

COMSTOCK TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & RESCUE



2022 Annual Report

Presented By:

Matt Beauchamp
Fire Chief

Prepared By: Kerrie Douglas

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COMSTOCK

MATT BEAUCHAMP
Fire Chief

KEVIN THOMPSON
Assistant Chief

Department of Fire & Rescue

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MIKE DYER
Deputy Chief

MICHAEL KESSLER
Fire Marshal

March 2023

Comstock Fire & Rescue recorded 2,126 incident responses for 2022 which was about the same as the previous year. Our department continued to adapt to the challenges of a high number of calls for service with reduced available part time staff.

We strive to serve the residents of Comstock Township and our neighbors in Kalamazoo County with a combination of full-time and part-time personnel that staff our three fire stations, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, year-round. We have two personnel on duty at each station around the clock and this is accomplished by a combination of full-time and part-time personnel. The department has a top-notch staff that works hard to provide the highest level of training, community risk reduction, fire prevention/public education and vehicle/equipment maintenance to ensure we can manage calls for service. We are truly a service-oriented department that is exploring ways to be a true community partner.

Last year was the 5-year anniversary of losing Chief Ed Switalski on the horrific motor vehicle crash on I-94, June 14, 2017. In honor of this, we were able to put in service a new traffic attenuator (impact) trailer with directional sign board. We used an old pumper as the tow vehicle to pull the trailer. The unit is outfitted with many traffic safety items that are not only for use in our township, but with our neighboring departments as well. This has increased safety for our personnel and the motoring public.

Due to the diversified call types, we see in and around our township, our personnel stay current by meeting or exceeding fire department related training for fire, hazardous materials, rescue, and emergency medical services. The department was able to fine tune the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that was once again adopted with the overall township CIP. As our fleet is in the works to being modernized, our sights are now on finalizing plans for a proposed replacement Fire Station 9-3. We continue to analyze the needs of the community and work hard to balance these needs with fiscal responsibility. The department continues to be aggressive with pursuing grant opportunities and was successful again in 2022 including incident safety officer training for all members and a colorized LED sign board at Station 9-2.

I want to thank the residents, business owners and the Comstock Township Board for their continued support of the fire department. The members of the Comstock Fire Department are part of this community, and we serve our neighbors with the highest level of training and care.

Respectfully submitted,

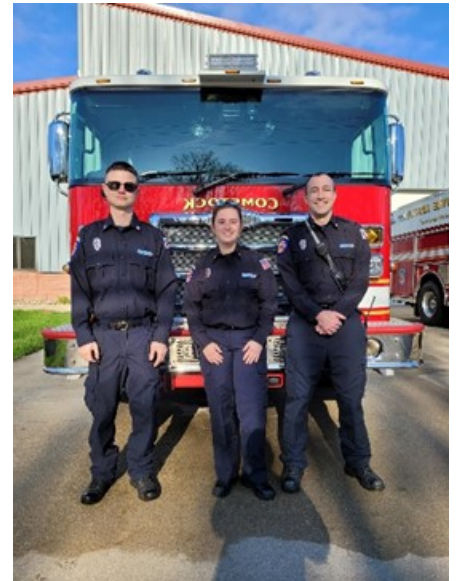
Matt Beauchamp

Matt Beauchamp
Fire Chief

“Taking Care Of Those Who Depend On Us.”

COMSTOCK FIRE & RESCUE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Comstock Fire & Rescue Department is to provide the most advanced fire & rescue service with the highest level of trained firefighters committed to deliver that service to our citizens with the utmost loyalty and compassion.



COMSTOCK FIRE & RESCUE MOTTO

Taking care of those who depend on us.



COMSTOCK FIRE & RESCUE 2022 OPERATIONS

2022 Response Information

Total Runs for 2022	2,126
Average Runs Per Day	6
Average Response Time	3:32 (minutes)
Overlapping Incidents	593
Fire Loss	\$408,926
Fre loss potential saved/pre-incident value: \$41,301,059	

2021 Response Info

2,124
6
3:41 (minutes)
400
\$582,434
\$2,507,059

Aid Given To Other Departments:

• Kalamazoo Township:	
▪ Station #2	48
▪ Station #3	83
• City of Portage	18
• Pavilion Township	28
• Kalamazoo City	8
• Galesburg / Charleston	26
• Richland Township	15
• Cooper Township	6
• South County	1
• Texas	1

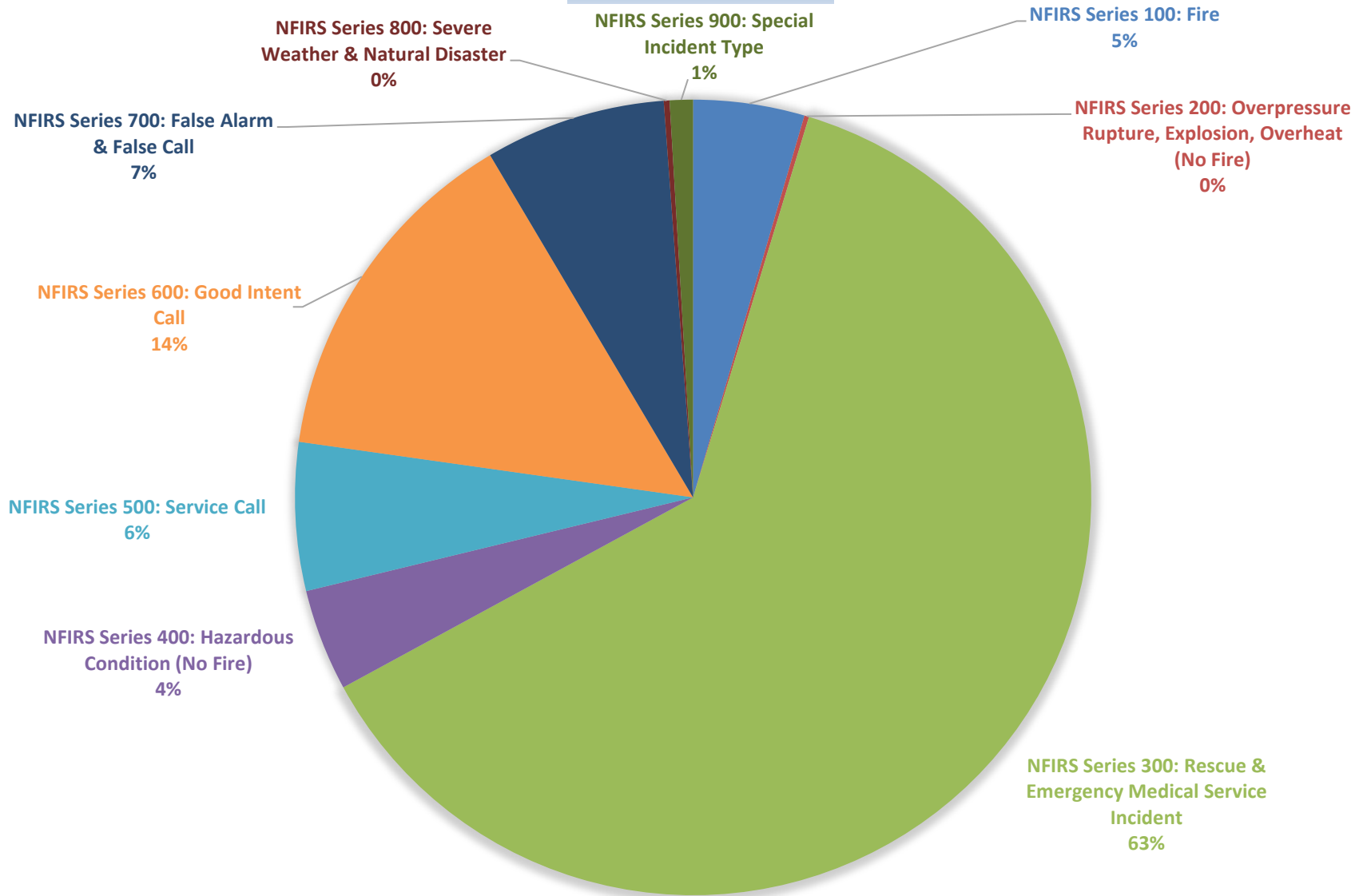
Aid Received From Other Departments:

• Kalamazoo Township	39
• City of Portage	1
• Pavilion Township	9
• Kalamazoo City	4
• Galesburg / Charleston	8
• Richland Township	3
• Cooper Township	1
• Ross/Augusta	1

OUR INCIDENTS BY CALL TYPE:

