



COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Jeff Steingart, Fire Chief

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2008 Annual Report

**INCIDENT RESPONSES
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS
MAINTENANCE
PUBLIC EDUCATION
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TRAINING**

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INCIDENT RESPONSES

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

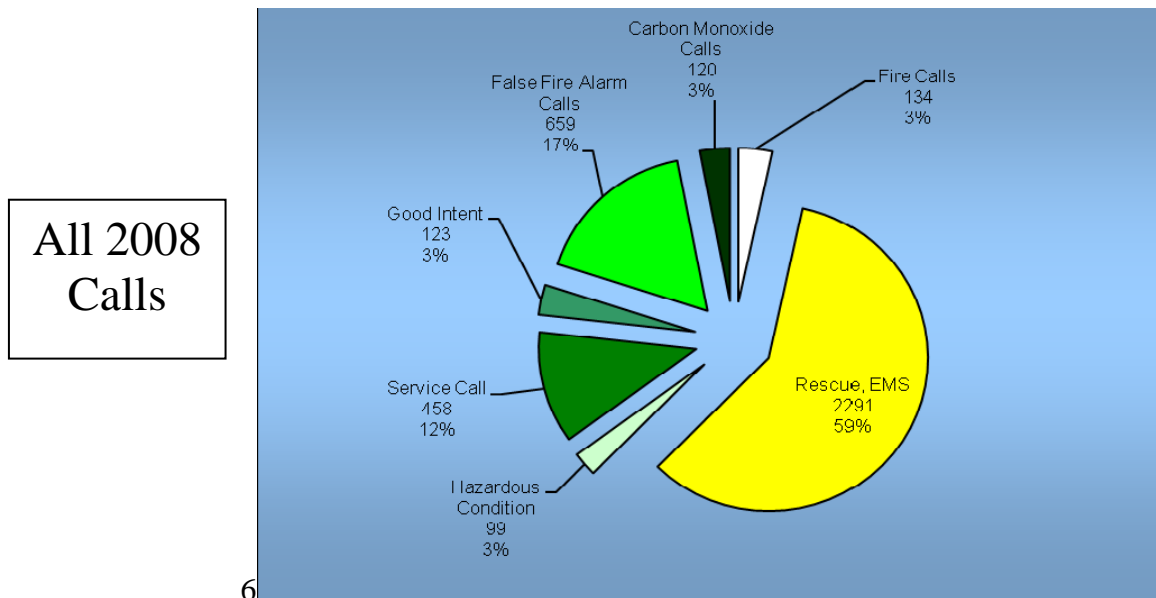


The Commission on Fire Accreditation International identifies the need for a fire agency to provide reporting and analysis of its services. The 2008 Incident Response Summary fulfills that need by providing the necessary reporting and analysis of emergency response and deployment by the District. Through accurate reporting and analysis the District is provided a platform for informed planning and decision-making.

The 2008 report reflects the first full year of data since moving back in to CFPD Station #1 after construction was completed.

CALL VOLUME

- The District responded to 3,882 calls in 2008. Of those, 3,326 were in the District. This is a less than 1% increase in call volume from 2007 and a 7.5% increase from 2006. The increase of just 21 calls is consistent in the District's trend for call volume. The variables to call volume are related to moderate, yet slowing growth and weather that keep the District on track with this trend. Additionally, the call data remained flat as response operations got back to normal in 2008 after moving back in to Station #1 for the first full year post-construction.



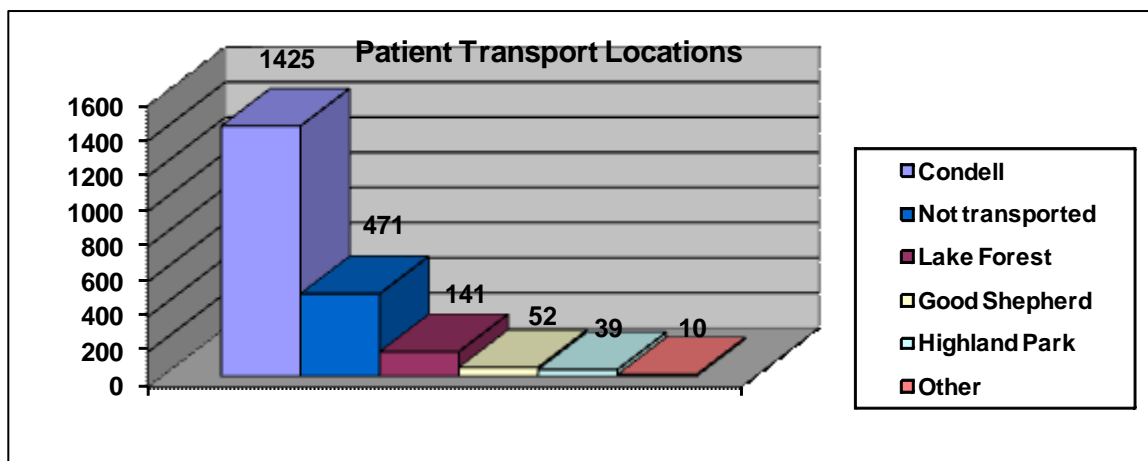
- In 2008, CFPD averaged 10.6 calls per day.
- When 229 trouble alarms handled by the Fire Prevention Bureau are added to the call count, the District responded to 4,111 calls. Of those, 3,555 calls were in the District.
- December was the busiest month in 2008.
- The busiest day of the week was Monday; the slowest days were Saturday and Sunday.
- The hours between 8:00 AM and 9:00 PM were the busiest hours of the day.
- CFPD gave mutual aid 557 times to other agencies. 326 of those were to Mundelein, 107 to Libertyville. This was a decrease of 34 calls mainly due to response boundaries and running orders with Mundelein.

FIRE RESPONSE

- 2008 recorded 31 structure fires, which is on par with the average of 31.5 over a 10-year period.
- The 2008 fire loss was \$1,974,717.00, an increase of \$479,822.00 from 2007. The highest loss incident (\$956,617) occurred at a fire in a large retail store at the Westfield shopping mall that was extinguished by the sprinkler system.
- The district treated two (2) civilians that were fire-related casualties, and there were zero (0) fire deaths during 2008.

EMS RESPONSE

- EMS calls accounted for 61.5 % of all calls within the Fire District.
- 85.6% of all patients transported were taken to Condell Medical Center in Libertyville.



- Hawthorn Lakes and the Willows retirement community accounted for 294 calls in 2008, 14.4% of all EMS calls in District; the same as 2007.
- EMS calls at The Park of Vernon Hills retirement community in 2008 reflect a slight decrease at 300, compared to 309 in 2007, 15.1% of all EMS calls in District.

RESPONSE TIME

- Firemedics responded to 2,058 emergency calls (ambulance, vehicle crashes and structure fires) in the District in 2008.
- The response time for all in-district emergency calls in 2008 averaged 4:16; a decrease of :08 seconds from 2007.
- The Fire District achieved its response time goal of *seven minutes or less to 85% of all emergency calls*. The Fire District responded to 94.9% of all ambulance, vehicle crashes and structures fire calls within seven minutes or less.
- The Village of Vernon Hills accounted for 79.8% of in-district calls in 2008, a 1.5% increase from 2007. Calls in other villages in the District were as follows:

▪ Hawthorn Woods	155
▪ Long Grove	120
▪ Indian Creek	24
▪ Unincorporated	362

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TIME SUMMARY DISTRICTS 41A – 41I 2008 SUMMARY

Type of Call	Number of Calls	* Average Response Time	Percent Within 7 minutes	Response Time Goal
EMS Ambulance	1,885	4:18	94.5%	85% < 7 mins.
Motor Vehicle Accidents	159	3:45	96.9%	85% < 7 mins.
Structure Fires	67	4:31	91.4%	85% < 7 mins.
Tech Rescue/Haz-Mat	2	2:14	100%	85% < 7 mins.

- Call distribution appears to be steady in the eastern portion of the District as growth has settled; however, in the western portion of the district, slight growth has increased call volume in those still response areas.

