

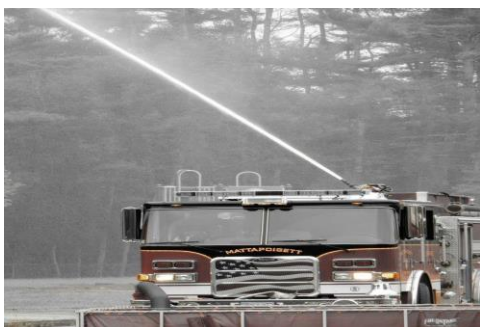
Mattapoissett Fire Department

2015 Annual Town Report

It is with great pleasure that I present the Mattapoissett Fire Department Annual Report for the 2015 calendar year. The members of the Mattapoissett Fire Department proudly continue their commitment to protect and preserve the quality of life for the town's residents and visitors. This report outlines the services, programs and accomplishments, along with statistical response data of the Fire Department throughout the past year. The information contained within this report is a testament to the professionalism and dedication of the Firefighters, Fire Officers and Administrative staff of the Mattapoissett Fire Department.

The Mattapoissett Fire Department had another exceptional year in 2015. We continued our goal of giving back to the community and teaching the town's people about fire prevention. We participated in a number of training opportunities to help better ourselves as members of the Fire Department which in turn allows us to better serve the town and its' citizens. Members of the department are immensely dedicated, selflessly responding to emergencies at all hours of the day and night, even though the majority of the staff have full-time jobs elsewhere. The amount of pride, courage and sacrifice the Firefighters exhibit is incalculable.

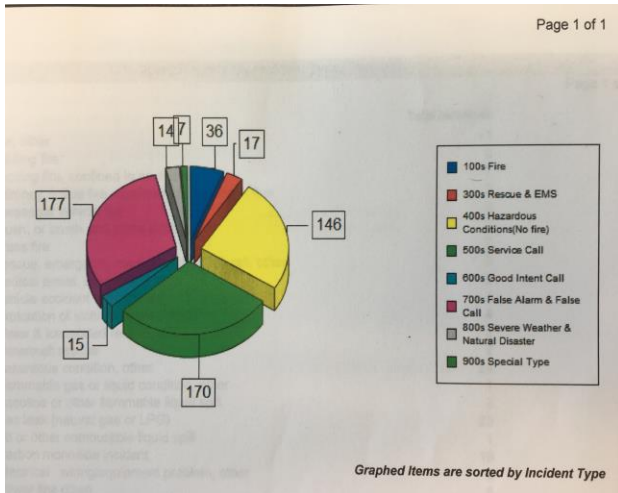
The Mattapoissett Fire Department remains a service oriented organization with a tremendous level of commitment to serve our town. Nothing could have been accomplished this past year without the great men and women of this organization's willingness to help paired with the overwhelming support of our Towns people and leaders. The dedication of the members is of insurmountable value and is displayed in the data listed below.



The Fire Department responded to 582 emergency calls for service in 2015, which included 36 fires (chimney, structural, vehicular and brush). Not only were fire calls answered, but Mattapoissett Firefighters also responded to various other types of emergencies such as: motor vehicle crashes, hazardous materials, water rescue, severe weather / natural disaster responses and general public assist calls.

2015 Emergency Activity

- 36-Fires (house, vehicle, brush)
- 17-Rescues (vehicle extrication, water rescue)
- 146-Hazardous (fuel, gas, chemical leak)
- 170-Service Calls (public service assistance)
- 15-Good Intent Call (canceled en route)
- 177-False Alarm (syst. malfunction, other)
- 14-Severe Weather & Disaster Responses
- 7-Special Type



In addition to the emergency services listed above, the Fire Department also provides several non-emergency types of services.

Routine non-emergency services include:

- Construction Plan Review
- Fire Code Compliance
- Arson Investigation
- Public Education Programs (SAFE)
- Public Training Programs
- Department Training Programs
- Equipment Maintenance and Repair
- Inspection Services
 - Including Business, Smoke/CO Detectors, School/Daycare, Oil Burner & Tank, Propane Tank, Gas Station, Commercial cooking, cutting and welding, marine fueling, and etc.

Personnel

The Mattapoisett Fire Department operates as a paid on-call fire department comprised of one full-time Fire Chief, a full-time Day Shift Firefighter, 28 on-call firefighters, and one part-time secretary. Please help me in congratulating Lieutenant Justin Dubois, who has been appointed as our newest Fulltime member. Justin has been an invaluable member of the Department for over 11 years. Justin's promotion is well deserved.