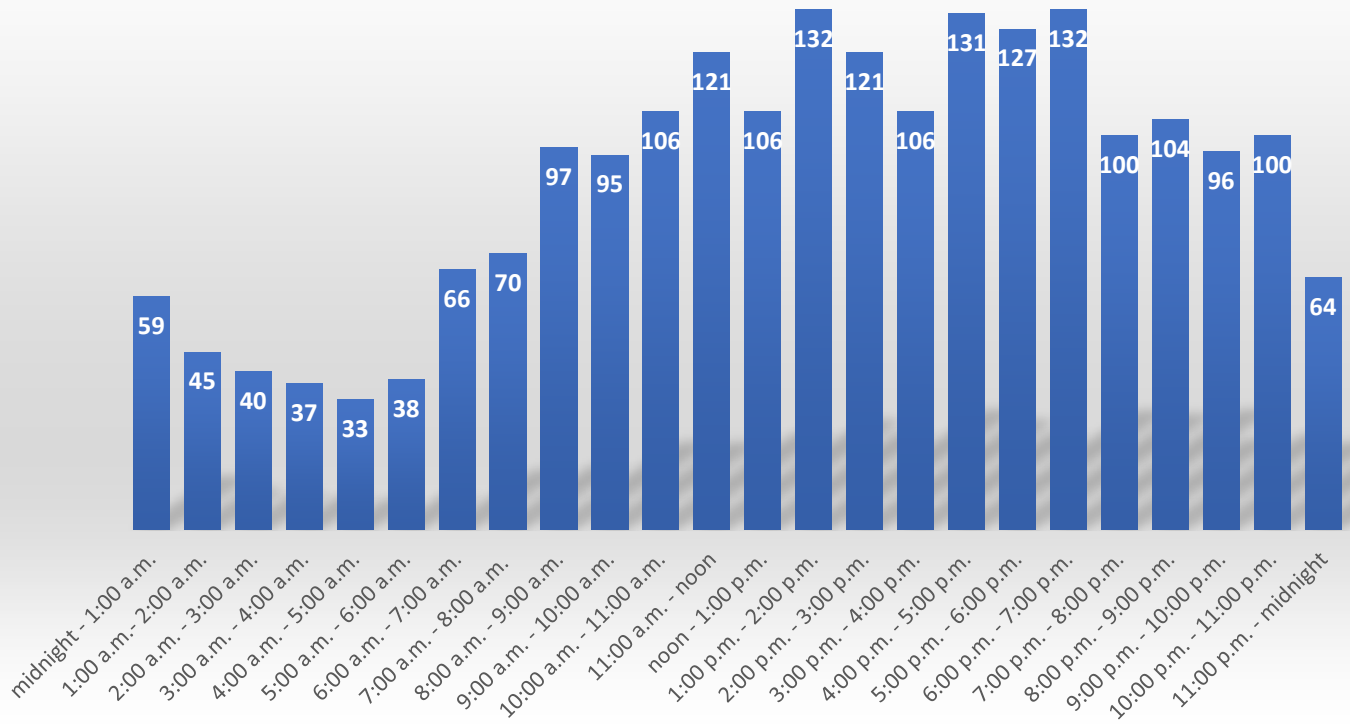
NFIRS Series 100: Fire	96
NFIRS Series 200: Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	4
NFIRS Series 300: Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	1326
NFIRS Series 400: Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	88
NFIRS Series 500: Service Call	128
NFIRS Series 600: Good Intent Call	303
NFIRS Series 700: False Alarm & False Call	156
NFIRS Series 800: Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	5
NFIRS Series 900: Special Incident Type	20
Total Calls for 2022	2126
Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, how many are "Structure Fire"	53
Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, how many are "Vehicle Fire"	15
Of the NFIRS Series 100 calls, how many are "Vegetation Fire"	12
Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, how many are "Motor Vehicle Accidents"	213
Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, how many are "Extrications from Vehicles"	1
Of the NFIRS Series 300 calls, how many are "Rescues"	22
EMS-BLS Response Calls	1088
Received Automatic/Mutual Aid	59
Provided Automatic/Mutual Aid	145
Mutual and Automatic Aid structure fire responses	63

CALL TYPE



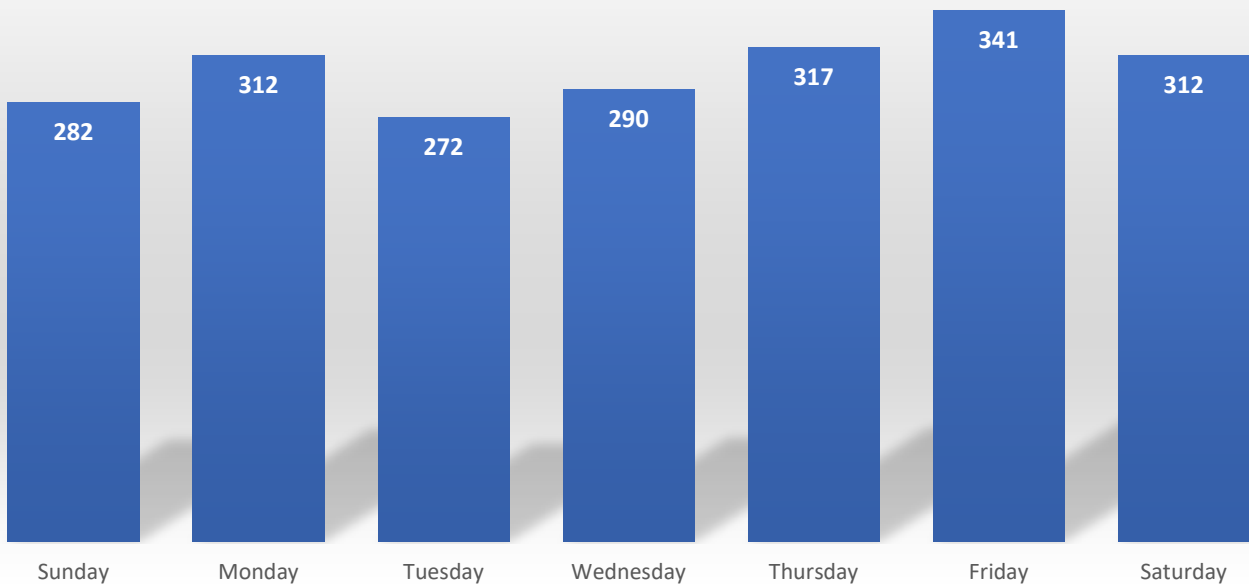
Response number by time of day

The average busiest hours of the day are 1:00 p.m - 2:00 p.m & 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Number of Responses by day of week

The busiest day of the week is Friday



Our Fire Department

Our fire department is a foundation of the community and members work hard to protect lives and property every day. Whether rivers, roads, or rails, they know the nooks and crannies of our service area from corner to corner. The members of our fire department help residents prevent emergencies and they are equipped to respond when the need arises.



