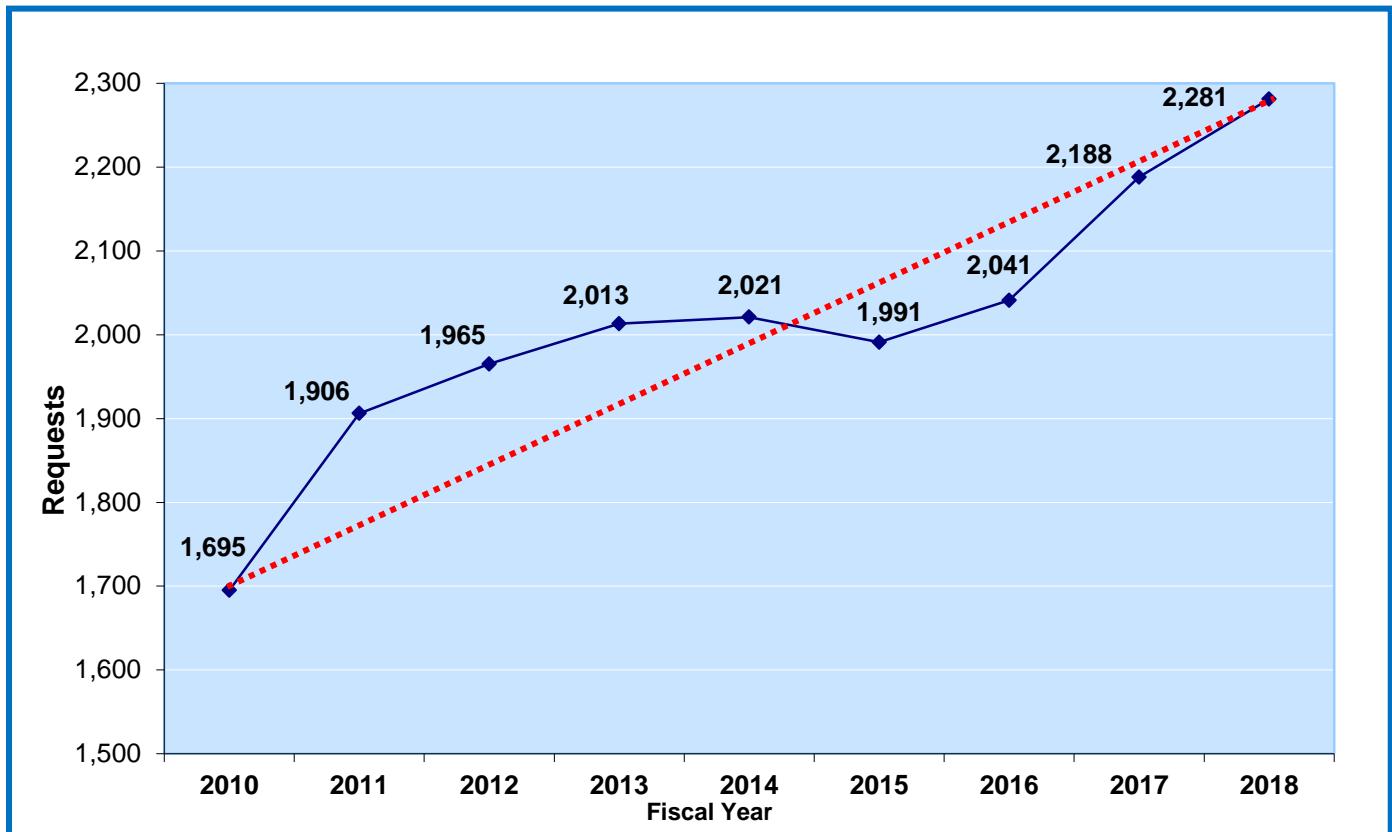
The Fire Department actively participated in the planning and implementation of the emergency response to the annual Sycamore Pumpkin Festival. On October 29, 2017, twelve Fire Department emergency personnel, staffing two ambulances, three staff vehicles, and an all terrain vehicle (ATV) provided emergency response for the Pumpkin Run which drew over 1,400 participants. During the run we experienced no emergency calls for any runner injuries.

Later that day, twenty-five personnel staffing three Chief vehicles, three fire engines, three ambulances, a heavy rescue squad, brush truck, and MABAS ATV provided emergency response capability from three strategically placed staging sites just off of the Pumpkin Parade route. The DeKalb County Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Post provided a platform for the command and control of all first responder assets in the festival area. The Fire Department was prepared to respond to any issues during the Pumpkin Parade. We experienced a capacity crowd that watched 120 entries in the Pumpkin Parade. We experience one medical response just before the parade and one medical response during the parade. It is estimated that the five-day Pumpkin Festival event attracts approximately 150,000 visitors to Sycamore.

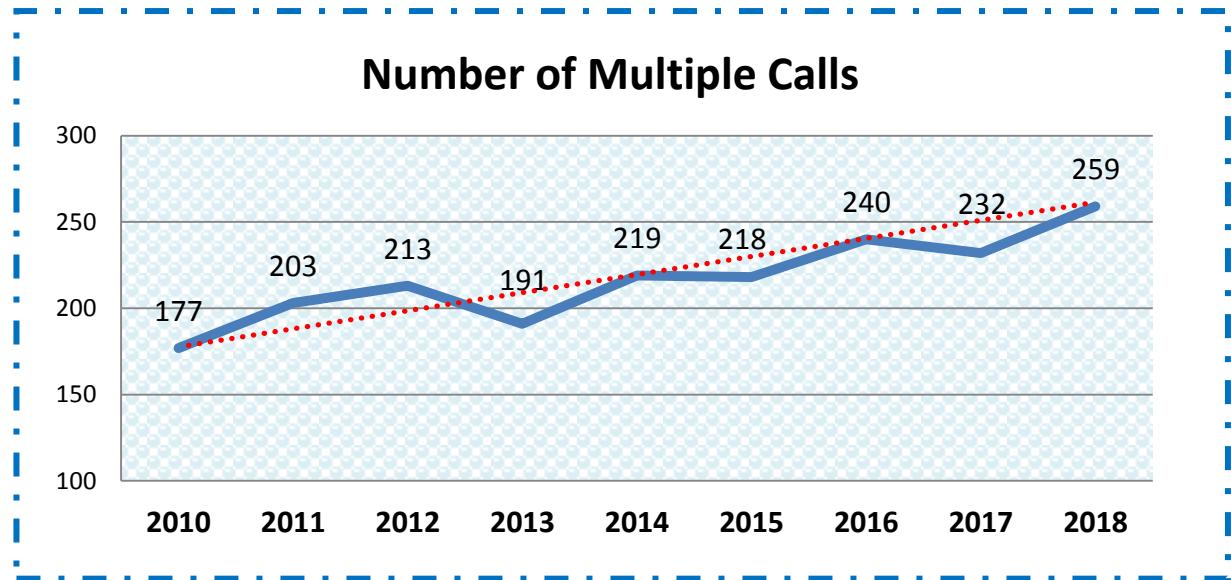
# Operations - emergency response statistics



## Requests for Emergency Service FY10 – FY 18



In FY 18, we received 2,281 requests for emergency service. This was a 4.25% (+93 incidents) increase from the previous fiscal year. For 7 of the last 8 years, the average increase was 3.75% per year (about 84 calls increase per year).



In FY 18, we had 259 occasions where we experienced simultaneous calls for emergency service (both fire stations out on one or separate emergency responses). FY 18 multiple call events were up (+27) from the previous fiscal year. A general upward trend in these events continues. Multiple call events necessitate the recall of off duty career and POC members to staff the fire stations and reserve equipment to meet any additional emergency call needs.

