

MONTROSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2021 ANNUAL REPORT





MISSION STATEMENT

The Montrose Fire Department is dedicated to protecting life and property within the boundaries of its coverage area. The department will assist citizens and provide medical and fire services to the best of our ability.

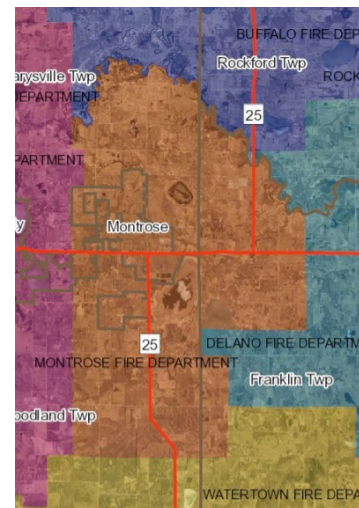
FIRE PROTECTION COVERAGE

The Montrose Fire Department protects the city of Montrose and portions of Franklin, Marysville, and Woodland Townships. Our coverage area is approximately 45 square miles, and protect a population of approximately 6,000 people.

The department also responds to assist other departments with incidents upon their requests. Our common mutual aid partners are surrounding community fire departments (Waverly, Delano, Watertown, and Buffalo).

The Service area of the Montrose Fire Department officially covers the following:

- 100 % of the City of Montrose
- 11 % of Franklin Township
- 19% of Marysville Township
- 30.25 % of Woodland Township





May, 2022

Once again, as always, it is my pleasure to present you the annual Fire Department Report for the Montrose Fire Department for calendar year 2021. I am honored to continue to serve as the Fire Chief for the Montrose Fire Department with the end of 2021 completing my 7th year as Fire Chief.

2021, much like 2020 presented us with ongoing and continuing challenges that we have had to work around. We had a very busy year, breaking our call for service record with a total of 334 emergency calls for service. We continued to have to work through COVID protocols throughout the year and have begun to realize and set into our new normal as the COVID pandemic has begun to change to an endemic.

Recruitment of new firefighters continues to be a real struggle that we deal with and continue to have to find different way to get new members onto our department. Our current roster as of the end of 2021 includes a total of 18 firefighters. If anyone knows of anyone who might be interested in joining our department, I would encourage them to reach out to us at any time.

As always my officers have been a rock for me throughout the past year. They are truly a major part in making the department run day to day and allows me to not worry about the fire department when I am busy at work or away on a vacation or with family.

We continue to be engaged in the community and it is something we truly love and enjoy doing all the time. This has been a huge historic thing for our department, and we will continue to be engaged in the community at all times

We are grateful for all the support we receive from the community, city staff and neighboring departments. Without the support of so many our mission would be next to impossible to continue to meet. It was with great sadness to the Fire Department to see City Treasurer Wendy Manson retire this year and I would like to take a special moment to thank her for her years of support and help with the Fire Department as the City Treasurer, we wish her the best in her retirement.

If anyone has any questions, concerns, or comments, I encourage them to contact me directly. All contact information can be found on page 3 of this report. Generally, someone is always at the fire station on Tuesdays in the evening from 6PM until around 10PM. The public and visitors are also always welcome to stop by and visit the station whenever we are here. I truly believe this is the citizens department, and we as firefighters have the privilege of serving the citizens.

As I have done so in previous years, I would like to thank the firefighters that serve with me in the Montrose Fire Department for their service and dedication to the community, department, and fire service. I would also like to thank my family and friends for the support they continue to provide me as I continue my service as the Montrose Fire Chief.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin S. Triplett

Kevin S. Triplett – Fire Chief



**MAILING ADDRESS:**

Montrose Fire Department
P.O. Box 25
Montrose, MN 55363

SHIPPING ADDRESS:

Montrose Fire Department
311 Buffalo Ave S
Montrose, MN 55363

STATION ADDRESS:

Montrose Fire Department
260 2nd St S
Montrose, MN 55363

ISO RATINGS

In City of Montrose - 4
In Townships where contracted - 6

FIRE STATION PHONE NUMBER: 763-575-7480

[Voicemail checked daily]

