

***NORTH WHIDBEY FIRE AND RESCUE  
ANNUAL REPORT***



***2015***

# *2015 Annual Report*

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**Fort Ebey Bluff Fire**

# 2015 Organizational Chart



**Michael Brown**  
Fire Chief



**Bruce Carman**  
Commissioner



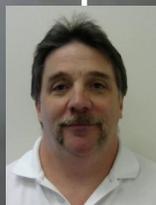
**Jerry Goen**  
Commissioner



**Larry Wall**  
Commissioner



**Sarah Pedersen**  
Admin Manager/



**Mark Kirko**  
Deputy Chief



**Lyle Zimmerman**  
Battalion Chief



**Amber Damon**  
Admin Assistant



**Chris Swiger**  
Battalion Chief



**Rebecca Vaughan**  
Office Assistant



**Jeff Amidon**  
Captain



**Jim O'Connor**  
Captain



**Steve Lacy**  
Captain



**Matt VanGiesen**  
Captain



**Gerald Smith**  
Maint. Captain



**Jesus Rellama**  
Admin Support



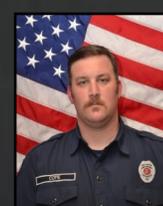
**Bill McArthur**  
Lieutenant



**Dan Horton**  
Lieutenant



**Ed Klaskzy**  
Lieutenant



**Steve Cope**  
Lieutenant



**Sherri Brown**  
Lieutenant

# Retired in 2015



**Marv Koorn**  
Fire Chief - 37+ Years



**Nancy Theune**  
Accounting Manager / District Secretary - 10 Years

# About Us

North Whidbey Fire and Rescue was formed in 1950. We cover 55 square miles and protect a population of over 15,900. NWFR is an ISO Class 5 district with 7 stations, 7 engines, 2 rescues, 2 Tenders, 2 boats, 2 brush trucks, 2 BLS ambulances and around 75 volunteer firefighters and 11 volunteer officers. NWFR has a reputation of putting well trained and highly motivated responders on emergency scenes. We are on call 24/7/365.

If you live outside of city limits, North Whidbey Fire and Rescue is *your* fire department. We are your neighbors that respond to your house when an emergency arises. Our volunteer firefighters responded to over 2100 calls for action in 2015. The majority of our firefighters are also EMTs. NWFR has a 3 paid Chiefs and 4.5 paid office staff. The entire department trains each Monday night as well as attend classes outside of the area; they spend over 800 hours in training each year. Our Duty Crew program ensures that we have 2 stations that are manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year.

NWFR responds to all Fires, Medical Emergencies, Water Rescue, High Angle Rescue, Auto Accidents from 7 stations strategically placed from Libbey Road to Deception Pass (*outside the city of Oak Harbor.*) NWFR automatically responds to some areas in the City of Oak Harbor. NWFR participates in fire prevention activities in the schools, develops pre-fire plans for the commercial structures in our area and participates in many additional fire related activities.

In 2015, North Whidbey Fire and Rescue taught over 102 citizens how to properly provide CPR. Our public CPR classes, which originated in 2013, are becoming very popular with Island County residents and we are committed to providing high quality CPR instruction to as many citizens as possible.



Crew from ST25

North Whidbey Fire and Rescue is primarily funded by property taxes from residents who reside in the county limits of Oak Harbor. Other funding comes from Whidbey General hospital, building rental income, recovery of funds from incidents and the use of department vehicles during Wildland fire season.

The District's largest expenditure is personnel costs, which account for 70% of our operating budget. Other major factors in the budget include maintaining seven stations, seven engines, two brush trucks, several aid units and dozens of other District vehicles.

As North Whidbey Fire and Rescue looks into the future, personnel changes will be necessary to decrease response times and increase our quality of service. Based on current budget analysis, the District will need to ask the community for an increase in funding in the form of a levy lid lift in the coming years.



NWFR Marine Search and Rescue team training with Navy Search and Rescue

## January - December Budget 2015

### REVENUES

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 3088000 · Carryover (Cash and Investments Unreserved) | 2,446,514.26 |
| 3100000 · TAXES                                       | 1,505,915.02 |
| 3300000 · INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES                  | 8,841.00     |
| 3400000 · CHARGES FOR GOODS AND SERVICES              | 449,452.01   |
| 3600000 · MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE                       | 86,688.36    |
| 3800000 · NONREVENUES                                 | 1,853.11     |
| 3900000 · OTHER FINANCING RESOURCES                   | 153,052.57   |

### EXPENDITURES

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| 5000010 · SALARIES AND WAGES           | 807,565.81          |
| 5000020 · PERSONNEL BENEFITS           | 233,057.32          |
| 5000031 · SUPPLIES                     | 106,009.58          |
| 5000035 · SMALL TOOLS & MINOR EQUIP    | 19,648.57           |
| 5000041 · PROFESSIONAL SERVICES        | 38,536.93           |
| 5000042 · COMMUNICATIONS               | 26,038.69           |
| 5000043 · TRAVEL & PER DIEM            | 14,580.42           |
| 5000044 · TAXES AND OPERATING EXPENSES | 462.90              |
| 5000045 · RENTALS/LEASES               | 40.00               |
| 5000046 · INSURANCE                    | 52,750.26           |
| 5000047 · UTILITY SERVICE              | 39,249.38           |
| 5000048 · REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE          | 86,923.28           |
| 5000049 · MISCELLANEOUS                | 24,423.32           |
| 5000050 · INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICES   | 47,167.57           |
| 5890000 · Other Nonexpenditures        | 11,950.51           |
| <b>TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET</b>          | <b>1,508,404.54</b> |
| 5942260 · CAPITAL OUTLAY               | 867,522.33          |
| <b>Total Expense</b>                   | <b>2,375,926.87</b> |
| <b>Net Income</b>                      | <b>2,276,389.46</b> |

# *Fire Chief's Report*

Welcome to North Whidbey Fire and Rescue's 2015 annual report. There has been a lot of changes in 2015; one of them is I became Chief of the organization. Let me introduce myself.

I started my current position as the Fire Chief for North Whidbey Fire and Rescue on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, after Chief Koorn retired after a long, distinguished career. I started my career in the fire service 40 years ago as a wildland firefighter in Southern California. I went on to work for the Department of Defense and wound up working in a Metro fire organization in the San Francisco Bay Area for 25 years, the last 11 years as a Battalion Chief. I have now served in almost every rank that you can hold in the Fire Service.

In my former Organization, a Battalion Chief is in charge of 16 separate supervisors. I was assigned a shift of over 50 personnel. One of my tasks is to not only manage my personnel, but work with all organizations within my District, governmental or non-governmental, to reach collaborative results when it comes to all emergency response. My last organization, as well as North Whidbey Fire and Rescue, all-risk Fire Districts that respond to numerous types of emergencies such as; fire, Haz-Mat, EMS, USAR, flooding, and any other situations we are called to in the area. I served as Operations Section Chief and Deputy Incident Commander on the East Bay Incident Command Team and served in that capacity on numerous incidents, including a deployment to Mississippi for the Hurricane Katrina recovery effort working in the Command Post and EOC.