15,858 Population Protected

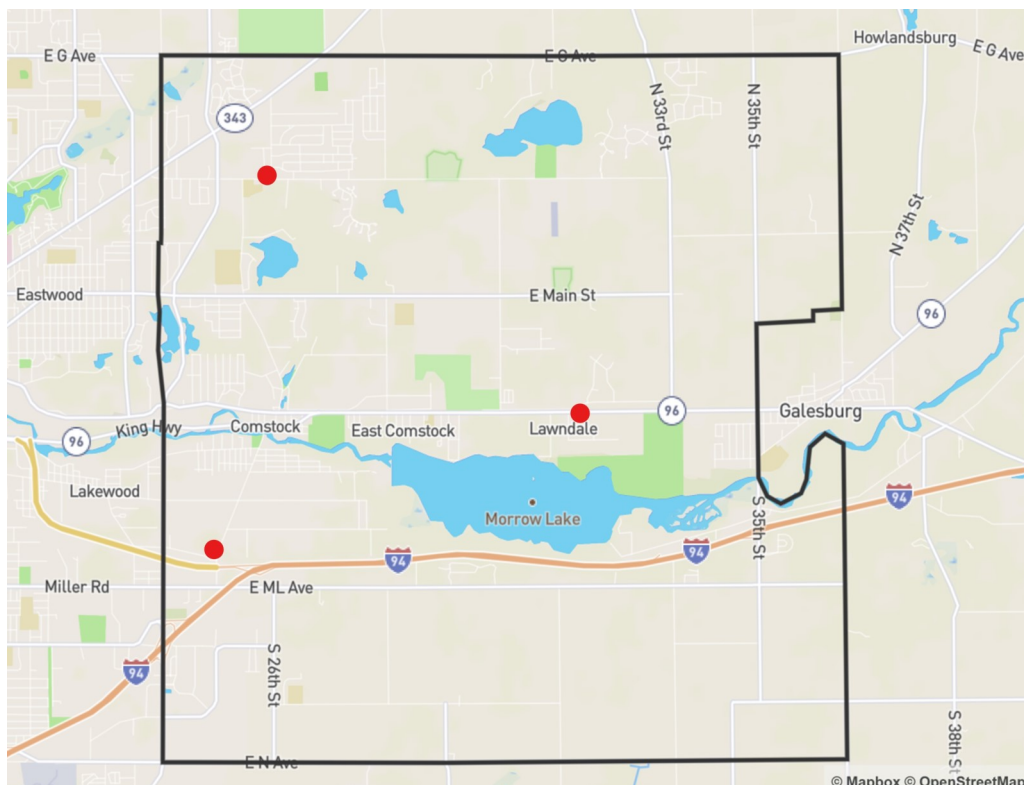


35 Square Miles



3 Stations

Area Protected

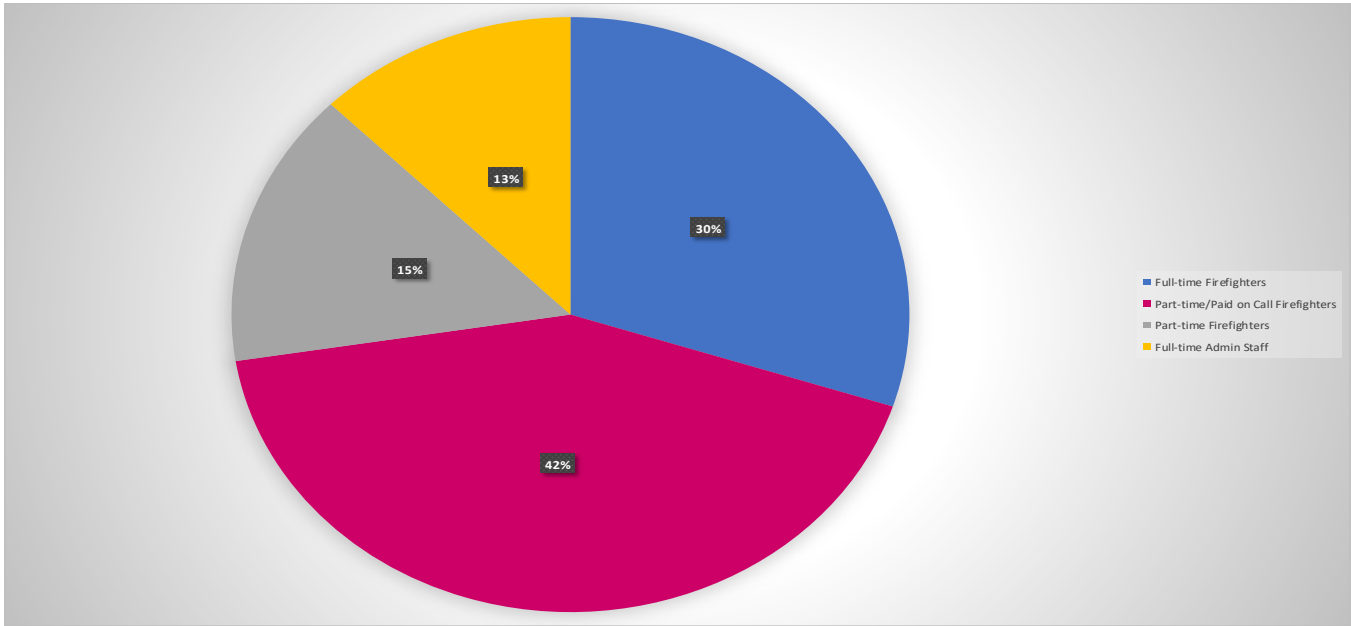


● Fire Stations
□ Comstock Charter Township County Subdivision, Kalamazoo County, MI

Firefighters

The members of our fire department are dedicated first-responders. They are experts in their craft, caretakers of the community, and trusted resources for everyone doing their part to keep homes, schools and businesses safe.

Career and Part-time/Paid-on-Call Firefighters



- 1 Full-time Fire Chief
- 1 Full-time Deputy Chief
- 1 Full-time Assistant Chief
- 1 Full-time Administrative Assistant
- 1 Full-time Fire Marshal
- 12 Full-time Firefighters
- 17 Part-time/Paid-on-Call Firefighters
- 6 Part-time Firefighters

Fire Station Information

Station 9-1

1960 River St
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
(269) 345-2113

Built in 2009, Station 9-1 is the largest of the three stations. The station features three large drive-thru apparatus bays. It is home to the pride of the fleet, a 1943 Seagrave fire engine. This station responds with 2 Engines (911 & 921), 1 Rescue vehicle (951), a Rescue Boat and MSU 3 (mobile rehab/victim support unit). The station also contains the offices of the Deputy Fire Chief, Assistant Chief and Fleet Mechanics, as well as houses a large classroom which serves as the primary training location for firefighters. In addition to serving Comstock Township, this station covers all 9-1-1 requests for service in the Lakewood (Kalamazoo Township) area as well as provides mutual aid to Pavilion Township, the City of Portage, the City of Kalamazoo and the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport.



Total Responses for 2022: 1059

Station 9-2

5947 E H Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
(269) 349-5282

Built in 2014, Station 9-2 is the newest of the three stations. The station features three drive-thru apparatus bays and two additional traditional bays. This station responds with 2 Engines (912 & 922), 1 Rescue vehicle (952), our Utility Terrain Vehicle (986) aka "Lil Pard", and our Traffic Attenuator (988) which is towed by our 1996 International (932). In addition to serving Comstock Township, this station provides mutual aid to Eastwood (Kalamazoo Township), the City of Kalamazoo, Cooper Township and Richland Township.



Total Responses for 2022: 1065

Fire Station Information

Station 9-3

8700 E Michigan Ave
Galesburg, MI 49053
(269) 381-0804

Built in 2002, Station 9-3 is the oldest of the three stations. It was constructed in order to improve response times to Comstock residents and businesses located in the eastern portions of the township. It is also the smallest of the three stations, with only two drive-thru apparatus bays. This station responds with 1 Engine (913) and 1 Rescue vehicle (953). This station also serves as the administrative office for the Comstock Township Department of Fire & Rescue. It contains the offices of the Fire Chief, the Fire Marshal and the Administrative Assistant. In addition to serving Comstock Township, this station provides mutual aid to neighboring Galesburg/Charleston Township and Augusta/Ross Township.



Total Responses for 2022: 688

Personnel:

The men and women of Comstock Fire & Rescue provide 24/7 essential fire suppression and investigation, education, rescue, and emergency medical services to over 15,000 residents and visitors, responding to nearly 2,300 requests for service on average each year. Our department consists of a full-time Fire Chief, Full-time Deputy Chief, Full-time Assistant Chief, Full-time Fire Marshal, Full-time Administrative Assistant, 12 Full-time firefighters, and 23 Part-time/Paid on Call firefighters.



COMSTOCK FIRE & RESCUE

2022 SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GRANTS (Awards):

- \$117,321.14 – AFG/FEMA grant for advanced incident command training and health & safety officers training for all members.
- \$31,002.00 – AFG grant for LED sign at Station 9-2

FIRE VEHICLES:

- Purchased two 2022 Ford F-150's. These replaced one 2018 F250 that was driven by the Deputy Chief and one 2009 Chevrolet Tahoe that was driven by the Assistant Chief. The F250 will be reassigned as a utility vehicle and the Chevy Tahoe will be sold.
- Purchased one 2022 F350 to replace the 2015 Ford Expedition Rescue vehicle (952) at Station 9-2. The Expedition will be reassigned as a utility vehicle.
- Purchased a traffic attenuator trailer with directional sign board.
- Converted old 912 (1996 International) to 932 and made modifications to tow the Traffic Attenuator trailer (988).

TRAINING/CERTIFICATIONS:

- 5,800 hours of department training including officer training.
- 3 personnel attended the Pump Operations class in Oshtemo.
- 2 personnel attended FDTN's Engine Company Operations Training in Indianapolis, IN.
- 2 personnel attended the "Water On The Fire Conference" in Pensacola, FL.
- 2 personnel attended the Hazardous Materials Technician Class in Alabama.
- 1 personnel completed the KCFA Medical First Responders course.
- 3 personnel completed Blue Card Incident Command Training (50 hours each).
- 8 personnel helped with the WMED Capstone event for 1st year medical students during their Medical First Responder course.
- All department members attended a 3 day training session for the two new 2021 Pierce Enforcer Pumpers. Training consisted of classroom training to learn the differences between our current apparatus and the new engines, and hands-on pump training. This training was provided by Halt Fire.

ADMINISTRATION:

- Hired 5 probationary firefighters.
- 2 Personnel hired on as Full-time Firefighters; replacing personnel who resigned/promoted to AC.
- FF's Cody Roberts, Devin Thomas, Riley Barnum & Darin Luchies completed probationary training.
- 2 personnel retired (DC Dave Wuis and FF/AO Roger Gregg)
- Promoted Deputy Chief Mike Dyer, Assistant Chief Kevin Thompson, Captain Michael Flick II (Station 9-1), & Lieutenant Brian Simsick (Station 9-3).