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: 911**NON-EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: 763-682-7600**

Connects to Wright County Sheriff's Office Communication Center who has the capabilities of paging fire department personnel

CITY HALL MAIN PHONE NUMBER: 763-575-7422**E-MAIL ADDRESS: montrosefd@gmail.com****WEBSITE: www.montrose-mn.com/departments/fire-department****FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/MontroseVolunteerFireDepartment/?ref=br_rs****PLEASE LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!!**

All information contained within this report is using figures during the 2021 calendar year



PERSONNEL

As of 01/01/2022, MFD has a total of 18 active firefighters. In total, years of total service is approximately **246 years and 5 months**

OF OUR 18 FIREFIGHTERS:

- 16 Emergency First Responders
- 1 EMT-B
- 13 State Certified Firefighter 2
- 5 State Certified Officer 1
- 7 State Certified Instructor 1
- 1 State Certified Fire Apparatus Operators
- 1 Licensed Firefighters

(Some of the more senior members of the department went through their respective training prior to state certification being an option. All regular training is to the Firefighter 2 level.)

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

No Firefighters took a leave of absence in 2021

2021 FIREFIGHTERS RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

- Tom Weineck – Service dates: 08/24/2007 – 01/15/2021
 - 13 Years, 4 months, 3 weeks & 1 Day of service
- Jeffrey Holt – Service dates: 04/03/2018 – 07/07/2021
 - 3 Years, 3 Months & 4 Days of Service
- Terry Vanderbeek – Service dates: 12/12/2016 – 11/02/2021
 - 4 Years, 10 months & 3 weeks of service
- Matt Menard – Service dates: 12/03/2020 – 11/30/2021
 - 11 months, 3 weeks & 6 days of service
 - Matt previously served with the MFD from 2007-2019

NEW FIREFIGHTERS IN 2021

- David Paradeise joined our Department in November 2021



Active Firefighter Roster (As of 12/31/2021)

NAME	YEARS OF SERVICE (as of 12/31/2021)
Willie Bauernschmitt	49 Years, 11 Months
Mike Marketon	37 Years, 6 Months
Steven Mortensen	28 Years, 11 Months
Allen Mortensen	24 Years, 1 Month (37 Months LOA)
Kevin Triplett – Fire Chief	18 Years, 7 Months
Thomas Marketon - Assit Fire Chief	18 Years
Keith Johnson	17 Years, 5 Months (16 Months LOA)
Justin Phillips - Captain	10 Years, 7 Months
Kelly Stoll – Captain	10 Years, 7 Months
Cory DeWitte	9 Years, 4 Months
Joseph Von Thoma	7 Years, 2 Months
Eddie Andreoff	3 Years, 9 Months
Joel Grave	3 Years, 1 Month
Dian Holman	2 Years, 1 Month
Joey Theis	2 Years, 1 Month
Zack Walters	2 Years, 1 Month
Cade Stuntebeck	1 Year, 1 Month
David Paradeise	2 Months



APPARATUS

		Mileage 01/2021	Mileage 01/2022	Total Mileage (2021)	2020 Mileage	Total Pump Hours	
						2020	2021
UTILITY 11	2011 Chevrolet Suburban	14401	15985	1584	898		
ENGINE 11	2001 Freightliner	18023	18282	259	295	343.9	350
ENGINE 12	2014 Spartan	8850	9793	943	727	116	137
RESCUE 11	2006 Sterling	7809	8003	194	337		
TENDER 11	2021 Freightliner	327	723	396	-----		
TENDER 12	2009 Freightliner	5641	5741	100	457		
GRASS 11	2012 Ford Super Duty	13578	15131	1553	584		
GRASS 12	1986 Chevrolet 1 Ton	21491	21516	25	46		
GRASS 13	2015 Polaris Ranger	366	379	13	6		

Utility 11

- 2011 Chevrolet Suburban
- Can carry up to 5 firefighters
- Utilized for minor medical calls
- Medical Supplies/AED
- Fire Investigation equipment
- Used to go to regional/county meetings/events



