



BRUNSWICK HILLS TOWNSHIP

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Anthony M. Strazzo, Fire Chief

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Christina Kusnerak, Michael Esber, John Witthuhn

-Township Trustees-



BRUNSWICK HILLS FIRE/RESCUE

1918 PEARL ROAD

BRUNSWICK, OHIO 44212



*Division of Fire/Rescue
Anthony M. Strazzo Fire Chief*

Brunswick Hills Township Trustees and Residents,

Throughout 2019, the Brunswick Hills Township Fire Department continued advancing the delivery of emergency services to better serve our citizens and visitors. With the assistance of fire department liaison, Trustee John Witthuhn, Trustee Christina Kusnerak, and Trustee Mike Esber, our department had another rewarding year.

The department would again like to thank the community for supporting a renewal and an increase in the department's operating levy in the fall of 2018. As a result, the Brunswick Hills Township Fire Department was able to hire its first Full-time Firefighter Paramedics, Chuck Cali and Nick Mehalic in December of 2019.

Calls for service during 2019 decreased by 26. During 2018 the Department responded to 1016 calls for service, in 2019 that number decreased to 990 incidents. This decrease can be attributed to the mild winter months at the end of 2019 resulting in lower number of vehicle accidents and a decrease in mutual aid given due to changes in a neighboring agency's EMS Transport policy. During 2019, I.S.O. recognized the work of the department by once again lowering the Public Protection Rating score from a 4 to a 3. This improvement will help residents and businesses save on property insurance. Also, the American Heart Association recognized our agency as a Mission Lifeline Silver Award Winner for the excellent cardiac care our agency delivers. In summary, the Township should be proud of our entire department and their ability to respond and mitigate emergencies.

As you know our department is proactive in providing education and outreach to Township residents. In 2019, we continued our Open House, Bon Fire, Stuff the Squad and Meet Santa events. In addition, our personnel attended a countless number of block parties, school events, and public business events and provided fire training to residents and businesses.

Lastly, the Department was fortunate to receive several grants through the Ohio State Fire Marshal, FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant, and the Ohio State Division of EMS totaling \$181,154.18 for MARCS radios and EMS equipment.

In closing, I would like to take this moment to thank all of the Trustees for their continuous support. The Township is fortunate to have individuals such as these, which work tirelessly to ensure the safety and security of the Township. I hereby submit the Brunswick Hills Township Fire Department 2019 Annual Report.

