2011 ANNUAL REPORT

INCIDENT RESPONSES
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS
APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT
PUBLIC EDUCATION
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TRAINING

Jeff Steingart, Fire Chief

Francis L. Wolowic, President
INCIDENT RESPONSES
2011 ANNUAL REPORT

The Commission on Fire Accreditation International identifies the need for a fire agency to provide reporting and analysis of its services. The 2011 Incident Response Summary fulfills that need by providing the necessary reporting and analysis of emergency response and deployment by the District. Through accurate reporting and analysis the District is provided a platform for informed planning and decision-making.

CALL VOLUME

- The District responded to a total of 3,909 calls in 2011. Of those 3,282 were in the District. The increase of 255 total calls is a 7% more than 2010. The variables to call volume are primarily related to an increase in false alarms and EMS calls.

  - In 2011, CFPD averaged 10.7 calls per day.
  - July was the busiest month in 2011 with 404 calls.
  - The busiest day of the week was Monday, the slowest day on Sunday.
• The hours between 8:00 AM and 9:00 PM were the busiest hours of the day.
• CFPD gave mutual aid 627 times to other agencies. 325 of those were to Mundelein, 101 to Libertyville, 70 to Lincolnshire-Riverwoods and 50 to Lake Zurich. This was an increase of 109 calls mostly due to increased call volume of those agencies and other running order changes.
• Overlapping calls occurred 842 times, 21.5%.

FIRE RESPONSE
• 2011 recorded 26 structure fires, which is slightly below the ten year average of 28.
• The 2011 total fire loss; $725,373 was consistent with that of the 2010 fire loss of $785,676. The highest loss incident ($331,511) occurred at a house fire in Vernon Hills.
• No civilian fire related casualties or deaths occurred in 2011.

EMS RESPONSE
• EMS calls (including invalid assists) accounted for 68.7% of all calls within the Fire District.
• 91.1% of all patients transported were taken to Advocate Condell Medical Center in Libertyville.
EMS RESPONSE (CONTINUED)

- Hawthorn Lakes and the Willows retirement community accounted for 288 EMS & Invalid Assist calls in 2011, 12.8% of all EMS & Invalid Assist calls in District.
- EMS & Invalid Assist calls at The Park of Vernon Hills retirement community in 2011 reflect a moderate increase at 362, compared to 304 in 2010; 16% of all EMS & Invalid Assist calls in District.
- Autumn Leaves accounted for 40 EMS & Invalid Assist calls in 2011.

RESPONSE TIME

- Firemedics responded to 2,127 emergency calls (ambulance, vehicle crashes and structure fires) in the District in 2011.
- The response time for all in-district emergency calls in 2011 averaged 4:29; an increase of :10 seconds from 2010.
- The Fire District achieved its response time goal of seven minutes or less to 85% of all emergency calls. The Fire District responded to 92.7% of all ambulance, vehicle crashes and structures fire calls within seven minutes or less.
- The Village of Vernon Hills accounted for the most in-district calls in 2011. Calls in all villages served by the District were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Village</th>
<th># Calls</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vernon Hills</td>
<td>2,584</td>
<td>78.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Woods</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Grove</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Creek</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unincorporated</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,283</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Emergency Response Time Summary
### Districts 41A – 41I
#### 2011 Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Call</th>
<th>Number of Calls</th>
<th>Average Response Time</th>
<th>Percent Within 6 minutes</th>
<th>Response Time Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMS Ambulance</td>
<td>1,935</td>
<td>4:29</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
<td>85% &lt; 7 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Accidents</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>4:06</td>
<td>92.1%</td>
<td>85% &lt; 7 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fires</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>4:55</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
<td>85% &lt; 7 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haz-Mat</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5:05</td>
<td>87.2%</td>
<td>85% &lt; 7 mins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tech Rescue</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5:14</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>85% &lt; 7 mins.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Call distribution appears to be steady throughout the District as growth has settled due to current economic conditions.

### Fire Medic Injuries
- The District recorded ten (10) Firemedic injuries in 2011. None required an extensive hospital stay.
- The District recorded 156 OSHA lost work days 2011. This was a substantial increase compared to 2010. Personnel were also assigned to light duty positions 61 days.
- Sprain / Strain was the leading type of injury.
  - Two (2) injuries occurred during an EMS call.
  - One (1) injury occurred during firefighting activities.
  - Six (6) injuries occurred during routine activities.
  - One (1) injury occurred during training activities.

### Fire Alarm Response
- The Fire District responded to 582 automatic alarms in the District during 2011.
- The Fire Prevention Bureau responded to an additional 182 trouble alarms in 2011; a large increase compared to 2010 (98) primarily due to radio transmitter issues.
- Fire alarms accounted for 17.7% of the 3,283 calls within the District during 2011.
Everyday people dial 9-1-1 and request assistance for paramedic services from our highly trained medical personnel. Countryside Fire Protection District personnel responded to 2,343 requests for medical assistance and treated 2,149 patients in District. This represents 67% of CFPD responses for medical emergencies.

It is the intention of Countryside to provide the closest station response for people who are in need of medical attention. We continue to work with our neighbors, especially Mundelein, to maintain the closest station response model through which we continue to provide efficient and effective service for our customers.

Through the Accreditation process, the District has set a goal to respond to 85% of all emergencies within the District in less than seven (7) minutes. In 2010, the District responded 94% of the time in seven (7) minutes or less. The average response time was 4:19 minutes. Average on scene times for EMS service calls were 20:46 minutes, along with average at hospital out of service times of 33 minutes.
BY THE NUMBERS

Countryside Firemedics are responsible for providing invasive procedures to treat their patients. Some of the statistics are as follows:

- 980 IVs established in patients
- 1,047 patients received oxygen
- 477 medications administered (not including oxygen)
- 5 patients received intraosseous infusions
- 12 patients were successfully intubated
- 1,451 patients had cardiac monitoring

Countryside Firemedics responded to many calls for car crashes throughout 2010. This incident involved a rollover vehicle crash.

CFPD transports people of all ages. The chart below shows a large population served in the 66 to 80+ age group. This is represented by having two senior living complexes-Hawthorn Lakes and the Park of Vernon Hills. The District responded to Hawthorn Lakes 309 times and to the Park of Vernon Hills 304 times for medical emergencies in 2010.