Engine 11

- Built by Central States Fire Apparatus
- 2000 Freightliner Chassis
- 1000 Gallon Water Tank
- 1500 GPM Darley Pump
- 20 Gallon Foam Tank
- Thermal Imaging Camera
- Carries 4 firefighters in full suppression gear, driver, and front seat officer
- over 3,200 feet of hose (800' 5" | 900' 2 1/2" | 1515' 1 1/2")



Engine 12

- Built by CustomFire Apparatus
- 2014 Spartan Chassis
- 1500 GPM Waterous Pump
- 1000 Gallon Water Tank
- over 3,100 feet of hose (600' 5" | 1000' 2 1/2" | 1530' 1 1/2")
- Light Tower
- Thermal imaging Camera
- 20 Gallon Foam Tank
- Extrication Tools (Jaws-of-Life)
- Carries 4 firefighters in full suppression gear, driver, and front seat officer



Rescue 11

- Built by Central States Fire Apparatus (Rosenbauer)
- Heavy Rescue walk in body
- 4 Gas monitor
- Extrication Tools
- Rescue & medical equipment & AED
- 2006 Sterling Chassis
- Seating for 8 Firefighters (6 with SCBA)



Tender 11 (Took Delivery 01/2021)

- Built by Midwest Fire Equipment
- 2021 Freightliner Chassis
- 200 Gallon Tank
- 2100 Gallon folding water tank
- 400 GPM Waterous pump
- Hose reel w/ 200' of 3/4" hose
- Storage for additional rolled hose, tools & equipment



Tender 12 (Previously known as Tender 11)

- Built by Midwest Fire Equipment
- 2009 Freightliner Chassis
- 2000 Gallon Tank
- 2100 Gallon folding water tank
- 400 GPM Waterous pump
- 200' of 1 1/2" pre-connect hose
- 250 feet of rolled hose (100' 4" | 50' 3" | 50' 1 1/2")





Apparatus Continued

Grass 11

- Built by Montrose Fire Department/Kirivada Fire/E.A.T.I.
- 2012 Ford F350 Pickup Truck
- 200 Gallon removable skid unit (Water pump/tank/hoses)
- 12 HP Honda Pump – 300 GPM Water pump
- Skid unit removed during winter & Truck used as a plain pickup
- Used to go to regional/county/state events/trainings



Grass 12

- Vehicle acquired from MN DNR through Federal Excess Property Program (FEPP)
- 1986 Chevrolet 1-ton pickup
- Acquired and outfitted as a Grass/Wildland Firefighting truck in 1995
- 225 Gallon Water Tank
- High Pressure Warner Pump/Hoses



Grass 13

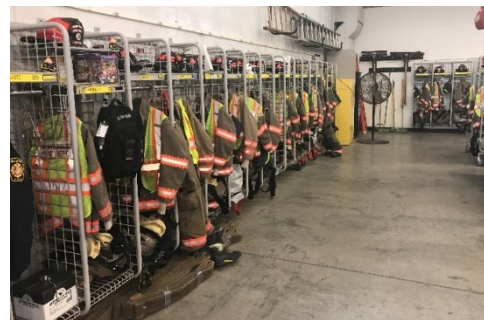
- 2015 Polaris Ranger side by side ATV
- Purchased 06/2015 through Meis Outland in Watkins, MN
- up-fitted in house with emergency lights, scene light, and upgraded suspension
- 35 Gallon Water Tank
- 5.5 HP High Pressure water pump (2200psi 3GPM)



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FIREFIGHTERS WHO PERFORM COUNTLESS HOURS OF MAINTENANCE ON OUR TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT SAVING THE CITY & DEPARTMENT THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS EACH YEAR.

STATION INFORMATION

- Built 1996
- 7200 square foot
- 1 Drive-thru Apparatus Bay
- 4 Back-in Apparatus Bays
- Office Space (Shared by Officers, Relief Association, Internal Dispatch)
- Work Area (SCBA Filling, Storage, Workbench)
- Storage for 30 sets of turnout gear
- Gear washing extractor
- Gear Dryer





TRAINING

Training is an important part of any fire department. The Montrose Fire Department strives to have its personnel trained in the most up to date methods of fire suppression and emergency medical care. Training ensures we are ready 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. Our firefighters dedicate much time to training, making sure they are proficient in the use of department equipment and apparatus.