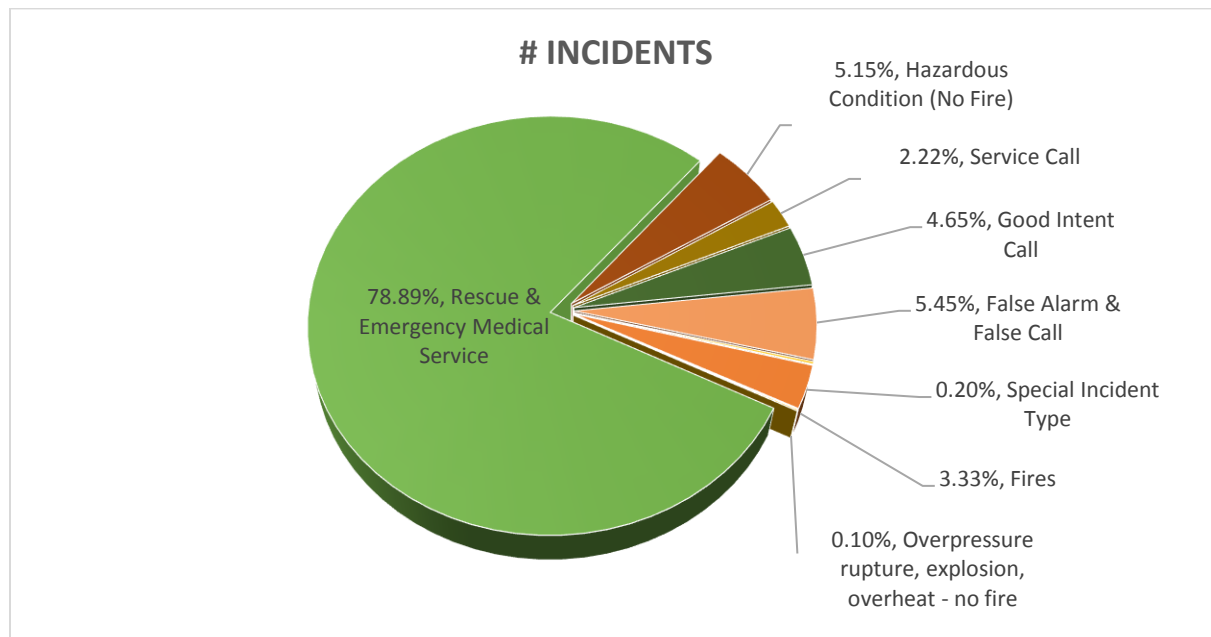
Respectfully,

Anthony M. Strazzo

Anthony M. Strazzo, Fire Chief

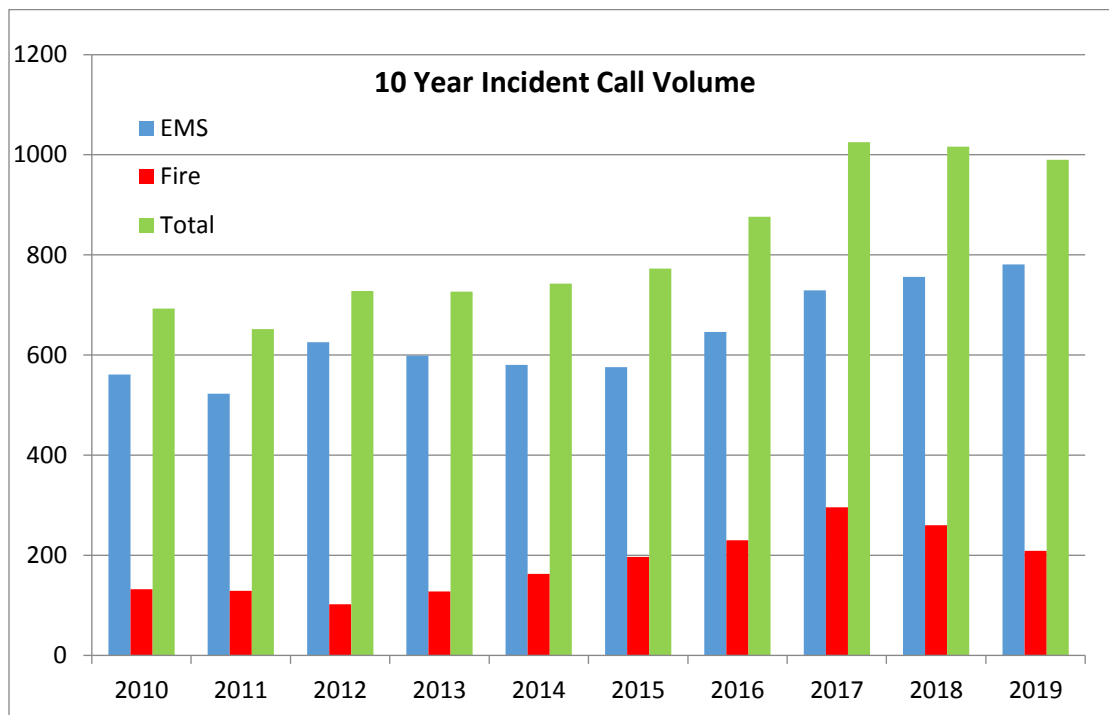
Incident Responses

Similar to fire departments across the country, emergency medical services comprise an overwhelming majority of our incident responses. During 2019, the Brunswick Hills Twp. Fire Department responded to 990 incidents, 781 were emergency medical calls, and 209 were “fire” responses. Please note that a “fire” response is all other calls which are not medical in nature. The graph below depicts the relation of fire to EMS incident responses.