FIREMEDIC INJURIES

- The District recorded three (3) Firemedic injuries in 2008, one of which required surgery and extensive rehab.
- The District recorded 94 OSHA lost work days in 2008. This was a substantial decrease compared to 2007 partially due to a light duty policy.
- One (1) injury occurred during an EMS call.
- One (1) injury occurred during firefighting activities.
- One (1) injury occurred during station duties.

FIRE ALARM RESPONSE

- The Fire District responded to 594 automatic alarms in the District during 2008.
- The Fire Prevention Bureau responded to an additional 229 trouble alarms in 2008, a 77.5% increase from 2007 mostly due to radio transmitter issues.
- Fire alarms accounted for 23.1% of the 3,326 calls (including FPB trouble alarms) within the District during 2008.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



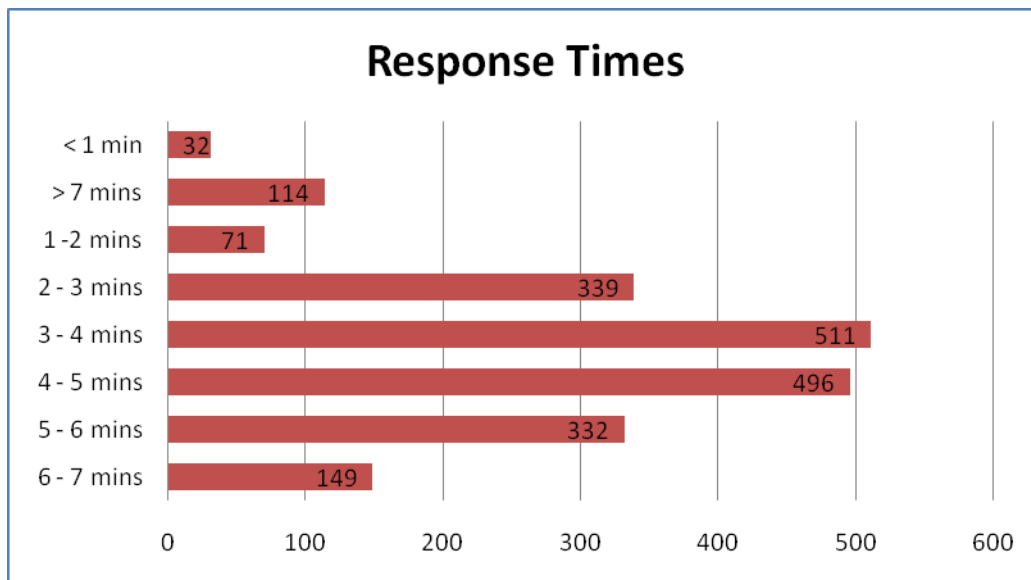
Everyday people dial 911 and request assistance for paramedic services from our highly trained medical personnel. Countryside Fire Protection District personnel responded to 2,049 requests for medical assistance and treated 2,138 patients. This represents 61.4% of CFPD responses for medical emergencies.

Maintaining a high level of response readiness, it is the intention of Countryside to provide the closest station response for people who are in need of medical attention. The District continues to work with neighboring agencies, especially Mundelein, to maintain the closest station response model through which continue to provide efficient and effective service for our customers.



Countryside firefighters work to remove a patient at a car accident on Highway 45 and Deerpath.

Through the Accreditation process, the District has set a goal to respond to 85% of all emergencies within our District in less than 7 minutes. In 2008, we responded to EMS incidents within our District 94.9% of the time in 7 minutes or less. Out of 2,044 responses within the District, 1,930 responses met that response standard.



BY THE NUMBERS

Countryside Firemedics utilized many skills in caring for the patients they treated. Some of the statistics are as follows:

817 IVs established in patients

846 patients received oxygen

109 medications administered (not including oxygen)

4 patients received intraosseous infusions

9 patients were successfully intubated

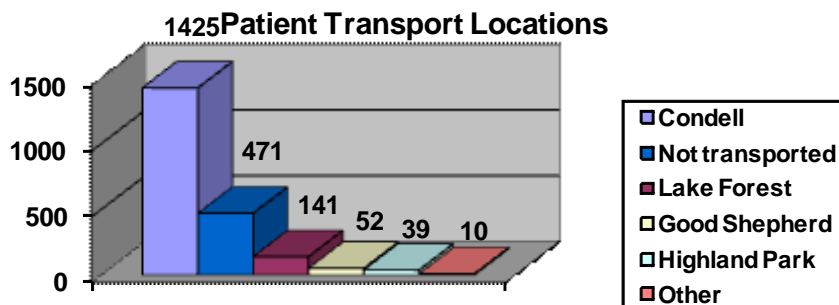


Countryside firemedics responded to many calls for car crashes throughout 2008. This incident involved a car vs. building at Evergreen Plaza.

CFPD treated people of all ages, but as the chart below shows, there is a large population served that is over age 80. This is represented by the two senior housing complexes-Hawthorn Lakes and the Park of Vernon Hills. District personnel responded to Hawthorn Lakes 294 times and to the Park of Vernon Hills 300 times for medical emergencies.

Countryside offers our customers many different options when deciding which healthcare facility they want to provide them medical treatment. The chart below indicates the amount of times the District transported to the facilities in our area. A change was seen in the hospitals we transported to due to Condell not accepting Blue Cross/Blue Shield insurance.

Age	Male	Female
0 - 9	67	65
10 -19	79	95
20 -29	95	111
30 - 39	84	116
40 - 49	109	116
50 -59	113	128
60 - 69	80	89
70 - 79	71	118
80 - 89	140	291
90 - 99	56	102
100 - 109	3	9
110 - 119	0	1
	897	1241
	41.9%	58%



TRAINING

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 paramedics were required to pass a system wide test two times each year.



Crews respond to an accident involving a SUV vs. gravel truck

Training is coordinated by Deputy Chief Kazian as the District's Medical Officer and Division Chief Ken Arnsward from the Training Division. Firemedics Prosi, Ogurek, and Dovel all assisted 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.

The District continues to enhance 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 the POP members, we have also successfully implemented an EMT-B recertification program that is allowing our POP members to attain the required hours needed 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.



Paramedics assist the Flight for Life crew at the scene of an equestrian incident.

In 2008, we embarked on a program to bring paramedic students, who are not currently employed by other fire agencies, ride with our paramedics. This is an opportunity for us to help others get the necessary education to be an effective paramedic, and it has also allowed us to increase staffing on ambulance calls without any additional costs. All of our personnel have embraced the opportunity to train these paramedic students, and we are considering expanding the program in the future.

The following members completed the Condell paramedic class in 2008,: Clayton Booth, Clifton Englund, Rob Elkins, Brian Ondrako, Andy Rick, Joel Severin, and Steve Shaffer as well as recently certified EMT-B member Mark Olakowski. This brings our total number of paramedics to 54 and EMT-Bs to 13. Currently there are two people enrolled in the paramedic class at Condell.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



2008....LOOKING BACK

2008 was an exciting time to be a part of fire prevention. The Countryside Fire Protection District provided a balanced approach to fire protection and application of the five E's—Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Early warning and Early suppression.



One of the five E's- early suppression, played a major role in the preservation of life and property involving four fire incidents within the District in 2008. Fires at CDW, Best Hunan Restaurant, Carson Pirie Scott and Vernon Square Office Building were quickly extinguished by sprinkler systems resulting in no injuries and estimated savings to property and contents of over **53 million dollars**. Moreover, the businesses did not have to close down for costly fire restoration which resulted in further savings. Residential sprinkler systems were installed in 13 new single- family homes. Over 1,200 residences now have sprinkler protection throughout the District including 31 homes in our unincorporated Lake County area.

