

2024 CEDARBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT





Mayor Thome, Members of the Common Council, and Administrator Hilvo:

I would like to present the 2024 year-in-review for the Cedarburg Fire Department. On the following pages you will see many charts and graphs of our activities over the past year. I am proud of our paid-on-call members, and our full-time staff, for their hard work and dedication to our community. Without all of them, there would not be much of a report to give.

2024 was another very busy year for the department. Our dedicated members ran a total of 1,602 calls, an increase of 3.89% from last year. EMS calls were 81.2% of our total calls. Of those 1302 EMS calls, 76.5% of our patients were 60 years and older. For statistics on types of calls and frequency, see pages 6-10.

In 2024, our members put in 1,221 hours of stand-by for all the special events held in our community. Our department also continued to hold Maxwell Street Days and other fund-raising events at Firemen's Park. Our members devoted 3,895 hours at the park. They accomplish that on top of our rising call volume, training, and other events.

We were pleased to add our 3rd full-time paramedic, Joel Deutsch, in September 2024. Joel brings with him over 12 years of Paramedic and firefighting experience. He is a great addition to our team and for our community. At the end of 2024, Jason Peterson, one of our full-time employees, successfully completed a full year of Paramedic school. Jason is now licensed as a Paramedic under the Southern Ozaukee Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department, providing service to our community.

Our front cover this year shows our new ambulance, a 2023 Ram 5500 chassis, designed by our ambulance committee, ordered in 2023 and delivered in April 2024; see page 19 for more specifics. This is the first new ambulance we have purchased since 2011. Patient care is a top priority of our department, and the ride in the new ambulance is both comfortable and safe, making it easier for our crews to provide care to our patients.

In closing, I would like to say THANK YOU to Mayor Thome, Administrator Hilvo, and the members of the Common Council for all that you have done to support our fire department. 2024 held major accomplishments in terms of a successful referendum, recruitment of new members, and being able to continue to better serve the City and Town of Cedarburg. The members of our department consist of amazing men and women, and our young Explorers, who all share a common bond by serving their community well. **I couldn't be any prouder to see the dedication by our members.**

Sincerely,

Jeffrey J. Vahsholtz
Chief





CFD 2024 Active Membership Roster

Under 1 year (Probationary):

Roman J. Poss
Noah L. Nouansacksy
Dustin A. Wallace
Christopher A. Bakos
Christopher T. Sprenger
Heath M. Oberg
Benjamin N. Schuster
Benjamin M. Gustafson
Teddy Krol
Hailey I. Jett
Joseph P. Pietrowiak
Colt L. Cofta

1 to 10 years:

Caitlin Steinberg
Andy Schottler
Will Didier
Rob Henry
Chris Brunette
Emily Cleveland
Octavio Arreaga-Chavez
Kelly Scott
Melissa Demczak
Denisa Demczak
Jamie Wilhelme
Caleb Wardenburg
Abigail J. DeGuelle
Daniel W. Dowty
Katrina Schoen
David B. Lee
Shelby J. Mayer
Stephanie M. Van Pietersom
Klark A. Pennings

1 to 10 years continued:

Christopher J. Naas
Daniel M. Wolf
Nicholas J. Lesselyoung
Nicole A. Naas
Karissa J. Mathias
Shaun M. Smith
Edward T. Lanser
Michael R. Kranz
Nicholas L. Janous
Tanya N. Zarling
Melanie L. Clausing-Miles
Lindsay L. Lanser *Lt. Rescue
Robert D. Mathias
Andrew J. Hester
Dennis W. Grulkowski
Jeffrey L. Nelson
Randy A. Tews
Dustin J. Halyburton *Dive Leader

11 to 15 years:

Kelly A. LaPorta
Norine C. Nelson

16 to 24 years:

Robert F. Jung
John E. Zarling
Andrew W. Heidtke *Deputy Chief/Training
David M. Schwantes
Edward M. Petrarca
Nichole J. Zarling * Captain Rescue Company
Christopher C. Hoerz
Peter J. Pautz *Lt. Engineers
Nathan M. Matter
Craig A. Boerner * Captain Engineers
Joseph E. Grube *Lt. Engine Company
Grant D. Witte *Safety Officer
Joel L. Bublit

25 to 34 years (Honorary Active):

James G. Bougie
Kara J. Racine
Scott E. Matusewic
Suzanne V. Ernst
Carly A. Giuliani

35 to 39 years (Honorary Active):

William H. Hintz * Assistant Chief

40 years and over: (Honorary Active):

Gregory G. Boerner
Raymond R. Jung
Edward A. Bublit

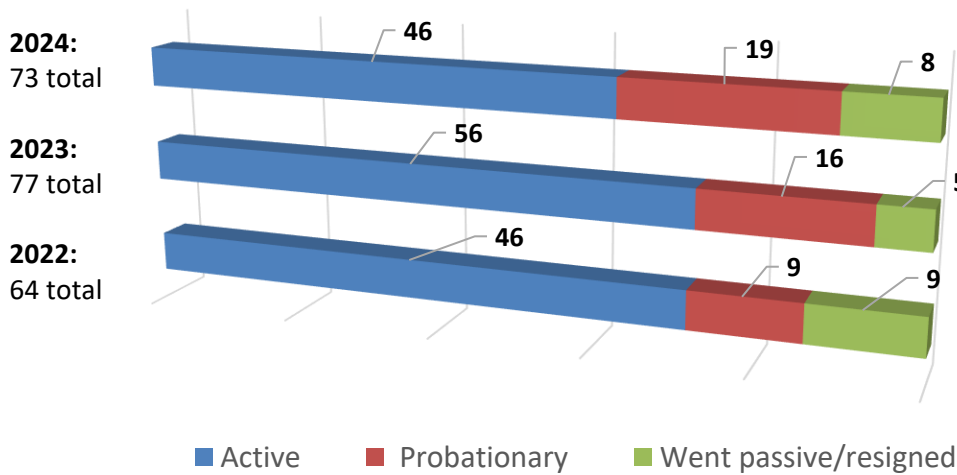
**73 Paid-On-Call Members; 8 Full-Time Employed
Total Active Members in 2024: 81**

8 Full-Time Employees:

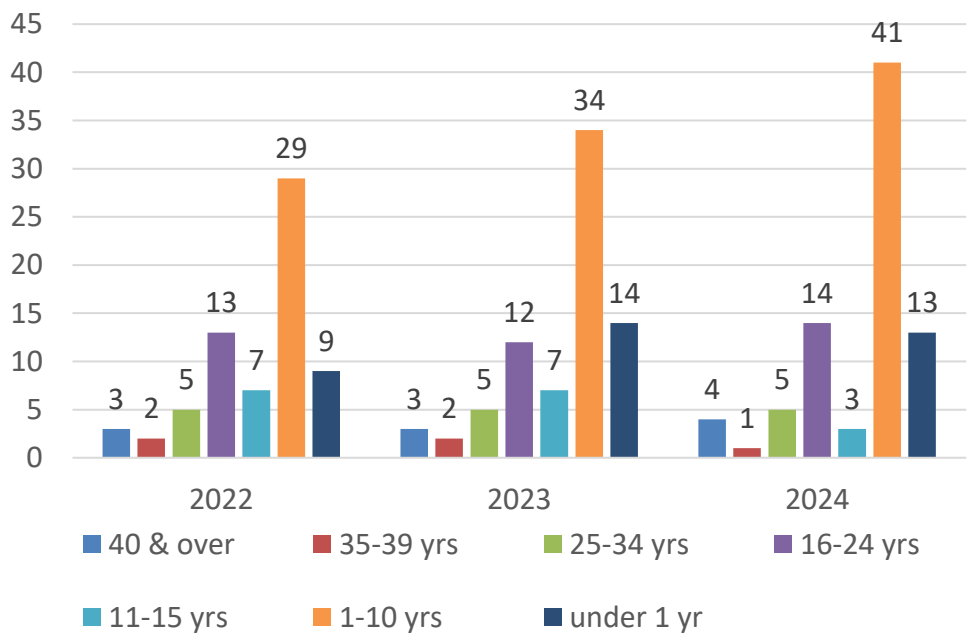
Jeffrey J. Vahsholtz (Volunteer 1978 promoted to Chief 2014; Full-Time 2024) *Honorary Active Chief
Joseph W. Hintz (Volunteer 2008 to Full-Time 2020) *Deputy Chief
Blake R. Karnitz (Volunteer 2010; Hired Full-Time 2017) *Captain CRR
Jason Peterson (Volunteer 2016 to Full-Time 2021) HEO/FF/AEMT
Ethan J. LeGault (Volunteer to Full-Time 2022) HEO/FF/AEMT
Christopher R. Wunsch (Hired Full-Time 2023) HEO/FF/Paramedic
Nicholas G. Hepner (Hired Full-Time 2023) MPO/FF/Paramedic
Joel P. Deutsch (Hired Full-Time 2024) MPO/FF/Paramedic

*Denotes Officers/Chiefs

Each year, our paid-on-call membership retention fluctuates due to changes in people’s lives; such as career changes, health, family, relocating etc. As shown below, for every new probationary member brought in, there can be an unknown number of members who leave in the same year. The numbers shown here do not include full-time employees.



