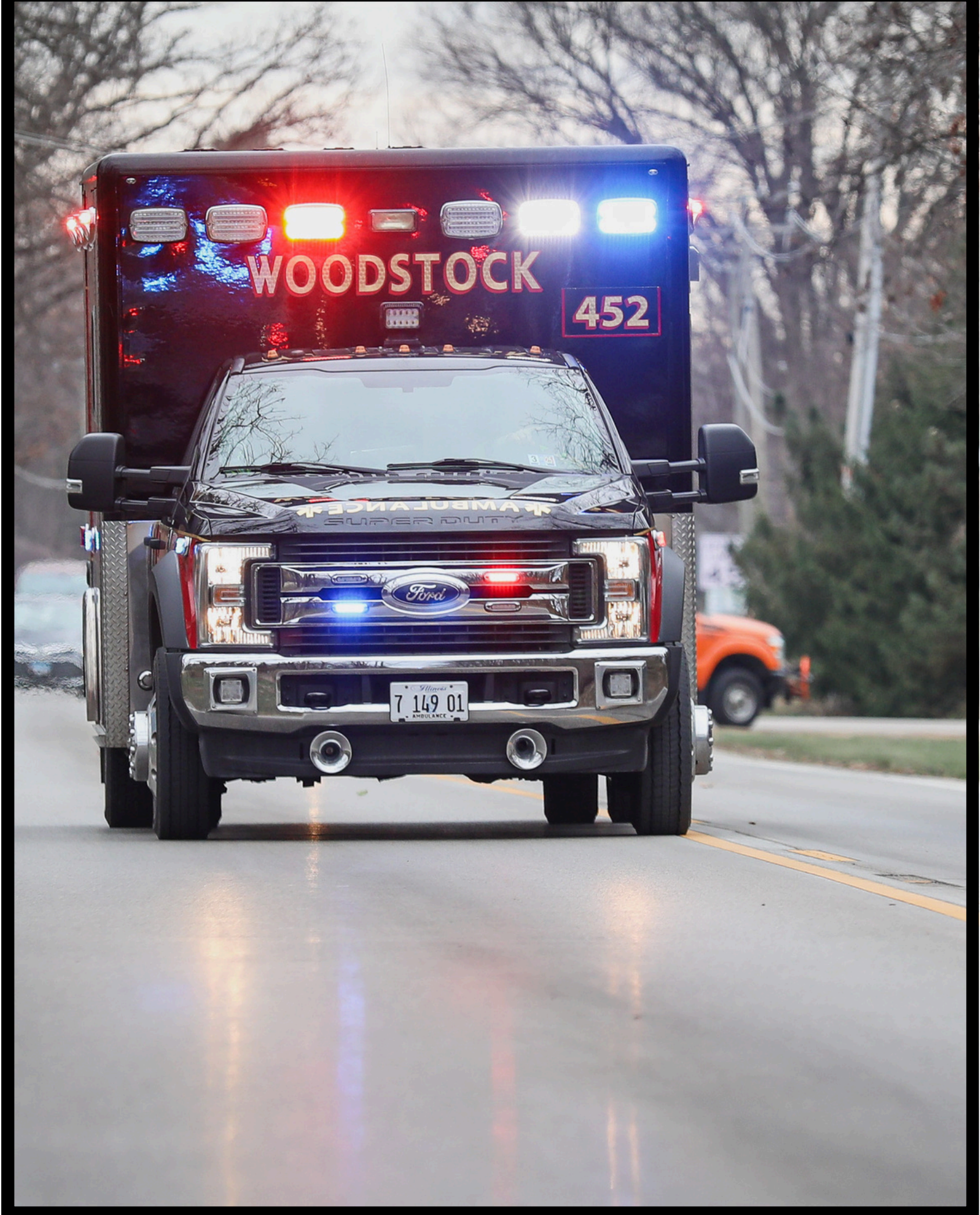




2024 ANNUAL REPORT

WOODSTOCK FIRE/RESCUE DISTRICT





Chief Brendan Parker
May 2023 - Present

A Message From **the Chief**

It is truly an honor to lead the Woodstock Fire/Rescue District (WFRD) and be part of this incredible organization. As a third-generation firefighter, serving the community where I grew up and still call home is a privilege. Over my 25 years with WFRD, I have had the opportunity to work in various roles, each shaping my leadership and reinforcing my passion for the fire service.