Countryside offers our customers many different options when deciding which healthcare facility they prefer for transport and treatment. The chart below indicates the amount of times patients are transported to each of the facilities in our area. We did see a change in transport destination due to Advocate Condell Medical Center becoming a Level One Trauma Center in the region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th># of Patients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-14</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-20</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-36</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-51</td>
<td>295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-66</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66-82+</td>
<td>669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,149</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Countryside Firemedics are responsible for providing invasive procedures to treat their patients. Some of the statistics are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient Transport Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Condell</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,624</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EQUIPMENT

New items for CFPD this year included the purchase of a complete Zoll AutoPulse package. This package was purchased with a Grant awarded to CFPD from Lake Forest Hospital. The AutoPulse kit includes an AutoPulse unit, batteries, battery charger, storage container, and bands for the unit. Total cost $16,400.00

The Zoll AutoPulse’s purpose is to provide automated cardiac compressions to a patient in cardiac arrest. It is designed to improve cardiac output and it allows medics to concentrate on Advanced Life Support skills since they do not have to do compressions.

A New Ambulance constructed by Horton Emergency Vehicles from Columbus Ohio. This vehicle has been constructed on a 2009 GMC 4500 chassis and sports the newest advanced technologies available today. Airbag protection in treatment compartment, sliding patient treatment seat, and better user friendly compartments.
TRAINING

Advocate Condell Medical Center (CMC) assists CFPD with educational training opportunities. As part of the requirement to maintain an Illinois Department of Public Health paramedic license, all paramedics must participate in continuing education. CMC provides multiple training opportunities and required paramedics to complete all such classes.

Training is coordinated by Battalion Chief Chris Reynolds as the department Medical Officer and Division Chief Kevin Wodrich from the Training Division. FMs Prosi, Faamasino, Mascheris, Doval, Ondrako and Lieutenant Bach all help with the in-house training, inventory management, quality improvement program, and any other EMS-related needs for CFPD. Providing quality training for personnel and assuring that the equipment is current is part of our dedication to excellence.

We continue to enhance our medical training as we have successfully integrated EMS training into part of our training for all personnel. This training is in addition to the required hospital based EMS training that is provided through our Region X requirements.

In response to the needs of our POP members, we have also successfully implemented an EMT-B recertification program that is allowing our POP members the chance to get the required hours they need for training in order to maintain their certification. These classes are being developed and led by our EMS team and have proven to be very beneficial for everyone.

In 2010, we embarked on a chance to bring more paramedic students, who are not currently employed by other fire agencies, an opportunity to ride with our paramedics. This is a chance for us to help others get the necessary education to be an effective paramedic, and it has also allowed us the chance to increase staffing on ambulance calls without any additional costs. All of our personnel have embraced the chance to train these paramedic students, and we are considering expanding the program in the future.

In 2010, CFPD congratulated the following members who completed the Condell paramedic class: Michael Kamminga, Bryan Koza, Ryan Mastandrea, Chad McCormick, Mark Olakowski, and Brian Steen. This brings the total number of paramedics to 56 and EMT-Bs to 11.
The Fire Prevention Bureau Division 2011 Annual Report summarizes the activities and results of the Fire Prevention Bureau team and supports the commitment of all Countryside Fire Protection District personnel in the preservation of life and property.

**ADMINISTRATION & STAFFING**

- The 2011 Fire Prevention Bureau Division team consisted of Fire Marshal Mike McNally, Lt. Ron Cielek, Inspector/Firemedic George Tejcek and Public Education Coordinator/Firemedic Tony Rodkey.
- Inspector/Firemedic George Tejcek returned to Red Shift. His last day in the Bureau was 12/31/11. During his 3 years in the Bureau, George conducted over 3,600 annual housekeeping/pre-plan occupancy inspections in addition to many other duties.
- Inspector/Firemedic Bill Wolff joined the Bureau team 1/1/12.
- Bureau personnel responded to emergency calls, assisted duty crews, conducted inspections, plan reviews, hydrant testing, fire investigations and public education.
- 1,487 hours assisting duty crews on shift detail, call responses, building familiarization tours and special detail.
- 1,405 hours of training to maintain certifications and requirements as licensed paramedics, firefighters, fire apparatus engineers, fire origin/cause investigators and other special response teams.

**INSPECTIONS**

- 5,897 Bureau inspection activities were recorded in 2011. (488 more than 2010)
- All 1,344 existing commercial, educational and multi-family occupancies were inspected.
- 74 new construction and remodel projects were inspected to insure all fire protection systems and life safety requirements were in compliance.
- Special inspections were conducted throughout the year for special events such as fireworks shows, Summer Celebration in Vernon Hills and Mall promotions.
Field inspection results included 1,447 routine/pre-plan inspections to existing occupancies, 958 construction inspections (life safety/fire sprinkler/fire alarm) and 373 hydrant inspections/flow tests.

3,771 total hours were dedicated to inspection activities. New construction and remodel projects accounted for 711 hours or 18% of the total inspection hours.

All new and modified fire sprinkler/suppression and fire alarm detection system devices were inspected. There were 181 sprinkler/suppression system and 106 fire alarm inspections.

Inspectors averaged six (6) field inspection activities per day in addition to other activities. Inspectors spent 19 hours witnessing 32 fire drills at businesses, area schools and day care facilities.

573 inspection activities on existing fire alarm systems (226 more than 2010).

Table 1: Type of Inspection, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Inspection</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>% of Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Routine Maintenance</td>
<td>1,447</td>
<td>330.13</td>
<td>3.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-Inspection</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>62.92</td>
<td>0.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-Inspection/Telephone</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>124.59</td>
<td>1.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under Construction</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>249.60</td>
<td>2.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Occupancy-Final</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>171.61</td>
<td>1.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suppression System</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>177.84</td>
<td>1.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Alarm System</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>112.44</td>
<td>1.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Alarm/In-Service</td>
<td>573 (182)</td>
<td>267.75</td>
<td>2.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>22.89</td>
<td>0.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Supply</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>225.92</td>
<td>2.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>509.95</td>
<td>5.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Inspections</td>
<td>1,121</td>
<td>1,516.31</td>
<td>16.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,897</td>
<td>3,771.95</td>
<td>41.67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1 represents a combination of all Bureau inspections along with other activities. Total inspections accounted for 41% of Bureau time. 59% of time was spent in other activities. Shift detail nearly doubled compared to 2010.
Table 2 represents the top five violations cited during routine occupancy inspections. The top five violations accounted for 37% of the total violations cited.