I earned a bachelor's degree through Fort Hayes State University in Organizational Leadership. This degree has two aspects it looks at the philosophy of leadership and leading an organization, it also is a business degree. I finished the California State Fire Marshal's Chief Officer Certification. This is a long process of eleven weeklong courses. It covers a wide variety of subjects from command to management.

I have been a leader both officially and unofficially most of my 40 years in the fire service. I think I have had great success with the people that work for me of having them feel valued, part of the decision making process, and always encouraging open communication.

One of the most important aspects of my position here at North Whidbey Fire and Rescue is the art of leadership. Leadership is much more subjective, rather than objective, but just as vital as skillful management. I have an overall leadership philosophy; it is a philosophy of creating a positive environment, providing vision, direction, and resources so those that I am leading can accomplish their jobs.

In my leadership philosophy I trust and respect the people I work with, which in turn builds their trust in me. The foundational leadership element is an open communication process. Without two-way communication trust breaks down, which diminishes team results.

Prior to Chief Koorn's retirement, I was the Deputy Chief of Operations and Training for over three years. I worked very closely with Chief Koorn on every aspect of this organization. We went through an Insurance Services Organization evaluation that we successfully received an upgraded rating of a 5 that will save our community money in insurance premiums. We broke ground on the rebuilding of our Cornet Bay Station 21 that was finished in 2016. My vision for this organization is to focus on the mission and core values, enhance the quality of life for our community, promote public safety and provide emergency services to protect and preserve life and property. We share the core values of Integrity, Duty, Respect and Excellence. This is a vision of change as the community is changing. NAS Whidbey Island is expanding, our response rate is climbing and we are asking more from our members, not less. I see our organization is in a significant transition phase; we no longer can serve the community in a manner in which it deserves with the staffing model of the past. It is time to evaluate how we do things and transition to a staffing model that is more consistent and better serves the community. As this community changes, we need to prepare to keep up and as we all know this comes with a price tag. We will need to educate our community of the services we provide and show them the value of keeping up with the mission and the values that we have identified. I am truly honored to serve this great organization and its members.

Michael Brown, Fire Chief

*“Service is not doing what’s required of us,  
service is doing more than what’s required of us”*

*Simon Sinek*



# *A letter from Deputy Chief - Mark Kirko*



As the newest Chief in the command staff I missed most of 2015 as I arrived in October. I spent most of the remaining 2015 year becoming familiar with the staff, the volunteers and the policy and procedures of the department. I provided a six month goal statement for the Chief which included evaluating the existing operations and training programs of the department. In that time I have assessed that the department is challenged to adequately provide the services that are expected of us.

In order to meet those demands the Operations and Training division of North Whidbey Fire and Rescue is going to require significant changes. We are taking a serious look at the future of the District and how the growth of it will impact our operations and set the goals for training of our personnel. The fire district has experienced an increased demand in service of approximately 20% over the last four years and with the growth of the Navy Operations over the next six years

we know that the increase in population will present even greater demands for service.

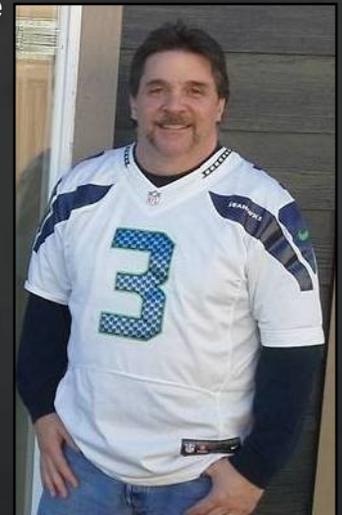
Over the years a more conservative approach had been taken in regards to staffing the stations and equipment requisition. I do not believe the growth potential was ever expected to be as great as it has been which is now forcing us to catch up with the times to meet the demands in service. Currently our average fire response time is 9:00 minutes and 9:30 minutes for EMS calls. The American Heart Association states that if individuals suffering from cardiac arrest receive CPR along with the use of an AED as soon as possible, their chances of survival increase considerably. In a residential fire, most fatalities are a result of smoke inhalation containing toxic gases. Over the last 30-40 years, home furnishings and building construction have become more synthetic causing fires to grow faster; producing extremely harmful smoke conditions requiring fire department interventions much sooner.

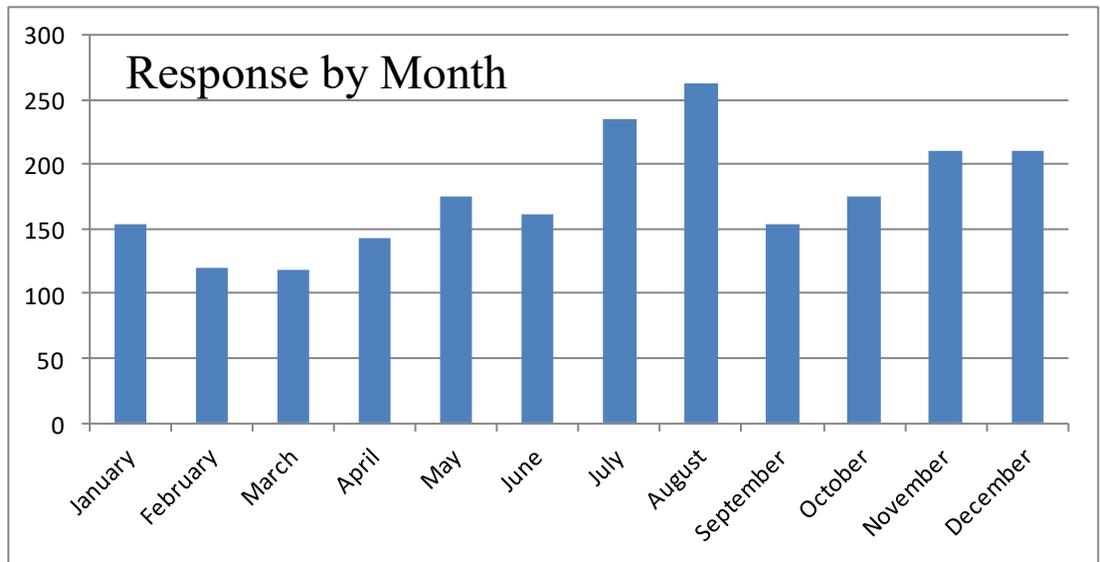
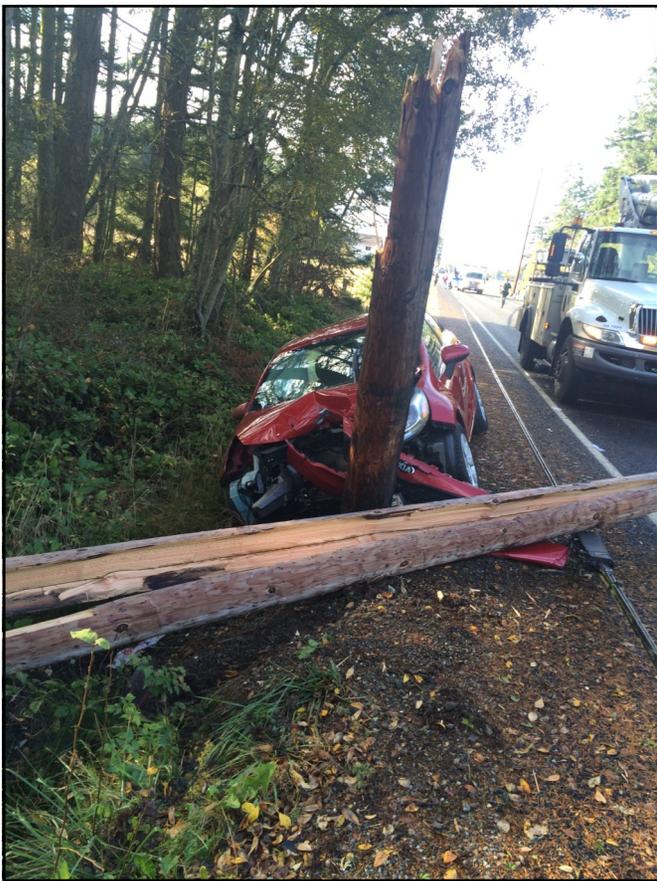
We are currently evaluating all of the services we are providing to the public to establish a base line that will determine our effectiveness and how efficiently we are providing the service. The evaluations will undoubtedly lead us to some changes in the way we do business, and establish goals for improvement. We will prioritize how and when each goal will be addressed in order to maximize our effectiveness. Presumptively there will be costs associated with becoming more effective and those will also be prioritized.