The past year was a remarkable one for our district. In 2024, WFRD responded to a historic 5,670 calls for service, the highest volume in our history. This continued increase reflects the growing needs of our community and the dedication of our members in meeting them.

A major milestone this year was the completion of our 2025-2029 Strategic Plan, which will guide our department's growth and long-term goals. We also continued to strengthen our connection with the community, expanding our presence through social media, public events, and our annual open house. These outreach efforts are just as important as emergency response, allowing us to build relationships and educate residents on fire and life safety.

In addition, we welcomed several new hires and celebrated the hard work of members who successfully completed their paramedic training, further enhancing our ability to provide critical medical care. Through it all, our firefighters and paramedics showed incredible resilience, responding to numerous major incidents, including catastrophic fires and serious vehicle crashes.

What continues to stand out the most is the leadership demonstrated at every level of this organization. From our newest recruits to our most experienced officers, our members take initiative, support one another, and remain committed to serving with professionalism and integrity. Their dedication and teamwork make me incredibly proud to lead this department.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to continuous improvement and innovation in every aspect of our operations. The fire service is constantly evolving, and WFRD will continue adapting to meet new challenges, whether through advancements in training, improvements in equipment, or enhanced response capabilities. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our personnel and the ongoing support of our community. Your trust allows us to serve at the highest level, and for that, we are truly grateful.

Reflecting on the past year reminds us of how far we've come and what we can continue to improve. Our commitment to serving this community remains stronger than ever, and we are grateful for the trust and support of those we serve. Thank you for taking the time to review our 2024 Annual Report.

Brendan Parker
Fire Chief Brendan Parker





Station 1 Headquarters - 435 E. Judd Street

Board Of Trustees

The Woodstock Fire/Rescue District is governed by a five-member Board of Trustees. The Board serves as the District's policy-making body, and is responsible for providing financial oversight and strategic policy direction.



Fred Spitzer
President



Robert Kristensen
Secretary



Patrick Burke
Treasurer



Noel Baldwin
Trustee



Kim Mueller
Trustee

Board Of Fire Commissioners

Fire Commissioners are responsible for testing, appointing, and promoting sworn full-time personnel. The board also conducts disciplinary hearings.



Steve Zimmerman
Chairman



Brian Loprino
Secretary



Bill Kulinski
Commissioner

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

The WFRD Administration serves as the backbone of the district, ensuring efficient operations and strategic planning to meet the community's needs. This dedicated team manages daily operations, budgeting, payroll, personnel matters, and long-term initiatives, providing essential support to both emergency responders and the residents they serve.

Composed of individuals with specialized expertise, the administration oversees critical areas such as training, communication, fleet maintenance, and overall district management. Their collective efforts ensure that emergency responders are prepared, equipment is reliable, and the community remains informed and engaged. By fostering strong partnerships, embracing innovation, and prioritizing excellence, the administration upholds the district's mission to provide exceptional service and adapt to the evolving needs of the community.