Table 2: Top Five Violations, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Violation Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>FIRE ALARM ANNUAL TEST REPORT NEEDED</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>12.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>EXIT LIGHT BULBS NEEDED</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>6.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>EMERGENCY LIGHT BATTERY REPAIRS NEEDED</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>6.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>SPRINKLER ANNUAL TEST REPORT</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>KEYS NEEDED FOR THE KNOX BOX</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>5.70%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL CODE VIOLATIONS FOR 2011: 1,717 (100.00%)

Table 3 shows the Bureau activity distribution of each jurisdiction in number, hours and percent of time spent. Vernon Hills accounted for 8,253 bureau activities, which represented 91% of time spent.

Table 3: Fire Prevention Bureau Activities by Municipality/Lake County, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>% of Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Woods</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>46.71</td>
<td>0.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Creek</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>60.03</td>
<td>0.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Grove</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>169.73</td>
<td>1.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake County</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>518.36</td>
<td>5.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernon Hills</td>
<td>8,253</td>
<td>8,092</td>
<td>91.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>9,218</td>
<td>8,887</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PLAN REVIEWS

- Total Bureau related revenue collected in 2011 - **$75,710**
  - Plan review/inspection fees - $54,474
  - Developer Contributions - $5,349
  - Bureau Fees - $2,268
  - Bureau Permit/Event Fees - $10,646
  - Fire Report Fees - $973
  - Fire Alarm Monitoring - $34,082

- 190 plan reviews were completed in 2011 for 74 new and existing construction projects covering 436,959 sq. ft.
- 14 more plan reviews were completed in 2011 versus 2010.
- Bureau personnel continued to promote the installation of sprinkler coverage for single homes. (5 new single family homes were built with NFPA 13D sprinkler systems.)
NEW BUILDINGS/MAJOR REMODELS IN 2011

- **Blast Zone**, 645 Lakeview Parkway, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 16,545 sq ft
- **Charming Charlie**, 515 Hawthorn Center, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 8,000 sq ft
- **Cuneo Museum/Loyola University**, 1350 Milwaukee Avenue, Addition, 6,270 sq ft
- **Gordmans**, 701 Milwaukee Avenue #244, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 49,833 sq ft
- **HH Gregg**, 555 Townline Road, Vernon Hills #19, Remodel, 29,541 sq ft
- **Immanuel Church**, 28701 Ivanhoe Lane, Mundelein, New Building, 9,882 sq ft
- **Ivanhoe Club Grounds Keeping**, 21908 Hwy 176, Mundelein, New Building, 3,375
- **Michael's**, 701 Milwaukee Avenue #208, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 12,500 sq ft
- **Petsmart**, 700 Milwaukee Avenue #109, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 27,518 sq ft
- **Northshore University Health**, 225 Milwaukee Avenue, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 13,954
- **Party City**, 555 Townline Road #8, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 11,878 sq ft
- **St. Mary of Vernon Parish Center**, 236 Hwy 45, Indian Creek, Addition, 3,300 sq ft
- **Tigerdirect**, 551 Milwaukee Avenue, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 32,271 sq ft
- **Tilted Kilt**, 447 Milwaukee Avenue, Vernon Hills, Remodel, 7,320 sq ft
- **Park District Warming Ctr.**, 1401 Indianwood, V- Hills, New Building, 2,020 sq ft

**New** – Mariano’s
1720 Milwaukee Ave. – 70,000 sq ft

**New** – Victory Centre Senior Apartments & Supportive Living
97 & 99 Phillip Dr. – 182,061 sq ft
231 Units

**Remodeled** – Steinhafels Furniture
569 Milwaukee Ave – 102,625 sq ft
FIRE INVESTIGATION ORIGIN & CAUSE

- Total estimated 2011 fire losses of $722,393 were below both the 10 year total average of $1,146,890 and 20 year average of $906,317.
- There were no fire related casualties or fatalities and we were able to “Keep the Wreath Red” over the holidays with no fire incidents related to holiday decorations.
- 25 fire investigations were completed by Bureau fire investigators. The number one fire incident type investigated was building structure fire at 14.
- 111 fire investigation activities were logged by investigators for a total of 221 hours in 2011. Total dollar value saved in 2011 was $2,754,736.

Table 4: Fire Analysis by Incident and Dollar Loss

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Total Values</th>
<th>Total Losses</th>
<th>Total Saves</th>
<th>% Lost</th>
<th>% Saved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUILDING FIRE</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>$3,477,129</td>
<td>$722,393</td>
<td>$2,754,736</td>
<td>20.78%</td>
<td>79.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COOKING FIRE</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$1,281,950</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$1,281,650</td>
<td>0.02%</td>
<td>99.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PASSENGER VEHICLE FIRE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$26,830</td>
<td>$25,330</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>94.41%</td>
<td>5.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAD FREIGHT FIRE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$4,850</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,850</td>
<td>41.24%</td>
<td>58.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMPSTER FIRE</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>$800.00</td>
<td>$10,200</td>
<td>7.27%</td>
<td>92.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$4,801,759</td>
<td>$750,823</td>
<td>$4,050,936</td>
<td>15.64%</td>
<td>84.36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Bureau investigators assisted neighboring fire departments on large investigations, village/county building officials, Lake County Sheriff Department, OSFM, insurance agencies and the affected victims in investigating and handling post-fire related items.
- Fire investigators attended required training by attending outside seminars, monthly Fire Investigation Strike Force meetings and logged field fire investigations to maintain certification through OSFM.
- The Bureau effectively worked with its neighboring fire departments, OSFM, ATF, law enforcement and other related agencies in the determination of the origin and cause of fires within the District.
- The Bureau reported fires with preventable causes to OSFM, NFPA, and the United States Consumer Products Safety Commission. Fire Prevention messages were highlighted through various media channels including the CFPD WEB site, cable Public Station TV videos and newspapers. For example, fire safety messages were communicated to residents regarding safety tips to prevent clothes dryer related fires.
- CFPD conducted three (3) juvenile fire setter intervention programs in 2011.