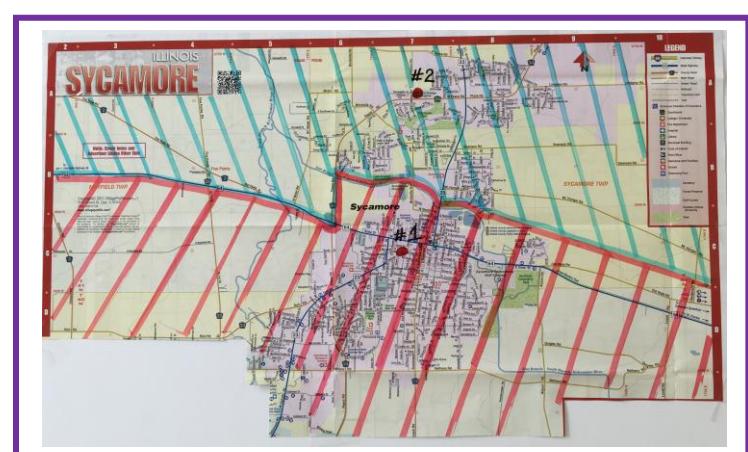
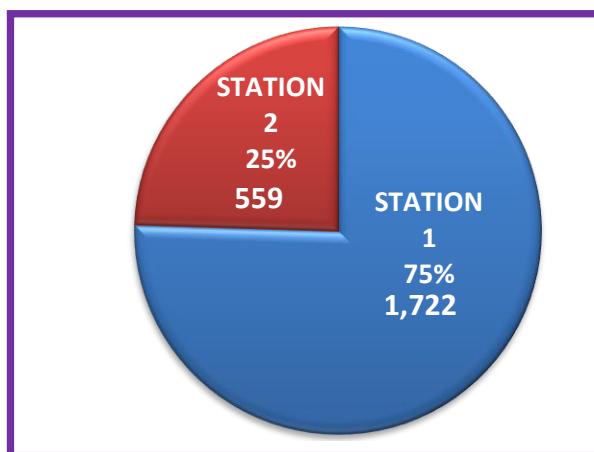
## Emergency response by Fire Station location

The boundary between Station #1 and #2 runs east and west. Station #2's response area is the north half of the city, while Station #1's response area is the south half. Geographically speaking – the dividing line from the west to the east - all land north of and including Route 64, including the intersection of Route 64 and Peace Road, Peace Road north of Route 64 to the south branch of the Kishwaukee River. The Kishwaukee River east to a point north of the Stone Prairie subdivision and then the line moving east to County Line Road south of Mt. Hunger Road.

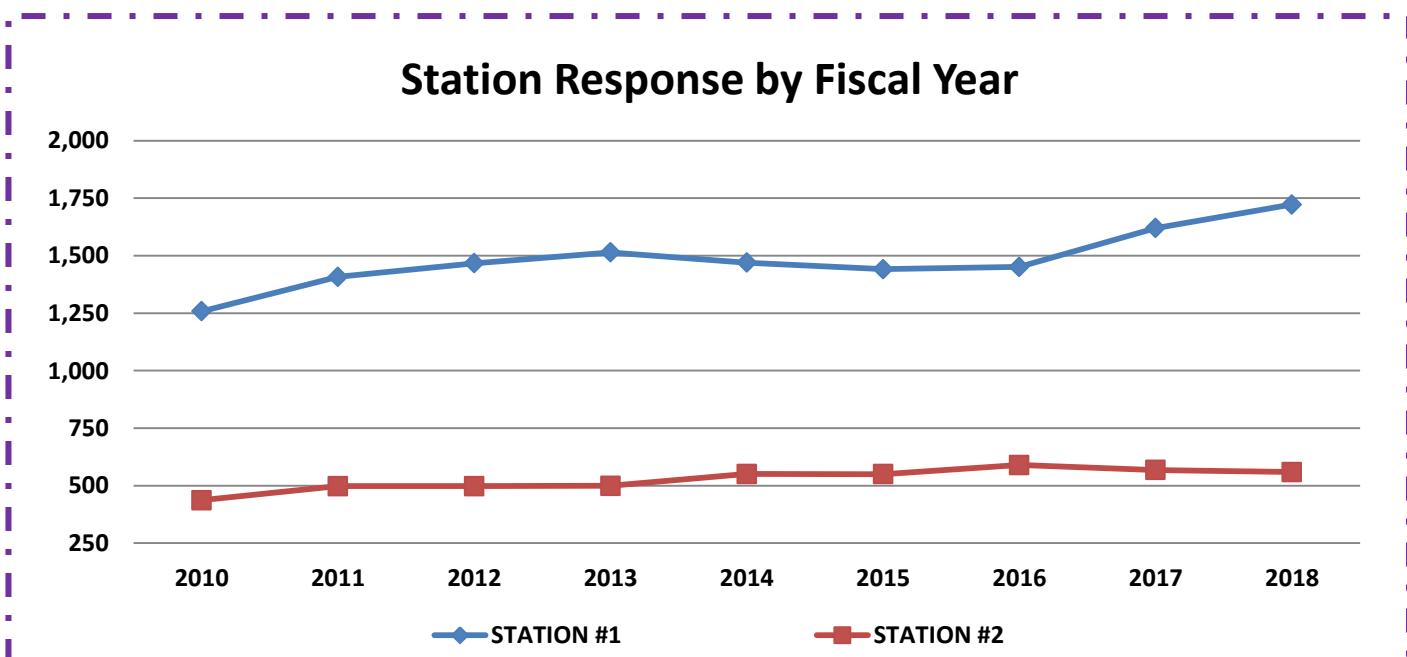
Seventy-four percent of our initial responses were from Station #1, with a call volume of 1,722. This station response area is the most populated, and this station is dispatched for Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid fire calls.

Station #2 received 559 calls dispatched as the initial response station. This number does not reflect all incident responses from this station, only the calls originally dispatched to this station.

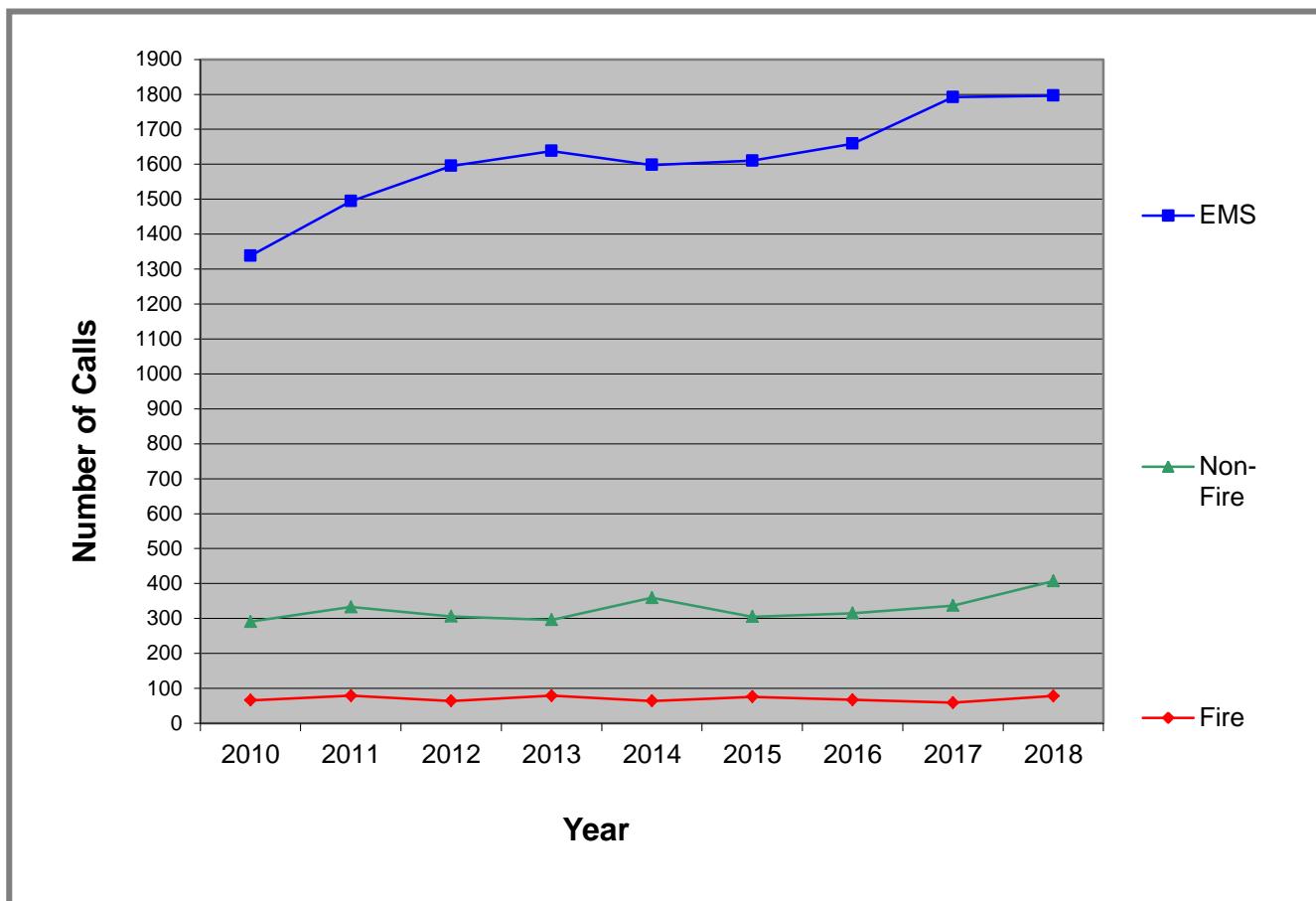
## Emergency responses by Fire Station district FY 18