Brendan Parker
Fire Chief



Matt Hedges
Deputy Chief



Chad Williams
Battalion Chief
Training Officer



Scott Nieman
Battalion Chief
Red Shift



Zachary Beatty
Battalion Chief
Gold Shift



Jeffrey Lesniak
Battalion Chief
Black Shift



Kalene Nebert
Executive Administrator



Deann Miller
Office Assistant



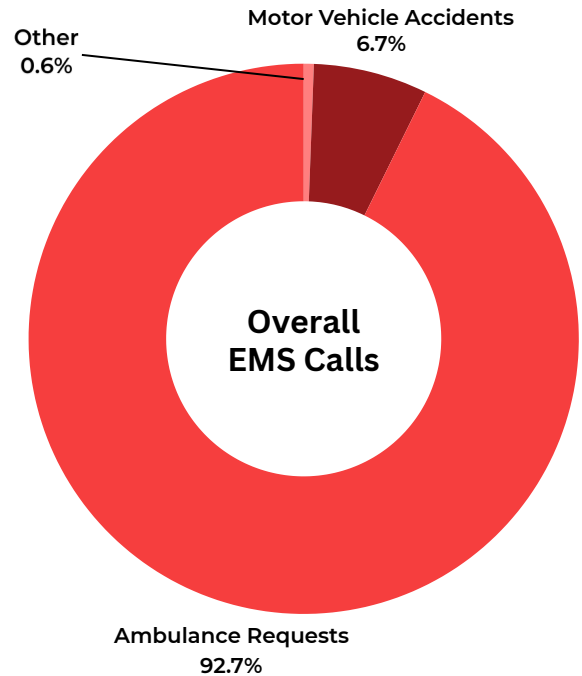
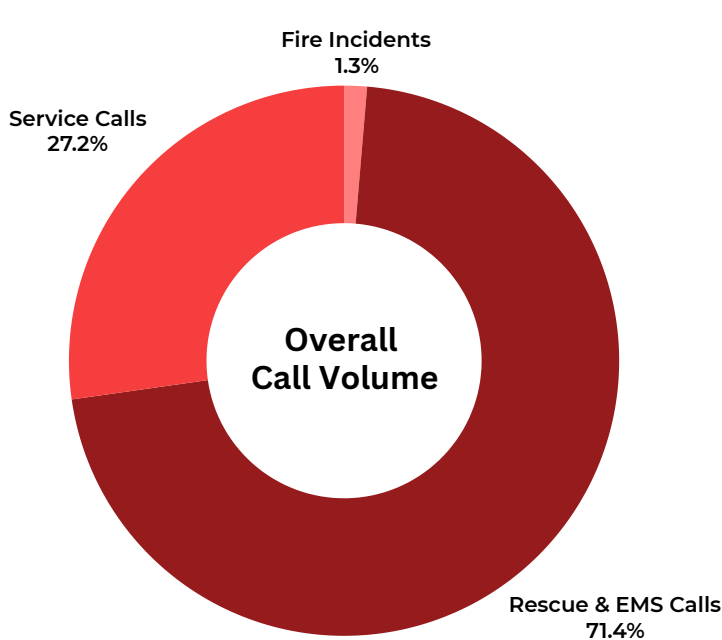
Alexander Vucha
Public Information Officer



Michael Shannon
Fleet Mechanic

CALL STATISTICS

In 2024, the Woodstock Fire/Rescue District responded to a historic **5,670 calls for service**, marking the highest volume in its history. This represents a 2.64% increase over 2023 and an impressive nearly 25% growth since 2020. This upward trend underscores the community's evolving needs and the district's unwavering commitment to meeting them effectively and efficiently.