2011 Top Fire Loss Incidents Which Resulted in $681,511 - 94% of the Total Dollar Loss

#1
Date: 05/01/11
Address: 400 Block Albany Lane Vernon Hills
Type of Occupancy: Residential home
Type of Construction: Wood frame
Incident Type: Structure Fire
Estimated Loss: $331,511
Area of Origin: Ceiling portion of the basement
Cause: Bad ballast that ignited combustible wood.
**#2**
Date: 06/01/11  
Address: 200 Block of Hwy 45, Indian Creek  
Type of Occupancy: Residential home  
Incident Type: Structure fire  
Estimated Loss: $220,000  
Area of Origin: Southwest area of the basement ceiling  
Cause: Undetermined – Most likely electrical

**#3**
Date: 01/26/11  
Address: 900 Block of Vernon Ct. Vernon Hills  
Type of Occupancy: Residential home  
Incident Type: Structure fire  
Estimated Loss: $130,000  
Area of Origin: Southeast portion of the basement  
Cause: Undetermined – Most likely electrical

**WATER SUPPLY**

- Supports were added to 30 dry hydrants and a fresh coat of paint applied.
- Repairs were made to dry hydrants at Woodlawn/Country Meadows School, Carlisle Road, Arrowhead Drive and Blue Bird Court.
- Water supply systems were tested and reports completed to support fire suppression and the planning process. Water flow and inspection results were communicated to all interested parties to assure adequate water supply systems were maintained.
- 373 wet and dry drafting hydrant inspections & 196 water flow tests conducted in 2011.
- Rural water supply - 85% coverage at 2,000 feet and 90% coverage at 3,000 feet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lake County/Municipal Systems</th>
<th>Average water flow test results for wet hydrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vernon Hills/Indian Creek</td>
<td>1,684 GPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Woods/Countryside Meadows</td>
<td>1,271 GPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Woods/Glenshire</td>
<td>1,883 GPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countryside Lakes/Indian Creek Club of Long Grove</td>
<td>1,367 GPM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private Water Supply Systems</th>
<th>Average water flow test results for wet hydrants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fields of Long Grove</td>
<td>Flush only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivanhoe Estates</td>
<td>1,406 GPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves of Long Grove</td>
<td>481 GPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Trails of Long Grove</td>
<td>385 GPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravenna/Autumn Woods of Long Grove</td>
<td>1,280 GPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Melbourne</td>
<td>271 GPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Shore Park</td>
<td>785 GPM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The District maintained its ability to support and improve its systems and operations in a cost-effective manner, being fiscally responsible to its customers, the taxpayers. Deputy Chief Ron Grant provided oversight and management of contract services and vendors.

STAFFING

- The District continued to contract with Excalibur for in-house desk top support as well as 24/7 on-call support by phone, remote server connection, and on-site advanced service.
- Jim Dinsch was also contracted to provide bi-weekly desk top support.
- The District continued to evaluate options for providing systems support coverage.

FINANCES

- The District continues to review its systems and contract services to ensure that services meet the needs of personnel and are within budget.

EQUIPMENT

- Continued use of a three-year replacement schedule for all computers continued to minimize required maintenance.
- Acquired additional Panasonic Toughbook touchscreen computers from the Lake County ETSB. Two computers were placed in vehicles to access call data from dispatch. A third computer is being used by Fire Prevention Bureau personnel for in-field occupancy inspections.
- Two computers with large displays and internet access were placed in the bays at each station. They provide access to the CAD and scheduling systems as well as scrolling safety messages across the screen.

SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS

- The District continued its annual maintenance contract for Firehouse, the District’s records management system.
• Work continued on integrating the Group One Remote Access mapping system with the EnRoute CAD allowing the CAD to automatically pull up the map location of calls on the vehicle-mounted computers.
• District computers have been upgraded to the Windows 7 operating system.
• The Fire Prevention Bureau is using an in-field, paperless documentation system for fire inspections.
• The District began using a new web-based scheduling system called Fire Manager. The system allows member access to schedule vacations and trades from anywhere that the Internet can be accessed.

COMPUTER NETWORK
• A point-to-point wireless system provided primary connectivity between the District’s two stations. A dedicated point-to-point T1 between the two stations provides backup connectivity through full fail-over routing protocols.
• Microsoft Terminal Services provides the primary connection between the Vernon Hills Police Department and the District’s network. This allows Countryside’s dispatch personnel to access the Firehouse RMS as well other documents on the Countryside network.

INTERNET ACCESS & WEB PRESENCE
• Comcast internet access continues to be provided at both stations.
• District staff worked to ensure the website was regularly updated with current and timely safety information.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS
• Call One, an AT&T reseller, is our wired communication vendor. The District is in the 2nd year of a three year contract with Call One.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS & DATA
• The District continued using Verizon Wireless on the State of Illinois contract for its wireless phones and wireless broadband access.
TEXT ALERTING/PAGING SYSTEM

- The District switched vendors for a more robust, web-based dispatch and text alerting system that allows personnel to receive text and call alert messages to their cell phones instead of carrying an additional pager. The system also provided accessibility from anywhere where internet access is available.
- The use of alpha numeric phone pagers has been discontinued resulting in significant cost savings.

FUTURE PLANS

- Implementation of an electronic patient care reporting and billing system is being researched.
- The District will continue to replace major computer equipment following the three-year schedule and purchase additional data storage to provide for expanding needs.
- The District will continue to ensure that its systems are current and provide efficient support to the District’s primary mission.
- The District will continue to evaluate all opportunities for cost savings taking care to ensure that any changes will not negatively impact the District’s ability to serve its customers.
The Countryside Fire Protection District’s Maintenance Division encompasses many areas involving apparatus and the tools carried on them. The Countryside Fire Protection District’s Maintenance Division follows standards set by several agencies including NFPA, IDOT, and manufactures such as Ford, Pierce, Hurst, Amkus, and Metz. These standards set minimums for new purchases, regular and emergency service, and vehicle safety. It is the Maintenance Division’s goal to exceed standards whenever possible.