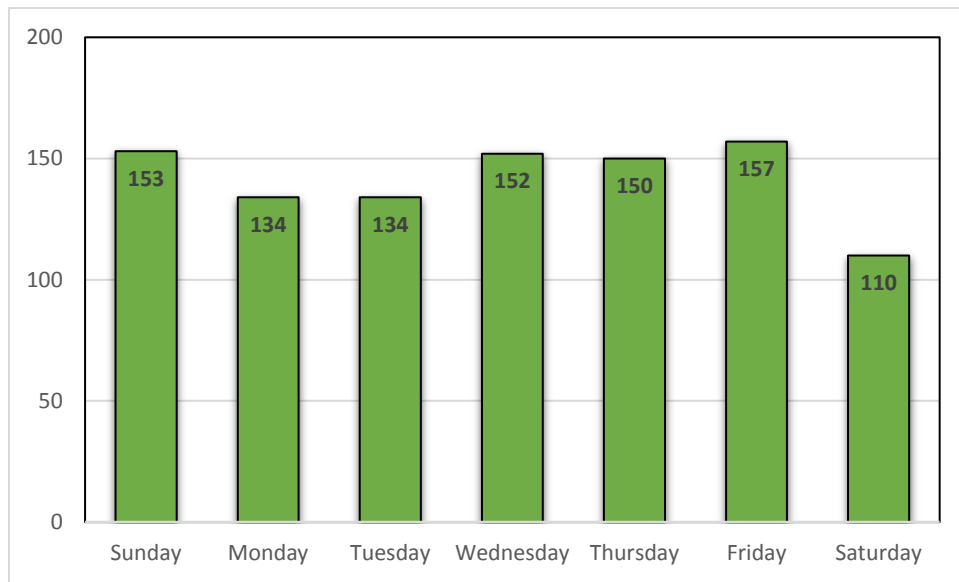


MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	33	3.33%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overhear - no fire	1	0.10%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	781	78.89%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	51	5.15%
Service Call	22	2.22%
Good Intent Call	46	4.65%
False Alarm & False Call	54	5.45%
Special Incident Type	2	0.20%
TOTAL	990	100.00%

The department's total of 990 incident responses in 2019 is a decrease of 26 incidents as compared to 2018. The chart below shows steady increase in the department's call volume since 2010.



Incidents by Day of Week



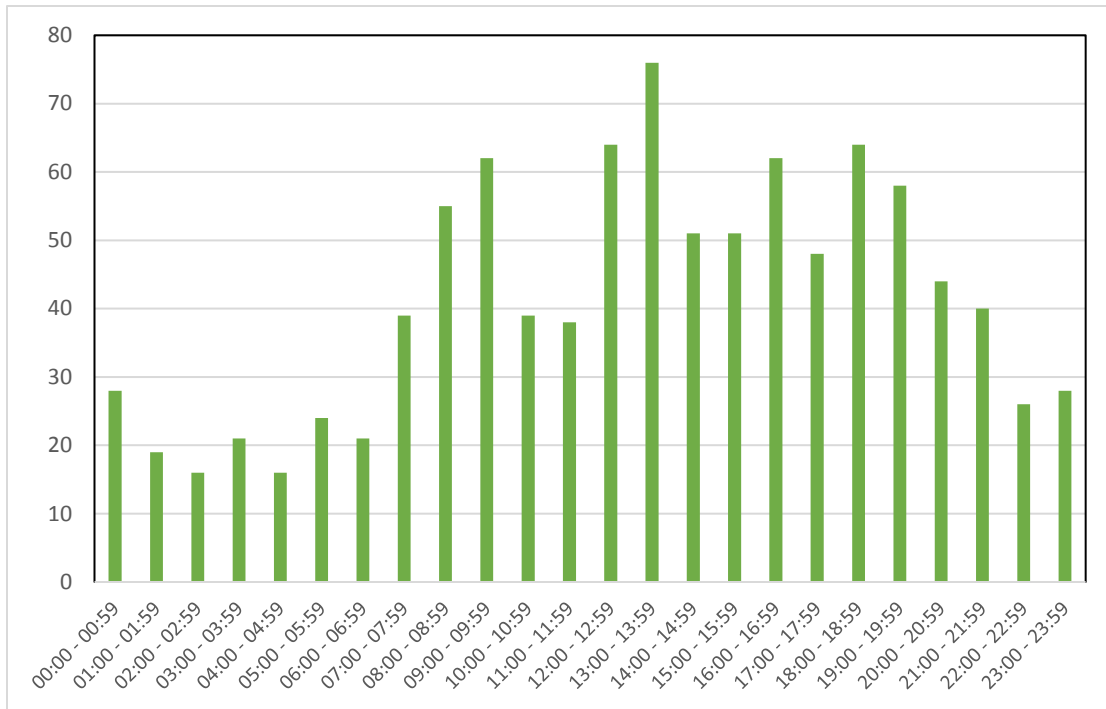
DAY OF THE WEEK	# INCIDENTS
Sunday	153
Monday	134
Tuesday	134
Wednesday	152
Thursday	150
Friday	157
Saturday	110