Members’ # of Years at CFD





In 2024, the bell tolled one last time for the following CFD members:

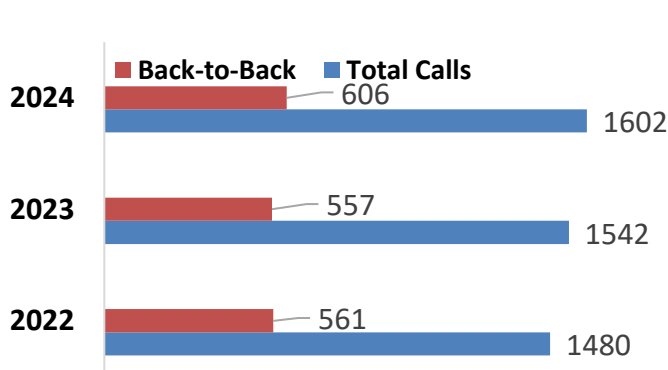
**Norbert Barrelmann
Jim Wrobbel
Peter Janke
Jerry Frank
Bill Stoll
Dick Didier**

2024

The Cedarburg Fire Department responded to a total of **1,602** incidents

	City	Town	Mutual Aid Given to other departments	Total
Rescue	1,034	242	26	1,302
Fire	195	74	28	297
Dive	0	0	3	3
Totals	1,229	316	57	1,602

For Mutual Aid Given and Mutual Aid Received information and statistics, see Page 7 for Rescue Incidents and Page 8 for Fire Incidents.



Back-to-Back Calls

Defined as when two or more incidents occur simultaneously, such as when one crew is out on a Rescue or Fire call and another incident is dispatched.

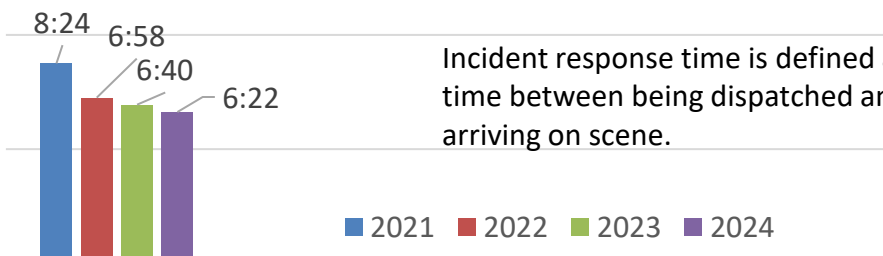
Percentage of back-to-back calls:

2024: 37.8%

2023: 36.1%

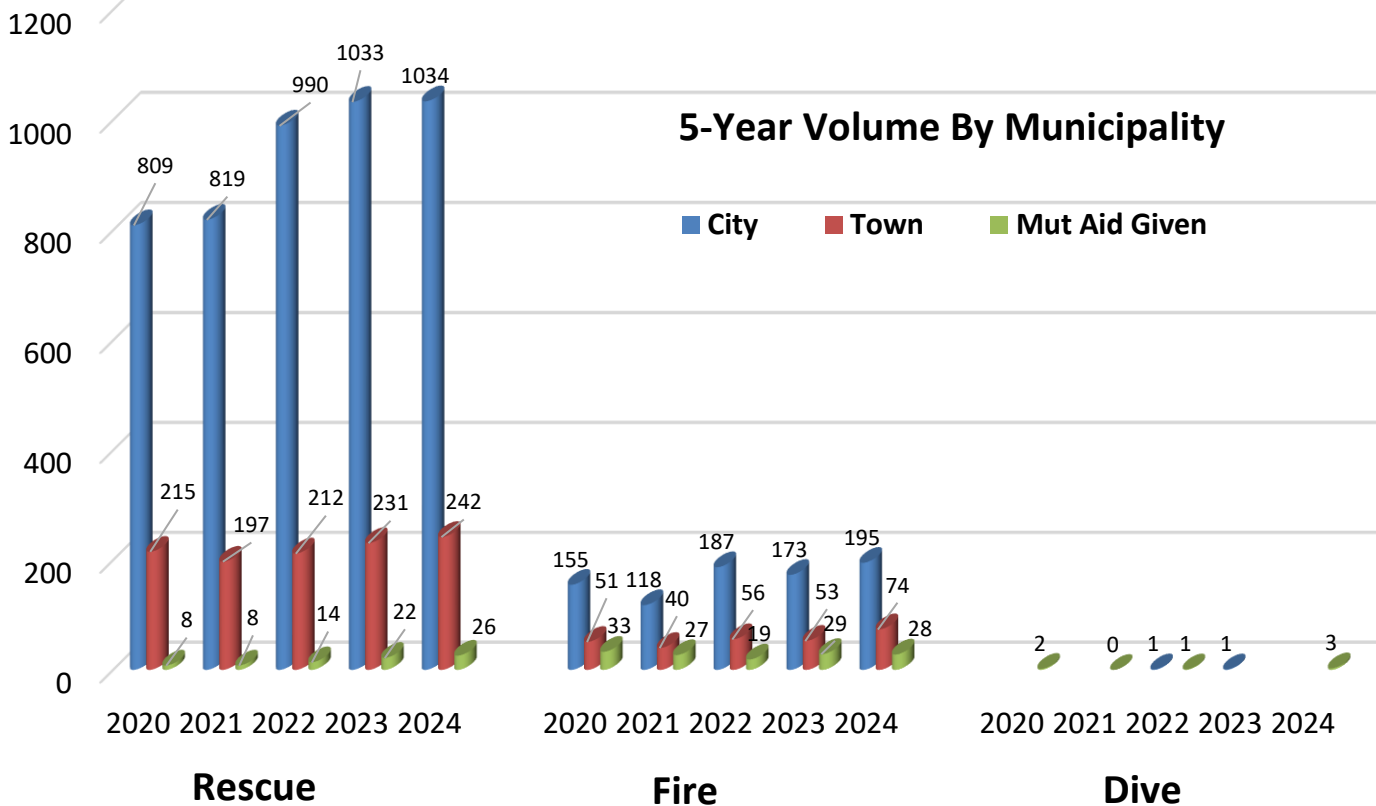
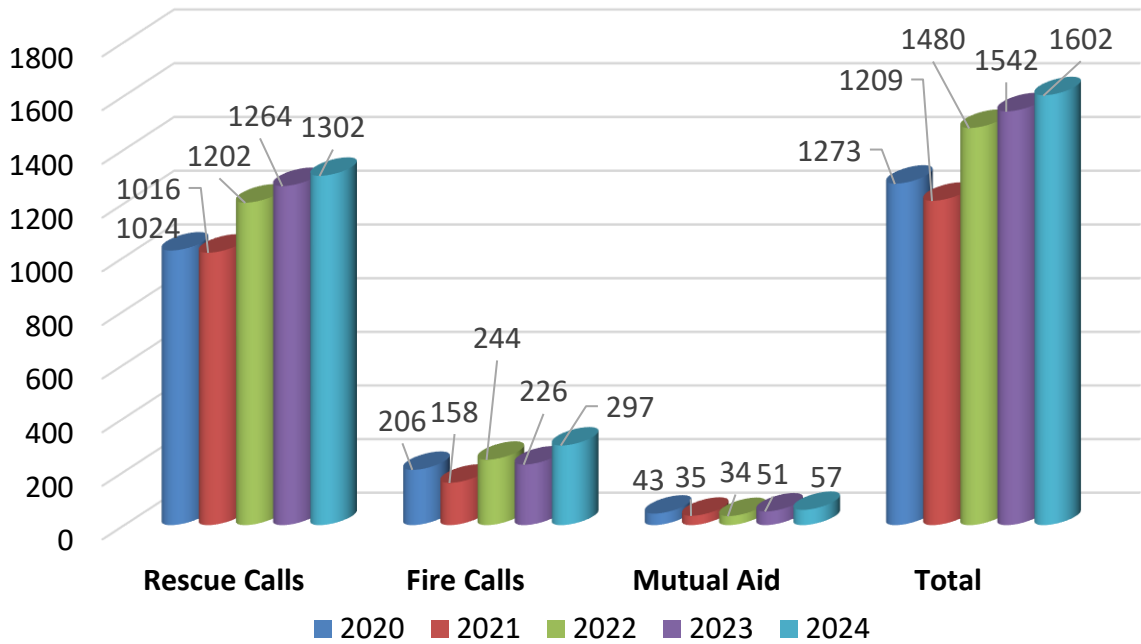
2022: 37.9%