One of our part-time Firefighters, Michael Muldoon, took over as our Fire Alarm Superintendent. Michael is an electrician by trade and has been instrumental in helping us maintain our municipal fire alarm system.

In 2015, the Fire Department continued its pursuit in recruiting new personnel to be trained as Firefighters. I am pleased to announce the appointment recruits, Garrett Bauer, Nick Nelson, Michael Medeiros, William Oliver, and Kevin Almeida who are currently enrolled in the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy - I would like to wish them a safe and successful academy experience.

In June of 2015, Brett Gauvin, Scott Leonard, and Justin Blue successfully graduated the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. This program is a rigorous twenty-week curriculum which meets twice a week and on weekends, where firefighters are trained on such skills as firefighting tactics, search and rescue techniques, hazardous materials response, among other critical skills. I would like to take this public opportunity to congratulate these members on a job well done.



Marine Services and Capabilities

With Mattapoisett being a waterfront community, an increased population of residents in the summer, along with neighboring communities with vast stretches of coastline, Mattapoisett has a very active marine rescue program. In the spring of 2014, the Buzzards Bay Marine Task Force was launched in order to bring together water rescue resources of each community bordering Buzzard's Bay during emergencies. To aid in this effort, Mattapoisett added to their marine fleet with the addition of the new "Marine 1" rescue boat. This vessel was acquired from the United States Coast Guard and outfitted to serve as a fire and rescue boat for our community. Marine 1 is now a year round rescue boat which we have not been currently able to do. This vessel has a fully enclosed cabin

that can warm patients taken from the water or off a boat in distress. The cabin will also keep all the rescuers safe from the harsh weather elements that we respond in. The former Marine 1 has been renamed Marine 2 and will remain available during the warmer months. Both of these vessels as well as our qualified staff, aided in several rescues throughout 2015. In addition to responding to emergencies on the water, the Fire Department also used these vessels to assist the Department of Natural resources and seed all the shellfish beds as we do every year.

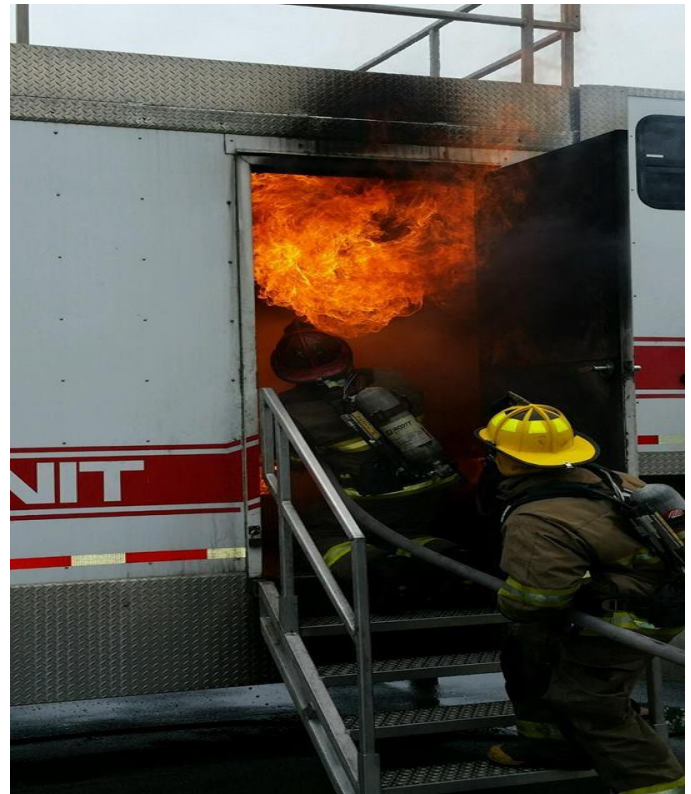


Training

The Mattapoissett Fire Department participated in numerous training opportunities in 2015. Department drills are held twice a month which allow members to continually practice their abilities to remain sharp, as well as providing an opportunity for new techniques and skills to be learned. Additional training and continuing education outside of normal drills is frequently participated in. We pride ourselves in covering a variety of topics to further our member's growth. Continual education is important because it allows our members to better serve the community, each other and themselves.