2008 will also be remembered for two historic fire safety actions that will save countless lives in the future. First, the year brought fire-safe cigarettes into law in Illinois. Fire-safe cigarettes are made with a special paper that allows the cigarette to self-extinguish if not being smoked. This measure hopes to decrease the number of fires and casualties caused by the careless and improper disposal of smoking materials, when sleeping or when alcohol or drug impairment causes a smoker to leave cigarettes burning unattended. The CFPD Bureau and Administrative Staff supported this bill by contacting legislative representatives and through fire association groups. The second is two proposals passed at the International Code Council Hearings on September 21st 2008, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The first proposal requires effective January 1, 2011, an approved automatic fire sprinkler system shall be installed in new one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses in accordance with NFPA 13D with publication of the next International Residential Code. The other proposal will require automatic fire sprinkler protection in all new townhomes effective immediately with the publication of the next

International Residential Code (IRC). Fire Marshal Mike McNally and Inspector/Fire Medic Ron Cielek attended the Hearings to cast the District's votes supporting this historic code change.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU GOAL

The goal of the fire prevention bureau is provide quality level of fire and life safety in the community. These communities include the villages of Vernon Hills, Hawthorn Woods, Long Grove, Indian Creek, Kildeer and portions of unincorporated Lake County.

The bureau uses five key strategies to achieve this goal:

- Educate the public on good fire safety practices
- Review building plans, paying particular attention to fire protection features, and exit requirements to assure that buildings are designed and constructed according to approved fire and life safety code standards
- Conduct inspections of all new construction and existing commercial, institutional, educational, and multifamily residential occupancies to assure compliance with applicable codes and standards
- Conduct thorough fire investigations as to the origin and cause in order to implement fire prevention action plans
- Inspect and test the wet and dry hydrants throughout the District to assure an adequate water supply is available for fire suppression when needed

Responding to emergency calls remain the top priority, bureau personnel also supplement the duty crews by responding to emergency calls and assisting on special detail projects.

In 2008, the Fire Prevention Bureau participated in evaluation process for renewal of the department's accreditation through the Commission on Fire Service Accreditation International. To prepare for the site visit, the Fire Prevention Bureau reviewed its policies and procedures in addition to gathering reports for the peer review. Bureau staff was then interviewed by the accreditation team as part of the overall evaluation of the Department.

The following is a brief summary of the 5 major areas of the Fire Prevention Bureau Division

ADMINISTRATION & STAFFING

The Bureau day time staff assisted duty crews by logging 1,392 hours of non-bureau related time consisting of shift detail, call responses and special detail. This is 380 hours (37%) more time in comparison to 2007. Bureau personnel also logged 1,699 hours of training which is an increase of 979 hours (136%). All Bureau members maintained certifications as licensed paramedics, firefighters, fire apparatus engineers, fire origin/cause investigators and other special response teams.

The 2008 Fire Prevention Bureau Division day staff team consisted of the following:

- Fire Marshal Mike McNally
- Inspector/Fire Medic Ron Cielek
- Inspector/Fire Medic Phil Obos
- Public Education Coordinator Tony Rodkey

Inspector/Fire Medic Phil Obos will be returning to Red Shift effective 1/1/09 after spending almost 3 years in the Bureau. We are pleased to report that Fire Medic George Tejcek will be joining the Bureau day staff team as an Inspector/Fire Medic effective 1/1/09. Business Manager Ginny Klein and Administrative Assistant Nancy Gibbs provided administrative support when time permitted.

Fire Marshal Mike McNally served as Vice President of the Northern Illinois Inspectors Association and Contract Manager for the CFPD Metro Firemedics.

Inspector/Firemedic Ron Cielek served as CFPD liaison with Vernon Hills High School, assisted with Child Care seat installations and completed his Associates Degree.

Inspector/Firemedic Phil Obos was an active member in the Lake County Fire Honor Guard acting as Commander, a member of special response Haz Mat and Underwater Dive teams.

Public Education Coordinator/Firemedic Tony Rodkey was an active member in the Lake County special response Haz Mat team, a member of NIPET and assisted the Bureau with field inspections.

INSPECTIONS

The Fire Prevention Bureau maintained an aggressive inspection campaign. All 1,216 existing commercial, educational and multi-family occupancies within the District were inspected. All new construction and remodel projects were inspected which included all fire protection systems and for life safety compliance. The bureau conducted tours with the duty crews to familiarize them with the new and remodeled buildings and fire protection systems.

Inspectors also conducted special inspections throughout the year for special events such as fireworks shows, Summer Celebration in Vernon Hills and Mall promotions.

There were 4,775 Bureau inspection activities recorded in 2008 which is 181 more inspection activities than 2007.

Major 2008 field inspection results included 1,216 routine inspections to existing occupancies, 910 construction inspections (CO/ fire sprinkler/fire alarm) and 399 hydrant inspections/flow tests. 3,846 total hours were dedicated to inspection activities. This is 253 more hours than 2007. New construction and remodel projects accounted for 776 hours or 20% of the total inspection hours. All new and modified fire sprinkler/suppression and fire alarm detection system devices were inspected. There were 197 sprinkler/suppression system and 105 fire alarm inspections.

Inspectors averaged six field inspection activities per day in addition to other activities. Inspectors spent 20 hours witnessing 31 fire drills at area schools and day care facilities in accordance with state requirements.

Table 1: Type of Inspection, 2008

Type of Inspection	Number	Hours	% of Time
Routine Maintenance	1,216	515.31	5.53%
Re-Inspection	270	79.70	0.85%
Re-Inspection/Telephone	284	128.00	1.37%
Under Construction	344	202.38	2.17%
Pre-Occupancy-Final	264	238.83	2.56%
Suppression System	197	214.84	2.30%
Fire Alarm System	105	119.50	1.28%
Fire Alarm/In-Service	292 (229)	263.03	2.82%
Complaints	60	34.93	0.37%
Water Supply	399	258.70	2.77%
Miscellaneous	413	339.01	3.63%
All Other Inspections	931	1,452.53	15.59%
Total	4,775	3,846.76	41.29%

Table 1 shows the types of inspections and the percentages of time required for each category. The number of non-inspection activities such as plan reviews, meetings, training, etc, is represented in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Summary of Other Activities, 2008

Other Activities	Number	Hours	% of Time
Data Processing	721	1,075.00	11.53%
Meeting	193	292.50	3.13%
Plan Reviews	250	350.17	3.75%
Office/Miscellaneous	12	30.73	0.32%
Vacation/Sick	72	631.00	6.77%
School Training	859	1,698.70	18.23%
Emergency Calls	77	86.04	0.92%
Shift Detail	168	233.50	2.50%
Special Detail	359	1,072.60	11.51%
Total	2,711	5,470.24	58.71%
Totals for Tables 1&2	7,486	9,317.00	100.00%

Figure 1: Summary of Time Spent, 2008

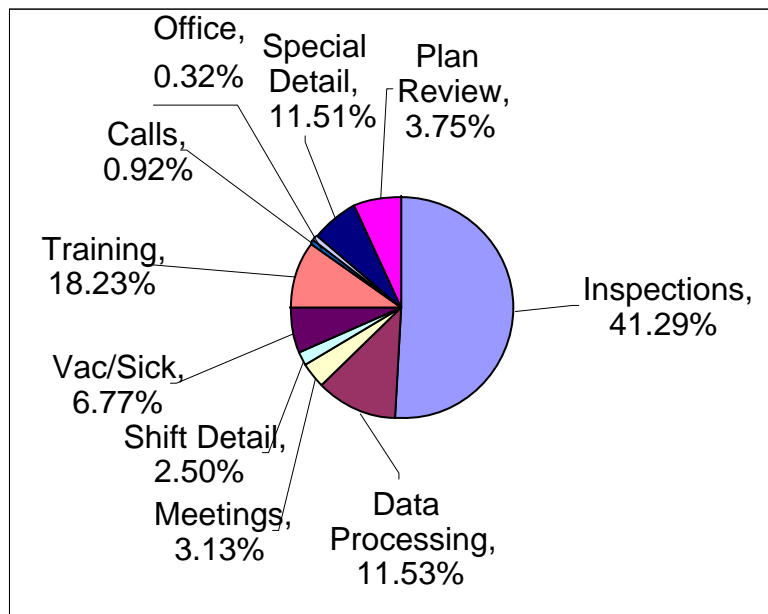


Figure 1 represents a combination of all Bureau inspections along with other activities. Total inspections accounted for 41% of Bureau time. 59% of time was spent in other activities. Training time double compared to 2007.

Table 3 represents the top ten violations cited during routine occupancy inspections. The top ten violations accounted for 47% of the total violations cited. Out of 1,216 routine, annual and semi-annual inspections, 663 occupancies (55%) had “no apparent violations”.