Average Response Time Min:Sec



Incident response time is defined as the amount of time between being dispatched and the first unit arriving on scene.

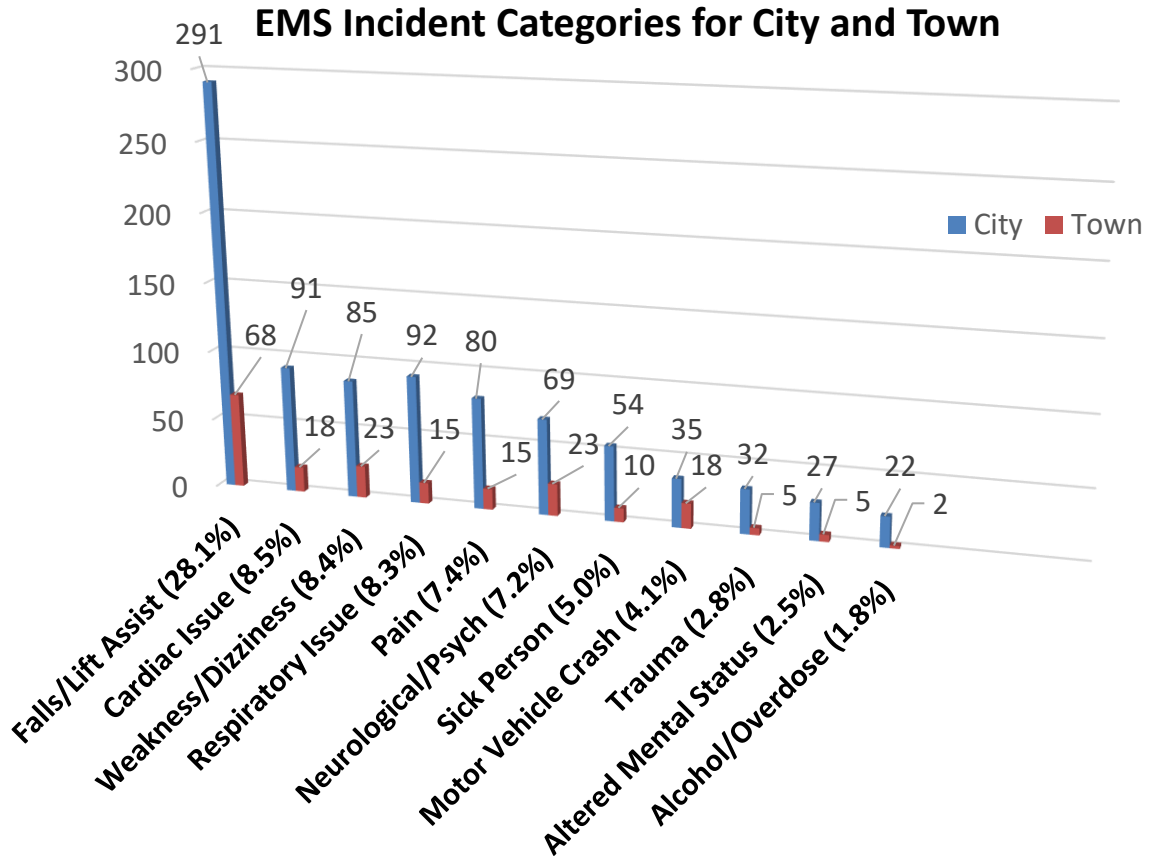
Fire and Rescue Incident Totals 5-Year Comparison



Rescue Incidents Summary

Total EMS: 1,302

City: 1,034 Town: 242 Mutual Aid Given: 26



Paramedic Intercept Breakdown

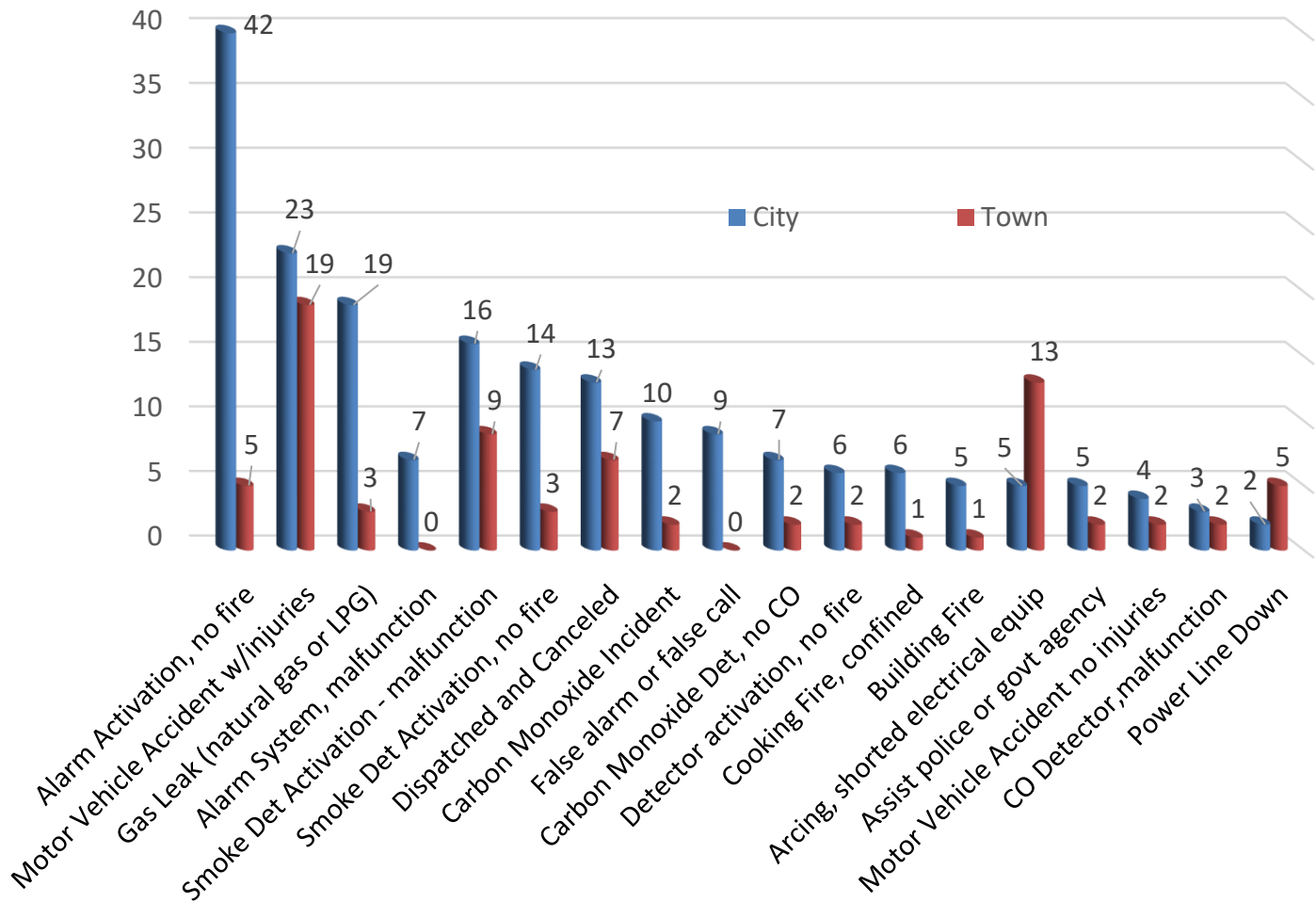
Total EMS calls	1,302	81.3% of all calls
Total Intercept Requests	578	44.4% of all EMS calls
Paramedic Transport	123	9.5% of all EMS calls

A majority of the intercept requests are computer generated. The county uses a program called ProQA. Based on questions asked by dispatch and answers given, the software determines if a paramedic is sent or not. The crew can and will call for a paramedic if needed, when one has not been automatically sent.