Some of the additional training programs participated in by various Mattapoissett Fire Department members in 2015 included: Emergency vehicle operator training, Advanced Structural Firefighting Practices at the Department of Fire Services (DFS) in Stow, MA, a 40-hour Public Fire and Life Safety Educator class which included instruction on how to teach fire prevention classes to small children up to seniors, Rapid Intervention Crew training, Incident Safety Officer, Fire

Prevention Officer, introduction to Boston Med Flight, Buzzards Bay Oil Spill Response drill, Coast Guard Marine Training, Boater Safety Course with the Massachusetts Environmental Police, as well as a Buzzards Bay Marine Task Force Drill, to name a few.



(Photo of a live fire training in 2015)

Grant Money Awarded

As in previous years, the Mattapoissett Fire Department continues to seek grant opportunities in an effort to reduce the economic impact on the residents of the community. In 2015, we were awarded \$6,953 in state funds from the S.A.F.E. (Student Awareness of Fire Education) and Senior S.A.F.E. programs, which aids in providing education and offsets purchasing of supplies for these educational programs. We were awarded \$2,000 from MIA, our town's insurance company, to enhance the safety of our Firefighters. In addition to these two grants, we applied for an \$187,500 federal grant, however, we were not awarded these funds. This money would have been used to replace and upgrade our SCBA masks, Air-Pak's, and supplied air tanks.

Fire Prevention

The Mattapoissett Fire Department values teaching the members of our community tools for

fire prevention, such as decreasing the number and severity of fires, proper use of fire extinguishers, as well as awareness of and reducing carbon monoxide incidents, among other preventable emergencies. We believe this can be accomplished through a proactive code enforcement program, public education activities, and plan review.

Our fire education programs and teaching of life safety behaviors are targeted to include age ranges from pre-K up through adults and seniors. As in previous years, Mattapoisett Fire Department hosted another successful Open House where fire prevention information was distributed and demonstrations were held. Demonstrations included a live burn to mimic a room and contents fire, fire extinguisher usage, vehicle extrication, and more.



Over the course of 2015, the Fire Department continued training and outreach events for the community which included hosting multiple fire extinguisher safety classes, a smoke alarm and CO battery replacement program, in which we utilized 300 batteries donated by Energizer Battery for those in need. The Fire Department continues to offer free smoke detector battery replacement to seniors and people of need in single family homes. Smoke detectors continue to be a key factor in preventing fire-related deaths. For more details and information, contact us at 508-758-4150.

Community Involvement

Continuing throughout 2015, Mattapoisett Fire Department members prided themselves in volunteering in the community and participating in various fundraisers. A well supported and first annual Chowder competition was hosted by the Mattapoisett Firefighters Association at the knights

of Columbus. This event raised thousands of dollars and allowed restaurants and local public safety agencies to compete against each other for a great cause. In addition, as in previous years, we provided assistance to the Lions Club and their members with the annual Triathlon and Harbor Days events. In addition to helping with Triathlon, the Fire Department also entered a team of Firefighters to compete. The three member team consisted of Lieutenant Ross Macedo, Firefighter Marc Nadeau, and Firefighter Scott Leonard.



Restoration Project

As we mentioned in the 2013 and 2014 Annual Report, the Mattapoisett Fire Department was generously relinquished ownership of our original “Old Engine 4”, a 1949 Ford Maxim, by G.H. Dunn Insurance. The restoration project that began in 2013 has continued into 2015. With many personal hours spent by Fire Department members, as well as their friends and family, Check Collision generously donated their time and supplies to complete a full paint job on our little piece of history.

Following the completion of a beautiful paint job, as well as the addition of lettering work performed by Cranberry Signcraft, “Old Engine 4” was

showcased at several events around Town. We are excited to continue this restoration project and share this historic treasure with the town of Mattapoissett.



Acknowledgements

The Mattapoissett Fire Department would like to acknowledge and thank the men and women of the Mattapoissett Police and EMS Department, whom continue to work seamlessly alongside us during emergency situations.

I would also like to say thank you to all of our Town Departments and their members for all the support they give during emergency incidents and community events on a daily basis.

Lastly, I would like to thank the members of the Fire Department and their families for the countless number of hours they spend during training and responding to emergency incidents within our town and the neighboring communities. The Mattapoissett Fire Department is comprised of highly skilled, compassionate problem solvers, who are committed to providing the best care possible, during often difficult circumstances. I hope you find this report informative and I thank you for your interest and support.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Murray

Andrew Murray
Fire Chief