Table 3: Top Ten Violations, 2008

Rank	Violation Type	Number	% of Total
1	EMERGENCY LIGHT BATTERY REPAIRS NEEDED	183	8.52%
2	REPLACE EXIT SIGN BULBS	171	7.96%
3	FIRE ALARM ANNUAL TEST REPORT NEEDED	169	7.90%
4	EXIT SIGN BATTERY REPAIRS NEEDED	155	7.22%
5	FIRE EXTINGUISHER SERVICE NEEDED	98	4.56%
6	KEYS NEEDED FOR THE KNOX BOX	73	3.40%
7	SPRINKLER ANNUAL TEST REPORT	48	2.23%
8	REINSTALL CEILING TILES	47	2.20%
9	DO NOT OBSTRUCT ELECTRICAL PANELS	36	1.66%
10	EMERGENCY LIGHT BULBS NEEDED	32	1.50%
	TOTAL TOP 10 VIOLATION CATEGORIES	1,012	47.15%
	TOTAL FOR ALL OTHER CATEGORIES	1,134	52.85%
TOTAL CODE VIOLATIONS FOR 2008		2,146	100.00%

The Fire Prevention Bureau serves five municipalities and parts of unincorporated Lake County.

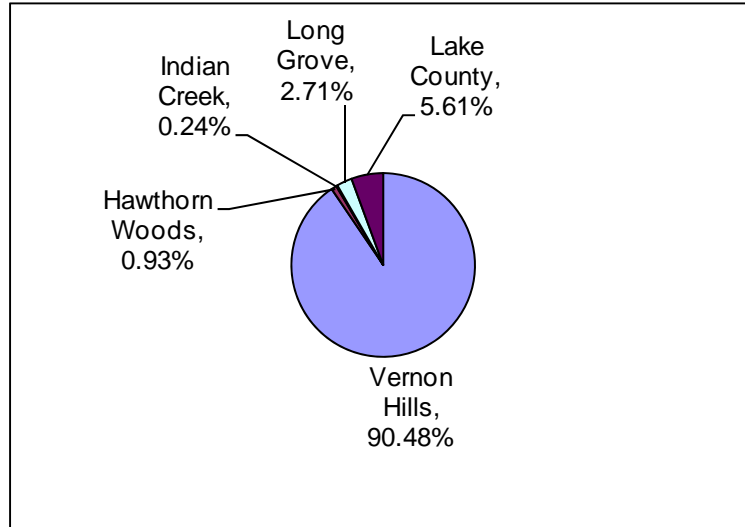
Table 4 shows the Bureau activity distribution of each jurisdiction in number, hours and percent of time spent. Vernon Hills accounted for 6,516 bureau activities, which represented 88% of time spent. Vernon Hills and Long Grove showed a slight increase while the others showed a slight decrease over 2007. Figure 2 represents the amount of time logged in each municipality and unincorporated Lake County.

Number of inspections and hours spent conducting inspections increased over 2007 for unincorporated Lake County due to residential sprinkler system requirements, fire investigations, complaints and enforcement issues.

Table 4: Fire Prevention Bureau Activities by Municipality/Lake County, 2008

Name	Number	Hours	% of Time
Hawthorn Woods	88	85.20	0.93%
Indian Creek	33	22.72	0.24%
Long Grove	203	247.56	2.71%
Lake County	559	512.52	5.61%
Vernon Hills	6,516	8,257	90.48%
Total	7,399	9,125	100.00%

Figure 2: Percent of Time Logged in Each Municipality & Lake County, 2008



NEW BUILDINGS/MAJOR REMODEL PROJECTS

NEW CONSTRUCTION



Lowe's – 1660 Milwaukee, Vernon Hills - 169,311 sq ft building



Autumn Leaves – 500 Atrium Dr. Vernon Hills – 24,850 sq ft one story 36 unit memory care home

- Shops at Greggs Landing/ Multi Tenant Building – 1640 Milwaukee, Vernon Hills – 10,400 sq ft - 5 tenant spaces
 - Panda Express – 1640 Milwaukee # 500, Vernon Hills – 2,260 sq ft tenant
 - Starbucks – 1640 Milwaukee # 100, Vernon Hills – 1,850 sq ft tenant
- Staple's Office Supply - 1600 Milwaukee Ave, Vernon Hills - 19,147 sq ft building
- Amcore Bank – 1620 Milwaukee Ave, Vernon Hills – 5,928 sq ft building
- Vernon Hills Bank & Trust – 1101 Lakeview Pkwy, Vernon Hills – 14,974 sq ft two story building

- Pine Grove Equestrian Center – 21797/27771 Hwy 176, Mundelein – 38,954 sq ft equestrian complex
- Hawthorn Woods Country Club Townhomes – Multi-Family Townhomes - Units 11-17 Shoreacres & Units 12-14 Shoreacres

MAJOR REMODEL PROJECTS

- Hotel Indigo – 450 Milwaukee Ave. Vernon Hills – 74,680 sq ft
- Midwest Air Technologies – 6699 Wildlife Way, Long Grove – 35,300 sq ft
- Toshiba Medical Research Institution – 704-708 Deerpath Dr. Vernon Hills – 49,263 sq ft tenant
- Corner Bakery Café – 445 Townline Rd. #A-1, Vernon Hills – 4,440 sq ft tenant
- Jason’s Deli – 545 Lakeview Pkwy, Vernon Hills – 5,276 sq ft tenant
- Baxter Credit Union – 560 Bunker Ct, Vernon Hills – 22,447 sq ft
- AT&T – 445 Townline Rd, Vernon Hills – 4,835 sq ft
- Ritacca Laser Center – 230 Center Dr. Vernon Hills – 4,214 sq ft
- ETA/Cuisenaire – 500 Greenview Dr. Vernon Hills – 10,000 sq ft new pallet racking
- Hawthorn Elementary School North – 301 Hawthorn Pkwy, Vernon Hills – 2,195 sq ft
- Morgan Stanley – 75 Fairway Dr. Vernon Hills – 45,507 sq ft remodel of fourth floor

Five (5) existing occupancies replaced their old fire alarm control panels with new state of the art addressable panels. Those occupancies with new panels are: Townline Commons Outlot building, CDW (3 different building panels), Hawthorn Elementary School North, Midwest Air Technology, and Hawthorn Village Commons.

CFPD Communication Center completed their third year and is now monitoring 410 fire alarms. CFPD received a total of **\$34,535** in 2008 from ADT for monitoring the fire alarms.

Inspectors responded to 63 fire alarm problems which was the same amount as 2007. Duty crews responded to 659 false fire alarm calls, the bulk of which were for residential.

The Bureau continued working with ADT on improving installation and repair service for our fire alarm customers. ADT has created a new Customer Service Representative position to handle strictly municipal related customer service requests which should help better serve our customers.

PLAN REVIEWS

A total of \$153,499 was collected for plan reviews, new/existing construction inspections, developer contributions, operational permits, fines and other fees.

Plan reviews and field inspections focused on life safety, fire code compliance and good fire safety practices in all new and existing building construction. 250 plan reviews were completed in 2008 for 84 new and existing construction projects covering 617,315 sq. ft. of new construction or remodel projects. This is a decrease of 34 plan reviews and 741,794 sq. ft. over 2007.

New commercial buildings and tenant alterations required 910 inspection activities before receiving a final certificate of occupancy. This involved a total of 776 hours.

Table 5 illustrates the 2008 plan reviews by type. The largest number of reviews was for building/remodel and suppression systems. These two categories accounted for 171 reviews or 66% of the total reviews. They accounted for 232 hours (66%) of the total review hours.

Table 5: Plan Reviews by Type, 2008

Type of Plan Review	Number	Hours	% Time
Technical	6	5.50	1.56%
Subdivision/Plat	6	6.50	1.85%
Water Supply Review	1	1	0.28%
Building/Remodel	94	121	34.45%
Suppression System	77	110.92	31.58%
Fire Alarm System	53	85.75	24.41%
Mechanical System	10	18	5.12%
Other	3	2.50	0.71%
Total	250	351.17	100.00%

Bureau personnel worked together with officials from village building departments in Vernon Hills, Hawthorn Woods, Long Grove and Indian Creek, Lake County Building Department, School District's and the Office of the State Fire Marshal throughout the year.