TOTAL 990

The above graph and data table show the number of incidents for each day of the week. While almost evenly distributed, there is a slight increase in call volume on Fridays. The graphs below show the time during the day when a majority of calls are received. Both the above and below information aided the department in determining staffing priorities and transitioning to 24-hour staffing.



Incidents by Time of Day



Hour	# of CALLS
00:00 - 00:59	28
01:00 - 01:59	19
02:00 - 02:59	16
03:00 - 03:59	21
04:00 - 04:59	16
05:00 - 05:59	24
06:00 - 06:59	21
07:00 - 07:59	39
08:00 - 08:59	55
09:00 - 09:59	62
10:00 - 10:59	39
11:00 - 11:59	38
12:00 - 12:59	64
13:00 - 13:59	76
14:00 - 14:59	51
15:00 - 15:59	51
16:00 - 16:59	62
17:00 - 17:59	48
18:00 - 18:59	64
19:00 - 19:59	58
20:00 - 20:59	44
21:00 - 21:59	40
22:00 - 22:59	26
23:00 - 23:59	28

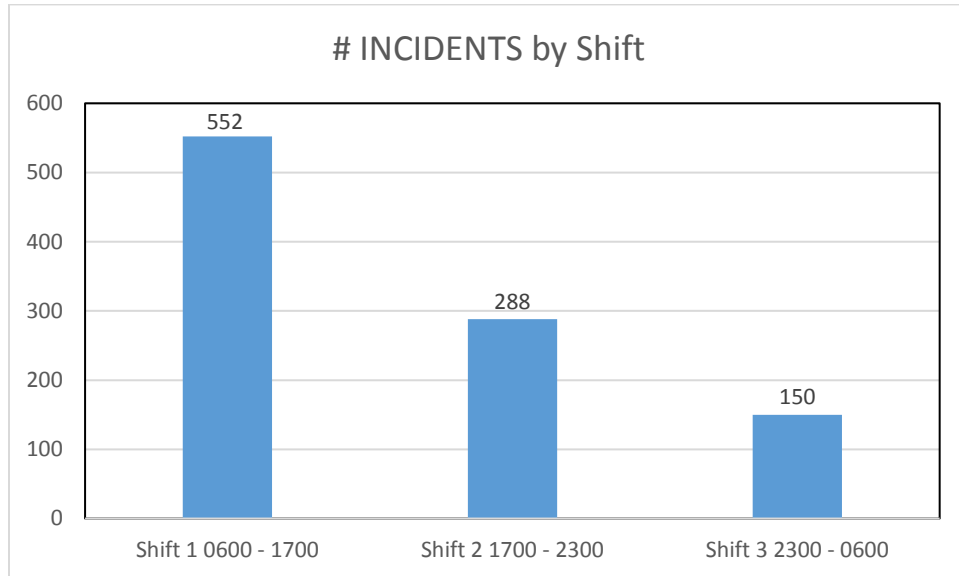
Incidents by Shift

In 2017 the department transitioned to 24-hour staffing. The department maintains 3 shifts as follows:

Shift #1 0600-1700 (6:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

Shift #2 1700-2300 (5:00 PM – 11:00 PM)

Shift #3 2300-0600 (11:00 PM – 6:00 AM)



SHIFT	# INCIDENTS
Shift 1 0600 - 1700	552
Shift 2 1700 - 2300	288
Shift 3 2300 - 0600	150



Emergency Medical Services

Lieutenant Chuck Cali is delegated the duties of the EMS coordinator for our department. One of Lt. Cali's primary tasks is to ensure the reliability of our medical equipment and that we maintain the correct inventory of equipment to provide professional progressive emergency medical services. During 2019, Lt. Cali utilized a Division of EMS Grant in the amount of \$2,690 to purchase equipment needed to maintain our EMS service. Lt. Cali also ensures that all personnel are trained, conducts a Q&A of all reports and ensures the reports are submitted to the State of Ohio as required by law.

Currently, the Brunswick Hills Twp. Fire Department has 28 Paramedics and 8 Emergency Medical Technicians. As our department continues to grow, applicants that hold paramedic certifications or are in paramedic school are given preference when hiring. Our goal is to provide an Advanced Life Support, Paramedic rescue squad at any emergency medical call.

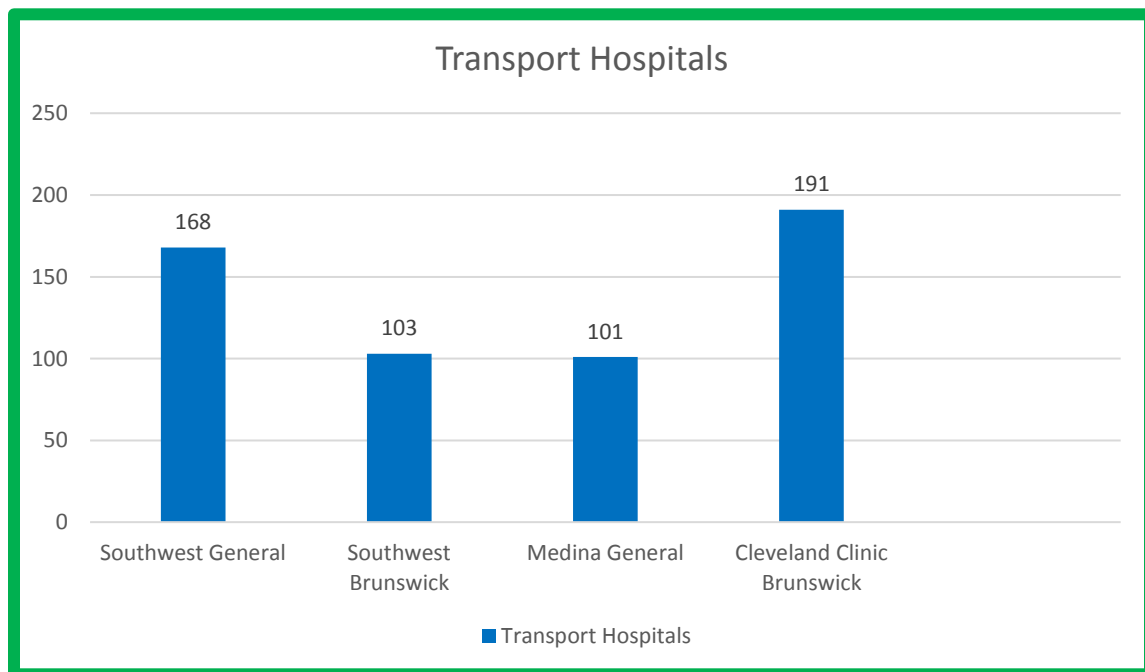
Members of our department were presented the American Heart Association Mission Lifeline Award for the 3rd Year in a row by our Medical Director Dr. Susan Tout, EMS Coordinator Jackie Haumschild, and Southwest General Hospital Vice- President Al Matis. The Mission Lifeline Award is given to EMS agencies that have met or exceeded cardiac care performance criteria.