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCITON:

- Held our annual Fire Prevention Open House @ Station 9-1 on October 8th.
- Participated in the 5th annual countywide "Keep the Wreath Green" campaign.
- Over 150 Pre-Incident Surveys completed.
- 399 Fire Safety Inspections completed.
- Performed 68 car seat checks & gave away 51 car seats.
- 41 people attended CPR and First Aid classes held in the community.
- Held 2 Car Seat Events with Safe Kids of Kalamazoo County at Station 9-1.

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

January 6, 2022 – We rolled out a new technology in all of our large apparatus (engines) with HAAS Alert which will notify GPS driving applications such as Waze that they are approaching an emergency scene when lights/sirens are activated.

This advanced notification has been found to significantly reduce the risk of collisions.

January 7, 2022 – Dispatched to a two-vehicle collision with extrication on King Hwy west of River St.



January 13, 2022 - This week, two of our Lieutenants were able to travel to Florida for an Officer Development Program presented by County Fire Tactics. This lecture-based training is presented by five nationally recognized fire instructors and it is geared toward helping current fire officers become better prepared to manage the fire ground and the fire station. Training is of the utmost importance to our department but it sometimes comes with some perks! (Like training in Florida's gulf coast during Michigan's winter!). Huge thanks to the Kzoo F.O.O.L.S. for helping to provide this opportunity for our officers!



January 22, 2022 - 15 of our dedicated members attended this training. Thanks Kzoo F.O.O.L.S. for the opportunity in our area.

KZOO F.O.O.L.S. PRESENTS: 2022 KALAMAZOO WINTER SEMINAR

CHIEF SCOTT THOMPSON

"THE FUNCTIONAL FIRE COMPANY"

When: January 22nd, 2022 08:00 - 17:00
Where: Comstock High School auditorium 2107 N. 26th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008
Cost: \$10
Registration Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/197115701205> Or use QR CODE

This program gets right to the point by tapping into experiences and utilizing skills, research, theory, and a little philosophy to position the fire company for success. During our time together the following topics will be discussed and offered up for discussion:

- Building success
- The nature of improvement and continual learning
- Handling and managing the culture
- Dependability and protocol
- Progress and mission
- Fire (not philosophy)
- Why performance standards are essential
- Company level training tips
- Addressing the operational considerations
- Tactical leadership, maximizing capabilities
- Understanding the Michigan environment
- Effective supervision and tactical leadership
- Training budget and resources
- Coaching and mentoring
- The 10 commandments of the functional fire company



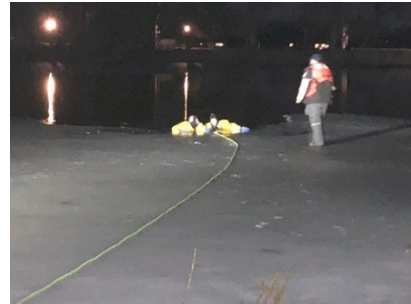
About Chief Scott Thompson
Chief Thompson joined the Kalamazoo Fire Service in 1985. He began his paid career in 1985. Over the course of his career, he has worked with several progressive fire service organizations. Chief Thompson is passionate about member fire operations and providing fire-fighters and fire companies for success and survival. He has a Bachelor's degree in Emergency Administration and Disaster Planning and is a certified public manager (CPM). Thompson has been a National, state, and district president of the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) since 2012. In addition to writing "The Functional Fire Company" Portland Small Group for Success and Survival, he has written numerous published articles. Thompson is currently the fire chief in the Cedar, Texas Fire Department and he owns and operates Functional Fire Company LLC and TheoreticalFire.com. Thompson has two sons in the fire service.

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

February 12, 2022 – Dispatched to an apartment fire at 8150 E Michigan Ave. Crews arrived with nothing showing then discovered working fire conditions. Upgraded to a 2nd alarm. Crews worked quickly to ensure all occupants were evacuated and to extinguish the fire. No injuries reported. Assistance on scene received by Kalamazoo Twp FD and Galesburg Charleston FD.



March 1, 2022 - Comstock Fire and Pavilion Township conducting ice rescue training.



March 5, 2022 - Dispatched for a brush/grass fire on E. ML Ave. 951's crew quickly put it out.



March 9, 2022 - Before drill we held a badge pinning ceremony for FF Cody Roberts and FF Devin Thomas. They successfully completed their probationary training.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

March 16, 2022 – Dispatched to a multiple vehicle crash on Gull Rd between N 26th & E.G Ave.



March 22, 2022 - Our personnel attended an in-service training in preparation for putting our new fire apparatus into service. The training consisted of classroom training to learn the differences between our current apparatus and the new ones, and also hands-on pump training for all of those in attendance. This three day training was provided through our Pierce dealer Halt Fire. Both of our new engines were later put into service with an official "push in" ceremony.



March 22, 2022 - FM Mike Kessler visited Comstock Early Learning Center to take part in National Reading.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

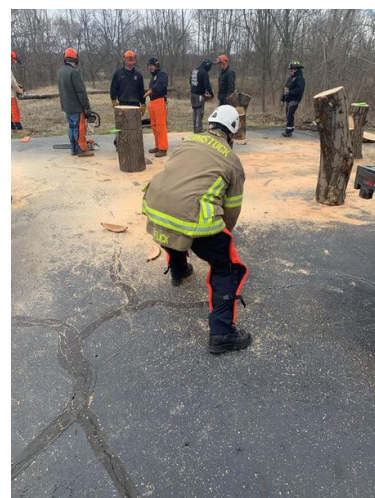
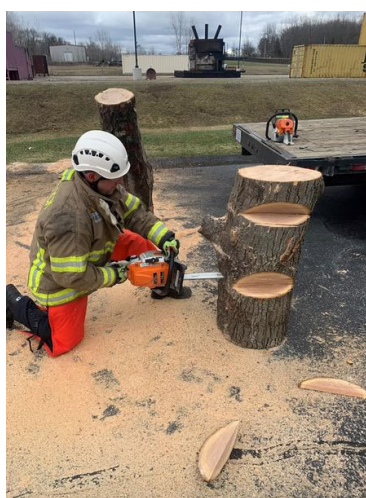
March 23, 2022 – Dispatched to a tractor/trailer on its side in the ditch, no injuries.



March 23, 2022 - The topic for training this week was fire behavior. We had a short classroom review and then utilized the Flashpoint Fire Dynamics Training Prop for live fire demonstrations of fire behavior. Thank you Richland Firefighter's Association for the use of the prop.



March 26, 2022 - Lt Mike Flick and Lt Michael Flick II attended a fire service maintenance and repair of chainsaws course. Additionally, students learned how to safely and effectively use different techniques to cut and clear wood for firefighting operations.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

March 27, 2022 - Congratulations FF/AO's Caitlin Brewer, Joe Slager & John Durecki on successfully completing the NFPA 1041 Fire Instructor 1 course.

March 28, 2022 – Four of our firefighters attended a weeklong certification course to become nationally certified child passenger safety (CPS) technicians. Once completed this will give our department 11 certified techs on duty.

CPS technicians use their knowledge and expertise at a variety of community-based activities, such as child safety seat check events, and (by appointment) at our station, where parents and caregivers receive education and hands-on assistance. CPS technicians keep up to date on the latest technical information about child passenger safety through seminars and other continuing education opportunities.



March 29, 2022 - Engine 912 crew assisting Kalamazoo Twp FD on a residential structure fire.



March 31, 2022 - Held a Car Seat Checkup Event at Station 9-1



Learn how to install your child's car seat or booster seat. Find out if it's time for a change.



Safe Kids Kalamazoo County is hosting a car seat inspection event. Nationally certified technicians will be there to help you properly install your car seat. Your child must be present with their car seat at the event. If you are an expecting parent, we will walk you through installation and fitting for your future child in their car seat. Car seat replacement may be recommended for the safety of your child.

Thursday, March 31, 2022
TIME: 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
The last appointment will be taken at 3 p.m.
LOCATION: Comstock Fire Department Station 9-1
1960 River St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
For questions please call (269) 341-8830.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

April 9, 2022 - Yesterday and today, our personnel (along with a few neighboring department's personnel) attended "Leadership & Resiliency" presented by Silouan Green (A nationally recognized instructor on mental health). During the class, students learned ways to properly handle the difficult mental aspects of our job, and how to ensure we are best prepared to take care of ourselves and those we serve.



April 12, 2022 - Dispatched to a residential structure fire in the 600 block of N. 26th Street.



April 12, 2022 - Dispatched to a brush fire on North 36th Street



April 14, 2022 - Held a Car Seat Checkup Event at Station 9-1.