## Emergency responses by Fire Station history FY 10-18



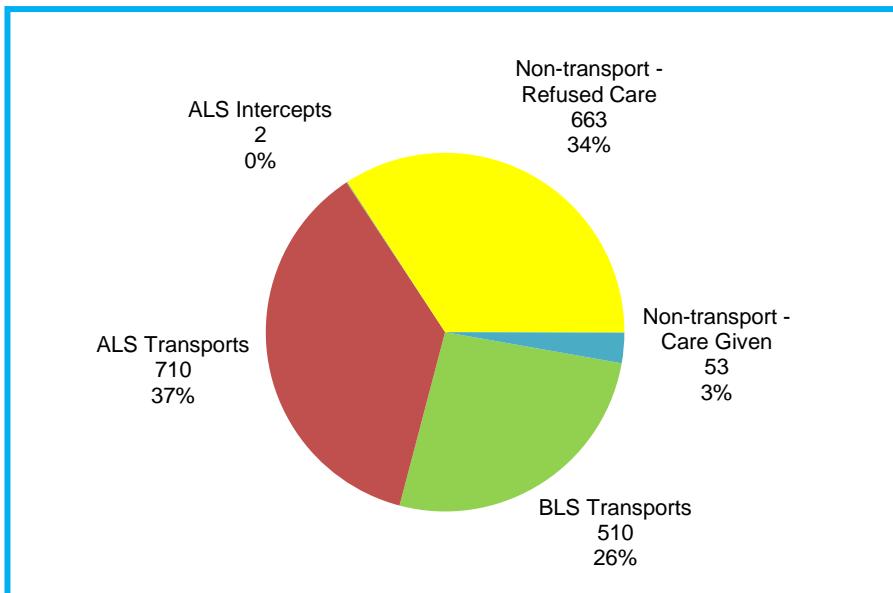
## Emergency Medical/ Non-fire/Fire response history FY 10-18



YEAR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
EMS	1338	1494	1595	1638	1598	1610	1659	1792	1796
Non-fire	291	333	306	296	359	305	315	337	407
Fire	66	79	64	79	64	76	67	59	78
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1695</b>	<b>1906</b>	<b>1965</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>1991</b>	<b>2041</b>	<b>2188</b>	<b>2281</b>

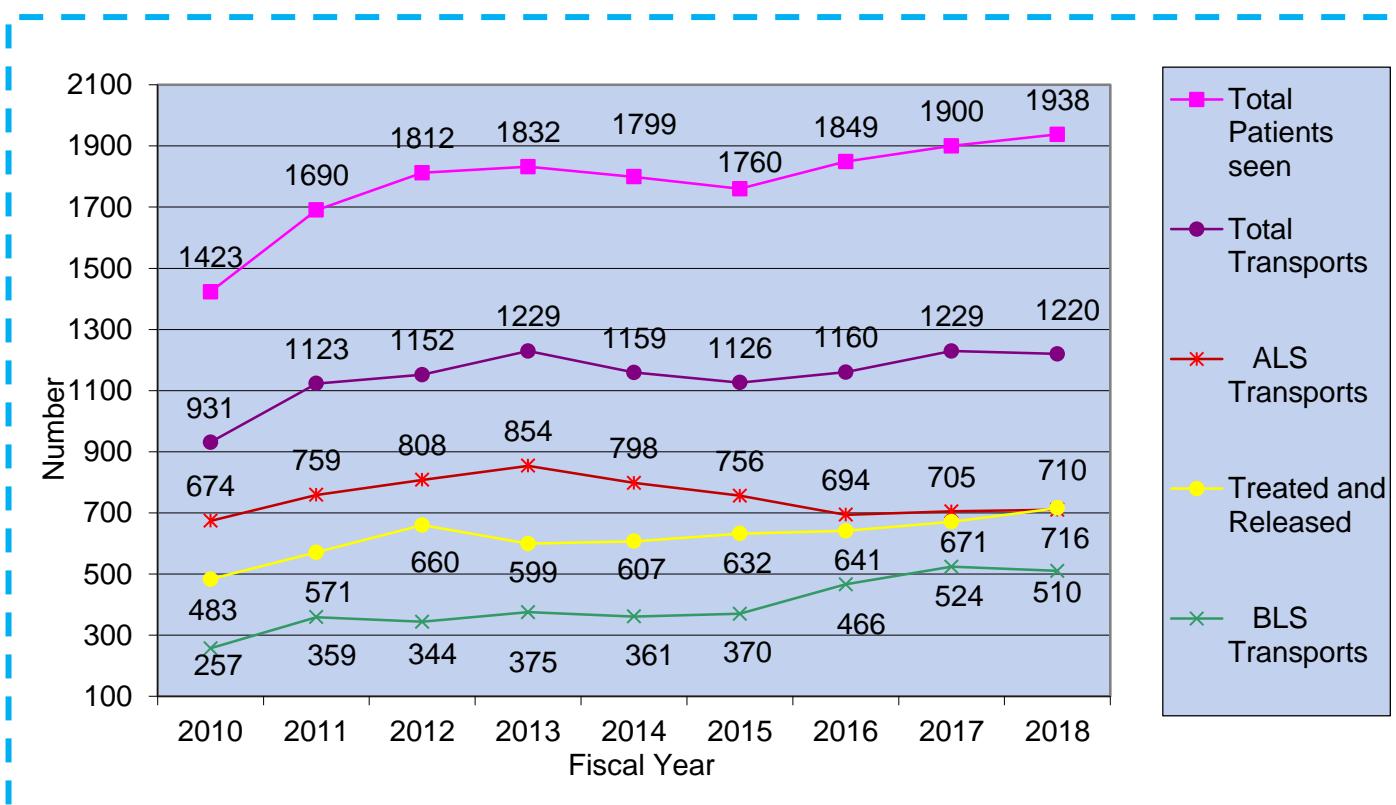
Since FY10, we have seen an average increase of over 70 incidents per year in EMS, fire, and non-fire calls.

## Emergency Medical Services activity FY 18



In FY 18, emergency medical requests increased slightly (+4) from the previous fiscal year. We responded to 1,796 emergency medical service requests, encountered 1,938 patients, and transported 1,220 patients to the hospital.