Types of Fire Incidents

Total: 297 City: 195 Town: 74

Mutual Aid Given/MABAS: 28 (see next page)



CITY Fires (5):

January (3 Fires): 1) House w/ attached garage. Mutual Aid requested, fire contained to garage and extinguished. 2) House w/ heavy fire in attic, MABAS 1st Box Alarm, extensive overhaul to roof. 3) House w/attached garage fire, MABAS Full Still Level, extinguished and ventilation required.

February (1) : Laundry room/heavy smoke at assisted living facility. Ventilation required.

June (1): House fire contained to kitchen with ventilation required.

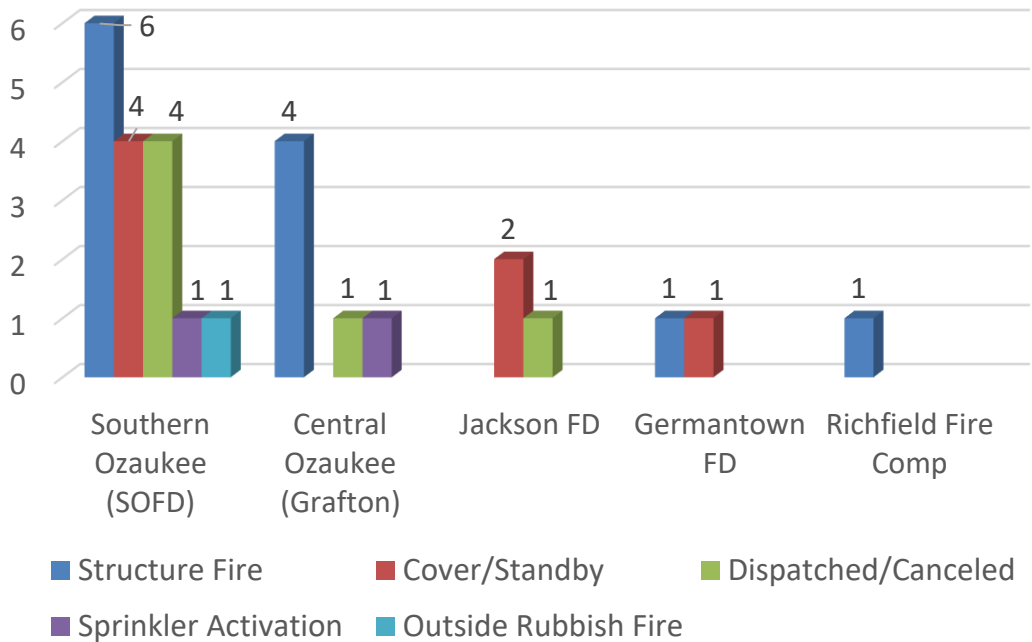
TOWN Fires (1):

June: MABAS Full Still, Burning smell/smoke on electrical wires running into house. Ventilation required. House next door called 911 for burning smell also, investigated as power lines down, energizing cable lines to both homes.

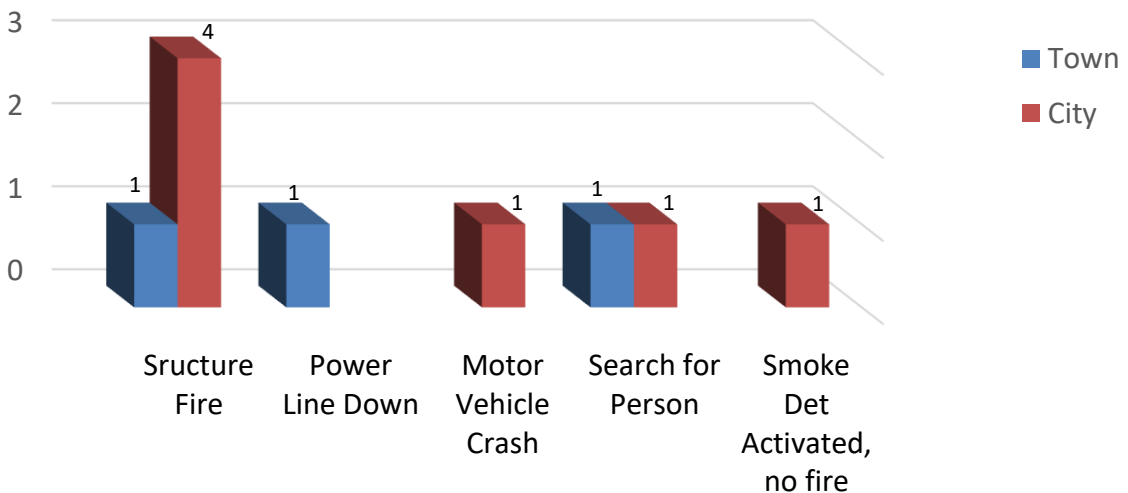
Types of Fire Incidents

Total: 297 City: 195 Town: 74
Mutual Aid Given/MABAS: 28

Cedarburg **provided Mutual Aid** to other fire departments 28 times for various types of fire incidents:



Cedarburg **received Mutual Aid** from other departments 10 times; 3 in the Town of Cedarburg and 7 in the City of Cedarburg. See below for types of fire calls.



2024 Staffing and Promotions



Full-time FF/Paramedic Joel Deutsch

Joel Deutsch joined the department on May 9, 2024, as a paid-on-call **Firefighter/Paramedic**. Within a few months, Joel was hired to our full-time staff and was officially sworn in at the Common Council meeting at City Hall on September 9th. Joel was a member of the Thiensville Fire Department from 2010 to 2022. During those years, Deutsch would often work with our EMS crews on our calls, arriving on scene as a paramedic intercept. As an assistant chief in Thiensville, Deutsch led over 30 volunteer firefighters, emergency medical technicians and paramedics. In addition to being a nationally registered paramedic since 2012, Deutsch holds certifications in Firefighter 1 and 2, Driver/Operator Pumper and Aerial, Fire Inspector 1, and Fire Officer 1 and 2.

In a press release, Chief Vahsholtz stated, "Joel is familiar with implementing mentorship programs to assess knowledge, skills, and abilities of Fire/EMS personnel, as well as handling administrative roles which he acquired as an EMS service director. It is exciting to see growth, with three full-time paramedics; all helping to strengthen and build our paramedic program for our community and raise the bar again in providing the best care possible."

Chief Vahsholtz announced the promotion of **Blake Karnitz** to the rank of **Captain**. Blake will oversee the new **Community Risk Reduction Division (CRR)**. See page 27 for more about CRR.

Joining the department in 2010, Blake first took on the role of Fire Inspector and Assistant Training Officer in 2013. Blake was hired to his full-time position as Fire Inspector in 2017. In addition to being a State Certified Fire Inspector, Blake holds certifications for Firefighter 1 and 2, Advanced EMT, Instructor 1 and 2, Fire Officer 1 and 2, and RTF Leader. He earned the rank of Rescue Lieutenant in 2019.

In addition to his many certifications, Blake also completed the National Fire Academy's Managing Officer Program (a multiyear curriculum that introduces emerging emergency services leaders to personal and professional skills in change management, risk reduction and adaptive leadership. Blake also completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Administration and Fire Investigation, which he worked on over the last 3 years and recently graduated Magna Cum Laude. Blake is a State Certified Fire Investigator, receiving his training through the Wisconsin Department of Justice, State Fire Marshals office.