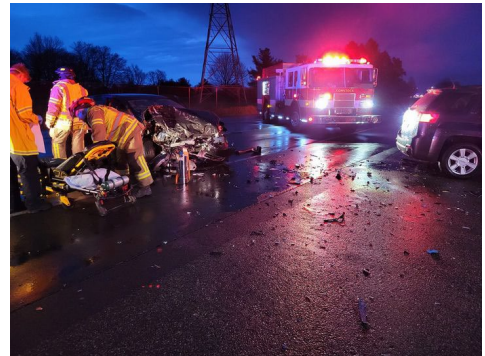
SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

April 14, 2022 - Held a CPR class for Landscape Forms at Station 9-1.



April 15, 2022 – Crews were dispatched to the 5400 block of Comstock Ave for a reported residential structure fire. Crews arrived within 4 minutes to find smoke showing from the front porch area. A handline was extended, and the fire was quickly extinguished. Fortunately, the fire was contained to the porch area. The occupants safely exited the home prior to arrival. Assistance was received on scene from Kalamazoo Township Fire Station 2.

April 15, 2022 – Two vehicle crash 6200 block of East G Ave.



April 16, 2022 - Before our Push In Ceremony at Station 9-1 we held a badge pinning ceremony for FF Darin Luchies and FF Riley Barnum. Both successfully completed their probationary training.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

April 16, 2022 – Push In Ceremony for 911 & 912



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

April 18, 2022 - Our personnel trained on vehicle extrication techniques focusing on stabilization and non-forcible entry techniques. Special thanks to Light Truck Parts on Lake St for use of the vehicles.



April 22, 2022 - Our crews took advantage of the warming weather this week to practice hose line movements and communication. By doing this training, it ensures our firefighters are able to quickly move through a house to find and extinguish and fire.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

April 24, 2022 - It's always an honor to be able to participate in the Talons Out Honor Flight. It was a perfect day to welcome home our veterans at the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek International Airport. 🇺🇸



April 29, 2022 - Our crews had hands-on training @ Candlewood Suites Hotel on elevator rescue. We reviewed fire service controls and practiced rescue techniques.



May 4, 2022 - Held new hire orientation at Station 9-1 for two new probationary firefighters.



May 19, 2022 - "Taking care of those who depend on us" occasionally includes ducklings! Station 9-2 was able to help reunite this family of ducks after they fell into a storm drain.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

May 20, 2022 - It's always a fun day when the kindergartners come to visit! Everyone was able to check out the fire engines up close, sit in an ambulance, and even put a fire out! The students then took some time for a snack and a short fire safety presentation.



June 6, 2022 - We celebrated three of our captains that retired during Covid. Congratulations Capt. Dave Watson, Capt. Randy Doud and Capt. Dale Beauchamp. Together they have over 100 years of service. Thank you for your dedication and commitment. We all wish you the best in your new endeavors!



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

June 8, 2022 - Motor vehicle crash Sprinkle Rd just south of E Michigan Ave



June 14, 2022 - The Rescue boat was deployed for a medical call response on the Kalamazoo River near the Morrow Dam.



June 16, 2022 - Dispatched to a three vehicle crash with no injuries on Gull Rd at N 26th St.



June 16, 2022 - Station 9-2 assisted Cooper Fire with a working structure fire on G Ave. The fire was brought under control quickly and all residents were able to evacuate the building.



June 17, 2022 - Two vehicle motor vehicle crash on N 28th St and E JK Ave.



June 17, 2022 - Single vehicle motor vehicle crash, car vs tree, 2100 block of N 30th St.

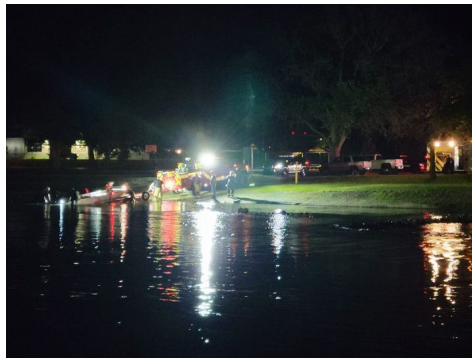


SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

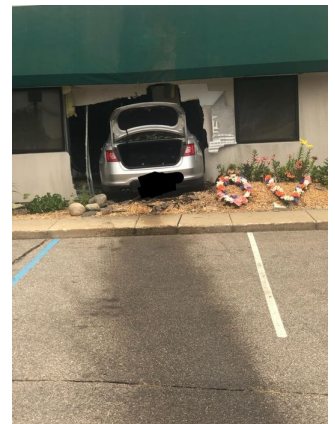
June 25, 2022 - Several members attended this great training opportunity so close to home. Also sent a reserve engine to help support the cause. Thanks Kzoo F.O.O.L.S. for bringing the training to Kalamazoo



July 3, 2022 – Dispatched for a river rescue for a kayaker stranded on the Kalamazoo River between Merrill Park and South Wenke Park. The lone kayaker was safely escorted to the shore.



July 4, 2022 - Single vehicle crash, car into a building in the 5000 block of Gull Rd.



July 5, 2022 - Station 9-3 assisted Galesburg-Charleston FD on a lightning strike investigation on N. 35th St.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

July 6, 2022 - Station 9-1, Engine 911 and crew, on scene S 34th St in Scotts assisting Pavilion FD on a residential structure fire. The request came in while 911 was covering Portage station 12-3 as they were on another structure fire.



July 6, 2022 - Portage Fire Division is currently on scene of a residential structure fire in the 10000 block of Mozart Street. Texas Township Fire-Rescue assisted on scene while Oshtemo Township Fire Department and Comstock Fire & Rescue backfilled our stations.



July 11, 2022 - Training this week consisted of practicing launching and operating our rescue boat on the Kalamazoo River. We occasionally get called to assist a stranded kayaker or fisherman, and it is important for us to be able to navigate the area. Make sure you always wear a personal flotation device whenever you're on or near the water!



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

July 18, 2022 - Our fleet is equipped with traffic signal emergency preemption technology. All traffic signals in the township are equipped with the technology also, thanks to a cooperative traffic safety grant with the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County.

This video link is an example of how the technology assisted another community to safely and quickly provide emergency services. <https://youtu.be/oNoCpQcb4As>

July 23, 2022 – Dispatched to a fatal rollover motor vehicle crash on N.Sprinkle Rd at East H Ave.



July 25 2022 - Station 9-1 crew stopped in for a visit at the Community Learning Center.



July 26, 2022 - Training this week was practicing rapid intervention crew skills (commonly referred to as "RIC"). These skills would be utilized if a firefighter became injured, lost, or suffered a medical emergency while inside a burning structure.



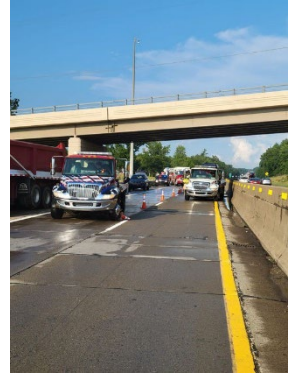
August 2, 2022 - Crews had a good time interacting with the community at the National Night Out event at Merrill Park hosted by the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office.



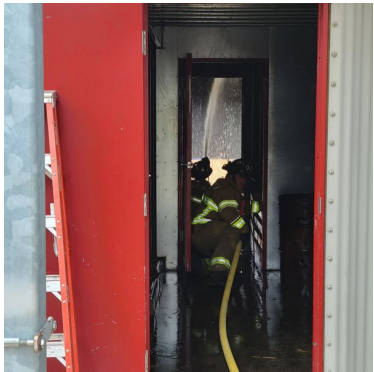
SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

August 4, 2022- Three separate motor vehicle crashes on I-94 westbound between the 84mm and 86mm. No serious injuries reported. Over 15 vehicles involved in the separate incidents.

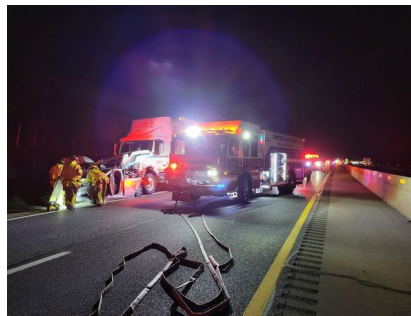
August 10, 2022 - All stations were dispatched to a reported structure fire in the 6000 block of Francis Street. Upon arrival, the initial crews reported black smoke coming from the structure. Crews quickly entered the structure for fire attack and were able to extinguish the fire without incident and were also able to successfully remove three dogs and five cats from the structure.



August 11, 2022 - This weeks training consisted of practicing deploying attack lines, stream application and movements. These skills are essential for ensuring we can effectively get inside the building to extinguish the fire quickly!



August 15, 2022 - Motor vehicle crash involving a semi and 2 cars, with extrication, I-94 eastbound at the 84 mile marker.