Overall Fires In 2024



27

Structures



13

Vehicles



02

Appliances



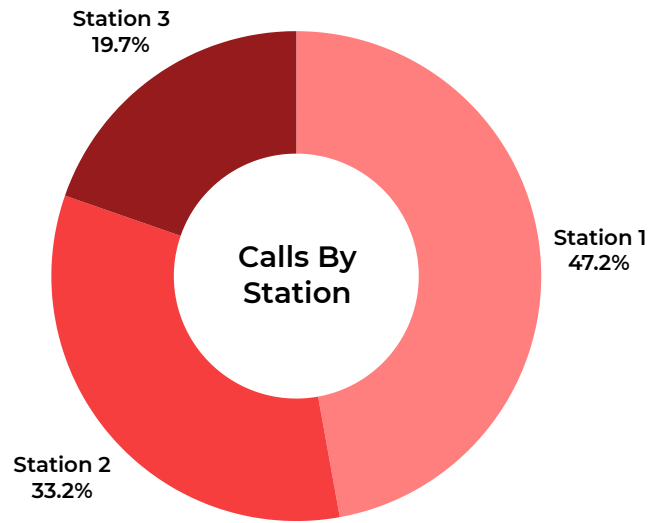
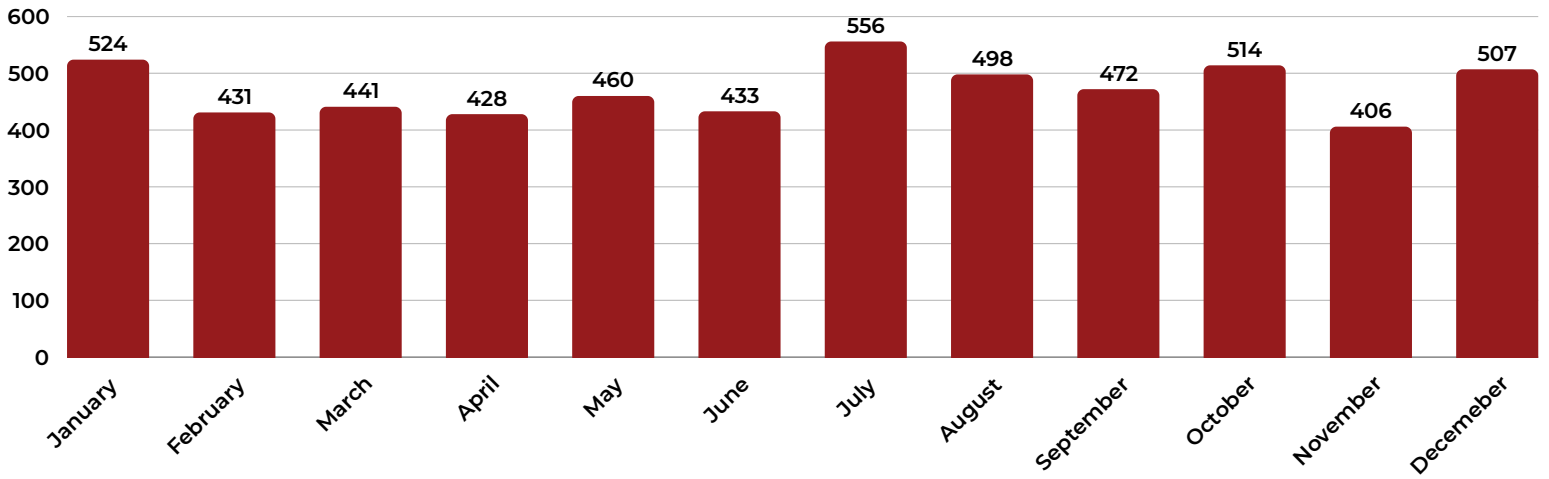
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Other

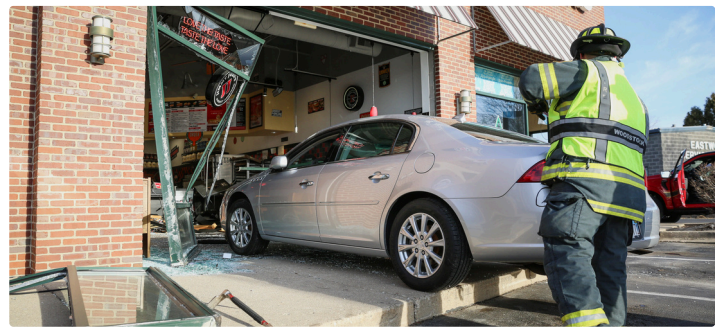
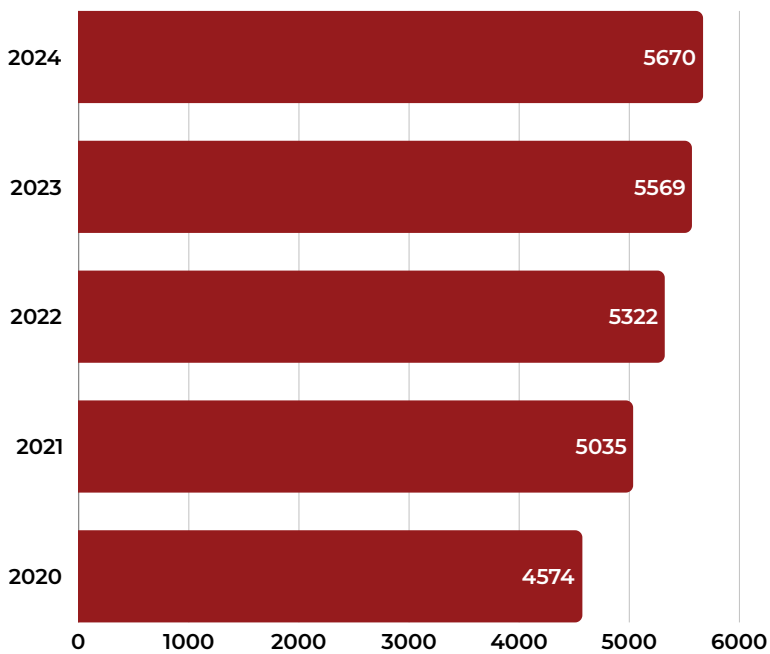