We had 3 Firefighters take and complete Officer 1 Certification and 4 firefighters take and complete Instructor Certification. Allowing our firefighters to learn, grow and earn certifications builds our department by gaining knowledge and understanding of a vast array of topics.

MFD is fortunate to have 7 state certified instructors on the roster who assist with trainings. Two of our certified instructors also teach for outside instruction agencies. Much of the training is put on by Customized Fire & Rescue Education, and most training is paid for by funding dollars allotted to the Montrose Fire Department through the MN Board of Firefighter Education.

In 2021, the MFD had 3 firefighters complete their initial NFPA 1001 (Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2 & HazMat Operations) Certifications. These courses take about 200 total hour to complete and takes a lot of time, dedication and studying for those attending class. It is the requirement of the Montrose Fire Department that all firefighters be certified to the Firefighter 2 certification level.

Officers (Chiefs & Captains) attended the 2021 MN State Fire Chiefs Conference in October 2021.

INTERESTING TRAININGS IN 2021

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| ▪ Medical Trainings | ▪ Truck Driving | ▪ SCBA Fit Testing |
| ▪ Grain Bin Extrication | ▪ New Tender Orientation | ▪ LP Fire Prop |
| ▪ Pump training | ▪ Active Threat Response | ▪ Traffic Management |

In 2021, the firefighters of the Montrose Fire Department took part in a total of **1747.95 man hours** of training during scheduled training events normally held on Tuesday nights.

Total man hours listed above does not generally include hours at conferences, or outside trainings. It only includes our regularly scheduled trainings (first 3 Tuesdays of each month)



Forceable Entry Training – Sep 2021



Hydrant Hook up training – Sep 2021



Emergency Medical Responder Refresher – Feb 2021



FIRE PREVENTION & COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fire Prevention and assisting the community in non-emergency events is an important part of the overall mission of any fire department. We reach out to members and groups of our communities to assist in making sure they are safe and prepared for various forms of emergencies and provide support for various functions.

2021 has been like no other as we begin to find new and interesting ways to reach out to the community and be supportive to fire prevention efforts. We have been utilizing facebook as a means to reach out to the public to spread important fire prevention messages as well as how they can help the Montrose Fire Department. Due to COVID 19 still being a concern, many of our normal events had to be postponed or canceled. We were unable to hold our annual Firefighters Relief dinner, but did a virtual event for a gun raffle as well as some yearly awards for 2020.

In 2021 we were less active in community events, partly to protect firefighters and also because many events were canceled due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Some things we did take part in included

- Remembering 9/11 – in front of O'Brothers (Sep 2021)
- Montrose Night to Unite (Oct 2021)
- Fire Prevention week activities with Montrose Elementary School (Oct 2021)
- VFW Memorial dedication (Nov 2021)
- Many Birthday Drive by's within our entire coverage area (All year)
- Many parades for neighboring community events and celebrations



September 11th Remembrance



Fire Prevention Week – October 2021



VFW Memorial Dedication (Nov 2021)





EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Montrose Fire Department provides Emergency Management oversight to the City of Montrose and Townships which we provide service to. Our main point of contact during a large-scale event is the Wright County Sheriff's Office, who has 2 full time employees dedicated solely to Emergency Management. Emergency Management is able to assist in providing various resources throughout a large scale event.

The Fire Chief is the Emergency Management Director and is responsible for making sure the city is prepared for various emergencies which may arise. The Fire Department Officers and firefighters also play a key role in ensuring we are prepared for various large-scale events.

As the COVID 19 issues continue to work through to an endemic stage, the Montrose Fire Department has remained diligent in monitoring changes and updates in regards to the pandemic. Many calls, meetings and updates have been reviewed to help provide the best response to questions, concerns and issues that arose throughout the year both within the Fire Department as well as the City of Montrose. COVID 19 will continue to be monitored for many months ahead, however it seems as though we are truly starting to get changed over from a pandemic to a endemic and hopefully those trends continue.