August 18, 2022 - Retired Captain Charles Padgett passed away. He served the department for over 40 years.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

August 19, 2022 - Great turnout and weather for Deputy Chief Dave Wuis' retirement ceremony at the Comstock Firefighters Memorial. Deputy Chief Wuis served for over 32 years.



August 20, 2022 – Comstock Fire joined KDPS, KCSD, and Pride Care, at Mayor's River Front Park for a community event to support injured KDPS PSO/EO Tom Maher.



August 25, 2022 - Two members attended hands on Engine Company Operations training at Fire Department Training Network near Indianapolis, IN.



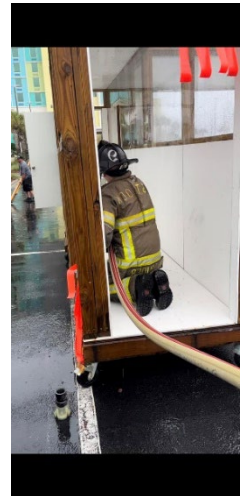
SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

August 27, 2022 - Station 9-3 stopped by Dorrance Ford for their open house and movie night.

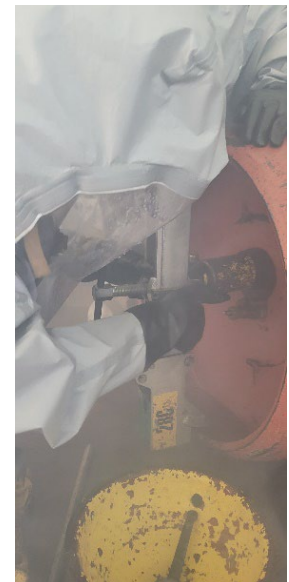
August 28, 2022 - Station 9-2 stopped by the car show at the Comstock High School.



August 29, 2022 – Two firefighters from our department attended the “Water On The Fire Conference” in Pensacola, FL. Thanks to the Kzoo F.O.O.L.S. for the great training opportunity.

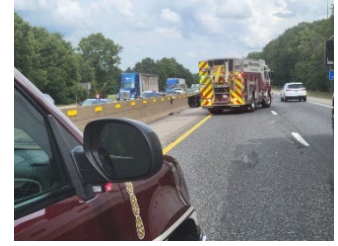


September 2, 2022 – FF's Ogden and Hearld attended the Hazardous Materials Technician class at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Alabama. This 5 day class prepares the students to respond to multiple types of hazardous materials incidents safely and effectively. Upon completion of the course, both firefighters became part of the Kalamazoo County Hazardous Materials Response Team, which contains personnel from multiple fire departments within the county, to respond to hazmat spills.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

September 2, 2022 – Dispatched to a single vehicle accident on I94 Eastbound near the 84 mile market.



September 8, 2022 - Three new hires were sworn in. Two will be assigned to Station 9-2 and one assigned to Station 9-3.

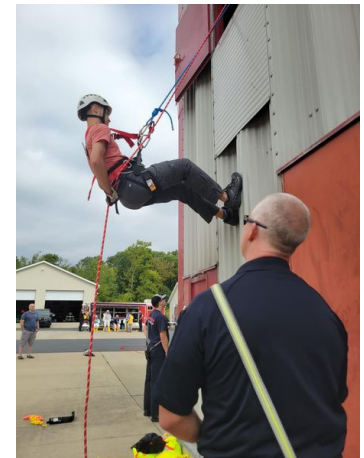
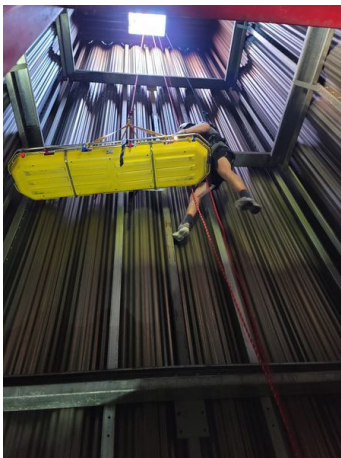


September 15, 2022 - We were notified that our 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) funding request was approved in the amount of \$117,321.14 in Federal funding. The department has a 5% matching fund requirement. This award will fund advanced incident command training as well as health & safety officer training. The award includes covering personnel time while attending the trainings. All department members will be provided with the training opportunities.

September 19, 2022 – Dispatched to a three vehicle crash with extrication @ E Michigan Ave & Rosemont.



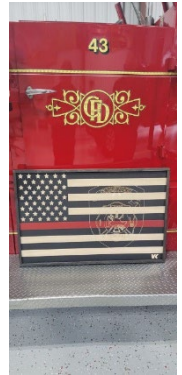
September 22, 2022 - WMED EMS residents and students spent the day at the Kalamazoo Regional Fire Training Center practicing at EMS skills stations such as In-car Airway, Traumatic Arrest, Repelling & Water Rescue. Our crews once again assisted with the rope rescue portion.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

September 23, 2022 - Thank you VanDam & Krusinga Building & Restoration for the awesome station decor dropped off. Appreciate your great relationship with post fire building restoration services.

September 24, 2022 – Thank you Bell's Comstock Brewery for the generous donation of cornhole games to each of our 3 stations. Very nice gesture to allow our personnel to have some relaxing fun during their much deserved down time.



September 22, 2022 - Retired Captain Randy Doud passed away. He served the department for 32 years.



October 8, 2022 – Fire Prevention Open House at Station 9-1.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

October 28, 2022 – On-duty training consisted of practicing removing a patient from a vehicle that has sustained injuries from a crash. Crews practiced spinal immobilization, tourniquet application, and traction splinting.



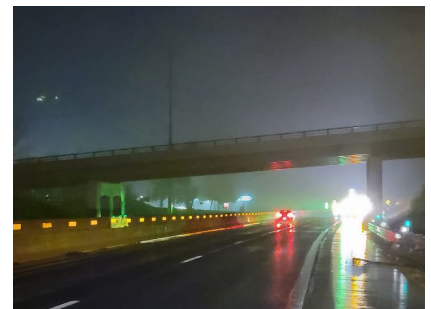
October 29, 2022 - Station 9-1 at the Clean Earth Environmental Trunk-R-Treat event.



October 30, 2022 - Station 9-2 at the Kalamazoo Community Church Trunk or Treat event.



October 31, 2022 – Dispatched to a Motor Vehicle Crash - Semi vs car - I-94 Eastbound at 35th St. No injuries.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

October 31, 2022 - Station 9-2 at Kalamazoo Covenant Church's Trunk or Treat event.



November 5, 2022 - Stations 9-2 and 9-1 were dispatched to a minor two vehicle accident on Gull Road in front of Meijer.



November 7, 2022 - Station 9-2 was dispatched to an accident at Sprinkle Rd and E. H Ave.

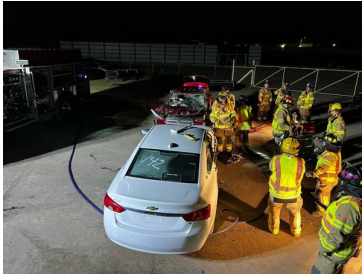


November 14, 2022 - Dispatched to respond to South Sprinkle Road just south of I-94 for a single vehicle accident. Upon arrival, Engine 911 reported powerlines down and a vehicle off the roadway on the East side of Sprinkle Rd. One patient was treated on scene and transported to the hospital by Pride Care Ambulance. Comstock Fire remained on scene with Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department and blocked traffic until Consumers Energy was able to clear the power lines from the road.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

November 14, 2022 – Extrication training. Our personnel were able to practice gaining access to a patient by utilizing our hydraulic spreaders and cutters. With the ongoing improvements in vehicle construction, it is important for use to continually train on removing patients from crashed vehicles.



November 15, 2022 - Crews trained on our new traffic attenuator trailer with directional sign board. A reserve engine was converted to tow the trailer. The tow vehicle will carry basic firefighting equipment, emergency medical equipment and a large compliment of traffic signs and cones.



November 21, 2022 - Probationary Firefighter Zackery Smith completed the KCFCA Medical First Responder class. The course started in early September and consisted of many hours of classroom time and hands on skills.



November 26, 2022 - Crews were dispatched to a possible structure fire on Verleen St. 912 arrived to find smoke showing from the garage. A hose line was quickly deployed to extinguish a fire in the garage. Assistance on scene by Kalamazoo Twp FD and PrideCare Ambulance. No injuries reported. Cause of fire was unattended cooking.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

November 29, 2022 - Probationary FF Jones was sworn in today. He is assigned to Station 9-3.

November 30, 2022 - A downed power line on Harway Ave near Comstock Ave created an electrical issue and light smoke in homes nearby. Crews investigated to find a small electrical fire in one home that was extinguished. Consumers Energy on scene to secure the line.