The North Whidbey Fire & Rescue department leaders and staff will remain focused on our goal of providing the residents and business's of the District professional services in the most cost effective manner.

Thank you and Be Safe,

*Mark Kirko, Deputy Chief*





### Incident Response Time Averages

|                | 2013  | 2014  | 2015 |
|----------------|-------|-------|------|
| Fire           | 8:58  | 9:13  | 8:38 |
| EMS/<br>Rescue | 11:14 | 11:19 | 9:26 |

FF-Tripp, FF Hernandez, FF Welshans





# *North Whidbey Fire and Rescue* **Strategic Plan**

## Duty

My duty begins with everything required of me by law and policy, but extends beyond that. I should look back at what I've done and be able to say that "I couldn't have given any more."

I am a professional, consistently striving to do my very best. I will adhere to rules, regulations, and policies set forth by my organization. I am accountable for my actions and am committed to fulfilling my obligations.

In fulfilling my duty, I will exercise initiative; anticipating what needs to be done and doing it before being told. I will be accountable for my actions and meet all obligations. I will take initiative and take full responsibility for the actions taken by those that follow me.

## Respect

The people I serve are the sole reason that my organization exists, all deserve my upmost respect. Also, my co-workers and I are our organization's most precious resource and we are honor-bound to treat each other with dignity and respect. I will demonstrate respect because this is my standard, not because I demand that such respect be either earned or shared. I will treat people as they should be treated. I will study to know and understand tradition and authority. I will be considerate, tactful, and sincere in my actions. I will value and show compassion for everyone we serve. I will consistently foster a climate where everyone is treated with dignity and respect, that work climate begins with my personal example.

## Integrity

I will always strive to do that which is right, because it is right, regardless of the potential consequences. I will develop and display a strong conviction for truth and courage. I will be honest I will be honest in my words, actions, and intentions to myself and others. I will work in a manner that demonstrates good character and maintains proper ethics. I will consistently act according to clear principles. I understand that my values and behavior are always on display and I will act accordingly. I cannot be effectively in charge of others unless I am in charge of myself.

# *North Whidbey Fire and Rescue* **Strategic Plan**



## Excellence

I strive to produce the best possible results in all that I do. I will constantly look for opportunities to develop knowledge, skills, and abilities in myself, others, and those who follow. I will be prepared and available for service and action at all times.

I will strive for constant improvement to better serve the community and my co-workers.

I will be exceptional in my role.

I will rely on teamwork to help accomplish our mission.

I will exhibit the highest degree of professionalism and competence in all that I do.

I will commit to excellence in all aspects of my professional responsibilities.

I will help guide others to perform in a manner that enables excellent results.

## Our Financial Goals

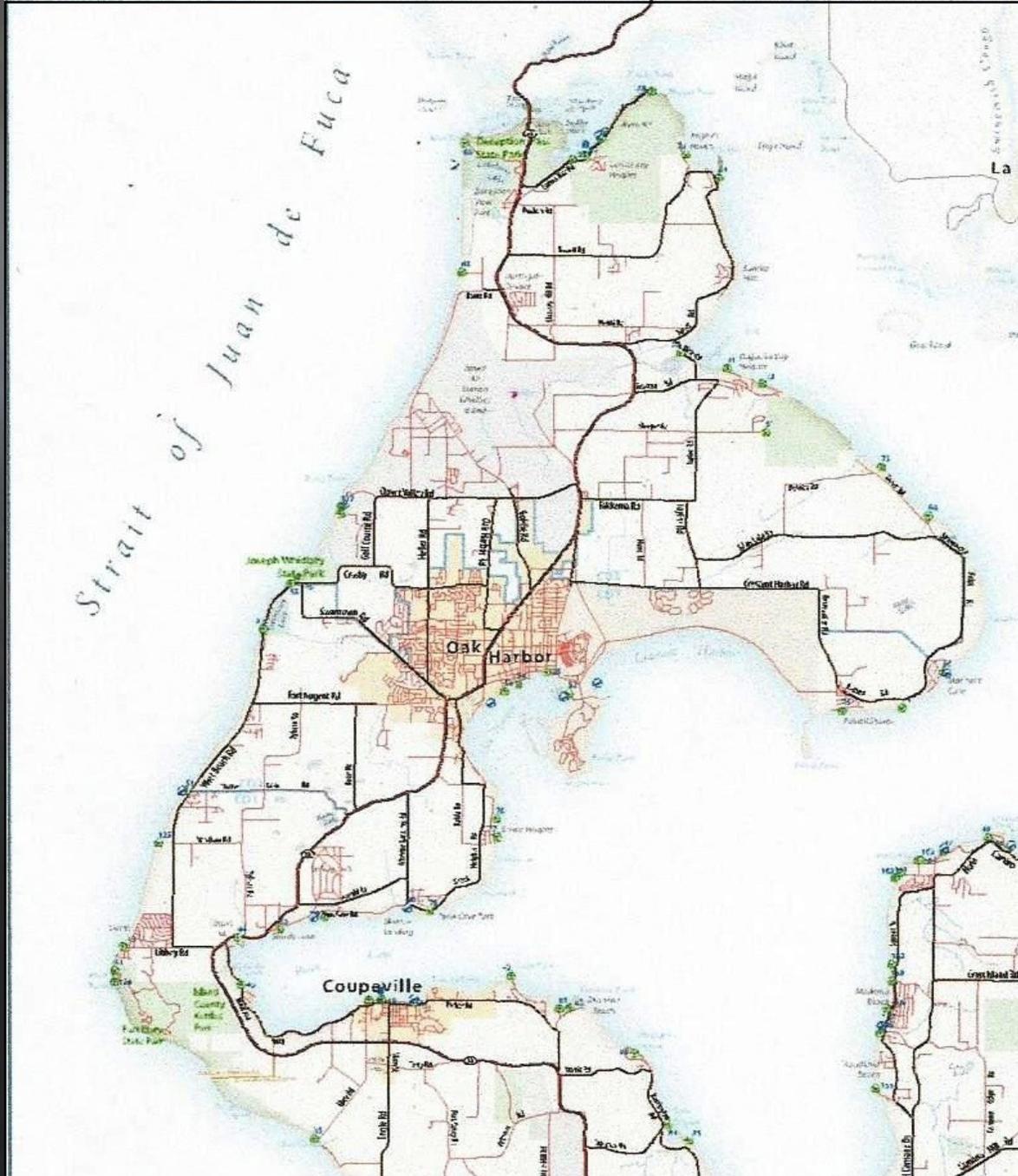
We will provide sound and responsible fiscal management to maintain financial stability. We will actively seek to improve processes to eliminate redundancy, prioritize spending, and invest appropriately. We will safeguard the monies entrusted to us by our community, ensuring that we do not spend frivolously. We will continuously examine costs and, within the boundaries of law, seek out the maximum benefit to be attained with the minimum financial burden in all that we do.