Bureau personnel promoted the installation of sprinkler coverage for single and multi-family homes with village officials, site developers and home owners.

Residential sprinkler systems were installed in 13 new single & multi-family District homes.

Bureau personnel attended Home Owner Association Meetings and conducted existing residential sprinkler system inspections when requested by the home owner.

FIRE INVESTIGATION ORIGIN & CAUSE

32 fire investigations were completed by Bureau fire investigators. The number one fire incident type investigated was building structure fire at 15. The second most investigated fire type was vehicle fire at 12.

126 fire investigation activities were logged by investigators for a total of 243.2 hours in 2008.

Table 6 shows 2008 total fire dollar loss was \$1,954,717. Five (5) fires resulted in \$1,571,617 or 80% of the total loss.

Total dollar value saved in 2008 was \$59,860,019.

Table 6: Fire Analysis by Incident and Dollar Loss

Incident Type	Count	Total Values	Total Losses	Total Saves	% Lost	% Saved
BUILDING FIRE	15	\$61,174,161	\$1,909,367	\$59,264,794	3.12%	96.88%
COOKING FIRE	1	\$300	\$300	\$0	100.00%	0%
PASSENGER VEHICLE	12	\$126,275	\$29,850	\$96,425	23.64%	76.36%
BRUSH OR GRASS	2	\$512,000	\$15,000	\$497,000	2.93%	97.07%
DUMPSTER OR OTHER						
OUTSIDE FIRE	2	\$2,000	\$200	\$1,800	10.00%	90.00%
Total	32	\$61,814,736	\$1,954,717	\$59,860,019		96.84%
TOTAL % LOST: 3.16%						

Table 7: Area of Origin Analysis

Incident Area	# Of Fires	% Fires
ENGINE AREA, RUNNING GEAR	4	10.16%
SALES AREA, SHOWROOM	1	2.32%
BEDROOM - < 5 PERSONS	2	4.65%
OUTSIDE AREA	3	6.77%
OFFICE	1	2.32%
CHUTE / CONTAINER, TRASH	1	2.32%
OPEN AREA - OUTSIDE	1	6.77%
ATTIC: VACANT, CRAWL SPACE	3	6.97%
OPERATOR / PASSENGER	3	6.97%
CEILING & FLOOR ASSEMBLY	1	2.32%
FUEL TANK, FUEL LINE	1	2.32%
CARGO / TRUNK AREA	1	2.32%
HEATING ROOM, AREA	1	2.32%
LAUNDRY / UTILITY ROOM	1	2.32%
WALL SURFACE; EXTERIOR	2	4.65%
COOKING AREA, KITCHEN	4	9.30%
VEHICLE STORAGE AREA	1	2.32%
VEHICLE AREA, OTHER	3	6.97%
CONDUIT, PIPE, UTILITY	1	2.32%
OTHERS	8	18.60%
Total	43	100.00%

Table 8: Cause of Ignition Summary

Incident Cause	Number	%
UNINTENTIONAL	13	30.23%
OTHER	7	16.27%
FAILURE OF EQUIPMENT OR HEAT SOURCE	6	13.95%
CAUSE UNDETERMINED AFTER INVESTIGATION	4	9.30%
IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF SMOKING MATERIALS	3	6.97%
INTENTIONAL	3	6.97%
COMBUSTIBLES TOO CLOSE TO OPERATING	2	4.65%
CAUSE UNDER INVESTIGATION	2	4.65%
ACT OF NATURE	3	6.97%
Total	43	100.00%

The Bureau reviewed fire NFIRS incident reports for accuracy, reported losses, origin/cause and insurance information.

Bureau investigators continued to work with 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, attending 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. Fire Investigators Mike McNally, Ron Cielek and Phil Obos became Certified Fire & Explosion Investigators through the National Association of Fire Investigators.

The Bureau reported fires with preventable causes to OSFM, NFPA, and the United States Consumer Products Safety Commission. Fire Prevention messages were highlighted in the District's newsletter, "Lights, Sirens, Action", CFPD WEB site and cable Public Station TV videos. For example, fire safety messages were communicated to residents regarding the increasing number of fires involving bird nest fires in outdoor lights and fire place flues. Preventative actions to be taken to avoid these types of fires were communicated through various media channels.

CFPD Juvenile Fire Setter Counselors conducted two evaluations and counseling sessions with youths and their parents.

2008 TOP FIRE LOSS EVENTS WHICH RESULTED IN \$1,571,617 OR 80% OF THE TOTAL DOLLAR LOSS

#1

Date: 12/14/08
Address: 3 Hawthorn Center
Type of Occupancy: Commercial - Mercantile
Type of Construction: Fire Resistive
Incident Type: Structure Fire
Estimated Loss: \$956,617
Area of Origin: Southern portion of the structure
Cause: Electrical overload

* Sprinkler activated and saved further damage



#2

Date: 07/11/08
Address: 20300 Block of Windflower Ct, Mundelein
Type of Occupancy: Residential – Single family
Type of Construction: Wood Frame
Incident Type: Structure Fire
Estimated Loss: \$190,000
Area of Origin: Northeast portion of the roof
Cause: Natural causes – lightning strike



#3

Date: 12/22/08
Address: 200 Block of Center Dr., Vernon Hills
Type of Occupancy: Business
Type of Construction: Ordinary
Incident Type: Structure Fire
Estimated Loss: \$150,000
Area of Origin: East portion of the basement mechanical room
Cause: Malfunction of the air handling unit

* Sprinkler activated and saved further damage



#4

Date: 05/08/08
Address: 100 Block of Adair Ct, Vernon Hills
Type of Occupancy: Residential – Single Family
Type of Construction: Wood Frame
Incident Type: Structure Fire
Estimated Loss: \$150,000
Area of Origin: Southeast portion of the roof/attic
Cause: Radiant heat from a fireplace flue igniting a large bird nest



Bird nest inside chimney



Chimney flue inside attic

#5

Date: 03/31/08
Address: 200 Block of Baltimore Dr, Vernon Hills
Type of Occupancy: Residential – Single family
Type of Construction: Wood Frame
Incident Type: Structure Fire
Estimated Loss: \$125,000
Area of Origin: Northwest section of the roof/attic
Cause: Natural causes – lightning strike



WATER SUPPLY

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.

399 wet and dry drafting hydrant inspections were conducted in 2008. This accounted for 259 hours. There were 188 water flow tests conducted in 2008.

61 dry drafting hydrants are now located throughout the District to provide water in our rural areas. Our District currently has a rural water supply amounting to 85% coverage at 2,000 feet and 90% coverage at 3,000 feet.

Inspector Phil Obos completed installing signs for all the dry hydrants and provided a fresh coat of paint if needed.

Hydrant identification numbers were added to all dry hydrant signs in 2008.

2008 Average water flow test results



Lake County/Municipal Systems

Vernon Hills	1,510 gpm
Hawthorn Woods	997 gpm
Indian Creek	1,329 gpm
Countryside Lakes Subdivision	871 gpm
Indian Creek Club of Long Grove	880 gpm

Private Water Supply Systems

Fields of Long Grove	DO NOT USE/FOR SYSTEM FLUSHING ONLY
Ivanhoe Estates	1,357 gpm
Preserves of Long Grove	856 gpm
Prairie Trails of Long Grove	530 gpm
Ravenna	837 gpm
Royal Melbourne	411 gpm
West Shore	619 gpm



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



Through full-time leadership in the Information Technology division, 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.

STAFFING

- James Dinsch returned to Countryside full-time in January to take over management of the Information Technology division. Dinsch previously served the District from 1998-2002 as a contract firemedic and as the District's first full-time technology supervisor.
- Coordinator Dinsch provided full-time, weekday, in-house support as well as 24/7 on-call support by phone, remote server connection, and on-site service.
- The District maintained a contract with a technology services firm to provide advanced level support as well as backup on-call coverage for vacations or major system failures.