The Montrose Fire Department and City of Montrose continue to prepare and plan for additional large scale events that may effect the City of Montrose and it citizens. Examples of these events include; flooding, tornados, railway emergencies, large scale event planning, and anything else that could cause a serious impact to the City and its infrastructure.

SPECIAL MENTION / INFORMATION

- In January 2021 we received delivery of our newly built tender from Midwest Fire Apparatus. This allowed us to retire our 1997 Tender which was ultimately sold at auction. The 1997 Tender served us well, however the new tender brings many safety and operation improvements. The 1997 Tender was the last truck in our fleet that had a manual transmission.

- In October 2021 we received notification that we were awarded a 50:50 matching grant through the DNR. We utilized these funds (\$5000 total \$2500 FD & \$2500 MN DNR) to purchase new backpack blowers and also several lengths of large diameter hose. The backpack blowers are an indispensable tool when fighting brush or wild land fires

- We broke a couple of records in 2021:

 - Most calls in a year – 334 (previous record 281 in 2020)

 - Most calls in a month – 38 August 2021 (previous record was 36 calls August 2020)
47 October 2021

 - Most calls in a 24 hour period – 9 calls - October 20/21 2021 (previous record 8 calls)



BUDGET

- Cost for services to citizens of the City of Montrose and our protected areas in neighboring townships remains at \$150 per parcel paid during property taxes. This amount allows us to continue to properly operate as well as save for future large purchases by putting a significant amount into a capitol expenditure account. We currently do not bill for services unless warranted by the type of call or location for the call.

Firefighters continue to receive a \$10 stipend per training and \$10 per call for service. Firefighters receive the \$10 per call regardless of the total length of the call, so firefighters could be on scene for a half hour and get \$10 or they could be on a call for 8 hours and receive the \$10 stipend. Firefighters are paid yearly in January for the prior full year of service.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

- In 2021 we applied for a FEMA grant through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program to replace our aging SCBA breathing apparatus. This grant was denied and a new grant has already been drafted and submitted for the 2022 grant cycle. If this grant is not approved we will again attempt it again, however without grant funding the Montrose Fire Department will need to replace its aging SCBAs within the next couple of years at a cost of around \$130,000. This money is in our budget currently, but we are always looking for new ways to fund larger projects such as this.

- In the next several years we anticipate having some costs associated with station maintenance and upkeep including a new apron in the front of our station, roof repairs/replacement, painting, etc.

- Within the next 5 years we will also begin looking at purchasing a new Engine to replace our 2001 Freightliner engine. At current costs today the cost of a new engine can be anywhere from \$500,000 to \$750,000 depending on the specifications.

PENSION

- The Montrose Fire Department provides a pension for firefighters and the total pension is held through the MN Statewide Volunteer Firefighters Pension administered by The Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA). Firefighter's pension level is set by the City of Montrose and the current level for 2021 is \$4500 per year of service. Firefighters become vested at 5 years and can receive 40% of what they are owed once they turn the age of 50. The vesting level goes up by 4% for each year of service until a firefighter hits 20 years at which time they are 100% vested. The City of Montrose elected to increase the pension to \$5000 (from \$4500) which will become effective 01/01/2022. As of 02/08/2021 our pension account held with PERA totaled \$1,522,946.85. We are required to be 100% funded in this account at all times and the increase to \$5000 will allow us to remain fully funded with no increase to the amount of money that is sent to PERA on an annual basis. \$30,000 from the Fire Department budget is sent to PERA yearly to contribute to the pension fund and the City of Montrose contributes an additional \$12,000 yearly. We also receive investment income and our Fire State Aid dollars are submitted directly to PERA to support our pension as required by State Law.