## Service

We will provide the highest level of emergency and non-emergency services to the community. We will respond to all 9-1-1 calls promptly with qualified personnel and quality equipment appropriate to the nature of each call. We will engage in public outreach and educational opportunities with enthusiasm and cheerfulness. We will interact with our community with care and professionalism at all times and places.

# North Whidbey Service Area

Response Coverage, from Deception Pass Bridge to Libby Road, covering over 55 square miles and serving approximately 15,000 people.



## 2015 INCIDENT RESPONSE AT A GLANCE

Total Incident Response:  
2123 Incidents

Average Response Time:  
Fire: 8:38 / EMS: 9:26

Number of EMS Calls:  
1129 (53%)

Busiest Month:  
August 263

Busiest day of the Week:  
Saturday 337

Busiest Hour of the Day:  
16:00:00 to 16:59:59

Slowest Month:  
March 119

Slowest Day of the Week:  
Sunday and Thursday 270

Slowest Hour of the Day:  
04:00:00 to 04:59:59

1 year Response Trends:  
INCREASING  
8.2% more than 2014

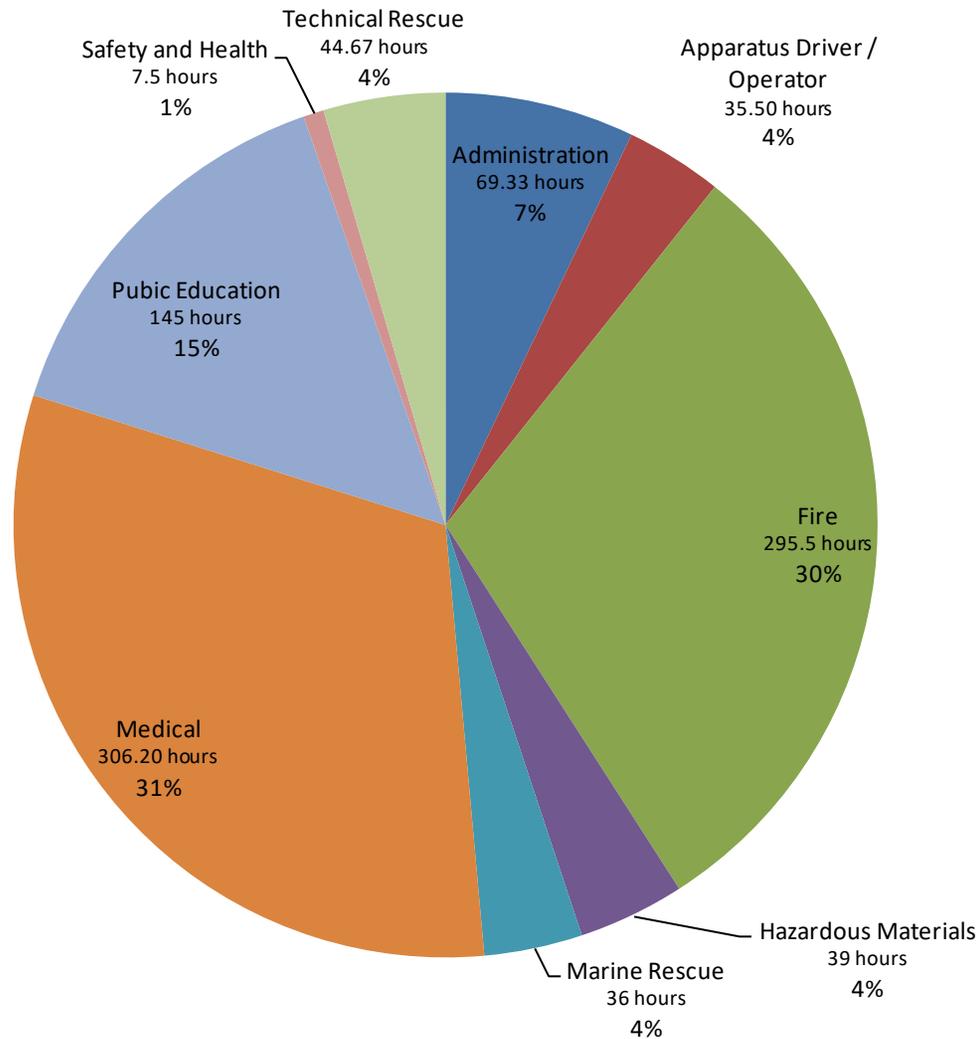
10 Year Response Trend:  
INCREASING  
18% more than 2006

Average Number of Calls:  
2006-2015  
1731.3

# 2015 Training Hours

Provided to Personnel, by Activity Type  
Combined total hours: 9597.72 of training

In 2015, the Department provided over 800 hours of training, with Firefighters and Trainees receiving over 9500 combined hours of training. North Whidbey Fire and Rescue implements a comprehensive training program that addresses the wide range of emergencies that we respond to. It is created and implemented by a Training Task Force that is made up of a diverse group of people from all levels of the organization. It is united in an effort to provide a high level of quality and creativity in its training events so that the organization will be operationally prepared to serve the community any manner called upon. North Whidbey Fire and Rescue's training includes but is not limited to; Monday Night Drills, Pre-Academy and Support Group instruction, the Island County Recruit Academy, Emergency Medical training and certification, live fire training opportunities in donated houses, researching and recommending outside training sources that would be beneficial, and providing specific discipline training on Monday night drills or more extensive training at other times.