FINANCES

- The Fiscal 2007-2008 data systems budget was \$92,002.44. This provided for lease servicing, equipment maintenance and repair, and system upgrades.
- The Fiscal 2007-2008 telecommunications budget was \$90,790.00. This provided for lease servicing, equipment maintenance and repair, and telecommunications services including phones, cellular phones, and wireless data systems.

EQUIPMENT

- Continued use of a three-year replacement schedule for all computers continued to minimize required maintenance.
- The District started transitioning to Hewlett-Packard equipment from Dell due to significant cost differences.

- The District found it to be less costly to finance equipment purchases over a three-year period versus leasing starting with the new Hewlett-Packard equipment acquisitions.

COMPUTER NETWORK

- A firm specializing in fixed point-to-point wireless systems evaluated the District's installation after the system was taken out of service in late 2007 due to interference. Several configuration changes were made allowing the existing system to be placed back in service eliminating the need to replace the system.
- A dedicated point-to-point T1 between the two stations provides primary connectivity to the phone system.
- Full fail-over routing protocols provided automatic rerouting of network traffic in case of a failure of either the wireless or T1 system preventing down-time.
- The District installed a virtual private network to provide full network access from outside the station for select members of its leadership team.

SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS

- The District maintained its annual maintenance contract for Firehouse, the District's records management system. Due to compatibility issues, the District stopped using the Firehouse interface to the EnRoute CAD system until it is updated.
- Updates were made to the Group 1 mapping system application. District staff continued the project to ensure that all available preplan information is attached to the Group 1 map. Future plans include integrating the system with the EnRoute CAD system.
- Coordinator Dinsch reimaged all District computers with a standard configuration of software applications. The new image included an upgrade to the Microsoft Office 2007 system and a utility to allow remote support access.

INTERNET ACCESS & WEB PRESENCE

- A dedicated T1 line provided for Internet access and access to the District's website, www.countrysidefire.com, which is hosted in-house.
- District staff worked to ensure the website was regularly updated with current and timely safety information.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL ASSISTANCE

- Coordinator Dinsch remained involved with the area Firehouse Users Group (FHUG).
- Dinsch provided support assistance for Firehouse to the Condell Medical Center EMS System staff and other departments as requested.

TEXT ALERTING/PAGING SYSTEM

- The District historically utilized alphanumeric pagers to provide a secondary means of communicating with its personnel. At the request of its personnel, the District installed a web-based text alerting system in December that allowed personnel to receive text messages to their cell phones instead of carrying a pager. This transition was voluntary, and a number of individuals chose to make this transition turning in their pagers. The cost reduction from those pagers more than covered the cost of the system. This new system also provided an added benefit of accessibility from anywhere Internet access was available, including mobile smartphones.

TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

- The District switched maintenance contractors for its phone system.
- The District added an additional module to the Station 1 phone system to allow the non-emergency extensions for Dispatch to be incorporated into the Zetron 911 computer-controlled phone system.
- Station 1 personnel began experiencing intermittent call quality issues with the phone system in 2008. Major system components were replaced under the maintenance contract; however, the problem persisted. Work continues to resolve the problem.
- Coordinator Dinsch found numerous, significant billing errors and unneeded phone lines while reviewing the District's AT&T services. The unneeded lines were

cancelled, and Dinsch is continuing to work with the District's AT&T account representative to correct the billing errors and obtain applicable refunds.

- The District evaluated several third-party telecommunication service providers for possible cost savings concluding that its current AT&T services provide the most cost-effective solution.

TRAINING

- Coordinator Dinsch provided training to personnel as needed on the Firehouse reporting system and other software applications.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS

- The District's Chiefs began using Nextel BlackBerries. These new units provided consolidation of three devices (Nextel cell phone, pager, and PDA). Additionally, the system provided the chiefs with remote access to their email and calendars.
- Station 1 had extremely bad signal coverage for Nextels. Bi-directional amplifiers were installed to improve signal strength in the station. A similar amplifier will be considered for Station 2 in 2009.
- The Lake County Emergency Telephone Systems Board had bi-directional amplifiers installed in the apparatus bays at both stations to support continuous wireless connections between the District's mobile data computers and the EnRoute CAD system.

MAINTENANCE DIVISION

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



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.

MAINTENANCE DIVISION TEAM MEMBERS

- Battalion Chief Brian Garrity – Area Coordinator
- Lieutenant Tony DeRose – Vehicles & Equipment
- Lieutenant Chuck Smith – SCBA
- F/M Pat Michelau – Equipment
- F/M Phil Obos – Monitors
- F/M John Sherwood – Hose & Ladders

APPARATUS

- Vehicle numbering was changed to incorporate the MABAS system. Placards were incorporated on the ambulances and engines for the ability to rotate vehicles between stations.
- 4130 (1981 Pierce Arrow 104' Aerial truck) and 2004 Ford Explorer was deemed surplus and sold.
- Trips to possible apparatus vendors were made by a team of CFPD members to Pierce Manufacturing, Med Tech, Braun, and Horton ambulance factories.
- Completed a spec and completed bid process for purchase of new Horton ambulance with expected delivery April 2009.



Examples of the new numbering system placed on CFPD vehicles in accordance with a new countywide numbering system.



VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

- Completed complete engine overhaul to hovercraft.
- All pump apparatus passed annual pump test 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 and completed safety lane inspections.
- All emergency response vehicles housed at either station have scheduled checks completed every day, with more through checks completed on a weekly basis.

SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA)

- CFPD acquired 4 lightly used, 60 minute bottles from county haz-mat team for \$500 saving the District over an additional \$5500.
- Facilitated the upgrade to all face pieces as a result of a CFPD complaint to MSA for free flowing of air from the exhaust valve.
- Aggressively work to maintain a bottle replacement schedule.
- Maintain all required testing, certifications, and inspections of SCBA.

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.
- Worked with the Safety Committee to place Hydrogen Cyanide monitors in service through a grant by IL Public Risk Fund.

HOSE & LADDERS

- All hose is tested annually by CFPD personnel in accordance with NFPA standard.
- Following 5 year plan, 1000' of 5 inch and 700' of 2-1/2" hose was purchased to replace older hose.
- All ground ladders had annual testing completed by UL in accordance with NFPA standard.
- Shift personnel provided routine cleaning and maintenance on all ground ladders twice a year.

PUBLIC EDUCATION DIVISION

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



The Public Education Division 2008 annual report provides a summary of the programs used to communicate fire safety, life safety and injury prevention messages throughout the Countryside Fire Protection District (CFPD). CFPD is dedicated to providing educational programs in the schools which include nine pre-schools/daycare facilities and fifteen schools in five school districts; businesses such as Rustoleum, Allstate Insurance, DaVita Village Health and Washington Mutual; the communities of Vernon Hills, unincorporated Mundelein, Long Grove, Hawthorn Woods and unincorporated Lake County within our fire district.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

- **Block Party Requests...** Attended 20 block parties for approximately 1795 participants combined from both fire stations.
- **Countryside Fire Website...** Maintained current safety information correlating to season and specific time frames with assistance from the Information Technology Supervisor.
- **Child Car Seat Installations/Safety Checks...** 225 installations/inspections completed in 2008. Average 19 car seat checks per month. Provided a car seat checkpoint at Dominick's Finer Foods, assisted Mundelein Fire Department with a checkpoint at KinderCare and provided foster care placement agency UCAN staff with car seat installation training.
- **First Aid, CPR & AED Courses...** 79 classes held in total, certifying 1896 participants including the 1024 students from middle schools and the high school and collected \$4,695.00 in fees for 2008.
- **Fire Extinguisher Training...** 81 participants were provided fire extinguisher training in area businesses.
- **Firefighter for a Day...** 4 individuals had the opportunity to receive this incredible experience.
- **Lights, Siren, Action Newsletter...** An autumn season newsletter was sent to all district residents with CFPD current events, history, summaries and safety tips. A Holiday Newsletter was distributed before the New Year to all school students and staff of 12,000 total.
- **Monthly Fire Safety Video Clip with Channel 4 News...** Maintained the appearance on the Vernon Hills Update Television Show with monthly safety tips to residents.