1. Administration & Staffing
   - Battalion Chief Brian Garrity – Vehicle’s & Fleet Services
   - Battalion Chief Ed Heinz – Tools & Equipment
   - Lieutenant Russ Bach – SCBA
   - F/M Mark Skala – Gas Powered Tools
   - F/M Mike Doval – Hand Tools
   - F/M Phil Obos – Monitors
   - F/M John Sherwood – Hose
   - F/M Frank Faamisino – Ladders

2. New Apparatus & Vehicle Purchases

There were no deliveries in 2011 but the staff was busy completing the spec’s for a new duty engine and ambulance. A duty engine to replace S-412 was designed to meet the needs of the district. The contract to custom build the engine was awarded to Jefferson Fire & Safety out of Middleton Wisconsin. The manufacturer, Rosenbauer of America, will produce the duty engine similar to the two current duty engines with delivery expected in spring of 2012.
A contract was awarded to Horton Emergency Vehicles of Illinois to build an ambulance on a Ford chassis. This is the third in a series to replace the 1998 Excellance ambulances on International chassis. A summer 2012 delivery is expected.

3. Apparatus & Vehicle Maintenance
   - All pump apparatus passed annual pump tests and chassis inspections at Wirfs Industries in accordance with NFPA standards.
   - Aerial 4131 passed annual inspection performed by Metz USA and UL.
   - All ambulances passed their annual inspections at Wirfs Industries.
   - All ambulances passed safety lane inspections.
   - All emergency response vehicles housed at either station have scheduled checks completed every day, with more thorough checks completed on a weekly basis.

4. Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)
   - Continuing to work with the administration and current budget constraints to successfully turn over the supply of air bottles by 2012, when most are due for replacement. CFPD purchased 17 bottles in late 2011 and will be purchasing 17 bottles in 2012. These are aftermarket shells and reuse the valve at a cost of $485.00/shell vs. the $1250.00 price of a new MSA bottle and valve.
   - Air One continues to provide quarterly breathing air testing, annual flow testing of air packs and masks, service and repairs for air packs and compressor.
   - Annual mask fit tests were again completed in house.
5. Equipment
- Annual maintenance on extrication equipment, generators, small tools, and saws are done in accordance with all manufacturers’ recommendations.
- All air quality monitors were maintained and calibrated quarterly by Air One.

6. Hose & Ladders
- All lengths of hose are tested annually by the shifts in accordance with NFPA standard.
- Following five year plan, 1000’ of 5 inch hose was purchased to replace older hose.
- E-415 outfitted with the following
  - 1000 feet of 5 inch supply hose.
  - 1000 feet of 2.5 inch hose.
  - 400 feet of 1.75 inch attack hose.
  - Nozzle, adapters, and appliances.
- New gauges to replace damage ones, installed on E-411 and E-412 deck gun.
- Standardized nozzles to be consistent across all vehicles.
- Converted the rear 2.5” pre-connect triple layer load to a 2.5” pre-connect flat load with a tab, to minimize firefighter injury when deploying.
- Incorporate hose straps with lettering embroidering to indicate hose size.
- Hose bags purchased and used to store the 1 inch wild land hose that was exposed to the elements.
- The current standpipe operation was adjusted to incorporate the following changes:
  - Converted 1.75 inch hose to 2 inch hose.
  - The nozzle tips increased from 7/8 inch to 1 inch for larger GPM.
  - Hose is loaded in a ‘Denver Load’ style to allow easier transport over SCBA pack or shoulder.
- All ground ladders had annual testing completed by UL in accordance with NFPA standard.
The Public Education Division 2010 annual report provides a summary of the programs used to communicate fire safety, life safety and injury prevention information throughout the Countryside Fire Protection District (CFPD). CFPD is committed to providing educational programs in the communities of Vernon Hills, unincorporated Mundelein, Long Grove, Hawthorn Woods and unincorporated Lake County within the fire district. CFPD has five public school districts which include fifteen schools from elementary, middle and high school as well as nine private preschool and daycare facilities that receive a least one visit per grade level annually. CFPD also meets the requests of any business in the fire district to expand fire and life safety in the communities. CFPD maintains an excellent relationship within the villages and various government entities requesting fire and life safety programs.

**Community Programs**

**Block Party Requests**...Attended eight (8) block parties for approximately 400 participants combined from both fire stations.

**Countryside Fire Website**...the website format was completely changed in 2009 to maintain hot topics like the H1N1, monthly highlights and current safety information correlating to the time of the year, current programs available and complete profile of the fire district. The IT Coordinator re-created the website and maintains the monthly changes provided by the Public Education Coordinator.

**Child Car Seat Installations/Safety Checks**...165 installations/inspections completed in 2010. CFPD provided Condell Health and Safety Fair with a technician and checkpoint assistance. Our team also participated in the Advocate Condell Bike Rodeo checking bicycle helmets on children.

**First Aid, CPR & AED Courses**...69 classes held in total, certifying 2,715 participants, including 1130 students from middle schools and high school and 200 teacher/coaches from Community High School District 128, West Oak Middle School and Vernon Hills Park District. Fees collected totaled $5,300.00 in 2010. Fremont Middle School established the CPR in the Schools Program late in 2010 increasing the amount of students certified from last year.

**Fire Extinguisher Training**...57 participants were provided fire extinguisher training in area businesses, and 125 8th grade science students at Fremont Middle School also received this lesson.
Firefighter for a Day…four individuals had the opportunity to receive this incredible experience.

Monthly Fire Safety Video Clip with Channel 4 News…Fireman Tony appeared on the Vernon Hills Update Television Show with information and safety tips to village residents for the holiday season.

Open House… The 51st OPEN HOUSE was very special this year. CFPD secured the Lake County Fire Chief’s Side by Side Fire Sprinkler Burn unit to demonstrate the disastrous effects of fire and the effectiveness of fire sprinklers in the home or business. Fire Marshal Mike McNally narrated and two crews participated for attack and safety providing suppression and overhaul. The Fremont Township CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) was on hand for recruitment and assisted with traffic control. Boy Scout Troops provided assistance in the Pancake Breakfast area to free up firemedics for public education activities. Metra Train, Illinois/Wisconsin Search & Rescue Dogs provided information and interaction with approximately 1,200 attendees. Record A-Hit provided an inflatable fire engine crawl through apparatus at 50% off. The Hazard House was on display as was the Countryside Fire static display, handouts and giveaways were provided by FEMA, IDOT, Illinois Fire Safety Alliance and OSFM. The Illinois State Police presented the Roll-Over Simulator, re-enforcing the importance of seat belts. Everyone did an excellent job to make the Open House an annual “must attend” community event.

Parade-4th of July Handouts…Fireman Tony brought up the rear of the parade and passed out various fire safety trinkets with a fire safety message for an excellent public relations opportunity.