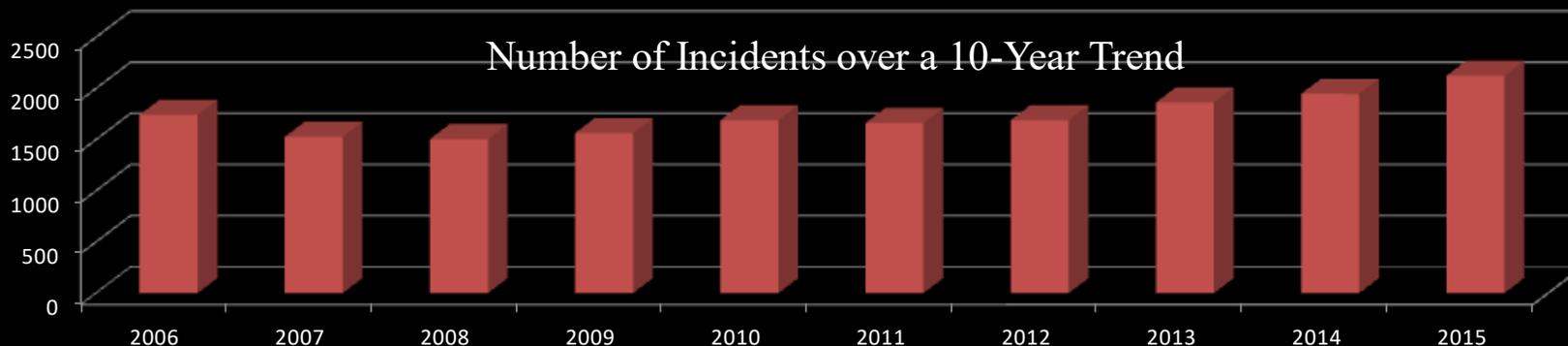
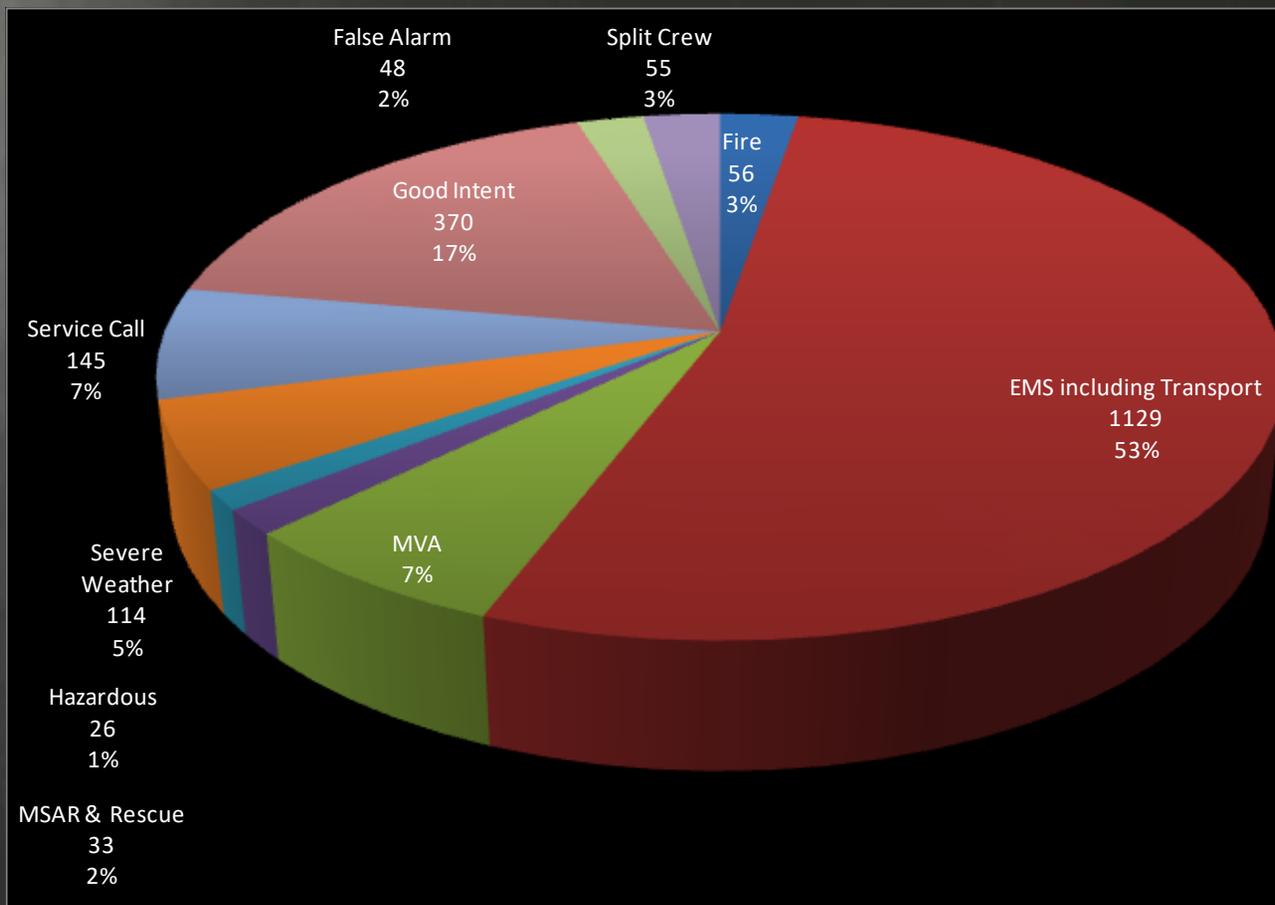
*“Training is not about being better than someone else...  
It’s about being better than you used to be.”*

# 2015 Incident Responses

Total Incident Count = 2123



Wildland FF Hernandez taking a break with a new friend - August 2015.



# Volunteer Firefighters

## Captains

Amidon, Jeff  
 Lacy, Steve  
 O'Connor, Jim  
 Smith, Gerald  
 VanGiesen, Matt

## Lieutenant(s)

Brown, Sherri

## Firefighter / EMT

Anema, James - MSAR  
 Boberg, Mark  
 Esperum, Dale  
 Hanson, David - MSAR  
 Hopkins, Cameron  
 Horr, Cliff - Chaplain  
 Kelsey, Thomas - TRR  
 Kern, Joseph  
 Lacy, Jon  
 Nowicki, Ryan  
 O'Connor, Travis  
 Reinstra, Mike - TRR  
 Rogers, Ron  
 Schroer, Paul - TRR  
 Schultz, Timothy - MSAR  
 Simmons, Andrea  
 Walker, Jonathan

## Trainee

Breaux, Nicole  
 Carman, Brittany  
 Cheman, Bill  
 Coughlin, Wyatt  
 Flowers, Carol  
 Mace, Stephanie  
 McWilliams, Dakota  
 Morris, David  
 Smith, Justin



FF Welshans, Capt. VanGiesen,  
 FF Bailey

## Firefighter Only

Bailey, Brandon  
 Bittner, Codi  
 Canty, William - WL  
 Dahl, Dylan  
 Dominguez, Melvin  
 Dorr, Robert  
 Eby, Ian  
 Hernandez, Chris - MSAR /  
 WL  
 Hoctor, Thomas - MSAR  
 Koorn, Josh  
 Qin, Yi  
 Sather, Dillon  
 Schmal, Andrew  
 Skilbeck, Zac  
 Sybert, Mathew  
 Treiber, Albert - WL  
 Vaughan, Rebecca