- **Open House...** OPEN HOUSE was a great success. NICOR, Metra Train, Illinois/Wisconsin Search & Rescue Dogs provided information and interaction with approximately 800 attendees. Vernon Hills Police provided traffic control. Record A-Hit provided an inflatable fire truck at 50% off. The Fire Sprinkler Trailer demonstrations were well received as was the static display and plenty of handouts and giveaways provided by FEMA, IDOT, Illinois Fire Safety Alliance and OSFM.
- **Parade-4th of July Handouts...**Brought up the rear of the parade and passed out various fire safety trinkets with a fire safety message and excellent public relations opportunity.
- **Smoke Alarm Giveaway...**Participated in the OSFM Smoke Alarm program that provided free smoke alarms with properly completed documentation submittal. 24 smoke alarms were installed into homes without a working smoke alarm.
- **Special Events...**The team attended 59 various events in the district and participated in Lake County Fire Chief's Association sponsored events throughout the year. Examples of these events that fire and life safety messages were delivered include: Condell Medical Center's Remembering When program for senior citizens, Westfield Hawthorn Mall Kid's Club, YMCA Neighborhood Fair, Baskin Robbins National Scoop Night for National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, Fire Sprinkler Demonstrations at Wal-Mart, Home Depot & Sam's Club during "Safety Week", National Night Out in partnership with Vernon Hills Police Department, Fire Safety EXPO at Gurnee Mills and the Pink Ribbon Tour for Breast Cancer Awareness in partnership with Condell, Lake Forest Hospital, American Cancer Society and the Arizona Firefighters touring the United States of America.
- **Station Tours...**28 station tours provided for 478 participants combined at both fire stations.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The goal for 2008 was to reach every grade level in every school within our fire district. We reached our goal by providing fire safety education to 100% of every grade level in all schools of our fire district. Additionally, we strived to reach each grade level a second time during the course of the year. This was achieved in 3rd, 6th, 7th & 8th grades consistently utilizing new and existing programs. The Vernon Hills High School was targeted through various safety programs reaching some students as many as three times in the school year. Programs in the schools are as follows:

- **Pre-School**—Fireman Friendly
- **Kindergarten**—Fireman 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 Fire Safety Trailer
- **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 and Severe Weather Safety
- **8th Grade**—CPR in the Schools and Chemistry of Fire
- **High School**—CPR in the Schools, PRE-PROM, Fire Service Career Fair, Holiday Fire Safety, Kitchen Fire Safety, Chemistry of Fire, Health Fair, House of Hazards, Graduation Life Safety Kit, Combat Challenge, YouTube Video Contest

PROGRAM EVALUATION

An evaluation program was created and implemented to measure the effectiveness of how the fire safety education content was being delivered and where improvements may be necessary. Programs in grade levels 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and the high school grade levels added a pre-test (administered a couple days before the presentation) and post-test (given a week later) to help determine if the students are learning and what improvements may be needed to make impact in delivering the safety education.

GRADUATION LIFE SAFETY KIT

The Graduation Life Safety Kit was an idea from Chief Steingart that was brought to life for the 336 Vernon Hills High School graduating seniors Class of 2008. The idea was to give the graduates Fire and Life Safety information, supplies and equipment they could use beyond high school. Public Education Coordinator Rodkey created the kit and partnerships with area businesses to develop this awesome idea we call the Graduation Life Safety Kit. A Graduation Card and the “Kit” were distributed following the practice graduation ceremony at the high school. The kit included:

- Smoke Alarm w/ battery
- Flameless Candle w/ battery (fire hydrant shape)
- First Aid Kit (52 pieces)
- Pot Holder (put a lid on grease fires)
- Memo Board w/ marker and magnets (escape plan)

- DVD (Dorm fires...sprinklerled/unsprinklerled)
- Bumper Sticker/pull right for sirens and lights
- Keychain/pull right for sirens and lights
- Pen
- Get Out & Stay Alive fire safety brochure
- Equipment list and \$10 coupon from Bed Bath & Beyond
- Free summer bowling card from eSkape
- 6” Safety Lightstick (12 hours of light)
- CFPD College Housing Safety Checklist
- Backpack/duffle bag to hold all of the above

Partners included Wal-Mart, DaVita Village Health, Kidde, Windy City Novelties, Bed Bath & Beyond, eSkape, FEMA, Cougar Council and Countryside Fire Protection District. These partners assisted with the development of the kit list, inventory of product, assembling of the kit and distribution of the “Kit”.

In addition to the graduation gift, a Public Education Team participated in the Vernon Hills High School Senior Party, the next night following graduation day. The party is held from 9pm until 2am for the graduates who elect to attend. CFPD provided the “combat challenge” with the approval of the Cougar Council Parent Organization hosting the event. 112 graduates participated in the Combat Challenge.

A bonus raffle ticket for the graduates was provided by a local family who donated a 19” LCD HD TV for both the boys and girls who tried out the Combat Challenge. The graduating class of 2008 had the opportunity to view various fire videos on a DVD/TV loop and completed the Pre-Prom demonstration survey before receiving the raffle ticket. The Pre-Prom Survey was an excellent tool to find out the impact that program has on the 11th and 12th grade students in high school who plan on attending



Members of the Graduation Party team helping VHHS graduates celebrate a special evening while stressing the importance of safety in the community.

Prom. The results were overwhelming how effective this demonstration and results of drinking and driving have on these young adults. The location of the program rotates each year between Vernon Hills and Libertyville High Schools.

SUMMARY

CFPD met its goal of targeting high risk groups by adding programs specifically for senior citizens and high school students while maintaining current life and fire safety programs. In addition, objectives of doubling visits to the school classrooms improved for various grade levels; however more is needed to achieve this endeavor 100% for the future. The Public Education Division did increase connectivity with the local business community for support and to increase their safety as well. As the District continues to “invest its personnel in the education of its public and the maintenance of a safe environment” 2008 proved to be a very productive year. The Public Education Division will continue this assertive strategy to provide the best possible service to achieve goals and maintain the standard we live by day in and day out: Respond, Solve problems, Be Nice!

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



The Telecommunications Division is the gateway into our emergency response. Providing dedicated and professional telecommunication staff to provide critical Emergency Medical Dispatch and give proper direction to those needing non-emergency assistance is key to maintaining the highest level of service to everyone who calls CFPD.

The Dispatch/Communications center proved to be very active in 2008. All aspects of activity increased, with the exception of our 9-1-1 calls actually decreasing almost 60 calls/month. All personnel were busy learning the new format of CAD that was introduced for all Lake County CAD users. A business plan was developed and shared with interested parties looking for new providers of dispatch services. Currently there are only interested parties and no agencies have entered into formal negotiations to utilize Countryside's first class dispatch services.

STAFFING/TRAINING

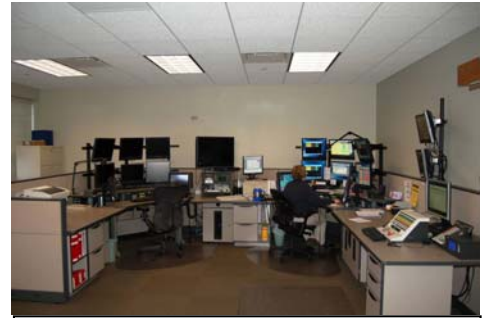
- 5 full-time employees who include a Director, Coordinator, and 3 telecommunicators.
- 3 part-time employees which includes newest member Christina Lindsey, with over 17 years of experience in telecommunications.
- Current call volume recommends staffing the Dispatch Center with one telecommunicator per 12 hour shift. In times of high call volume/radio traffic, communications personnel are supplemented by the Director, the duty crew and/or hire back personnel.
- All telecommunicators are Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) certified and are required to maintain CPR certification and complete 12 hours of EMD continuing education annually.
- Dispatch staff continue to attend the training titled "Being the Best" which is designed to help elevate the expectations of staff and provide the highest level of quality of service to our customers. This year Director Espinosa was able to attend this training.

Director Renee Espinosa was selected as the Illinois Communications Director of the Year by the Association of Public Communication Officials (APCO). The award was presented at the APCO conference in Springfield in October.

RADIO/TELEPHONE

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.