## Emergency Medical Services activity FY 10-18



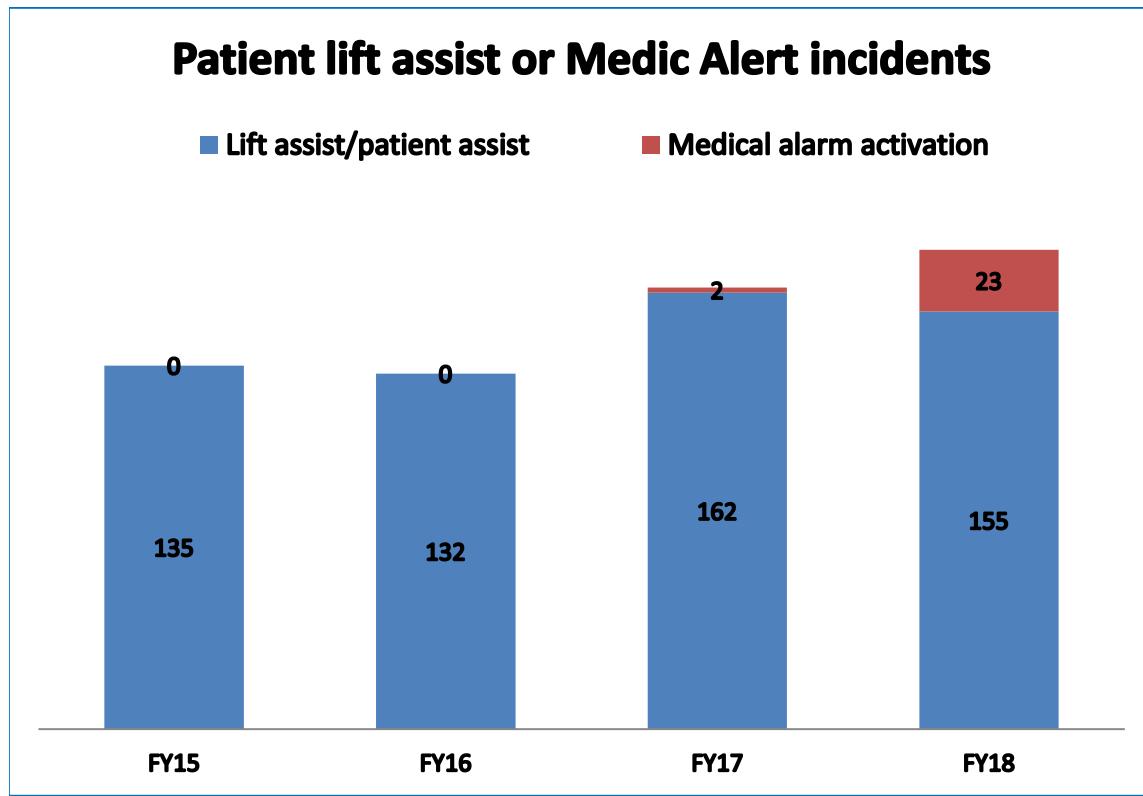
Emergency medical activity continues on an upward trend. In FY 18 the Fire Department experienced a slight increase in emergency medical responses (+4) with an additional 38 patients seen and transported 9 fewer patients to the hospital from the previous year.

## Emergency Medical Services – lift assists/medical alarms

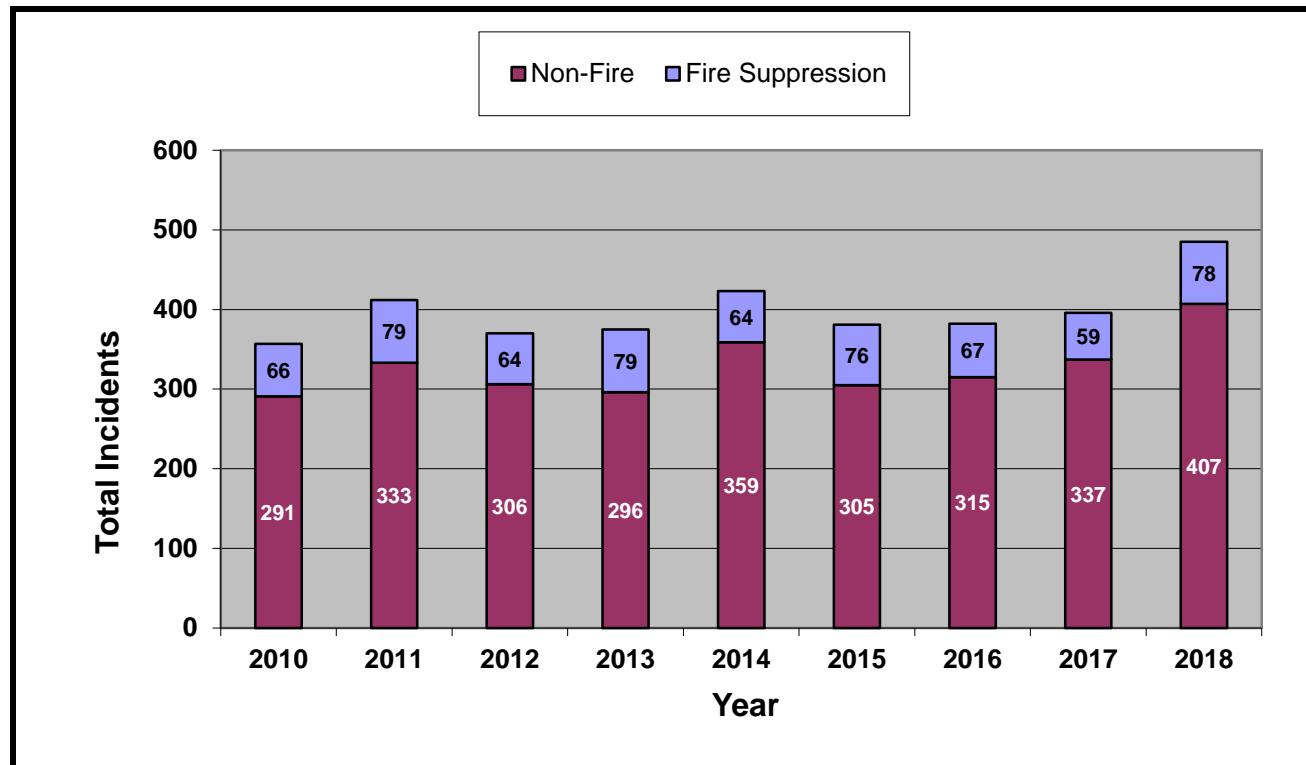
This relatively new category of request for service began approximately ten years ago and has been growing exponentially ever since. This expanding category of non-emergency service request has the potential to negatively impact our ability to deliver emergency services. What began approximately ten years ago as an infrequent request to assist a citizen back into a chair or bed because the spouse or family member could not physically help has evolved into frequent lift assist requests to medical alarm activations and more recently, citizen medical assist requests (a request to assist a citizen to/from an automobile into/out of the home for a medical visit/procedure).

We started to track these types of requests for service over the past four fiscal years and have seen a steady increase in this relatively new area of citizen assist responses (patient lift assist, medical alarm activations, and citizen medical assist requests). In FY18, we had 178 responses for patient assist, patient lift assist, or medical alarms. This is an increase of 8.5% (+14 responses) from the previous fiscal year. We are watching this phenomenon very closely as we believe that it is tied to our senior population (specifically baby boomer generation) who are both living longer (some with some continuing health issues) and living at home much longer than in the past. Many members of this targeted population group do not have a support system of family, friends, or neighbors and thus have come to rely upon the Fire Department for some basic assistance.

Unless there are significant changes in the healthcare delivery system, we anticipate that these types of alarms may steadily increase based upon the size of the targeted resident population that continue to live at home with a limited support system. We are carefully monitoring the demand for this type of service and are looking for efficient ways to meet the service demand.



## Fire and Non-fire Incidents FY10-18



Fire and non-fire activity has increased slightly after remaining relatively flat for the past six fiscal years. In FY 18, both fire (19) and non-fire (+70) responses significantly increased.