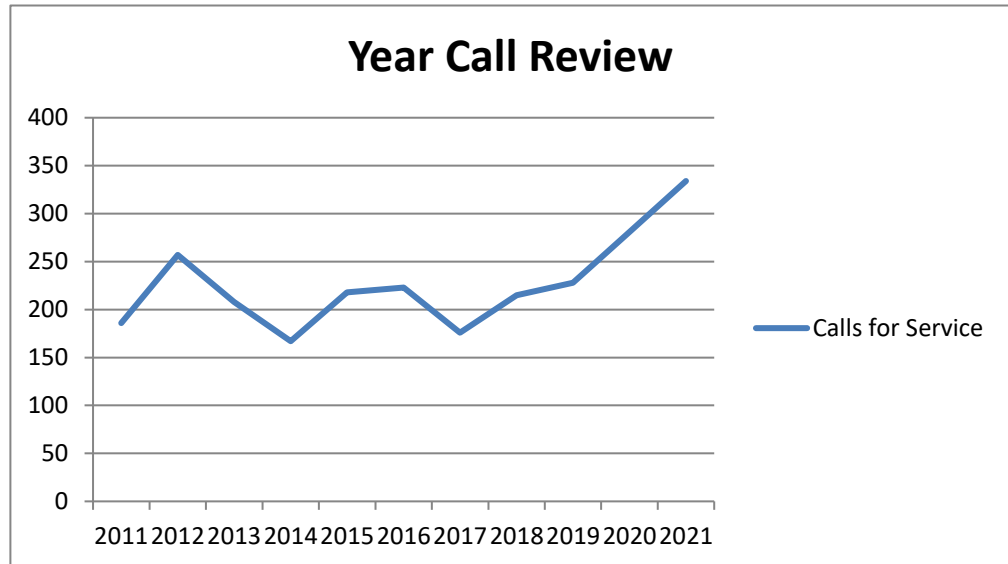
CALL ANALYSIS

[Call Analysis includes all calls for service both in and outside the city of Montrose]

2021 Total Calls for Service: 334

Year Comparison of
Calls:

2021: 334
2020: 281
2019: 228
2018: 215
2017: 176
2016: 233
2015: 218
2014: 167
2013: 208
2012: 257
2011: 186

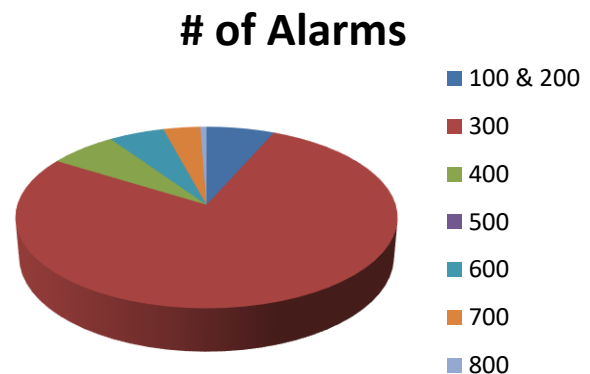


TYPE OF CALL ANALYSIS

Type of Calls

- Series 100 – Fires (Includes buildings, vehicles, etc.)
- Series 200 – Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)
- Series 300 – Rescue (Includes EMS Calls, motor vehicle accidents, etc.)
- Series 400 – Hazardous Condition (Odor/Electrical/Chemical, etc.)
- Series 500 – Service Call (Animal in distress, odor, person in distress, etc.)
- Series 600 – Good Intent Call (Canceled en-route, controlled burning, etc.)
- Series 700 – False Alarm/False Call (False Alarm, scares, etc.)
- Series 800 – Severe Weather/Natural Disasters

SERIES	# OF ALARMS	% OF TOTAL
100 & 200	22	6.6%
300	258	77.2%
400	22	6.6%
500	0	0%
600	18	5.4%
700	12	3.6%
800	2	0.6%





Average response time (Page to on scene)

Medicals & Others – 6:15 Minutes:seconds (6:00 Minutes in 2010)

Fire – 6:20 Minutes:seconds (7:45 Minutes in 2020)

2021 Property/Content Loss:

2021 - \$882,183

2020 - \$170,500

2019 - \$153,500

2018 – \$275,200

2021 Injuries

1 Injury to civilian (minor-burns)

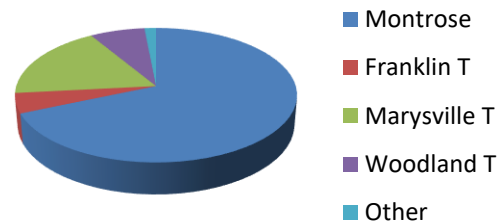
1 Injury to Firefighter (minor - Exhaustion)

2021 Breakdown of District Responses

(Each area we serve is assigned a district (Montrose City, Franklin Township, etc.)