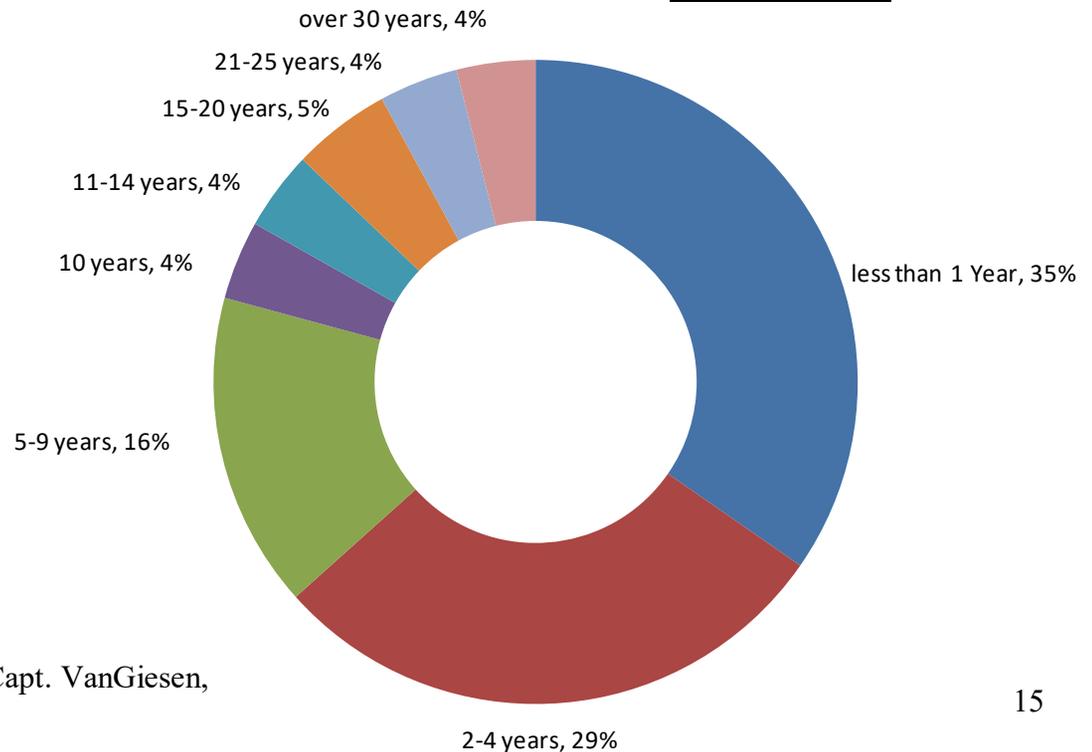
## Scene Support

Brooks, William - TRR  
 Hoover, Richard - EMT, MSAR  
 Krychta, Walter  
 Lacy, Christopher - H.S.  
 Nelson, David  
 O'Connor, Shawn - H.S.  
 Powell, Ken - EMT



FF Lacy, J., SS Lacy, C., FF Esperum

## Years of Service



# Duty Crew / Paid on Call

Cope, Steve—Lieutenant  
 Horton, Daniel - Lieutenant - TRR  
 Klaszky, Edward - Lieutenant - MSAR / TRR  
 McArthur, William - Lieutenant - MSAR

Alonzo, Gregg  
 Beh, Lucas  
 Chastain, Chris - TRR  
 Conto, Ann - MSAR  
 Cooper, William  
 Crane, Robert  
 Drieu, Antoine  
 Fealey, Guy  
 Fikse, Josh  
 Hetzel, Noah  
 Jackson, Scott  
 Karlburg, Johnathan  
 Lawson, George  
 Martin, Catherine - MSAR  
 McCarthy, Ryan - TRR / WL  
 Mohlsick, Thomas - WL  
 Powers, Lauren  
 Rogers, Deborah  
 Slothower, Holly  
 Tripp, Hannah - MSAR  
 Turner, Chris - TRR / WL  
 Valencic, Frank  
 Viers, Amy - EMT Only  
 Weber, Ben  
 Zimmerman, Jimmy - MSAR / TRR

The Duty Crew performs firefighting, emergency medical care, and fire prevention duties under the direct supervision of a Lead Duty Crew member. They perform within the scope of the policies and procedures of North Whidbey Fire & Rescue and included within these duties are preventing, combating, and extinguishing fires; saving life and property, assisting the public as directed, station and equipment maintenance and related activities and/or other duties as may be required and assigned. The primary benefit to the District of this position is to provide part-time firefighting personnel to serve the community. The duty crew member is required to attend regularly scheduled training in order to maintain the high level of knowledge, skill and ability necessary to function safely and effectively as a firefighter and/or EMS provider in accordance with state law, and standard operating procedures.

The duty crew member is compensated an hourly wage and is required to work two, twelve hour shifts a month. And just like a volunteer member the duty crew member is required to go to two Monday night drills a month and do four target solutions a month. We average between twenty five and thirty duty crew members at a time.

## Annual Duty Crew Cost

2015

|                                     |              |                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Duty Crew Regular/Premium/Lead Pay: |              | <b>\$371,059.59</b> |                                    |
|                                     | \$371,059.59 | 0.1118              | <b>\$41,484.46</b> PERS            |
|                                     | \$371,059.59 | 0.062               | <b>\$23,005.69</b> Social Security |
|                                     | \$371,059.59 | 0.0145              | <b>\$5,380.36</b> Medicare         |
|                                     |              |                     | <b>TOTAL 2015</b>                  |
|                                     |              |                     | <b>\$440,930.11</b> COST           |





FF Turner, FF Pollock and FF Welshans during the May 2015 Live Fire Training Burn.

## Cost to Outfit a Firefighter

### Admin Processing

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Background Check  | \$10.00         |
| Driver's Abstract | \$13.00         |
| Drug Test         | \$45.50         |
| Target Solutions  | \$109.00        |
| Disability fee    | \$30.00         |
| Admin Labor 4hrs  | \$80.00         |
|                   | <b>\$287.50</b> |

### Operations

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Bunker Coat and Pant | \$2,000.00        |
| Helmet               | \$317.00          |
| Spanner              | \$14.00           |
| Suspenders           | \$47.00           |
| Boots                | \$280.00          |
| Flash Hood           | \$30.00           |
| Gloves               | \$68.00           |
| Uniform Shirt        | \$105.00          |
| Uniform Pant         | \$105.00          |
| Belt                 | \$25.00           |
| Badge                | \$70.00           |
| Name bar             | \$23.00           |
| High Vis Jacket      | \$70.00           |
| Pager                | \$600.00          |
| T-Shirt and hat      | \$20.00           |
|                      | <b>\$4,061.50</b> |



FF Lawson and FF Hernandez.



House during Live Fire Training in May 2015.