## Fire and Non-fire Incidents FY 18

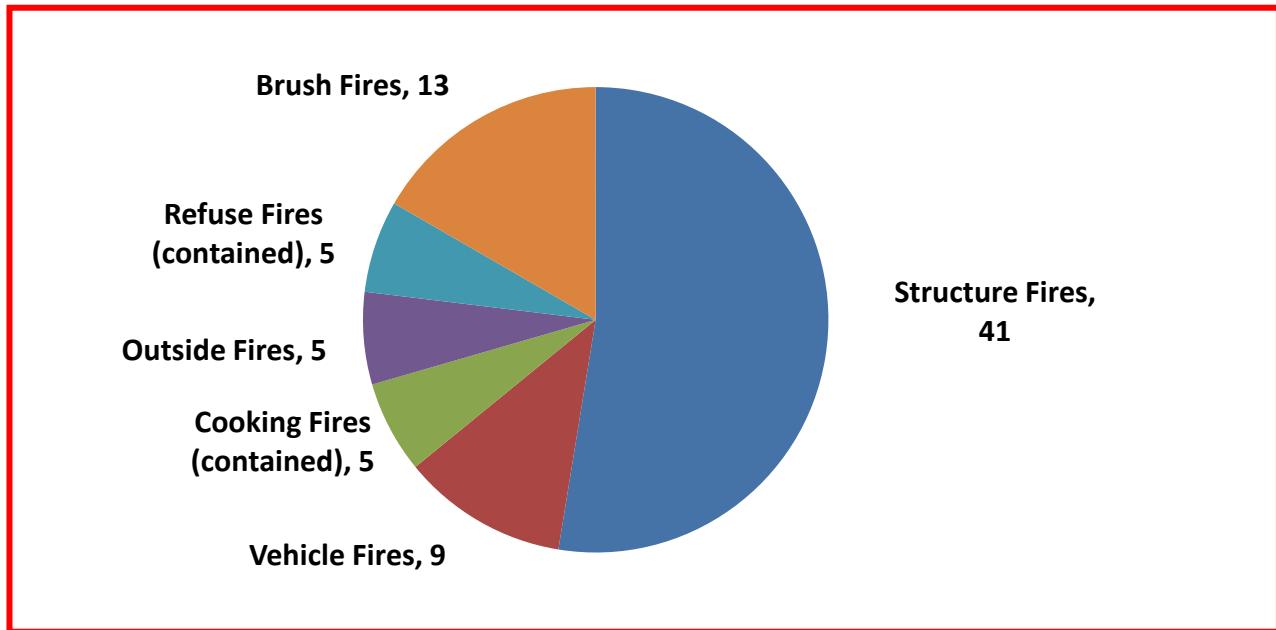
### Fire Suppression Responses 78

Structure Fire	41
Vehicle / Motor home	9
Cooking (confined to container)	5
Outside (rubbish & equipment)	5
Refuse (dumpster, trash contained)	5
Brush Fire	13
Chimney	0

### Non-fire Responses 407

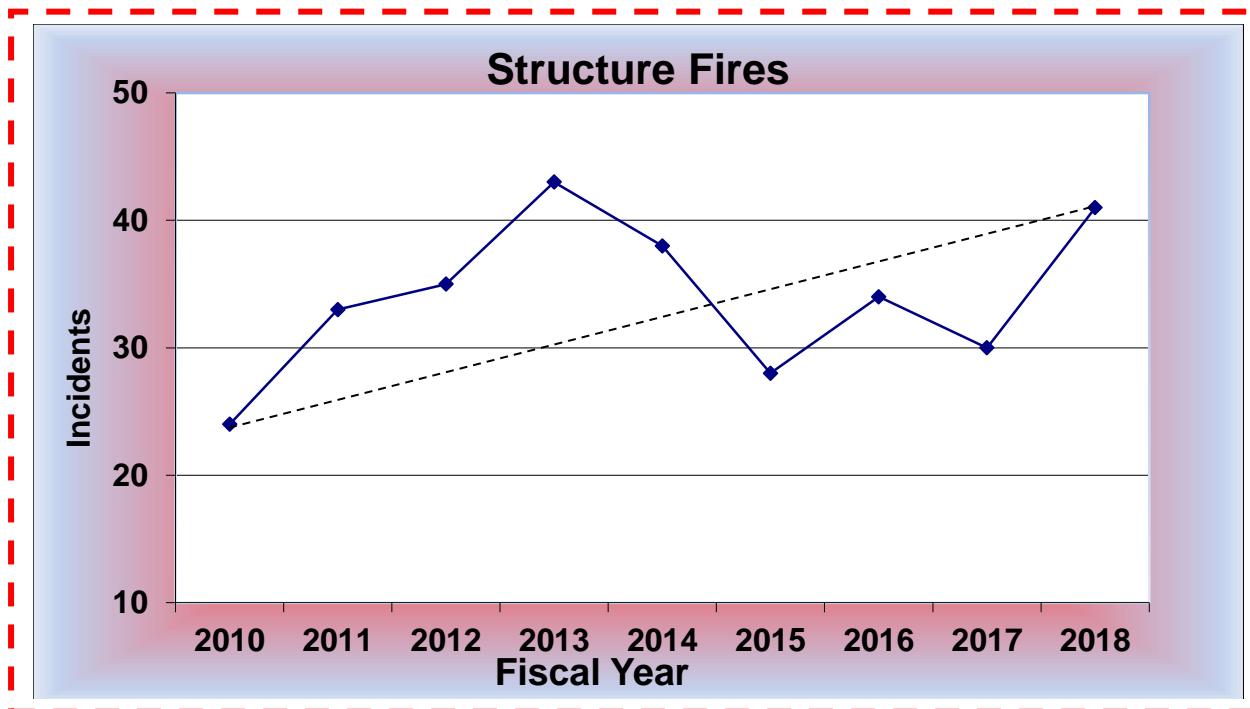
False / Malicious Alarms	199
Good Intent	97
Burning Complaints	11
Hazardous Conditions	81
Service Calls	19

## Fire suppression responses FY 18



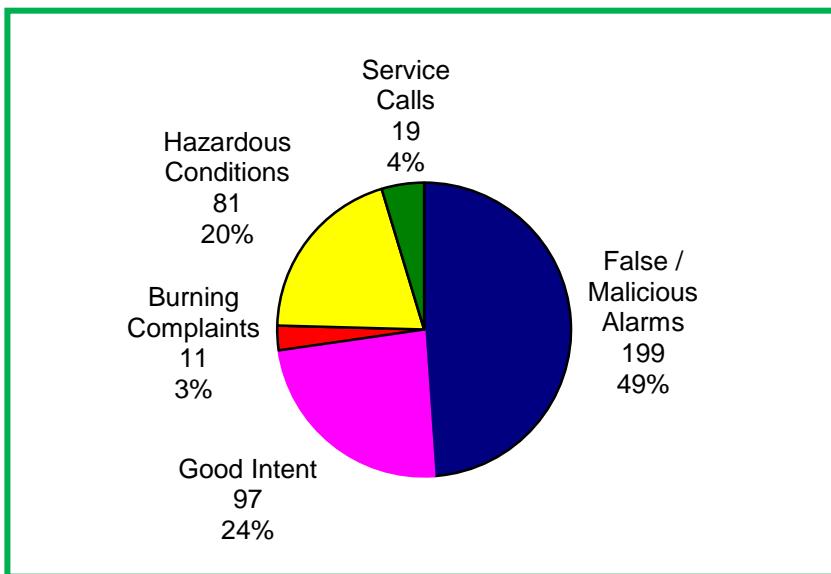
In FY 18, structure, vehicle, refuse, and brush fire responses increased (+24), while cooking fires, outside fires, and chimney fire responses decreased (-5).