Remembering When…Maintained participation in the Office of the State Fire Marshal Fire and Fall Prevention program for residents 65 years and older. “Remembering When” offers a home inspection, free smoke alarms, night lights, oven mitts and recommendations to help prevent our senior residents from accidently starting a fire or falling down and injuring themselves. CFPD provided quarterly visits to Hawthorn Lakes and The Park of Vernon Hills with fire safety awareness information, ladder truck demonstrations, fire sprinkler demonstrations and Jaws of Life demonstrations focusing on the importance of seat belts.

Smoke Alarm Giveaway…Maintained participation in the Office of the State Fire Marshal “FREE” Smoke Alarm program that provided smoke alarms with properly completed documentation submittal. 16 smoke alarms were installed in fire district homes without a working smoke alarm.

Special Events…CFPD attended 55 various events in the fire district reaching approximately 10,400 participants. CFPD also maintained a close working relationship with the Lake County Fire Chief’s Association and the Northern Illinois Public Education Team (NIPET).

Station Tours…23 station tours provided for 328 participants combined at both fire stations.
School Programs

CFPD demonstrates a commitment to its fire and life safety education programs by visiting each grade level of every school within the district. It is this level of commitment that assists in helping prevent fire and injuries in the communities. In 2010, approximately 13,000 students in the schools had contact from a CFPD member. The public education division was able to double the visits in grades 3, 6, 7, 8 and in the high school. The more visits our fire district is permitted to provide in the schools, coupled with attending community events and reinforcing the safety messages, will continue to show a decrease in fires and injuries within the fire district. The following list is age appropriate programs for the school grade levels:

Pre-School—Firefighter Friendly
Kindergarten—Firefighter Friendly
1st Grade—Join My Fire Safety Club
2nd Grade—Where There’s Smoke There’s Science
3rd Grade—Be Cool About Fire Safety and the Hazard House
4th Grade—The Great Escape Challenge
5th Grade—The Smoke Alarm Show
6th Grade—Sprinklers Save Lives (Live Demonstration) and Kitchen Fire Safety
7th Grade—Fire’s Fury, Safety Smart with Bill Nye and Severe Weather Safety
8th Grade—CPR in the Schools and Chemistry of Fire and Fire Extinguisher lesson

High School—CPR in the Schools, Dorm/Apartment Fire Safety, Fire Service Career, Holiday Fire Safety, Kitchen Fire Safety, Chemistry of Fire, Health Fair, House of Hazards, Graduation Life Safety Kit, Combat Challenge, and the YouTube Video Contest for Fire Safety & Burn Prevention. Pre-Prom offered every other year to junior and senior students.

Graduation Life Safety Kit

The Graduation Life Safety Kit was delivered for the third year to 310 Class of 2010 Vernon Hills High School graduating seniors. The idea was to send the graduates with Fire and Life Safety information, supplies and equipment they could use to be safe beyond high school. Public Education Coordinator Rodkey secured partnerships with area businesses to help fund this awesome gift, including DaVita Village Health, Sam’s Club, Baskin Robbins, Max & Erma’s and Buffalo Wild Wings.
You Tube Video Program for Fire Safety & Burn Prevention

Coordinator Rodkey managed this countywide high school program for the second year (2009/2010 school year) on behalf of the Lake County Fire Chief's. An award ceremony was held at Advocate Condell Hospital Conference Center in February, 2010 (National Burn Awareness Week) recognizing 42 participants that created 14 fire safety videos. Winners were posted on YouTube. Additionally, Coordinator Rodkey implemented this program in the CFPD five middle schools: Fremont Middle, Hawthorn Middle South and North, West Oak and Woodlawn. The contest was underway for the 2009/2010 school year and concluded March 12, 2010, with 15 videos submitted. There is a link on Fire District website to view the videos. The program 2010 / 11 school year is underway. Funding from this program comes from sponsors within the fire district including Discovery Day Camp, Learning Resources, Westfield Hawthorn Mall and the Countryside Fire Department Corporation.

Rewards for Practicing Fire Safety

Maggie Moo’s Ice Cream and Treatery and the Cold Stone Creamery partnered with CFPD Public Education Division for the 2nd year by providing coupons for free ice cream to students who completed assigned fire safety homework following various fire safety education program visits. Robek’s Juice and Qdoba Mexican Grill joined in 2010, to reward students for practicing fire safety.

Additionally, ice cream parties were donated to the 6th grade science class which had the best post test class average.
**Evaluation Results**

An evaluation program was maintained in 2010 to measure the effectiveness of how the fire safety education content was being delivered and where improvements may be necessary. The teachers in grade levels 5\textsuperscript{th} and 6\textsuperscript{th} administered a pre-test a few days before the fire safety presentation and post-test a week later to help determine if the students are learning and what improvements may be needed to make an impact in delivering the fire safety education.

The following chart demonstrates that the current programs are making an impact and the students are learning from our education methods and visits into the schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Pre-test Average</th>
<th>Post-test Average</th>
<th>Percent Improved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aspen Elementary</td>
<td>5\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Smoke Alarm Show</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Meadow Elementary</td>
<td>5\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Smoke Alarm Show</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont Intermediate</td>
<td>5\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Smoke Alarm Show</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Elementary North</td>
<td>5\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Smoke Alarm Show</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Elementary South</td>
<td>5\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Smoke Alarm Show</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townline Elementary</td>
<td>5\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Smoke Alarm Show</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Oak Middle</td>
<td>5\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Smoke Alarm Show</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fremont Middle</td>
<td>6\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Sprinkler Demo</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Middle North</td>
<td>6\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Sprinkler Demo</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawthorn Middle South</td>
<td>6\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Sprinkler Demo</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Oak Middle</td>
<td>6\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Sprinkler Demo</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodlawn Middle</td>
<td>6\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Sprinkler Demo</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary

CFPD is maintaining our goal of targeting high risk groups by specifically programming for elementary, middle and high school students as well as maintaining current life and fire safety programs for the elderly and general community. In addition, objectives of doubling visits to the school classrooms continued for various grade levels; Grade levels 3,6,7,8 and the high school received two educational programs. A $2100.00 grant was awarded from the Fremont Education Foundation to purchase manikins in partnership with the Fremont School District CPR in the Schools program that began in November, 2010 health classes.