CALL STATISTICS

2024 Calls By Month

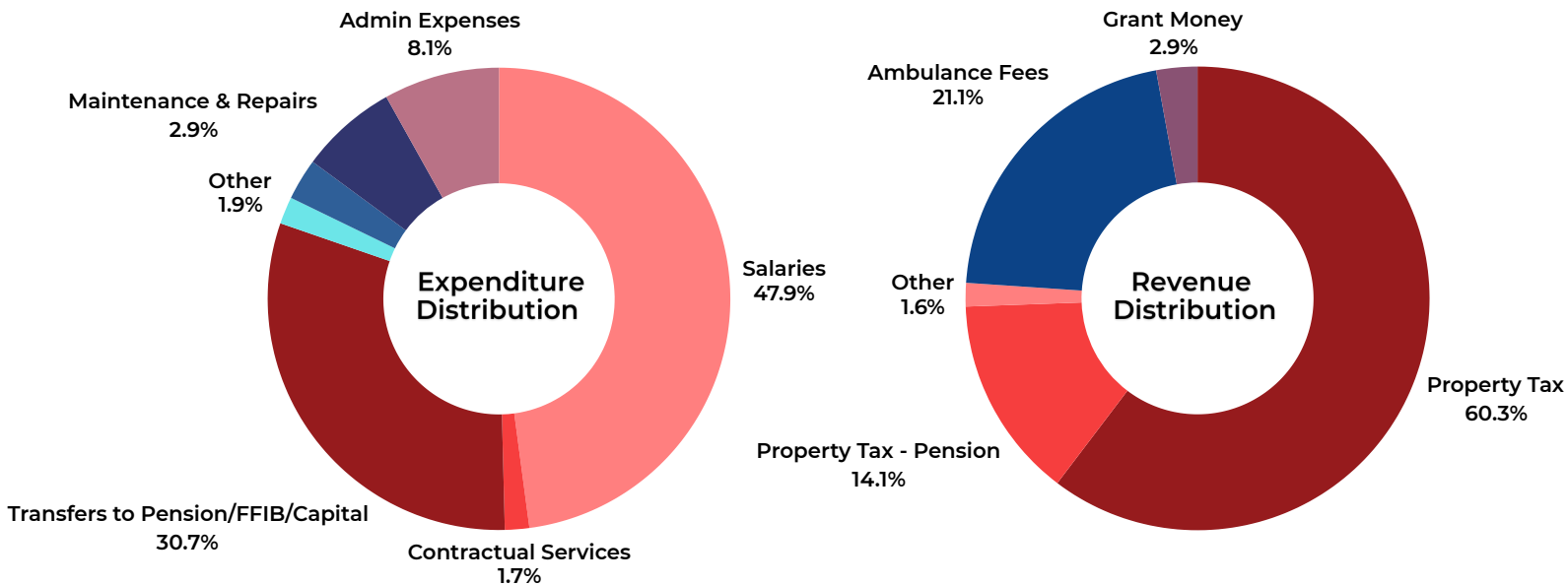


5 Years Of Call Volume



BUDGETS

For the 12 Month(s) Ended April 30, 2024



MEMBERS

The Woodstock Fire/Rescue District is proud to employ a diverse team, from cadets beginning their journey to seasoned firefighter/paramedics with advanced training and experience. A career in the fire service is one of the most demanding and competitive paths in the United States, requiring dedication, continuous training, and unwavering integrity. WFRD is committed to identifying and preparing candidates who embody the core traits of a firefighter, fostering their development through a structured approach to education and career readiness.