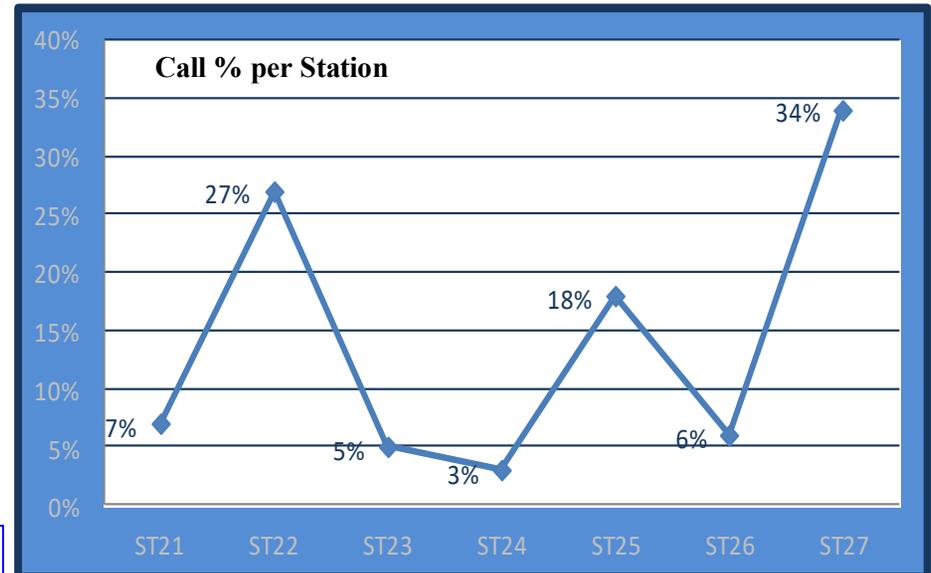
# Facilities and Equipment



# 2015 Vehicle List

- (4) 2013 Toyota Rav4 - Medical Aid
- (1) 1999 Chev Silverado 1/2 Ton - Medical Aid
- (2) 2003 HME - Engines
- (1) 2008 Pierce - Engine
- (2) 2009 Pierce Pumper - Engines
- (1) 2010 Pierce Pumper - Engine
- (2) 2015 Freightliner - Tenders
- (1) 1997 Freightliner - Rescue
- (1) 2004 Ford Brush Truck
- (1) 2002 Ford Brush Truck
- (2) 1997 Light Towers
- (1) 2003 HazMat - Trailer
- (1) 1992 Ford F250 - Utility
- (1) 2000 Ford Excursion - Utility
- (1) 2001 Ford Expedition - Support
- (1) 1999 Chev Silverado 1/2 Ton - Utility
- (1) 1992 Ford F250 - Utility
- (1) 1991 Almar Rescue Boat
- (1) 2002 Northwind Rescue Boat
- (2) 2011 Chev Tahoe - Duty Officer/Duty Chief
- (1) 2005 Chev Tahoe - Batt Chief
- (1) 2013 Ford Fusion - Chief
- (1) 2007 Dodge Caravan - Office Van
- (1) 2002 Chev Astro Van - Utility
- (1) 2006 Ford 12 Pass Van One Ton
- (1) 2008 John Deere Gator XUV 850D

ST22 and ST27  
are staffed 24/7



# Marine Search and Rescue

North Whidbey Fire Marine Search and Rescue is an all-volunteer organization that operates two marine rescue boats. From Deception Pass to the Keystone Ferry Landing our volunteer crews are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, ready to respond to marine emergencies.

We responded to over 28 MSAR calls in 2015



We are a key part of the Island County Fire Departments marine search and rescue system, and we work in one of the most challenging search and rescue regions in the world. Our volunteers handle many marine emergencies every year. They stand ready to leave their jobs and their families on a moment's notice to help people in trouble on the water – no matter how foul the weather or how rough the seas.

Our crews are highly trained and equipped with specialized rescue vessels designed for the challenges of the West Coast and the unique conditions we encounter in Deception Pass. Our boats are equipped with the very latest in marine electronics and include electronic equipment supplied by the USCG.



## Incidents By Day of Week

2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| 270    | 328    | 295     | 301       | 270      | 322    | 337      |



# *Building Inspections*

North Whidbey Fire & Rescue is contracted by Island County to conduct annual inspections of the county's commercial occupancies (businesses, schools, institutions, apartment buildings, etc.) to ensure that conditions at those properties are in compliance with the Island County Fire Codes. The department performs these to assess and mitigate potential fire and life-safety hazards in your building. We provide a written report of any corrections that are necessary.

In 2015 we conducted over 70 building inspections collecting a total of \$1935.00 in fees, 90% collected. Island County issues the invoice based on the building square footage, NWFR receives 70% of the fee collected. In 2016 we already have over 100 building inspections scheduled.

0-1000 sq ft is \$25.00

1001-2500 sq ft is \$40.00

2501-5000 sq ft is \$60.00

5001-20000 sq ft is \$100.00

Over 20000 sq ft is \$100.00 plus \$15.00 per hour actual time spent after the first hour.



# NWFR's *Wildland* Firefighters



North Whidbey Fire and Rescue's Brush Truck hard at work during a fire in Waterville, Washington.

Every year, North Whidbey Fire and Rescue sends certified Firefighters to assist in State-wide Mobs. These Firefighters remain on the front line of duty to assist in controlling wild fires that are threatening local communities and vegetation.

NWFR currently has 6 certified Wildland Firefighters and several more are expected to go through a certification class in the future. A certification class is 4 full rigorous days of education and testing, to obtain their Redcard. Wildland Firefighters have to be ready and able to leave their job and family for several days or even weeks at a time to assist in a State Mobilization.

## *Did you know?*

90% of all wildfires are started by humans.

*“Wildland season is like a dangerous family reunion.”*

- Chris Hernandez

# Wildland Fire Revenue

North Whidbey Fire and Rescue is reimbursed by Washington State Patrol for equipment used during a State Mobe. Reimbursement rates are determined by the Department of Natural Resources Wage & Equipment Rate Guide.



A Tanker Air Carrier unloading retardant during the Stickpin Wildfire in August 2015.



Firefighters walking in devastation during the Stickpin Wildfire.

|                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cold Springs Fire            | \$1,825.93         |
| Sleepy Hollow Fire           | \$3,102.75         |
| 231 Fire                     | \$4,284.00         |
| 2109, 2129 Coulee Hite Fires | \$2,532.87         |
| Douglas Co Complex Fire      | \$2,121.76         |
| Stickpin Fires               | \$13,220.44        |
|                              | <b>\$27,087.75</b> |



FF Powers at the Easter Egg Hunt March 2015.

FF Treiber on backboard during training.