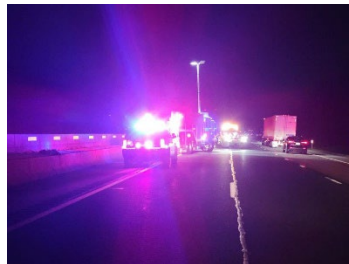
November 30, 2022 - Retired Fire Commissioner Charles “Bob” Robert Howard passed away. He served the department for many years.



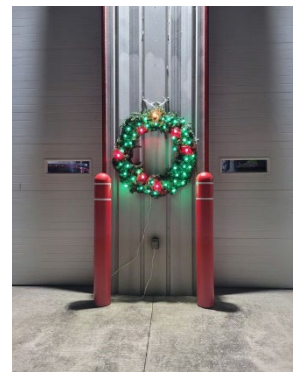
December 7, 2022 - Station 9-3 lining up to participate in the Galesburg Holiday Parade.



December 8, 2022 –Dispatched to a two-vehicle crash, with injuries on I-94 WB at the 83.5mm.



December 9, 2022 - Comstock Fire & Rescue, along with other Kalamazoo County Fire Departments, participated in “Keep The Wreath Green” Campaign. We not only “tracked” our fires in Comstock Twp but all fire departments in the County that participated in the campaign.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

December 12, 2022 - Crews were dispatched to a 3rd Alarm Commercial Structure Fire at Landscape Forms on Lawndale Ave. A fire in machinery ductwork extended into the roof and walls. Extensive overhaul was needed. No injuries reported. Assistance received on scene, and backfilling our stations, by; Galesburg/Charleston FD, Kalamazoo Twp FD, Cooper FD, Richland FD, Ross/Augusta FD, Pavilion FD, Portage Dept of Public Safety/Fire, Kalamazoo Dept of Public Safety, Climax FD, and PrideCare Ambulance.



December 16, 2022 - The crew from Station 9-2 turned the "Shop with a Cop" event into a "Shop With A Hero" event when they showed up to assist at Meijer on Gull Rd. Thankful for the invitation from Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Office and partnership with our area responders. Our crews had a great time shopping with the kids alongside our law enforcement friends.



December 18, 2022 - Single vehicle crash into trees, with extrication, 9900 block of E. ML Ave.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

December 21, 2022 - Engine 921 has been at Pierce Mfg for some structural repairs and upgrades for the past few months. DC Dyer, Lt McLiechey, and FF McGruder went to Appleton, WI for a final inspection.



December 22, 2022 - We were prepared for whatever the Winter Storm/Blizzard brought us leading up to the Christmas holiday. We upstaffed all 3 of our stations through Christmas Day. Thanks to Ziegler Motor Sports for lending us an Arctic Cat snowmobile (which fortunately we didn't need to use).



December 23, 2022 - Congratulations to Firefighter/Apparatus Operator Roger Gregg on his retirement. Roger finished his last shift at Station 9-1 (Central) after 31 years of dedicated service. Roger was known for his incredible work ethic and contributed to saving countless lives. He treated everyone like family and always made time to share old stories over a cup of coffee (and Gardetto's). Thank you for your years of service. We'll miss you.



December 25, 2022 – Dispatched to a two vehicle crash at S. 35th Street and ML Ave. One minor injury reported.



SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS/ACTIVITIES

January 10, 2023 - We held a badge pinning ceremony for several promotions that occurred in 2022 due to vacancies. We waited until all the positions were filled before having them officially “pinned” and “sworn in”. Congratulations to Deputy Chief Dyer, Assistant Chief Thompson, Captain Flick II, and Lieutenant Simsick on your promotions.



2022 Years of Service Awards for the following:

AC Thompson - 15 years

Capt Rick Mack - 10 years

Lt Simsick- 5 year



2022 TRAINING DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS

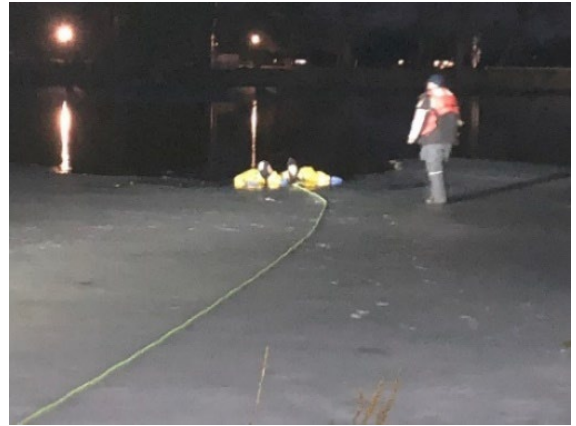
Training Officer/Assistant Chief Kevin Thompson

In 2022, the Training Division continued to provide the highest level of training for our personnel by staying current while the modern fire service is evolving. MIOSHA training and Medical continuing education requirements and department-required training topics were met, allowing our personnel to meet professional qualifications. This also helps with our ISO rating which was given great initial reviews after meeting with the auditor on our training.

Some of the highlights of 2022 were:

- ◆ 5,800 Hours of documented training
- ◆ 5 additional new hires began the probationary requirements.
- ◆ Continued “company level” training for on-duty personnel to help cover more topics in depth.
- ◆ 3 personnel attended Pump Operator Academy in Oshtemo
- ◆ 1 personnel completed the KCFCA Medical First Responder class.
- ◆ Basic Life Support (CPR and AED) recertification training
- ◆ Several Hands-On topics at the Training Tower Complex on Nazareth Rd. including live burns.
- ◆ Vehicle Extrication training at Light Truck Parts
- ◆ HelpNet – Counseling services
- ◆ 3 personnel completed Blue Card Incident Command Training (50 hours each)
- ◆ Continue to have monthly Officer meetings/trainings.
- ◆ Added additional EMS continuing education training opportunities.
- ◆ 2 personnel attended FDTN’s Engine Company Operations Training in Indianapolis, IN
- ◆ 8 personnel attended the WMED Capstone event to help train 1st-year medical students during their Medical First Responder course
- ◆ 2 personnel attended the “Water On The Fire Conference” in Pensacola, FL
- ◆ 2 personnel attended the Hazardous Materials Technician Class in Alabama.
- ◆ All department members trained on our new traffic attenuator trailer with directional sign board.
- ◆ All department members attended a 3 day training session for the two new 2021 Pierce Enforcer Pumpers. Training consisted of classroom training to learn the differences between our current apparatus and the new engines, and hands-on pump training. This training was provided by Halt Fire.

2022 TRAINING DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS



Hands on Ice Rescue Training with Pavilion Township Fire Department
March 1, 2022



Capt Rick Mack and FF/AO Mike Meulman attended FDTN Engine Company Operations Training Camp
August 22– 25, 2022 - Indianapolis, IN

2022 TRAINING DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS



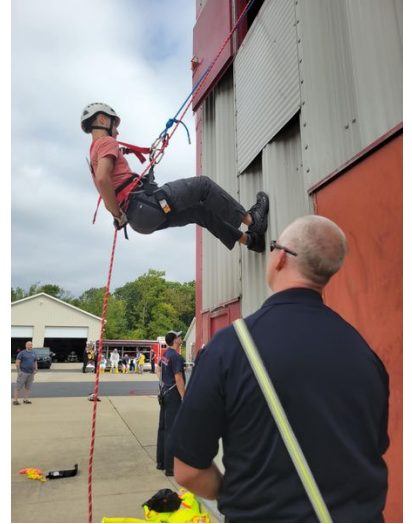
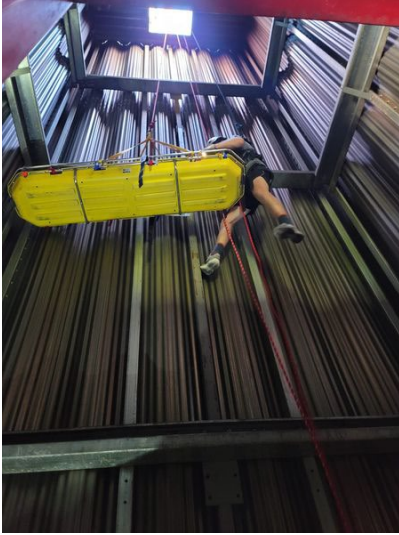
Extrication training at Light Truck Parts
April 2022



On-duty Rapid Intervention Crew Skills (RIC) Training



2022 TRAINING DIVISION HIGHLIGHTS



Ropes Training with WMed Students for their MFR Capstone event @ the Training Tower
September 22, 2022