47 Career or Full-Time

19 Non-Career or Part-Time Members

08 Cadet or Recruit Members



CADET PROGRAM

The Woodstock Fire/Rescue District sponsored Cadet Program is a vital community initiative designed to inspire and shape the next generation of firefighters and civic leaders. Aimed at young individuals aged 14 to 18, the program offers hands-on experience in fire safety, emergency medical services, and rescue operations. Cadets develop essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and responsibility while being encouraged to become active members of their community.

PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

From parades and trick-or-treating to visits with senior citizens, our members attend numerous events in the community. Each year, the Woodstock Fire/Rescue District hosts the Fire Safety Festival at Verda Dierzen Early Learning Center, where dozens of young students are taught essential fire safety skills. Additionally, WFRD proudly participates in initiatives like the Fill the Boot campaign, supporting individuals and families in need. Through these efforts, WFRD works tirelessly to improve the health and safety of our residents, their guests, and the community as a whole.

401K

Social Media Views

The number of times our content was played or displayed. (videos, posts, stories and ads.)

\$8,107.04

Donated to Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) through the Fill the Boot campaign.

1,000+

Young Students Taught Fire Safety after attending our annual Fire Safety Festival.







MAJOR NEWS INCIDENTS

3-Alarm Barn Fire

July 01, 2024

A large barn fire broke out on Monday, July 1, at 10:25 a.m. in the 1600 block of S. Rose Farm Road in unincorporated Woodstock. Woodstock Fire/Rescue District crews arrived within six minutes to find the structure fully engulfed in flames. Strong winds, downed power lines, and the nearest fire hydrant over two miles away made the response challenging, requiring water shuttles and a 3rd Alarm request for mutual aid from fire agencies across northern Illinois. Firefighters fought the blaze defensively for 90 minutes, ultimately preventing two nearby structures from catching fire. Crews and investigators remained on the scene until 3:00 p.m. The barn, used for storage and containing no animals, was a total loss, with damages exceeding \$1,000,000. Thankfully, no injuries were reported.



MAJOR NEWS INCIDENTS



Several Killed in Tragic Crash

October 27, 2024

A fatal crash on October 27 in the 13400 block of Davis Road in Woodstock left three dead and one seriously injured. Firefighters arrived within minutes to find one vehicle fully engulfed in flames and a juvenile trapped in a silver SUV. Tragically, the driver of the SUV and two occupants of a black sedan were pronounced dead at the scene.



Submerged Man Trapped Under Tractor

November 03, 2024

On November 3, firefighters rescued a man trapped under a tractor after a bridge collapse on N. Route 47. The man, suffering serious injuries and hypothermia, was airlifted to Advocate Condell Medical Center. A minor HazMat response was initiated to contain leaking fluids.



MAJOR NEWS INCIDENTS



Apartment Building Fire

November 12, 2024

A late night fire broke out on November 12, 2024, in the 700 block of St. John's Road in Woodstock, heavily damaging a two-story apartment complex and displacing over 30 residents. Woodstock Fire/Rescue District crews arrived within five minutes to find heavy fire conditions, prompting a 5th Alarm request for additional resources. Firefighters battled the flames aggressively, using two tower ladders to bring the fire under control around midnight. Tragically, one resident sustained critical injuries and later passed away, while others were treated for smoke inhalation. Twelve of the 24 units sustained significant damage, with losses estimated at over \$1 million. A temporary relocation center was set up at St. John's Lutheran Church, with the American Red Cross assisting displaced residents.



SPECIALTY TEAMS

WFRD is proud to have a diverse range of specialized teams equipped to handle unique and challenging emergencies. From tactical medics embedded with law enforcement to highly trained rescue divers, hazardous materials technicians, and surface water rescue experts, these teams bring advanced skills and expertise to protect our community and beyond.

Fire Investigations

The Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) requires that all fires in Illinois be investigated to determine their origin and cause. At WFRD, every team member is a Fire Investigator (FI), equipped with extensive training to conduct professional and scientifically based fire investigations.