We are proud of Blake's accomplishments and excited for his leadership in our new CRR division.



**Full-time FF/AEMT/Fire Inspector
Captain Blake Karnitz**

2024 Training Summary

Training at CFD is an essential part of our routine every month for our paid-on-call members and full-time staff. A few highlights from 2024 were:

- Captain Blake Karnitz invited the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation to discuss fire behavior at our training in January. Special Agent Beine discussed the basics of combustion, fire dynamics based on ventilation openings and conducted a live fire demonstration.
- Trainings were conducted at the “Burn house” on Hamilton Road several times throughout the year, using the house for coordinated company trainings simulating deployment on a fire scene. Time was also put in to “prep” the burn house for room and content burning. Skills practice included multi-company evolutions, thermal imaging, hose advancements, search and rescue, and forcible entry. Several of our high school age Explorer Program members also joined in at the burn house to learn and train with firefighters during the year.
- In August, CFD hosted an Association of Ozaukee County Fire Departments Training, a 2-day class in Aerial and Tower Ladder Operations. Regular scheduled training in August was held to review the Festival Box Hose Deployment and Ladders.
- Live fires for training included, 1) a controlled brush burn held in April off Lakefield Road, and 2) a live fire in November held at the burn house. Live fire trainings take a significant amount of planning and coordination to ensure realism and safety.



In 2024, the Cedarburg Fire Department sent 20 individuals to various Fire and EMS certification courses offered through the local technical colleges. Our members attending those classes put in many hours of class time and practical training; up to 3 nights a week spent away from their families and personal time. This is close to 1/3 of our active membership being committed to expanding their skills and knowledge purely for the benefit of the community.

See chart on the next page for the hours spent in courses, and overall trainings and meetings.

2024 Training Summary



Training Categories	5,067 Hours	Details
Fire Suppression	768 Hours 252 Hours 40 Hours 881 Hours 145 Hours 239 Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firefighter I Course • Firefighter II Course • Fire Officer II Course • Monthly Fire Trainings (includes Auto Extrication) • Controlled Burn Brush Fire #1 (April) • Other training (Online, Outside seminar/Classes)
EMS Rescue	900 Hours 180 Hours 67 Hours 535 Hours 209 Hours 263 Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMT Basic Course • AEMT Course • RTF Ops/Active Shooter Training • Monthly EMS Trainings (includes • Other training (Online, outside seminar/classes) • Instructed CPR classes to outside groups/businesses
Engineers	523 Hours 42 Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Trainings (includes Jump Seat, Road Test/Miles and CEVO online) • Truck Maintenance
Incident Command	14 Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Online (Fire and EMS)
Dive Team	9 Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ice Dive – Harrington Beach State Park
Meetings	418 Hours	Details
Meetings	143 Hours 9 Hours 29 Hours 61 Hours 89 Hours 87 Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Meetings • Executive Board • Officers Meetings • Committee Meetings • Mentorship and New Member Orientation • Additional Meetings
Explorers Program	336 Hours	Details
Explorers (Age 14-18)	299 Hours 37 Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Trainings • Meetings
Grand Total	5,821 Hours	

2024 Engine Company

In 2024, the Engine Company accomplished getting all our fire hose tested, from supply lines to our interior lines used to put out fires. In total, 15,280 feet of hose was tested to ensure that there are no issues. All ground and roof ladders were also tested with no problems.

Engine Company was able to replace a corded positive pressure fan with a new and updated battery fan. This allows us to ventilate both fire calls and gas leak calls, not limiting us to the use of a power cord.

Equipment and SCBA checks were performed daily by our full-time staff, along with help from our paid-on-call members. Toward the end of the year, we were able to work with some new hand line nozzles to observe the new technology and to determine what is best for our replacement needs in the future.



2024 Engineers

In 2024, CFD Engineers participated in trainings based on pumping within a municipal water system (hydrants) as well as pumping and drafting within the rural areas of our protection area. Trainings on aerial operations and apparatus driving were also conducted throughout the year.

CFD Engineers spent time conducting vehicle maintenance and making minor apparatus repairs throughout the year.

Drivers were also busy with driving qualifications on the new Ambulance 150, which arrived in early 2024. We had four (4) members, who had previously received their state certifications, complete in-house qualifications and testing to become CFD Motor Pump Operators (MPOs).

Ethan LeGault, Christopher Wunsch, Scott Matuszewic and Caleb Wardenburg were all promoted to MPO's in 2024.

2024 Rescue Company

The CFD Rescue Company was once again very busy in 2024, continuing the upward trend. We finished the year with 1,602 total calls, of which 1,302 were rescue calls...another record. To help with our growing call volume, we added one full-time FF/Paramedic, while another full-time FF/AEMT successfully completed a year of paramedic schooling. In addition, we added nine licensed EMT Basics and one Advanced EMT to our roster, which includes current and new members that successfully completed the EMT Basic course.

In addition to new staff, we also added a new ambulance to our fleet, bringing our fleet up to three units, allowing us to best serve the members and visitors of our community. The new ambulance is a 2023 Ram 5500 designed by our members, purchased through ARV, and built by AEV. The ambulance was delivered in April 2024 and placed into service in May. We were fortunate to have this ambulance showcased at FDIC, which is the largest fire and rescue conference and trade show in North America, as an industry leading design and build. Some benefits to the new ambulance are the liquid spring suspension which makes a smoother and safer ride for both the patients and crew, improved safety features for the patients and crew, and improved emergency and scene lighting.

In 2024, we gained a new medical director, Kevin Glamm, M.D. A volunteer member of our department since 2007, Kevin worked his way up to Rescue Company Lieutenant before leaving the area to attend medical school, remaining in the department as a passive member during that time. Kevin (pictured at left) has come back as our Medical Director to help serve and protect the community of Cedarburg once again.



A big highlight of our year was being able to successfully resuscitate three cardiac arrest patients, allowing them to make full recoveries with minimal to no deficits. This was due to a quick response, immediate high level of care being provided, and high functioning teams of volunteers and full-time staff. The lives of these three patients, and each of their family's, would be much different without the great teamwork of our members.

The CFD Rescue Company keeps up the hard work to make sure that we are prepared to respond to any call at any time, providing the best possible treatment to those in need, while doing it with professionalism and compassion. The most valuable feature of this department is its members, who never stop working through the night, always giving up their leisure time and family time to improve the city. The sacrifices they make, and their dedication, is the core of the Cedarburg Fire Department.

2024 Explorers Post 9610 Program

Our CFD Explorer Post had 8 active members, male and female, who participated in the Fire & EMS exploration program this year.

The Explorer program provides the participants with an understanding of a career in the fire service and prepares them with the skills required to become certified Firefighters & EMT's. To be an explorer you must be between the ages of 14-18, maintain good grades in school, and actively participate in the program.

While the Explorers have their own monthly training, they are also encouraged to attend our department monthly trainings for active Fire & EMS personnel. These trainings include fire suppression, EMS, search & rescue, extrication, engineer/driver operator, and many other topics that prepare them with the knowledge to excel in school if they choose a career in these fields. Throughout 2024, members participated in 12 Explorer trainings and attended numerous other department trainings.

Explorers start off as probationary members of the Explorer post. Once they have gained the knowledge necessary, they are able to test out and come off probationary status. At that time, they are issued a pager, and they may begin to ride along, with supervision, on fire calls and gain first-hand experience.

CFD Explorers continue the tradition of creating and posting safety quotes that are displayed on the CFD sign in front of Olsen's Cedarburg Piggly Wiggly on Washington Avenue. They also helped with housekeeping and maintenance around the station. During our Open House and other events, they are able to talk with the public and give tours of the station and apparatus.

We are excited to share that a previous CFD explorer and our department's first cadet, Colt Cofta, applied for and was hired by the City of Waukesha Fire Department. This is evidence of our program's success and his personal drive. Tyler Hoerz, also a previous Explorer who left to attend college in 2024, has joined the department as a passive member as he plans to continue helping at our fundraising events during the summer.

Our Post gained two new members who were able to attend classes at MATC. Brady Naas, who joined early in 2024, attended FF1 and is currently taking EMT-B. Micah Kieckhefer is also taking EMT-B. Both will be able to obtain their NREMT certification sometime in 2025 and will be eligible for department membership once they've graduated high school.