District	# of Alarms	% of total
City of Montrose	229	68.56%
Franklin Township	16	4.79%
Marysville Township	60	17.96%
Woodland Township	24	7.19%
Other (Mutual Aid)	5	1.50%
TOTAL:	334	

of Alarms per district



2021 Breakdown Time/Day of Week

Day of Week						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
48	40	46	54	48	48	50

Time of Day					
12A-4A	4A-8A	8A-12P	12P-4P	4P-8P	8P-12A
42	32	54	53	81	72

2021 Average Turnout per incident

10.22 (334 Total Calls | 3415 Responses)

2020 = 10.35 (281 total calls | 2909 Responses)

2021 Call Hours – 2281.1 Hours (+309.6 from 2020)

2020 Call Hours – 1971.5 Man Hours

2021 Mutual Aid

Given 11 times

Delano FD – 1 Incident

Buffalo FD – 1 Incident

Watertown FD – 4 Incidents

Waverly FD – 2 Incident

Received on 8 Incidents

Waverly FD – 8 Incident

Interesting/Significant Calls for Service

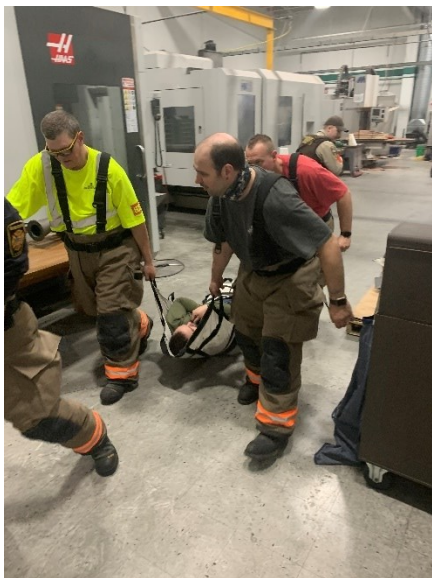
- 02/27/21 – Structure Fire – 218 Quail Dr – Montrose (\$371,157 loss)
- 03/01/21 – Structure Fire – 107 Charity Ln – Montrose (\$242,608 loss)
- 05/22/21 – Structure Fire – 400 Center Ave S Unit 72 – Montrose (\$40,000 loss)
- 06/02/21 – Structure Fire – 5651 Aetna Ave SE – Franklin Township (\$125,000 loss)
- 12/26/21 – Structure Fire – 2378 US Highway 12 SW Unit 34 – Marysville Township (\$69,000 loss)
- Throughout 2021 – 6 Grass/Wildland Fires
- Throughout 2021 – 2 severe weather standbys
- Throughout 2021 – 12 Motor Vehicle Accident responses
- Throughout 2021 – 246 Medical responses



2021 Firefighter of the Year, Diane Holman (L) being presented the award by Fire Chief Kevin Triplett (R)



2021 Top Responders awards presented by Fire Chief Kevin Triplett (Left)
L to R award recipients: K. Stoll, W. Bauernschmitt, D. Holman, J. Von Thoma & D. Holman
NOT PICTURED: M. Marketon



Active Threat Response Training
04/13/2021 @ Craft Pattern & Mold



Firefighters (L to R) J. Theis, D. Holman & Z. Walters completed all necessary training and were awarded their firefighter Badges





Hose testing – July 2021



Propane Emergencies Training
April 2021



Mutual Aid Incident to Watertown (July 2021)

RETIRED & SOLD

Tender 12

- 1997 Ford F700
- 2000 Gallon Tank ▪ 2100 Gallon folding water tank
- 350GPM Darley Pump ▪ hose reel w/ 200' of 1" rubber hose
- 300 feet of rolled hose (50' 4" | 50' 3" | 200' 1 ½")