Vehicle Fire on Valley Hill Road - 07/05/2024



Barn Fire on Rose Farm Road - 07/01/2024

Honor Guard

The WFRD Honor Guard was established in 2010 and consists of 9 members devoted to properly displaying the pride and colors of the Woodstock Fire/Rescue District and our country. The Honor Guard projects a positive image of the District and its members by performing as a well-trained professional team at local, state, and national events.

Woodstock Memorial Day Parade - 05/27/2024



Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS)

Through a collaborative partnership, four WFRD paramedics have joined the McHenry County SWAT team as Tactical Emergency Medical Services (TEMS) medics, providing critical support to law enforcement. These highly trained TEMS members are deployed in scenarios where traditional EMS or firefighter responses are not feasible, ensuring medical expertise is available in high-risk situations.

SPECIALITY TEAMS

Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT)



WFRD's certified technicians are highly trained to handle complex emergencies involving hazardous materials and dangerous goods. Equipped with advanced skills, they excel in tasks such as product identification, risk assessment, containment through plugging or patching, and decontamination. Whether responding to incidents within the district or providing support to neighboring communities in Lake and McHenry Counties, the team is always prepared to tackle challenging situations.

Lt. Keefe at HazMat Incident in Hebron, Illinois - 07/22/2024

Dive & Water Rescue

WFRD boasts a highly skilled team specializing in surface rescue, underwater rescue and recovery, boat operations, and line tending. The team's rescue divers are trained to operate in diverse and challenging environments, including zero visibility conditions and ice diving. In addition to serving the local community, this team extends its expertise to other communities across northern Illinois through the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), reinforcing regional collaboration and support during emergencies.

Lt. Vizanko at Water Rescue Incident in Nunda - 10/22/2024



Technical Rescue (TRT)

The Technical Rescue Team is comprised of three highly trained firefighters who perform rescues in special situations, including rope rescue, trench collapse, structure collapse, and confined space rescues. In 2023, WFRD added one new member to the TRT team. Team members are also subject to deployment through the MABAS Divisions 4 & 5 Specialized Response Teams.



TRAINING DIVISION



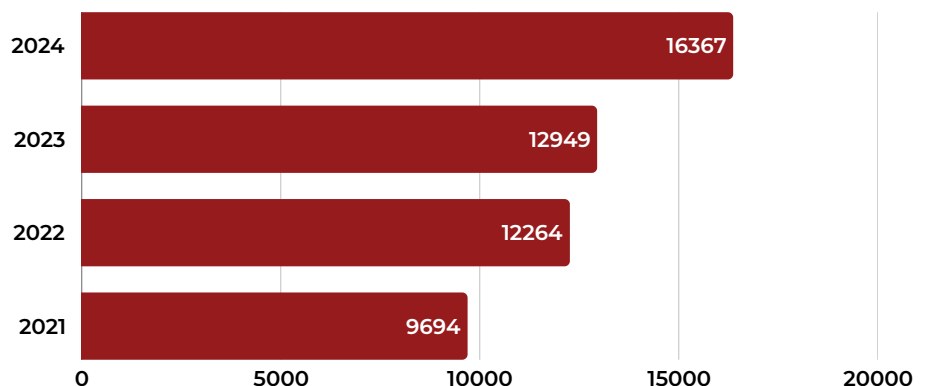
16,367
HOURS OF FIRE & EMS
TRAINING

Training is a year-round commitment embraced by every member of our District. From new recruits to veteran firefighters, each individual dedicates countless hours to their skills and expanding their knowledge to ensure they are prepared to handle any emergency. On average, **each member completed 256 hours of training annually or 21 hours monthly**, covering everything from fire suppression and rescue techniques to advanced medical care and specialized operations. This focus on training reflects our district's dedication to maintaining the highest standards of safety and service for the Woodstock community.