## Fire suppression responses FY 10-18



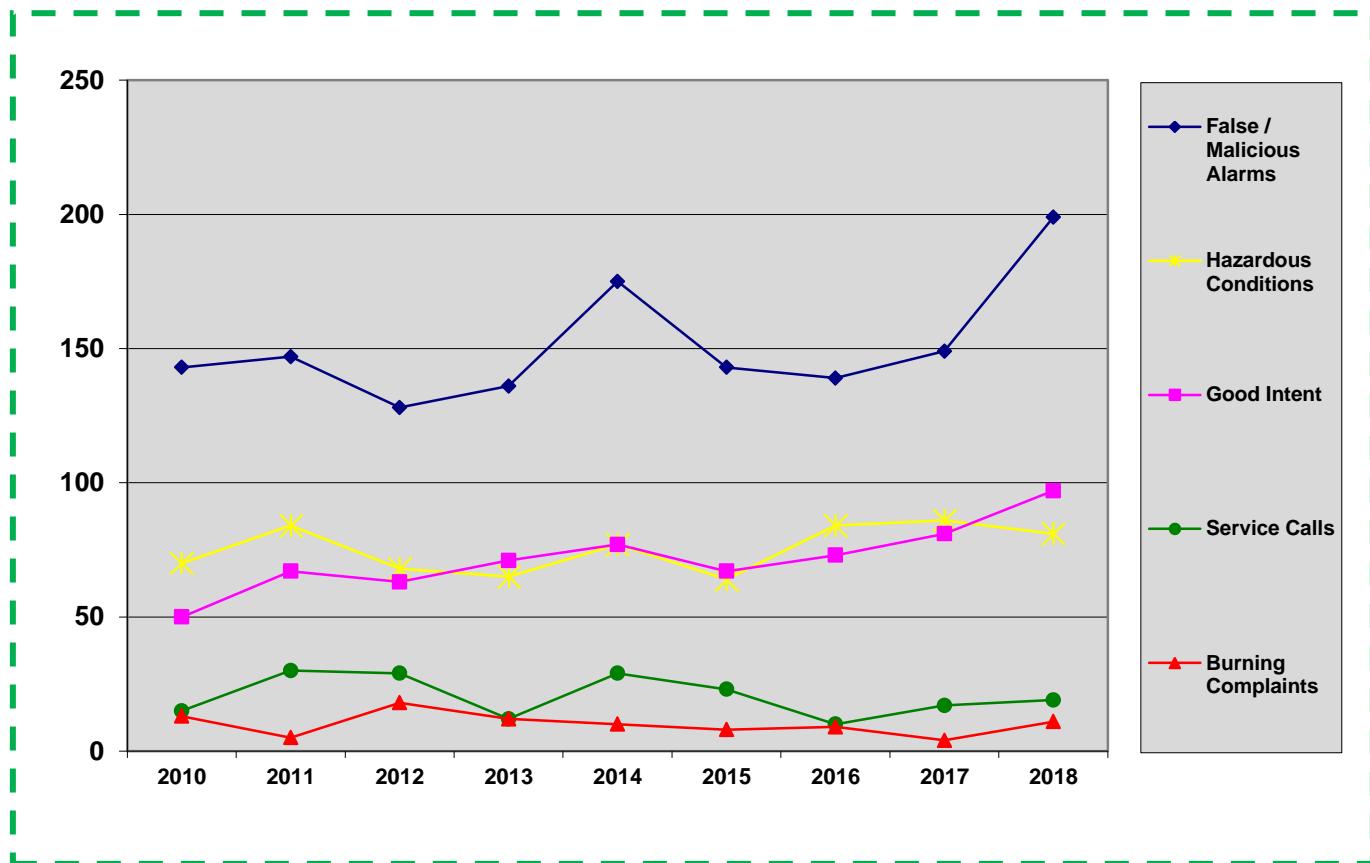
In FY 18, structure fire suppression responses experienced a significant increase (+11). The last 3 or 4 years have shown a tendency to go against a nationwide trend of the reduction in structure fires.

## Non - fire responses FY 18



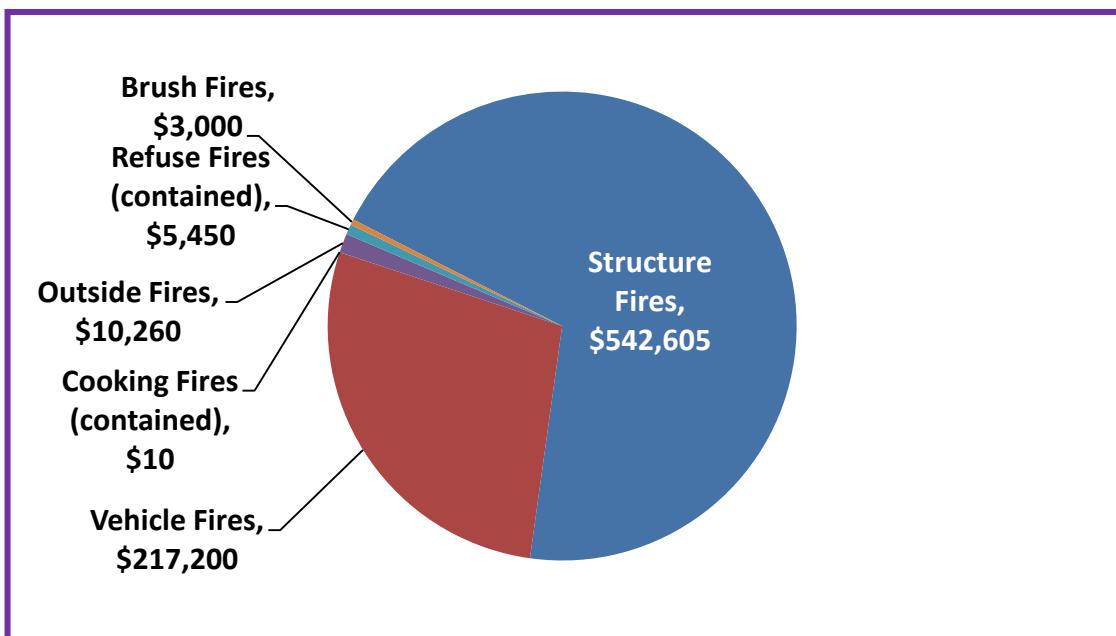
In FY 18, all categories - false/malicious alarms, good intent, burning complaints, hazardous conditions, and service calls increased significantly (+70).

## Non - fire responses FY 10-18



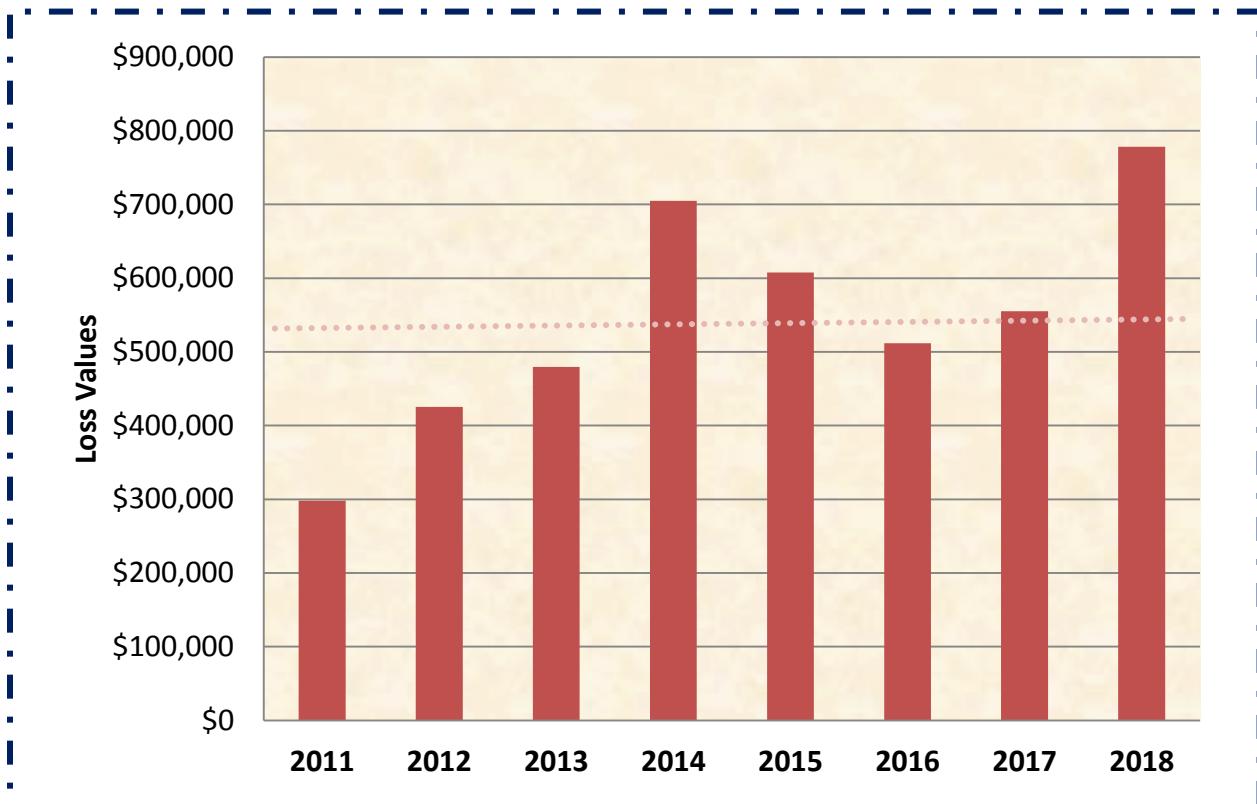
In FY 18, all five non-fire categories increased by a total of 70 responses from the previous fiscal year. Prior to FY 18, for the previous three fiscal years, the non-fire response activity level had remained fairly flat.