The Public Education Division continued to increase connectivity with the local business community for support while improving their safety for employees and customers. Coordinator Rodkey was recognized by the GLMV Chamber of Commerce for his extra efforts in the benefit of the local business community and given the 2010 Honorable Mention Commerce Award. Tony Rodkey was also recognized for his contributions to the Special Education District of Lake County for assisting in securing educational fire safety grants which are utilized in all our fire district schools. As the district continues to “invest its personnel in the education of its public and the maintenance of a safe environment” 2010 was another exceptionally productive year. The Public Education Division will continue to strive to maintain an assertive strategy to provide the best community risk reduction efforts.
Through the continued full-time support in Telecommunications, the District has continued to make improvements in its services and operations. Moving Countryside Communications to Vernon Hills PD in 2010 has continued to be of benefit to both agencies in 2011. Each agency has assisted the other in handling overflow calls during busy periods of time, making notifications when needed, and even assisted with desk coverage in emergency situations.

**STAFFING**

The District currently has five (5) full-time employees including a Director, Coordinator, and three (3) telecommunicators. With the current call volume it is necessary to staff one telecommunicator per 12 hour shift. In times of high call volume/radio traffic, communications personnel are supplemented by the Director, Vernon Hills PD telecommunicators, and/or hire back personnel. All full-time Countryside personnel are Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) certified and are required to maintain CPR certification, have knowledge of HAZMAT updates, and complete 12 hours of EMD continuing education per year. In addition, all communication employees participate in an annual review of Blood Borne Pathogen protocols and complete a quiz.

The District also staffs two (2) part-time Emergency Medical Dispatchers who are required to maintain the same qualifications as the full-time staff. Countryside Communications hired full-time Vernon Hills PD telecommunicator, Jeff Jamrok on a part-time basis. Jeff is the first fully cross trained employee of the combined dispatch center and comes with eight (8) years of dispatching experience.

**RADIO & TELEPHONE**

In 2011, Countryside Communications dispatched 3,909 calls for service. Telecommunicators are required to answer both emergency and non-emergency telephone calls. The combined Countryside – Vernon Hills Communications Center is equipped with nine (9) 9-1-1 trunks and fourteen (14) 7/10-digit lines which include one (1) 7/10-digit emergency line and one (1) alarm line. The Communication Center utilizes the Power 9-1-1 (Positron) system for phones and the Motorola MDC 5500 for radios. An upgrade to the phone system was completed in November of 2011. The new phone system has many added features including callback features, the ability to run more detailed reports and faster pick-up/joint answering of 9-1-1 calls. This includes two touch screens and one back-up position. Both the telephones and radio have programs that allow for the instant replay of both phone and radio traffic from that specific console.
Since combining dispatch centers the call volumes for Countryside Fire have increased. CFPD telecommunicators make every effort to answer/pick-up every 9-1-1 call that comes into the center. Many of the calls are not fire related and therefore CFPD telecommunicators disconnect from the call. Following are the approximate numbers of calls that were answered for 2011:

- 9-1-1 Calls – 8,889 calls
- 10 Digit Emergency Line (847-566-4121) – 1,265 calls
- Alarm Line (847-918-6110) – 6,669 calls

As previously mentioned, not all of these 9-1-1 calls are emergency calls for service. They are 9-1-1 hang-ups, test calls and anonymous calls with no caller on the line. It is the policy of the District that every effort should be made to answer all 9-1-1 calls in five seconds or less, and dispatch those calls within 60 seconds or less.

The on-duty telecommunicator also has the ability to monitor up to 12 radio frequencies. This includes Quad 4, Quad 3, Red Center, Lake Zurich, Vernon Hills Police and Public works, NIFERN, Fireground, Long Grove, Lake County F1, StarCom and the TAC channel.

**CAD**

Countryside Communications utilizes the Lake County Computer Aided Dispatch System known as “EnRoute Emergency Systems.” Numerous villages/municipalities within Lake County use this CAD system including but not limited to: Lake County Sheriff, Libertyville, Kildeer, Lake Zurich, Wauconda, and Grayslake Fire. Lake County CAD allows Countryside to monitor surrounding agencies calls and helps keep Countryside Fire personnel updated and informed. In 2011 the Lake County Emergency Telephone Systems Board completed an upgrade to the mapping portion of the CAD. As incidents are entered in the CAD they are pinpointed with a marker on the map. The upgraded mapping system also has more verifiable locations in Lake and surrounding counties.
ALARMS

The District has 419 alarms that are directly connected to the Keltron alarm computer. These alarms are monitored by the on-duty telecommunicator. Signals received include Fire, Trouble, Radio Trouble, Central Poll Loss, Supervisory, and No Signal Received to name a few. During the year 525,961 alarm signals were processed. Of those signals 488,489 signals were logged by a telecommunicator. The majority of these signals were trouble alarms (169,336). The reason for the large number of alarms is due to runaway signals and alarms cycling. The Keltron computer has the ability to disable specific signals so the telecommunicator is not disrupted.

EMD

All telecommunicators are required to be Emergency Medical Dispatch Certified. Initial certification requires the telecommunicator to attend the National Academy of Emergency Dispatch three-day course and complete a test at the end. To maintain certification Telecommunicators are required to complete 12 hours of continuing education. Eight (8) of these hours are provided through the Condell EMS system and the additional hours are obtained through meetings, call review, and the training of other personnel. Once certified, in order to maintain EMD status, each telecommunicator is required to take a re-certification test every two years and maintain CPR certification.

TRAINING

In 2011, telecommunicators participated in “Mayday” training presented by Deputy Fire Chief Tim Leidig of Mundelein Fire Department. This training covered the telecommunicator’s critical role when a firefighter is in an emergency situation and in need of immediate assistance. Several other agencies attended the training as well. Countryside Telecommunicators were also trained on use of the new alarm board and participated in Continuing Education for Emergency Medical Dispatch. Topics covered for EMD CE include motor vehicle accidents/scene safety, cold weather emergencies, and call review.