2024 Explorers:

Lt. Addison Milam, Lt. Kennedy Gehweiler, Ben Hoerz, Tyler Hoerz, Brady Naas, Micah Kieckhefer, Angelina Seatz, and Sophia Seatz



Explorers training with fire hose operation

AWARDS 2024

Each year, the Cedarburg Fire Department recognizes the achievements of the past year for Active, Passive and Honorary members at their **Awards and Recognition Program**. The Awards banquet was held on Saturday, April 13th at the Cedarburg Cultural Center with a catered sit-down dinner and after the awards presentation, our members enjoyed entertaining BINGO games provided by our friends from The Lion's Club.

Chief Vahsholtz and Deputy Chief Heidtke presented service awards to the following members:
5 years: Tanya Zarling; and for 15 years: Bobby Jung, and Deputy Chief Joey Hintz

Four members were recognized for their honorary service of 25 years or more:



Kara Racine for 30 years honorary active service.

Kara, shown at left, was also thanked for her years working as a Telecommunicator for Cedarburg, helping the fire department and her community.

Jim Bougie, Chris Hackbarth and Theresa Grube were also each awarded for **25 years of honorary service** in the department

Edward "Eddie" Bublitz received special recognition for **50 years of active service.**

Eddie joined the Cedarburg Fire Department on February 1, 1974. During his first few years, he completed both Basic and Advanced Firefighting courses. His love of helping people inspired him to also become an EMT. He completed the course provided through local hospitals, passed the National Registry test, and soon, in addition to responding to fire calls, he was running rescue calls.

In 1978, he was promoted to Rescue Company Lieutenant, then promoted again to Rescue Captain in 1979. Ed became qualified as an Engineer on ALL department vehicles at CFD and received his state certification as an MPO. Eddie is a true caregiver: his many accomplishments, dedication and participation in the department reflect that every year. Eddie attends many of our monthly training nights and serves on department committees, such as the House and Truck Committees. In 2018, the highest award from the Cedarburg Fire Department, the Meritorious Service Award, was presented to Eddie at our Awards Banquet.



Shown L to R: Asst Chief Bill Hintz, Chief Jeff Vahsholtz, Eddie Bublitz, and Deputy Chief Andy Heidtke

The **Ozaukee County Association of Fire Departments** represented by Waubeka Fire Chief Jason **Caswell**, and the **Badger Firefighter's Association** represented by Jim Langford also presented Eddie with awards for his 50 years of service.

AWARDS Continued

First Responder of the Year recognition went to the following members who responded to the most calls in 2024:

Asst Chief Bill Hintz (85 Fire calls)
EMT Jim Bougie (162 Rescue calls)
EMT Nick Lesselyoung
(237 total Fire and Rescue)



From L to R: Chief Vahsholtz, Jim Bougie, Asst Chief Bill Hintz, and Nick Lesselyoung

A special **"Lifesaving Award"** was presented to **AEMT Melanie Clausing-Miles** for her using her skills and training in the summer of 2023. Melanie was at her local gym, Ozaukee Fitness, working out with her husband, when he suddenly became non-responsive, and was not breathing. She immediately acted using her CPR training; she checked his pulse, began chest compressions, asked for the AED on site and for someone to immediately call 911. Melanie maintained her composure and stayed calm the entire time.

She was able to revive her husband's breathing and pulse before Cedarburg Paramedics and EMS personnel arrived on scene. Chief Vahsholtz presented her with the award at the banquet and everyone in attendance stood in applause to recognize her lifesaving actions as her husband and their gym trainer stood with her on stage.

From L to R: AEMT Melanie Clausing-Miles, husband Shawn, and their gym trainer



To top the evening off, there was one **"surprise award"**, that Chief Vahsholtz knew nothing about until retired Chief Rich Van Dinter stepped up to the podium. Van Dinter began with these words; "Tonight, I'm honored to represent the fire department to recognize Chief Jeff Vahsholtz for his leadership over the last 10 years."

He went on to describe the challenges Chief Vahsholtz and the department faced over the last several years; volunteer recruitment and retention, improving response times, how Covid affected procedures/policies and the safety of our responders, and then came the consolidation study of fire departments in Ozaukee County.

Van Dinter acknowledged Vahsholtz for developing a plan that had never been done at CFD to address these issues: hiring two (2) full-time FF/AEMTs, and one (1) FF/AEMT Deputy Chief. Months went into researching the structure needed to bring on full-time personnel, and to create procedures to go forward for the future.



Chief Vahsholtz receives the Leadership Trophy

New Apparatus 2024

CFD added to the apparatus fleet in 2024. Ambulance 150 was purchased as a third ambulance to reduce the wear and tear on the other two ambulances, which have been in service since 2012. The third ambulance will help further the life of all three ambulances. It took two years to design, build, and acquire.

Ambulance 150 provides advanced life support Emergency Medical Service (EMS) and patient transport to area hospitals.

150 responds as the primary Ambulance out of Station 1.

Purchase price: \$400,000

Specifications include:

- 2023 Dodge Ram 5500 4x4 Chassis
- 6.4L Gasoline Hemi Engine
- AEV ambulance module



Fire Apparatus 2024

All fire apparatus, shown here and on the next several pages, were donated from Cedarburg Firemen's Park Inc. to the residents of Cedarburg. No taxpayer dollars were spent to purchase this apparatus.

ENGINE 163



Engine 163 is the first due engine out of Station 1.

Purchase price: \$685,000

Specifications include:

- 2016 Pierce Quantum 6-person chassis
- 500hp DD13 Detroit Diesel engine
- Allison automatic transmission
- 1500 GPM Pierce PUC pump
- 1,000-gallon water tank
- 25-gallon Class A foam tank
- 20 kW Harrison hydraulic generator

Fire Apparatus 2024 (continued)

Engine 161 rotates monthly as the second due engine out of Station 1 and Station 2.

Purchase price: \$460,000

Specifications include:

- 2004 Pierce Quantum 6-person chassis
- 515hp Detroit Diesel engine
- Allison automatic transmission
- 1500 GPM Waterous pump
- 1,000-gallon water tank
- 25-gallon Class A foam tank
- 15 kW PTO driven generator

ENGINE 161



ENGINE 162



Engine 162 rotates monthly as the second due engine out of Station 1 and Station 2.

Purchase price: \$560,000

Specifications include:

- 2009 Pierce Quantum 6-person chassis
- 525 hp Detroit Diesel engine
- Allison automatic transmission
- 1500 GPM Pierce PUC Pump
- 1,000-gallon water tank
- 25-gallon Class A foam tank
- 20 kW PTO driven generator

Tender 164 is third due out of Station 1 for rural fire calls.

Purchase Price: \$500,000

Specifications include:

- 2020 Kenworth T880, 2-person chassis
- 600hp Cummins X15 engine
- Allison automatic transmission
- 1500 GPM Waterous pump
- 3,000 Gallon water tank
- (2) 3,000 Gallon portable water tanks

TENDER 164



Fire Apparatus 2024 (continued)

Ladder Tower 159 was the first aerial platform in Ozaukee County. It has the ability to operate with up to 800lbs of weight at the tip and can operate at an elevation of 5 degrees below the level of the truck. The aerial platform also has a “pre-piped” waterway which allows the apparatus to be quickly placed into operation as an elevated master stream, which can flow up to 1000 GPM of water. The truck was rebuilt in 2000, with the biggest change being an interlock safety ladder system.

TOWER 159

Ladder Tower 159 is the third unit to respond out of Station 1 for city calls and the fourth unit out for rural calls.

Purchase price: \$500,000

Specifications include:

- 1988 Pierce Arrow 7-person chassis
- 475 hp Detroit Diesel engine
- Allison automatic transmission
- 1500 GPM Waterous pump (no on-board water tank)
- 105 ft. aerial platform
- 12 kW generator



Command Apparatus 2024



Command 167 is a 2023 Chevy Silverado 1500 4X4 pick-up truck. 167 is utilized by the on-duty Chief Officer. It has the capabilities to be set up as a command post for any incident.