Battalion Chief Chad Williams
Training Officer

4 Years Of Training Hours



Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Certifications



Advanced Technician Firefighter

- Gregory Antor
- Kyle Beres
- Paul Heideman
- Hayden Norris
- Tyler Webster
- Antonio Zamora

Basic Operations Firefighter

- Cesar Ayala
- Maxwell Banks
- Joseph Brown
- Emmanuel Howard
- Jovanni Murillo Gonzalez
- Joseph Fasolo
- Brian Jagman
- Cole Keenan

Chief Fire Officer

- Matthew Hedges

Company Fire Officer

- Jordan Stark
- Tyler Webster

Fire Apparatus Engineer

- Gage Duszak
- Brian Flores
- Quinn Murphy
- Sarah Papic
- Andrew Townsend
- Sandra Valdez

Fire Inspector II

- Timothy Schroeder

Fire Service Instructor I

- Gregory Antor
- Erik Bobula

Fire Service Instructor I *(Continued)*

- Quinn Murphy
- Hayden Norris
- Jeffrey Randecker
- Tyler Webster

Fire Service Instructor II

- Gregory Antor

Fire Service Vehicle Operator

- Cesar Ayala
- Maxwell Banks
- Joseph Brown
- Joseph Fasolo
- Jovanni Murillo Gonzalez
- Emmanuel Howard
- Brian Jagman
- Cole Keenan

Hazardous Materials Operations

- Cesar Ayala
- Maxwell Banks
- Joseph Brown
- Joseph Fasolo
- Jovanni Murillo Gonzalez
- Emmanuel Howard
- Brian Jagman
- Cole Keenan

Vehicle and Machinery Operations

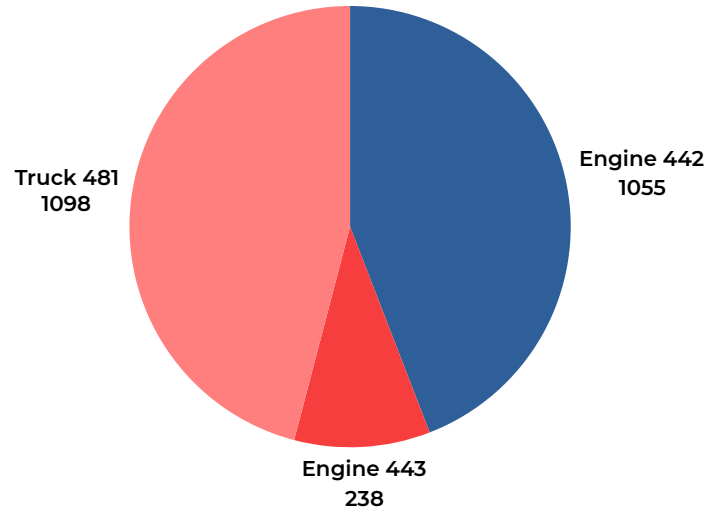
- Gregory Antor
- Kyle Beres
- Quinn Murphy
- Hayden Norris
- Jordan Stark
- Brandon Teresi
- Tyler Webster

APPARATUS/VEHICLES

The Woodstock Fire/Rescue District relies on a large fleet of vehicles to serve the community effectively, making routine maintenance a top priority. In-house Mechanic Michael Shannon oversees nearly all maintenance and modifications, ensuring everything from staff vehicles to full-sized fire trucks and engines remains in peak condition and ready for any emergency. Preventive maintenance—including regular oil changes, filter replacements, and inspections of electrical and charging systems—helps minimize downtime and extend the lifespan of critical apparatus.

Every day, crews conduct inspections, equipment checks, and cleaning to uphold operational readiness. Having an in-house mechanic not only enhances fleet reliability but also saves taxpayer dollars. In 2024 alone, 987 work orders were completed, covering both preventive maintenance and necessary repairs, ensuring the district remains prepared to respond at a moment's notice.

Calls By Frontline Fire Apparatus



Newest Additions - PIO5

A dedicated response vehicle assigned to the on-call Public Information Officer and Fire Investigator Alex Vucha. The vehicle and position also serve the Cary, Harvard, Huntley, Marengo, and Nunda Rural Fire Protection Districts through Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA). This role is the first of its kind and represents a progressive initiative proudly spearheaded by the Woodstock Fire/Rescue District.





2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Woodstock Fire/Rescue District
Station #1 Headquarters
435 E. Judd Street, Woodstock, IL 60098
(815) 338-2621
www.wfrd.org