## Fire loss FY 18



In FY 18, we had dollar loss of \$778,525 attributed to 78 of the 78 reported fires

## Fire loss history FY11 – FY 18



In FY 18, the annual fire loss was \$778,525 which was significantly higher than the FY17 (\$554,960). The average fire loss for the last 8 fiscal years is \$545,077.

# Special activities/events



## Special activities/events

### **September 11 Memorial Service**

This past year marked the fifteenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. On September 11, 2017, the Sycamore Fire Department coordinated a short program at Johnson's Junction flag pole. The small gathering included many active and retired members of the Sycamore Fire Department, members of the Sycamore Police Department, members of the Cortland Fire Department, and citizens from the community.

### **Firefighter's Honor Guard**

The Sycamore Firefighter's Local 3046 Honor Guard is a dedicated group of firefighters that volunteer to help to provide dignified and honorable funeral and memorial services to active and retired firefighters and their families. During FY 18, Sycamore Firefighter's Honor Guard members and Fire Department personnel participated in a number of area fire service funerals.

### **Foreign Fire Insurance Fund**

The Foreign Fire Insurance Fund is set by state law for the benefit and maintenance of all members of the Fire Department. The Sycamore Foreign Fire Insurance Board (commonly known as the 2% Fund) administers tax proceeds collected from insurance companies doing business within the State of Illinois, but physically located outside the State of Illinois. The Sycamore Foreign Fire Board is comprised of seven members who represent the Fire Department membership. The Board administers approximately \$35,000 per year. Listed below is a highlight of some of the larger purchases made in FY 18:

- Shared the cost with city budget for the purchase of Fire Prevention education materials
- Purchased replacement WIFI router for Fire Station #2
- Purchased workout room equipment for both fire stations
- Continued to fund the cost of a subscription service for text, voice and app emergency dispatch notification system (eDispatches/I am Responding) for all employees
- Funded firefighting equipment purchase for individual firefighters

### **Kishwaukee Education Consortium (KEC) Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-B) program**

The Sycamore Fire Department actively participates with the Kishwaukee Education Consortium (KEC) Emergency Medical Technician program. The KEC Fire Science program is a vocational training program for High School students interested in the Emergency Medical/Fire Service as a possible career. The Sycamore Fire Department provides classroom use during the school year, provides access to EMS training equipment, and allows the student access to the ambulance vehicles. FF/Paramedic Scott Flatter serves as the Sycamore Program Coordinator and the following Sycamore Fire personnel serve as instructors:

- Lt. Tal Hickey
- Lt. Jim Ward
- Firefighter/Paramedic Bill Reynolds
- Firefighter/Paramedic Nick Young
- Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Saxton
- Firefighter/Paramedic Nick Perez
- POC Firefighter/Paramedic Connor Hickey

### **Sycamore Firefighter's Pension Fund**

The Sycamore Firefighter's Pension Fund Board oversees and manages all of the assets contributed by the firefighter employees and the City of Sycamore. This Fund covers the sworn active and retired career personnel of the Fire Department. The Firefighter's Pension Fund Board consists of five members: President Eric Walker, Secretary John Pink, Trustee Marc Doty, Trustee Paul Newman, and Trustee Peter Polarek.

### **Sycamore Fire Preservation Company**

The Sycamore Fire Preservation Company was established in 2001 for the purpose of preserving the history of the Sycamore Fire Department. The Preservation Company is made up of active and retired Sycamore firefighters. The Preservation Company's primary mission was to procure and preserve a retired Sycamore Fire Department 1923 Stutz fire engine. Retired Fire Chief Gene Ege continues the lead a group of active and retired Sycamore firefighters in the effort to raise funds to preserve the fire engine.

In FY 18, the committee held a number of fund raisers to support the restoration of the Stutz fire engine. Fundraisers included:

- Supported the Dynamometer testing booth at DeKalb - Sycamore Chevrolet as part of their annual Car Show
- Pancake breakfast for the public at Fire Station #1
- Selling "Restore the Stutz" t-shirts and ball caps

With much of the Stutz preservation work complete, the Sycamore Fire Preservation Company Committee has focused on the next goal; to raise funds for a display home and for restoration work on the hand cart. The Committee has been working with the Sycamore History Museum to secure space to display the Stutz fire engine and other Sycamore fire service memorabilia.

### **Community activities - Operation Prom**

Fire Department personnel participated in a mock motor vehicle accident event held at Sycamore High School on May 11, 2017. This event is intended to create awareness on the dangers of driving while intoxicated. Students are exposed to a mock motor vehicle accident scene caused by a high school aged intoxicated driver. Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Thompson coordinated the Fire Department "response" to the mock incident. On and off duty personnel staffed a responding fire engine, ambulance, and command vehicle along with mutual aid ambulances, demonstrated the extrication of patients from severely damaged vehicles and "transport" of the injured to the hospital.

### **Community activities - Sycamore High School Home Coming Powder Puff Football game**

As part of the Sycamore High School Homecoming celebration on October 5, 2017, Sycamore Firefighter's Local 3046 members (Lt. Tal Hickey, Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Thompson, Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Saxton, and POC Firefighter/Paramedic Connor Hickey) coached the senior girls for a football game versus the Police Department coached junior girls. Unfortunately, the Fire Department senior girls were handily defeated by the Police Department junior girls 52-6.

### **Community activities - Hot dog lunch for elementary school children**

On one of the last school days of the year, Sycamore Firefighter's Local 3046 members traditionally sponsor and deliver a hot dog lunch for one or more Sycamore elementary

schools. On May 22, 2017, Sycamore Firefighters (and IAFF 3046 members) served over 300 children and teachers at South Prairie Elementary School.

### **Community activities – Local #3046 College Scholarships awarded**

Four Sycamore High School graduates were awarded \$500 each to put toward their college costs.

### **Community activities - Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)**

Each year, Sycamore Firefighter's Local 3046 members participate in a number of fund raising activities that benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). In the last year, Local 3046 members performed the following:

- For two days, Firefighters stood at intersections in Sycamore collecting money for "Fill the Boot" campaign
- Collected money with "Fill the Boot" at Culvers Restaurant, with Culvers donating up to 25% of the days proceeds to MDA

As a result of these efforts, Sycamore Firefighter's Local 3046 members collected \$3,400 for MDA.

### **Community activities - Meals on Wheels**

During the entire month of November, 2017, a number of Sycamore Fire personnel volunteered to deliver the Voluntary Action Center (VAC) Meals on Wheels to Sycamore residents.

### **Community activities - Family Service Agency support**

In March 2018, two teams of Sycamore Firefighter's Local 3046 members participated in Bowl for Kid's Sake fund raiser which netted \$1,000. At Christmas time, Local 3046 members donated complete turkey dinners to 30 local families.