Purchase price: \$85,000



Command 168 is a 2022 Chevy Tahoe utilized by the Fire Chief. It has the capabilities to be set up as a command post for any incident.

Purchase price: \$67,000

Rescue Apparatus 2024

AMBULANCES 151 and 152



Ambulances 151 and 152 rotate out of Station 1 and Station 2 monthly to equally distribute workload and to accommodate secondary EMS calls when Ambulance 150 is in use.

Purchase price: \$204,000 each

Specifications include:

- 2012 Kenworth T270 chassis
- PX6 Paccar Diesel engine
- Allison automatic transmission
- Medtec ambulance module

Squad 153 is the first due apparatus out of Station 1 for motor vehicle crashes, industrial accidents and carbon monoxide (CO) incidents.

Purchase price: \$500,000

Specifications include:

- 2006 Pierce Quantum 6-person chassis
- 425 hp Detroit Diesel engine
- Allison automatic transmission
- 19 ft. walk-through body with seating for 7
- 30 kW PTO driven generator
- (2) 20 ft. light towers (4.5 kW each)

SQUAD 153



Specialty Apparatus 2024

Aside from brush fires, 158 has the capabilities to run as a first responder vehicle for EMS related incidents and carries the needed equipment to respond to motor vehicle crashes. 158 is utilized to pull the Dive/Water Rescue Trailer (see below).

Purchase price: \$110,000

Specifications include:

- 2006 GMC 5500 4x4 5-person chassis
- Duramax Diesel engine
- 250 GPM Darley pump
- 240-gallon water tank
- 5-gallon Class A foam tank

Brush Truck 158 responds out of Station 2, located in the Town of Cedarburg.



Brush Truck 157 is first to respond out of Station 1 for brush fires.

Purchase price: \$28,000

Specifications include:

- 1989 GMC 3500 1-ton 4x4 pickup truck
- 454 cubic inch fuel-injected V8 engine
- 135 GPM Darley pump
- 200-gallon water tank
- 5-gallon Class A foam tank

The **Dive Trailer (shown above with 157)** is a 1998 cargo trailer located at Station 2. It responds for all dive/water rescue incidents and any other situations deemed necessary by the Chief. The trailer was donated in 2002 in memory of two first responder brothers who lost their lives on 9-11-2001. Members of CFD designed and refurbished the trailer to meet the needs of the department. **Cost to refurbish: \$20,000**

EMS Cart and Kubota purchased in 2017



The EMS cart and Kubota are utilized primarily for festivals and other special events, to provide quick access through highly populated areas.

B.E.R.T. (Bicycle Emergency Response Team)



Used for EMT's to respond quickly and safely to rescue incidents in crowded areas during special events.

Utility Vehicles 2024



Utility 155 is a 2019 Chevrolet 2500HD 4x4 pick-up truck. 155 is primarily used for trainings. It can also be utilized for school transport, scene support, or as a first responder vehicle.

Purchase price: \$60,000



Utility 154 is a 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4. Utilized by the fire inspector, for training and for special events.

Purchase price: \$51,000



First Response Vehicle 156 is a 2021 Chevrolet Traverse. This vehicle was purchased to help EMS crews provide faster patient care with a quick response from a first responder before the ambulance arrives. The vehicle has an AED, oxygen and a medical bag onboard.

Purchase price: \$70,000



Utility 169 is a 2013 Chevrolet Suburban 4x4. 169 is utilized primarily as a transport vehicle for Fire/EMT school classes and trainings.

Purchase price: \$80,000

Antique Fire Equipment

The Cedarburg Fire Department has a collection of five pieces of antique apparatus housed in the Station 3 museum. Always a favorite at the parades and shows!



1907 horse-drawn Howe pumper
(Pictured above) Not shown is the 1907 man-drawn hose cart.

1956 FWD (now Seagrave Fire Apparatus) Geesink Ladder Truck. The 85-foot unit was purchased in May 1957. In March 1976 it was empowered with a Detroit G-71 diesel engine. In the spring of 1978, the body and ladder were repainted and refurbished to include an enclosed cab. Sold in 1988 with the purchase of Tower 159. In 2002, CFD purchased it back from Bristol FD for \$5,107. Original purchase price: \$35,000



1924 Graham/Dodge pumper. The first motorized fire truck in the department. The motor of the Graham pumper was rebuilt by a team of department members this year to prepare for its 100th year anniversary in the July 4th parade.



1928 Pirsch pumper. Originally purchased new by CFD and then purchased back from other owners and restored. Both pumpers are still drivable and can be seen in the annual 4th of July parade.

FIRE/EMS STANDBY

Cedarburg Festivals and Other Events

In 2024, CFD members were ready to stand-by during a busy year of community events!

- Cops N Kids at City Park May 5th
- Marathon Run Cedarburg May 25th
- Kids Kick Off Summer Cedar Creek Park June 8th
- Flag Day Parade in Waubeka June 9th
- WILO USA Cedar Creek Classic Bike Race June 18th
- Strawberry Festival June 22nd and 23rd
- Rotary Music Festival July 3rd
- Parade July 4th
- Fish Day Port Washington July 20th
- County Fair July 31st thru August 4th
- Country in the Burg August 23rd and 24th at City Park
- Varsity Football CHS September 13th, 27th, and October 18th
- Wine & Harvest Festival September 21st and 22nd

Our EMS and Fire personnel logged **1,221 hours** standing by for the events listed above. Always ready to respond with our ambulance cart, Fire UTV and bicycle teams to quickly get through the festival crowds.



Our stand-by crew joined up with two nurses from Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital Ozaukee in August at Country In The Burg.

Back Row: Nurse, AEMT Kelly LaPorta, EMS Driver Teddy Krol

Front Row: Nurse, EMT Jamie Wilhelme, and Full-Time FF/AEMT Ethan LeGault

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION (CRR)

In 2024, the new Division of Community Risk Reduction was created to combine the bureaus previously known as Public Education/Community Outreach, Fire Prevention/Inspection, and fire investigations. The goal of this division is to utilize data and information to identify risks throughout the Cedarburg Community and appropriately address them, thus making our community safer. Risks can be identified through the completion of life safety inspections and fire investigations and then be mitigated using public education and outreach. This division is critical to the department's vision of ensuring that Cedarburg is a safe community.

Community Risk Reduction – Public Education and Outreach

Educating the public is paramount to the overall reduction of risk throughout our community. From a simple tour of the fire station to the hands on learning we provide all ages of the public; every little bit can truly make a difference. In the social media world we live in, we spent much of 2024 working to increase our social media presence to not only share what we do, but also to share vital information and safety messages for the public to live by.

Over the course of the year, we spent approximately **750 hours across 41 events** providing education to the public, although this number does not necessarily include most of the station tours that occurred during the year. This included 15 CPR classes, 12 community events, 13 educational presentations, and others. Our annual Open House in May was again a very big hit and was well attended by the public, while our Fire Prevention Week social media safety messages and school visits were very well received. We pride ourselves on opening our doors up to the public to let every child climb through our trucks, answer any questions someone may have, and informing the public about the Cedarburg Fire Department and its members. Public education can also quickly turn into a form of recruitment as well.