- Countryside communications dispatched 3,882 calls for service.
- Countryside communications answered approximately one-hundred eighty-nine (189) 9-1-1 calls per month for a total of 2,268 calls per year. December had the most 9-1-1 calls received with 237 and June and November the least with 169.
- Telecommunicators received and answered approximately two-hundred forty-six (246) calls per month for a total of 2,952 telephone calls for the year on the traditional 10 digit emergency number.
- The Dispatch Center 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, Fire ground, Long Grove, Lake County F1, StarCom and the TAC channel.



The telecommunicator is at the dispatch desk handling a 9-1-1 call for medical services. All of the necessary tools and resources are within arm's reach.

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.

This year the CAD was upgraded from a TUI (text-based) to a GUI (graphical user interface) platform. This platform is similar to windows and allows users to point & click or use the function keys; which is more "user friendly."

FIRE ALARMS

The District has 410 alarms that are directly connected to the Keltron alarm computer. These alarms are monitored by the on-duty telecommunicator.

- During the year, 223,463 alarm signals were processed/logged. That is 8,464 more than the previous year. The signal processed most frequently was a trouble signal with 111,729 for 2008.

CAMERAS

Countryside Communications currently has cameras at both fire stations. The cameras capture both interior and exterior shots including the bay doors and lobby entrances. These cameras are monitored by the on-duty telecommunicator. The communication center also has the ability of viewing the security cameras for the following companies located in Vernon Hills: American Hotel Register and Rustoleum Corporate Headquarters. Currently there are plans to expand this service to other locations.

TRAINING & SAFETY DIVISION

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



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 Ken Arnswald is the Training Officer and Incident Safety Officer for Countryside. His responsibilities include: maintaining training records, preparing the yearly department training calendar, administering training, posting and maintaining the special teams training calendar, scheduling tests, preparing the members for advancement of their careers and responding to incidents to perform duties of the on scene Safety Officer

Assisting with shift personnel training are the Battalion Chiefs & Lieutenants in addition there is regular assistance with the training by Lt. Ron Echtenacher Jr., Phil Obos, Mike Prosi, and Mike Dovel. Jessica Gregurich has been doing the training data input for several years. Jessica has attended FireHouse classes to assist her with the data input into our reporting system.

TRAINING HOURS

Career personnel are required to complete 240 hours of training per year. POC/POP personnel are required to complete 120 hours per year. Training hours are accumulated through drills and elective hours. Drills are supervised, hands-on training involving practical skill-building activities. Some examples are:

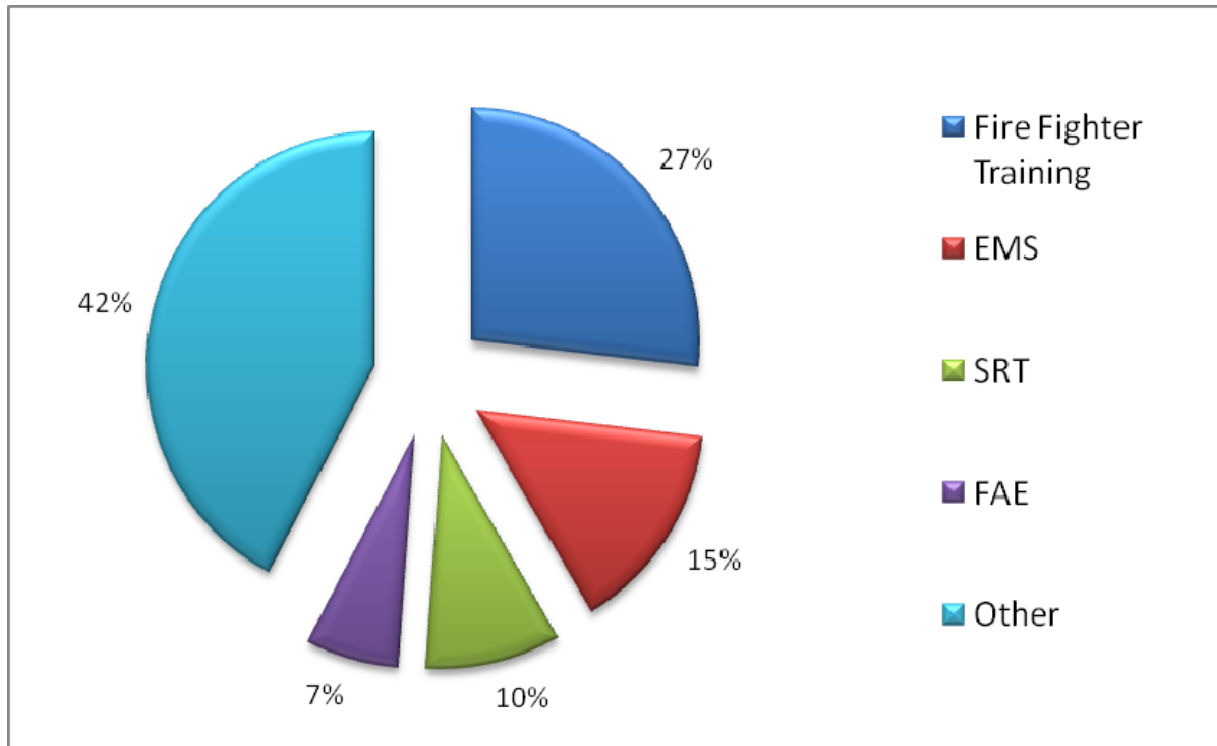
- Scheduled drills
- Practical sessions
- Burn downs
- Special Teams drills

Elective hours are in-house training or recognized outside 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

The cumulative total training hours for the entire CFPD staff in 2008 was 12,383 hours.

2008 Training Hour Summary



PAID ON PREMISE (POP) PERSONNEL

In 2008, we employed 34 POP members with a total of 186 years of fire service experience.

The POP member with the most seniority is Glen Mortensen, with 20 years experience.

All POP personnel are certified through the Illinois State Fire Marshal to the level of Firefighter II, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Technical Rescue Awareness, and Terrorism Awareness.

Five of our POP members are full-time members on other departments. Firemedics Clifton Englund, Dan McInerney, Brian Ondrako, Andy Rick and Bryan Zirzow bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the District from their primary jobs, while Firemedics McInerney and Zirzow regularly assist with our POP training.



Quad 4 Training on Rural Water Supply. Those in attendance were: Countryside, Mundelein, Lake Bluff & Knollwood Fire Departments

QUAD 4 TRAINING

In 2008, the Quad 4 chiefs and training officers decided to set up a schedule of special training with agencies nearby to get together and perform monthly trainings. Trainings covered a wide selection of training topics. CFPD hosted training which covered rural water supply.

Those departments involved in Quad 4 are-

- Countryside
- Deerfield
- Knollwood
- Lake Bluff
- Lake Forest
- Libertyville
- Lincolnshire
- 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 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 CFPD 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 to provide the training that our personnel are looking for.

MORNING DRILLS

The morning drill is another training tool. These are generally reviewed following morning shift change. The topics covered will include information in the following areas: EMS, 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 outline for the training.

They 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, Haz Mat, Side Scan and Dive Rescue/Recovery. In addition to our department training, the team members must attend a pre-determined number of trainings to maintain their eligibility for the teams.

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 within our department.

Listed below are the numbers of State Certifications that our members achieved during 2008:

- 1 - Firefighter II
- 2 - Firefighter III
- 2 - Fire Apparatus Engineer
- 2 - Fire Officer I
- 4 - Fire Officer II
- 1 - Fire Prevention Officer
- 1 - Incident Safety Officer
- 2 - Vertical Rescue I
- 1 - Vertical II
- 1 - Confined Space Operations
- 1 - Structural Collapse Operations
- 1 - Haz Mat Operations
- 2 - Haz Mat Technician 'A'
- 2 - Haz Mat Technician 'B'
- 2 - Haz Mat Incident Command
- 22 - Fire Service Vehicle Operator
- 3 - Paramedic Certifications
- 1 - Instructor I
- 2 - Instructor II
- 1 - Ice Diver
- 1 - PEER Fitness Trainer

Higher Education Degrees achieved in 2008:

- 3 - Associates Degree
- 1 - Bachelor Degree