On-Duty Hose line movement training at Station 9-1



Comstock Fire Department – 2022 Training Schedule

Dates	Topic	Mandatory	EMS Credits	Primary Instructor(s)
Jan. 10/11	CPR/AED (I-Gel 1 st Qtr.)	Yes	Yes	Ogden
Jan. 18	Officer Training/Meeting			
Jan. 24/25	HazMat	Yes	Yes	McLiechey/Simsick
Feb. 7/8	Building Construction/TIC	Yes		Flick 2
Feb. 15	Officer Training/Meeting			
Feb. 21/22	EMS Topic		Yes	Ogden
March 7/8	Elevators/Fire Alarms			Danto
March 21/22	Fire Behavior (I-Gel 2 nd Qtr.)			Flick 2/Ogden
March 29	Officer Training/Meeting			
Apr. 4/5	Building Tour <small>(Benteler)</small>			Kessler
Apr. 12	Officer Training/Meeting			
Apr. 18/19	Stabilization			McLiechey/Meulman
May 2/3	Foam/Water Supply (Drafting) (I-Gel 2 nd Qtr.)	Yes (I-Gel)		McLiechey/Dyer/Ogden
May 10	Officer Training/Meeting			
May 16/17	Search & Rescue (SIM City)	Yes		Flick 2/Mack
May 23/24	A/O- First Due Engine			McLiechey/Thompson
May 31/Jun 1	Force Entry/TTL/Cutting Sta.			Flick 2/Meulman/McLiechey
June 13/14	Ladders/VEIS (SIM City)	Yes		Flick 1/2 & Mack
June 21	Officer Training/Meeting			
June 27/28	Search/VEIS (SIM City)	Yes		Flick 1/2 & Mack
July 11/12	Boat Ops/Siamese Ops.			Flick 1/2 & Dyer
July 25/26	RIC/Utilities (SIM City)	Yes		Flick 2/Meulman
Aug. 1/2	A/O - Drafting			McLiechey/Thompson
Aug. 8/9	Handline Deployment/Advancement (Tower)			Flick 1/2
Aug. 16	Officer Training/Meeting			

Training is at Station 9-1 unless otherwise posted. Monday's @ 0900hrs and Tuesday's @ 1830hrs.

Comstock Fire Department – 2022 Tentative Training Schedule

Dates	Topic	Mandatory	EMS Credits	Primary Instructor(s)
Aug. 22/23	FF Survival (SIM City)			Flick 1/2 & Mack
Aug. 29/30	A/O - Drafting			McLiechey/Thompson
Sept. 6/7 <small>Labor Day</small>	CPR/AED (Defibtech)	Yes	Yes	Crabtree/Ogden
Sept. 13	Officer Training/Meeting			
Sept. 19/20	Size-UP/IRR (I-Gel 4 th Qtr.)	Yes		Danto/Thompson
Sept. 26/27	A/O- Flowing Master Streams			McLiechey/Thompson
Oct. 3/4	Live Fire Evolutions (Tower)			Thompson
Oct. 10/11	A/O- Flowing Master Streams			McLiechey/Thompson
Oct. 17/18	Extrication	Yes	Yes	McLiechey/Meulman
Oct. 25	Officer Training/Meeting			
Oct. 31/Nov.1	Help Net			Beauchamp
Nov. 8	Officer Training/Meeting			
Nov. 14/15	Safety/Injury Prevention			Beauchamp
Nov. 28/29	HazMat	Yes	Yes	McLiechey/Simsick
Dec. 12/13	Traffic Incident Management			Thompson
Dec. 20	Officer Training/Meeting			
Dec. 26/27	Awards			Beauchamp
	Rescue Task Force			Crabtree/Ogden
	Low Angle Rope Rescue (I-Gel 3 rd Qtr.)	Yes (I-Gel)		McLiechey/Mack/

Training is at Station 9-1 unless otherwise posted. Monday's @ 0900hrs and Tuesday's @ 1830hrs.



Community Risk Reduction

Fire Marshal/Lt. Mike Kessler

Fire Safety Inspections



The main goal of a Fire Safety Inspection is to promote and encourage a community safe from fire. A second goal is to improve community relationships between the fire department and the business community through professional, kind, and courteous interactions outside of a typical emergency situation.

Fire inspections help identify any potential problems of fire hazards. This way they can be corrected and people can be educated on how to identify them as well as how to respond. Sometimes property owners get lax about maintenance but regular fire inspections help ensure that the owners ensure that the building stays compliant.

In Comstock Township, 399 Fire Safety Inspections were completed in 2022. Comstock businesses are very willing to have the inspection and correct any deficiency that they may have. The owners and managers understand that it is very important to make their business a safe place for the employees and customers that are in their buildings.

Fire Prevention Education in Schools



Comstock Fire is in its 23rd year presenting the *Safe at Home* program in the Comstock Elementary Schools which includes 320 students. This program is a fire safety education curriculum developed by the State Fire Marshal's Office, in conjunction with the Michigan Public Fire Safety Education Committee. This program focuses on fire safety in the home – for everyone in the home.

Safe at Home addresses basic fire safety messages from pre-kindergarten through 1st grade. CFD conducted the classes at Comstock Elementary, and Comstock STEM Academy. The program is a 1/2 hour session held once a month throughout the entire school year. The curriculum includes "Fire Fighters are My Friends", "Reporting an Emergency 9-1-1", "What is Fire?", and other fire safety messages.

Station Tours



As part of the *Safe at Home* Program we had about 120 Comstock Kindergarteners come through our Station 9-1 and participate in activities such as a tour of the fire trucks, spraying water at a mock house fire, view a movie in the Fire Prevention trailer, escape from a simulated smoke filled house and proceed to call 911 after their escape and a few other activities with our EMS partners at PrideCare.



Community Risk Reduction

CPR Training



About 92 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims die before reaching the hospital, but statistics prove that if more people knew CPR, more lives could be saved. Immediate CPR can double, or even triple, a victim's chance of survival. This program will teach participants critical skills and knowledge needed to perform CPR and use an AED in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest and manage an emergency in the first few minutes until emergency medical services (EMS) take over. Comstock Fire has also added online classes with hands on skills test.

- 3 CPR classes were conducted for 12 Comstock School Coaches.
- 2 CPR classes were conducted for 14 employees at Landscape Forms
- 2 CPR classes were conducted for 15 employees at McAllister Rental

Fire Prevention Open House



Fire Prevention Week – Open House



Our Fire Station Open House was held at Station 9-1 on October 8, 2022 and was very successful. We were able to provide over 150 people with important information on fire safety and fire prevention. The children that attended the Open Houses were very excited to see the fire trucks, meet the firemen, and receive all the goodies that were available. The open house had a special visit from Sparky the Fire Dog, McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog, and Freddy the fire truck. It was great to see everyone in person this year and we hope to be able to continue in person events during the pandemic.



Community Risk Reduction

Smoke Alarms Installed



The Comstock Fire Department continues to see many homes in which smoke alarms were removed or are not operating. All homes need working smoke alarms. The fire department recommends that one alarm be placed on each floor of your home and one in each bedroom and/or sleeping area. CFD believes smoke alarms are a key factor in preventing fire-related deaths.

Through our Smoke Alarm Program, Comstock Fire provides smoke alarms, and carbon monoxide alarms to township residents. We offer a smoke alarm safety survey at the time of installation. In the previous years, this survey has shown that 89% of the homes in Comstock Township had an inadequate number of working smoke alarms, as a result 6 smoke alarms on average were installed per home. 100% of the homes did not have a carbon monoxide alarm, as a result each home received a carbon monoxide. Smoking is the leading know cause of residential fire fatalities in Michigan. 85% of the homes with a smoking had no working smoke alarms.

Installing the smoke alarms also gave the fire department personnel the ability to educate the home owners on the importance of a fire escape plan and sleeping with the bedroom door closed. We were also able to point out the fire hazards in the home and how to correct the problem.

Reflective Address Signs



With the help of local and federal grants, Comstock Fire is able to purchase green address signs for home owners. By having address numbers on the home, CFD will be able to respond to the needs of the residence quicker because of less confusion. When a home owner request an address sign CFD personnel will install it free of charge.

Car Seat Safety



Comstock fire now has 9 child passenger safety technicians who are car seat experts that have taken a 40-hour class with curriculum written by NHTSA in collaboration with National CPS Board and Safe Kids Worldwide. During the class they have learned the ins and outs of car seats, installation options, vehicle differences, harnessing procedures and more.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death and injury for all children. Child restraints, or car seats, reduce the risk of injury by 71% to 82% and reduce the risk of death by 28% in comparison to children in **seat** belts alone.

Research has shown that using age and size appropriate child restraints (car seats, booster seats, and seat belts) is the best way to save lives and reduce injuries in a crash. Only 2 out of every 100 children live in states that require car seat or booster seat use for children age 8 and under.

The department started car safety checks in August 2019, the seat checks are by appointment only. The technician spends about 45 minutes with the care giver teaching how to install the seat correctly.

In 2022 CFD has done a total of 68 car seat checks and have given away 51 seats.