### **Community activities - escorts to returning military veterans and DeKalb County Marines "Toys for Tots" campaign**

When the occasions arise, the Fire Department participates in the escort of returning military veterans to their home in the Sycamore area. The Patriot Guard Riders and Warrior Watch Riders organize a number of Welcome Home Veteran events with the returning veteran escorted by a Sycamore fire engine along with a Fire Department staff vehicle. Each fall, the Fire Department participate in the motorcade which kicks off the annual DeKalb County Marines "Toys for Tots" campaign.

### **Community activities - honor our senior military veterans**

On July 15, 2017, the Fire Department continues the annual tradition of participation in a motorcade that travels though DeKalb and Sycamore with the motorcade making stops at nine retirement centers and/or assisted living facilities to honor our senior military veterans. The group usually honors about 100 veterans.

### **Community activities - honor our Vietnam Veterans with the Moving Wall**

On July 12, 2017, the Fire Department participated in a motorcade escort that helped to deliver the Moving Wall from Yorkville, IL to Sycamore Park. In addition, a Sycamore ambulance was stationed near the Moving Wall site during peak visitor hours from July 12-16. Local #3046 volunteered to maintain and fuel the two-gasoline powered generator/light towers running overnight for three nights.

### **Community activities - support of Opportunity House**

Sycamore Firefighters Local #3046 sponsored a team and participated in a volleyball game that benefitted Special Olympics.

**Community activities - support of youth baseball**

Sycamore Firefighters Local #3046 continues to sponsor both a youth baseball and youth softball teams.

**Community activities – Santa walk**

On December 1, 2017, Fire Engine # 1 transported Santa, Mrs. Claus, and Santa's Elf to downtown Sycamore for the Santa Walk where they were met by a throng of children, families, and friends.

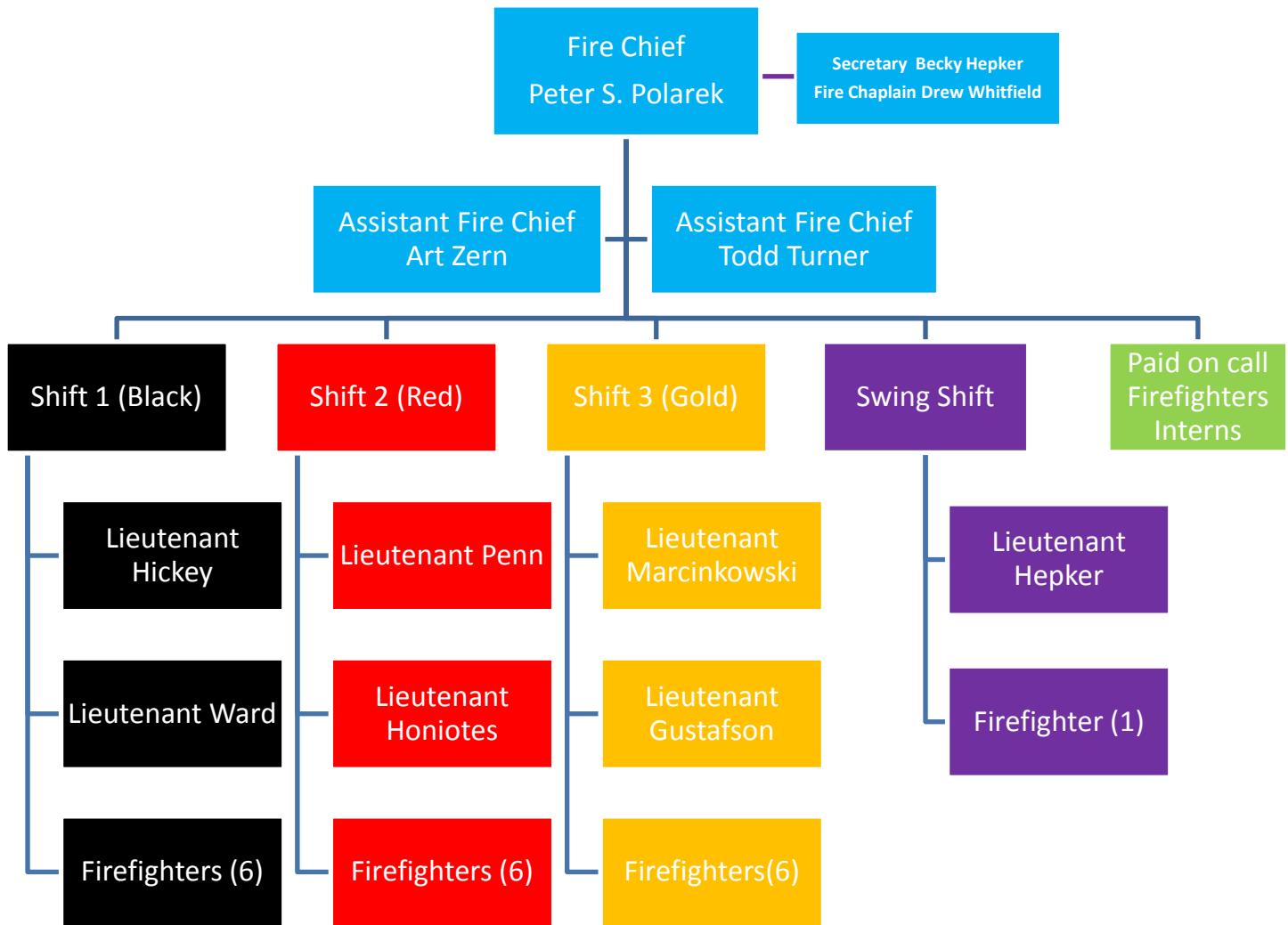
**Community activities – Support Pink Heals visit to local home**

On July 28, 2017, the Fire Department helped support the Sauk Valley Chapter Pink Heals Fire Engine visit to a local girl fighting cancer. Sycamore fire personnel along with fire apparatus escorted the Pink Fire Engine to the residence where they were greeted by a large group of family and friends.

**Community activities – Cancer Awareness and Pink Heals**

On October 28, 2017, the Fire Department helped to promote Cancer Awareness during Breast Cancer Awareness Month at the HyVee Food Store along with the Sauk Valley Chapter Pink Heals Fire Engine.

# Fire Department Organizational chart



## Sycamore Fire Department personnel roster as of April 30, 2018

<b>Administration</b>		
Fire Chief	P	Peter S. Polarek
Asst Fire Chief	B	Art Zern
Asst Fire Chief	P	Todd Turner
Secretary		Becky Hepker
POC Lieutenant		Gene Listy
Chaplain		J. Drew Whitfield
<b>Shift 1 (Black)</b>		
Lieutenant	B	Tal Hickey
Lieutenant	P	Jim Ward
Firefighter	P	Brad Belanger
Firefighter	P	Scott Flatter
Firefighter	P	John Pink
Firefighter	P	Eric Walker
Firefighter	P	Nick Young
Firefighter	P	David VanDusen
POC Firefighter	P	Jacob Turner
Firefighter/Intern	B	Mike Mathey
<b>Shift 2 (Red)</b>		
Lieutenant	P	D. Shaun Penn
Lieutenant	P	Adam Honiotes
Firefighter	P	Bill Reynolds
Firefighter	P	Pat Dulzo
Firefighter	P	Dustin Ruby
Firefighter	P	Ian Wheeler
Firefighter	P	Mike Hardesty
Firefighter	P	Matt Anderson
POC Firefighter	P	Tylor Lampkins
Firefighter/Intern	B	Logan Wright
<b>Shift 3 (Gold)</b>		
Lieutenant	P	Dan Marcinckowski
Lieutenant	P	Ryan Gustafson
Firefighter	P	Bob Maciejewski
Firefighter	P	Brian Thompson
Firefighter	P	Erik Carlson
Firefighter	P	Eric Saxton
Firefighter	P	Nick Perez
Firefighter	P	Christian Conlon
POC Firefighter	P	Connor Hickey
<b>Swing shift</b>		
Lieutenant	P	Darrin Hepker
Firefighter	P	Andy Powers