FF Welshans, Capt. VanGiesen, FF Bailey



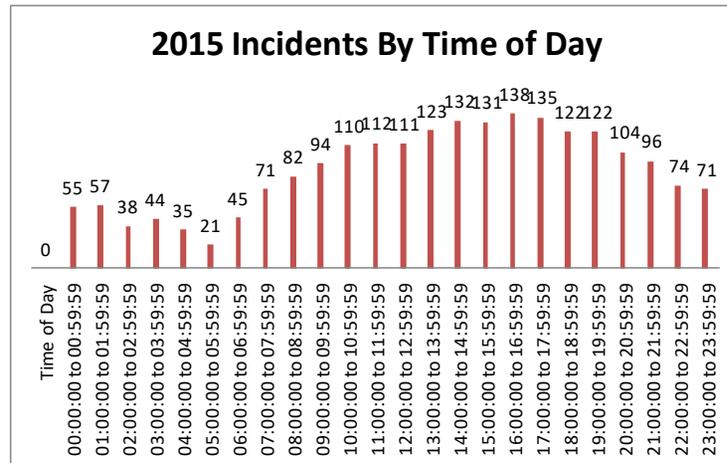
FF Lawson, FF Rogers,  
Capt. VanGiesen and Lt. Klaszky.



FF Esperum during training



Fire Chief Mike Brown presents awards at the 2015 Annual Appreciation Dinner, alongside Deputy Chief Mark Kirko, Commissioner Larry Wall, Commissioner Bruce Carman, and Commissioner Jerry Goen.



FF Brooks & FF Drieu



# Social Media Communications

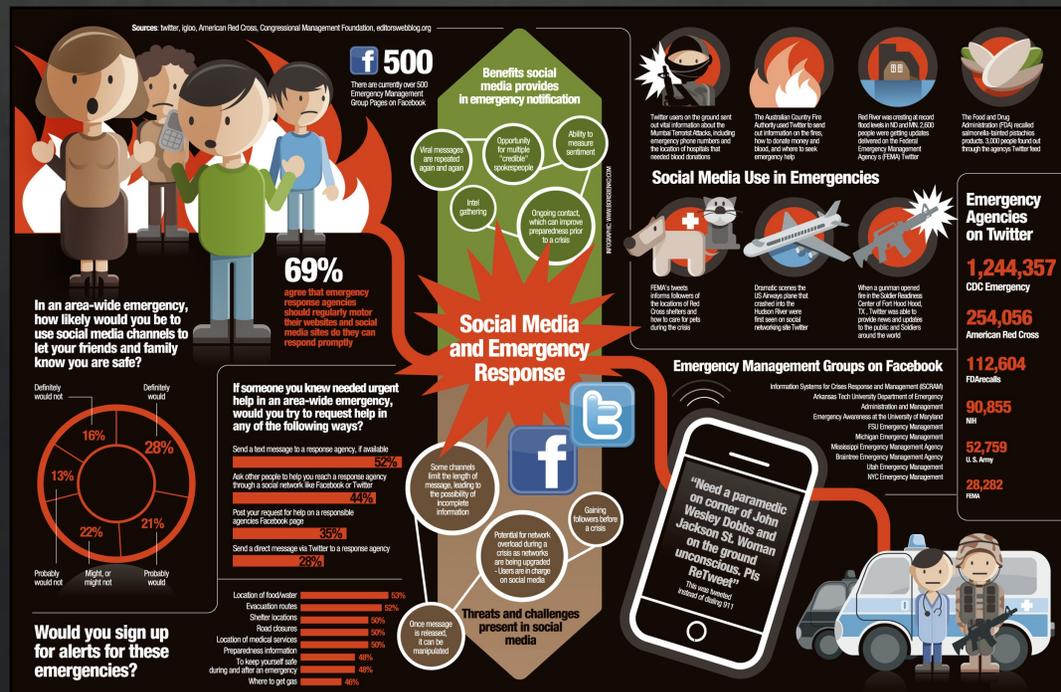
Social media tools allow emergency managers to disseminate information to wider audiences, interact with the public, monitor social media networks to get a better sense of what's happening on the ground during a crisis, get better situational awareness, and improve collaboration for sharing information during an emergency and sharing of best practices and lessons learned.

5 ways to use social media for better emergency response:

1. Reach a wider audience.
2. Send and receive emergency alerts.
3. Monitor the conversation.
4. Integrate data sources for situational awareness.
5. Collaborate with responders.

Visit us on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/northwhidbeyfire



### HOW IS SOCIAL MEDIA USED IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT?

- Prepare for emergencies - especially useful for people with disabilities and non-English speakers.
- Monitor during events for those who need help.
- Alert and warn in the midst of disaster.
- Relief and recovery efforts
- Keep you updated with news and information
- Data Collection - what are YOU seeing and experiencing?
- User feedback via messages, wall posts, polls, etc.
- Available anywhere on any device
- Just one part of a much larger communication plan.

# FAQs



## **How do I obtain a copy of a Fire or Medical report?**

Call the Fire Department at 360-675-1131, during our regular business hours of 8:00AM-5:00PM Monday thru Friday, for proper procedures to obtain the report.

## **Who do I call to learn CPR?**

You can call 360-675-1131 and speak to anyone in our office. We hold CPR classes the second Saturday of each month. The cost is \$50 which includes your class book, a pocket mask to keep and a CPR certification card good for two years.

## **What is a “Knox Box” & where can I obtain one?**

A Knox Box is a secured locked box that is placed on the front of a building/house and contains keys to the building or residence. The fire department keeps a key that opens the Knox Box locked and secured on their vehicles. This allows the fire department easy access to a home or business even when the building may be secured, i.e. after hours or when occupants have limited mobility. Information to purchase a “Knox Box” can be obtained by calling North Whidbey Fire and Rescue at 360-675-1131.

## **If my Carbon Monoxide detector activates, what should I do?**

Carbon Monoxide (ALSO KNOWN AS THE SILENT KILLER) is a colorless/odorless gas that is created by the incomplete combustion of carbon based fuels. It also connects to blood cells at a rate 200 times faster than oxygen. It is recommended that you install a Carbon Monoxide detector on each level of your home and if a detector activates, call 911 and leave your home. The fire department will come to your home and check the level of Carbon Monoxide (if any).

## **Why do Firefighters cut holes in the roof and break windows of a building on fire?**

This is called “VENTILATION”. There are two basic reasons for ventilating a structure. The first is, removal of dangerous gases, heat and dark smoke that accumulate in a burning building reducing visibility and greatly impeding rescue and firefighting efforts. Second, ventilation allows firefighters to relieve the structure of superheated gases and smoke which spread fire and contribute to dangerous situations like flashover and backdraft explosions.

## **What should I do with HOT fireplace ash?**

DO NOT remove hot ashes from the fireplace immediately. Wait up to 2-3 days and let the ashes cool completely in the fireplace until there are no remaining hot embers before removing them. Place cool ash in a metal container and store outside away from the home and all combustibles.

## **Where do I learn about the current burning restrictions and to obtain a burn permit?**

Island County Public Health issues Burn Permits to the residents of Island County. When a Burn Ban is not in effect, permits can be obtained at the Public Health Department in Coupeville or Camano Island. Permanent burn ban areas (except small recreational fires) includes Oak Harbor, Coupeville, Freeland, and Langley. Permits can be obtained Monday through Friday (8:00am - 3:00pm).

Information Hotline at (360) 240-5526 to listen to required conditions.