FF/EMT Katrina Schoen helping the kids learn to operate the fire hose at Open House

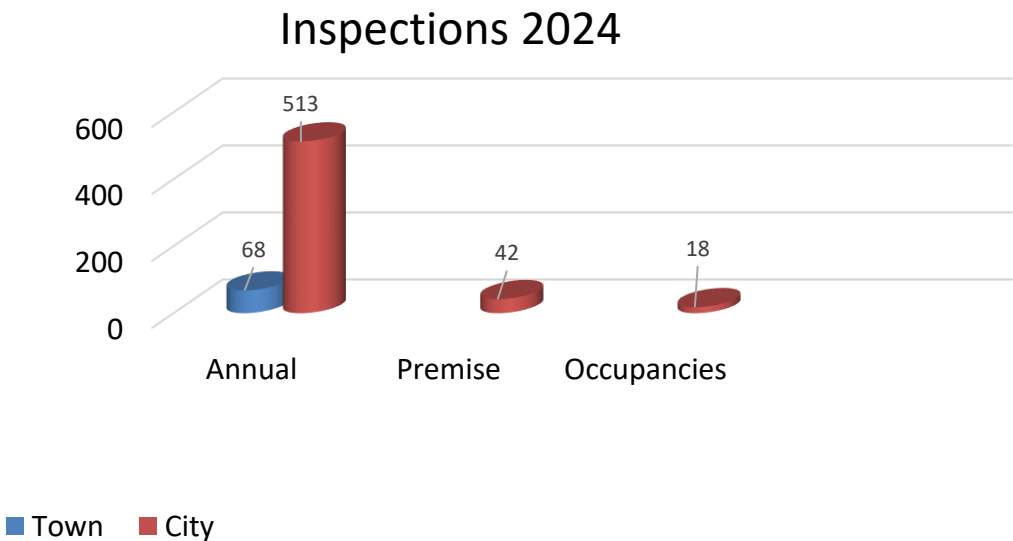


Sparky greeting the kids at Open House in May

Community Risk Reduction – Fire and Life Safety Inspections

2024 was a busy year for fire inspections and building plan reviews. **In total, 581 inspections were completed across the City and Town of Cedarburg, identifying 399 violations.** These inspections were completed using the newly adopted 2024 edition of the Fire Code, NFPA 1. While the state continues to adopt the outdated 2012 edition, use of the 2024 edition locally provides direction for our inspectors on a variety of new hazards that have become more widespread and present since 2012. The CRR Division also completes plan reviews for new occupancy uses, alterations, and new structures. There were 15 plan reviews completed in 2024 for new or altered fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems, radio coverage booster systems, and kitchen hood suppression systems. These plan reviews allow the fire department to review plans for new and altered buildings to identify any hazards prior to work beginning. Most notably, the completion of the Fox Run apartment buildings in the City and the construction of the new Athlete Performance building in the Town required much attention through many inspections.

	City	Town	Total
Inspections	513	68	581
Re-inspections	3	2	5
Occupancy inspections	18	0	18
Premise Inspections	42	0	42
Inspections w/ Violations	217	26	243
Inspections With No Violations	296	42	338

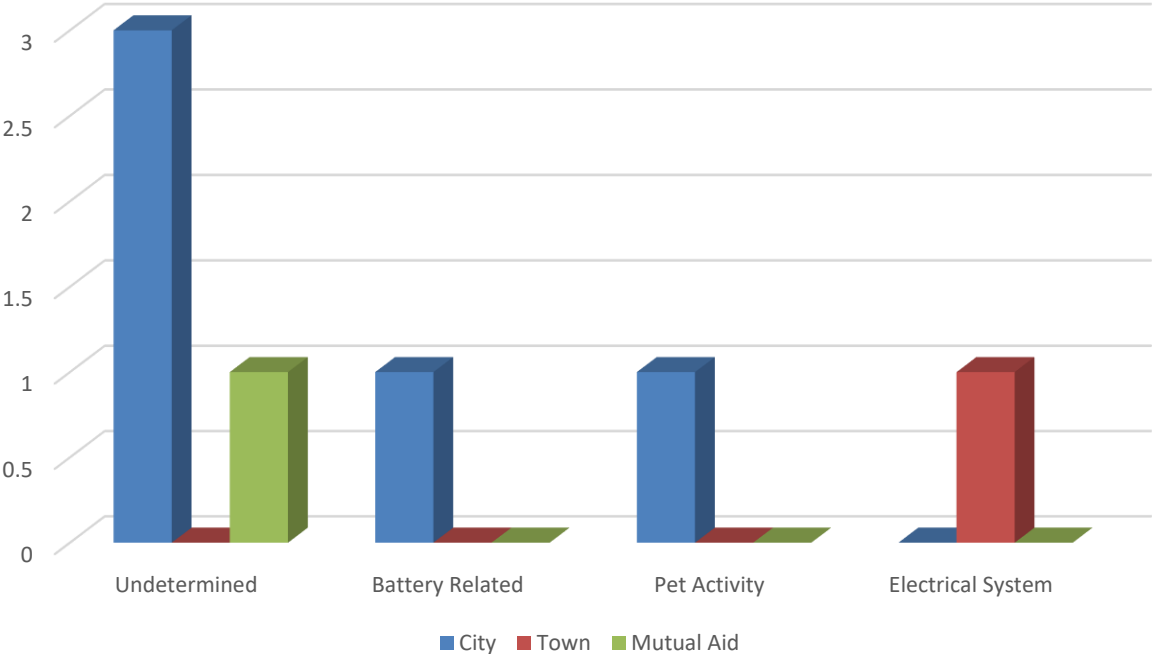


Community Risk Reduction – Fire Investigation

Many will ask how investigating a fire that has occurred reduces risk of fire? Fire investigation accomplishes many things, mainly to identify the origin and cause of the fires, and secondly, to determine that no crime was committed. By identifying the origin and cause of fires, we can identify trends that may show common causes, causes which can be addressed with public education and outreach. The origin and cause determination of fires can be complicated and difficult, most of the time resulting in the cause of the fire being labeled as “undetermined.” This does not mean we don’t necessarily know why or how the fire started, but more so that we are not able to eliminate potential sources of ignition. As an example, a garage fire occurred and the area of origin was determined by CFD fire investigators which involved a vehicle, building electrical wiring, battery powered equipment and lithium-ion batteries. Typically, an electrical engineer must be involved to review and eliminate some of those items as possible sources. While CFD investigators are highly trained and educated, this type of expertise must be outsourced and is typically handled by insurance companies, leaving us with an undetermined cause.

Good working relationships are critical in fire investigations, and we pride ourselves in working closely with our Law Enforcement partners from the Cedarburg Police Department, the Ozaukee County Sheriff’s Office, and other fire investigators. In 2024, CFD investigators conducted 7 fire investigations, 5 located in the City, 1 in the Town, and 1 to assist a mutual aid partner. Out of the 7 total investigations, 4 were labeled as undetermined, while the causes of the other three were determined to be a Li-ion battery related failure, accidental cause from a pet activity, and a damaged electrical system.

Fire Causes





Accomplishments in 2024



As Chief, I am proud to say that we accomplished all our 2024 goals!

The most important and biggest accomplishment was the passing of the referendum in April.

This allowed us to go from volunteer to paid-on-call for our volunteer members, to move the Fire Chief position from part-time to full-time, and to start our own Paramedic program. In following with our plan, we were able to hire our third Firefighter/Paramedic (see page 11 for more details).

Department Goals for 2025

- ☐ Order a new ambulance to replace our 2012 Kenworth. Lead time is estimated at two years for delivery.
- ☐ Continue to work with all parties involved regarding the renovation or replacement of our current fire station.
- ☐ Hire two (2) full-time Firefighter/Paramedics.
- ☐ Conduct a fleet study of all CFD vehicles to help plan for the future of the department and to develop a comprehensive replacement schedule.

FIREMEN’S PARK, INC

It is worthy to note that Firemen’s Park Inc. is a private non-profit corporation and separate from the Cedarburg Fire Department. However, it is the same group of dedicated volunteers and paid staff that you read about in our annual report. Not only do they volunteer thousands of hours every year for the fire department, but they also put in countless hours of volunteer time raising funds to purchase the vehicles that are then donated to the City. Legally, on paper, they are two separate groups. However, in reality, they are one group of people with the same common goal: **Giving back to our community!**

2024 Fundraiser Events Held at Firemen’s Park:

- April 27 Light and Water Recycling Event
- April 13 and 20 Boat/RV/Camper Storage (Removal Spring)
- May 26 Maxwell Street Day
- June 15 “The Pull” Truck & Tractor Event
- July 14 Maxwell Street Day
- July 22 - August 10 County Fair (includes dates in Park for set up and tear down)
- August 24 Golden Bulldogs
- September 1 Maxwell Street Day
- September 6-7 Ozaukee Radio Club Fall SwapFest
- October 6 Maxwell Street Day
- October 19 and 26 Boat/RV/Camper Storage (Store during winter)

In 2024, members volunteered 3,895 hours at fundraising events, which does not include the many hours of meetings, park maintenance and event planning that is too difficult to count. The Park Board is comprised of honorary, active and passive members, including retired Assistant Chief Bill Koeppen as Park Board President.

Drone shot from above Firemen’s Park