CAMERAS

Countryside Communications currently has cameras at both stations. The cameras capture both interior and exterior shots including the bay doors and lobby entrances. These cameras are monitored twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week by the on-duty telecommunicator. The communication center also has the ability to view the Lake County Passage traffic cameras which include intersections such as Route 60 and Milwaukee Avenue, Route 45 and Buffalo Grove Road, and Route 60 and Butterfield Road. This camera system has been beneficial to the telecommunicators in locating accidents in said intersections and viewing incidents prior to the arrival of emergency personnel.
**FUTURE PLANS**

The Combined Countryside Fire – Vernon Hills Police Dispatch Center has received inquiries from both Lincolnshire Police & Fire and Libertyville Police & Fire pertaining to dispatching for their departments contractually. Presentations were done and information was provided to both agencies. At this time neither department has committed fully. It is the goal of this combined Communication Center to continue to cross-train both agencies in police and fire dispatch and to provide fire and police dispatch to agencies other than its own.
The Countryside Fire Protection District’s Training Division follows standards set by several agencies, including the Office of the State Fire Marshal, Illinois Department of Labor, and the Illinois Department of Public Health. These standards set minimums for training hours, certifications, and mandatory yearly training subject areas.

Administration & Staffing

Division Chief Kevin Wodrich is the District’s Training Officer. Promoted in January 2010, his responsibilities include: maintaining training records, preparing the yearly department training calendar, administering training, posting and maintaining the special teams training calendar, scheduling OSFM certification tests, and preparing the members for advancement of their careers. Assisting with shift personnel training are the shift Battalion Chiefs & Lieutenants. Lt. Ron Echtenacher Jr. is currently in charge of the Paid on Premise Training program. Regularly assisting with the POP training is, Lt. Dan Ogurek, John Sherwood & Mike Dovel.

Training Hours

All career firefighting personnel are required to complete 240 hours of training per year. Paid on Premise personnel are required to complete 120 hours. Training hours are accumulated through structured department training and attending Office of the State Fire Marshal classes, fire related seminars, conferences, and self study job related training. Structured drills are supervised hands-on training, involving practical skill-building activities. Some examples are:

- Scheduled drills
- Practical sessions
- Burn downs
- County Special Teams drills

Self study job related training. Some examples are:

- Reviewing District SOG’s
- Reviewing District Rules & Regulations
- Watching videos related to the fire service
- Reading Trade magazine articles
- Performing weekly pump and tool testing
- Performing hose and hydrant testing
- Reviewing study books and manuals
- Studying other related materials

Total training hours for 2011 were 13870.84, average of 190 training hours per member.
2011 Training Hours

**PAID ON PREMISE PERSONNEL**

In 2011, the district employed P.O.P. members with a total of 237 years of fire service experience. The district hires additional new Paid on Premise members every other year. The total Paid on Premise currently is 35.

The POP member with the most seniority is Mark Speckan, with 22 years experience.

All POP personnel are certified through the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal to the level of Firefighter II, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Hazardous Materials Operations, Technical Rescue Awareness, Fire Service Vehicle Operators, Terrorism Awareness, and Nation Incident Management System -100,200, and 700.

Four of POP members are full-time members on other departments, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to the district from their primary job.

POP Class of 2010 Swearing in August 2011 after Fire Academy Completion
QUAD 4 TRAINING

In 2011, the training officers of the Quad 4 Departments implemented a schedule to perform monthly trainings which covered a wide selection of training topics. The training covered all aspects of emergency responses.

Those departments involved were:
- Countryside
- Deerfield
- Highland Park
- Knollwood
- Lake Bluff
- Lake Forest
- Libertyville
- Lincolnshire / Riverwoods
- Mundelein

MONTHLY TRAINING

Prior to each calendar year, a “Training Needs Assessment” is sent out to all members of the Department. Included on the “Training Needs Assessment” form are seven questions which ask:
- Classes or schools the individuals would like to attend
- College Classes-Educational Planning
- If any member will be obtaining a higher education degree
- What type of training the district needs as a group
- Classes or topics they would enjoy instructing
- How they feel the training program can be improved
- If there is anything a member feels they need individual assistance with

In addition to the required training, the “Training Needs Assessment” information is compiled and added into the upcoming year’s calendar.

DAILY DRILLS

The Daily Drill is another training tool. These are generally reviewed following morning shift change. The topics covered will include information in the following areas: EMS protocol, Fire, Haz Mat, Department SOG’s, Employee Handbook, and new equipment.

JPR’S

Job Performance Requirements are forms that are used to explain what is expected of members during training. They are similar to an instructors training outline.
JPR’s include:
- The skill / performance / topic descriptions that are referenced to OSFM objectives and NFPA standards
- The task(s) to be performed
- The requisite knowledge
- The requisite skills
- Critical points of the training
- Safety statement
- References

**Special Response Teams**

Countryside promotes the education of some of its members in the area of special response team. These teams include: High Angle, Trench, Confined Space, Structural Collapse, Wildland Firefighting, Hazardous Material, Sonar and Dive Rescue/Recovery. In addition to the department training, the team members must attend a pre-determined number of trainings to maintain their eligibility for the MABAS Division 4 & 5 teams.

**Audits**

In 2011, the training division was audited by several agencies including, Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Illinois Secretary of State.
CERTIFICATIONS

All members are OSFM certified to a minimum level of FF II, Haz Mat Awareness, Haz Mat Operations, Technical Rescue Awareness and Terrorism Awareness. After attending the FFII academy, new recruits then continue their education with EMT-B class. To continue their education, members are prepared to take their FF III certification exam. All members are encouraged to continue their education in preparation for advancement in the Districts organization.

Listed below are the numbers of State Certifications that fire district members achieved during 2011:

2 – Emergency Medical Technician - Paramedic
4 – Firefighter II
2 – Firefighter III
2 – Ice Diver Operations
1 – Water Operations
1 – Training Program Manager
1 – Health and Safety Officer
1 – Fire Service Incident Safety Officer
3 – Rope Operations
5 – Fire Apparatus Engineer
2 – Fire Officer I
1 – Fire Officer II
5 – Coordinated Fire Gound Operation Company Officer Boot Camp
5 – Technical Rescue Awareness
2 – Swift Water II
2 – Watercraft Technician
2 – Vehicle Machinery Operations
7 – Hazardous Material Operations
2 – Hazardous Material Incident Command
2 – Instructor I
2 – Instructor II
2 – National Incident Management System-100
2 – National Incident Management System-200
2 – National Incident Management System-700
1 – National Incident Management System-704.a
23 – “Blue Card” Incident Command Certification
2 – “Blue Card” Instructor Incident Command Certification
2 – Child Safety Seat Technician

Higher Education Degrees achieved in 2011:

2 – Associates of Applied Emergency Medical Technology / Fire Science
1 – Bachelors of Fire Science