Responses by our rescue squads can be broken down into 4 general categories. The following show the number of incidents for each of these categories.

Medical Emergency: Chest Pain, Cardiac Arrest, Abdominal Pain, Seizures, Asthma, Breathing Problems, OB/GYN Complications, Allergic Reactions, Stroke, Altered Level of Consciousness	387
Trauma: Injuries, Broken Bones, Lacerations, Stab Wounds, Gun Shot Wounds, Injuries from Motor Vehicle Accidents, Injuries from Falls.	144
Environmental: Poisoning, Hypothermia, Medication Reactions	1
Behavioral: Depression, Mental Problems, Anxiety, Psychiatric Emergencies	27

The next component is the transport destination. Brunswick Hills Twp. is fortunate to have high quality medical care facilities within close proximity. The chart below shows the transport destinations for the 563 patients transported by our rescue squads.



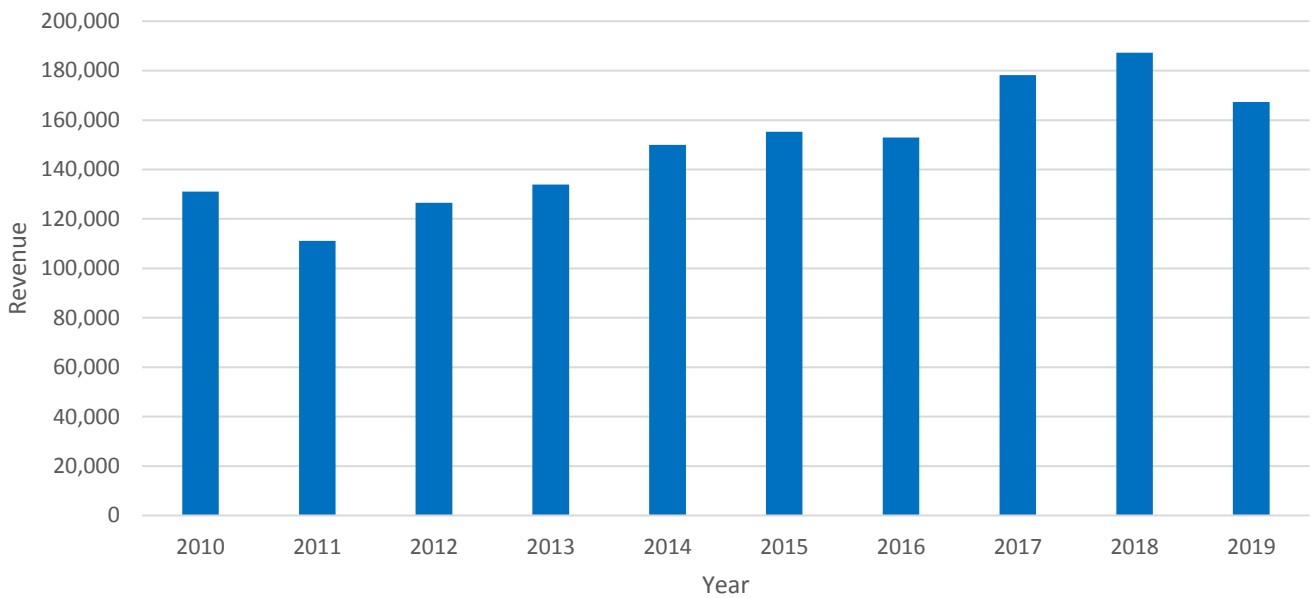
Sensory Bags for Rescue Squads

In 2019 the BHFD placed into service sensory bags to assist in the treatment of those patients on the Autism Spectrum. The bags are filled with items designed to calm patients, allow them to communicate and distract them, so that our crews can deliver needed care.



EMS Billing

The fire department has continued to utilize Life Force Management to handle its third party billing for emergency medical incidents. Life Force bills resident's insurance companies and accepts payment in full for the insurance reimbursements. Revenue generated from EMS billing assists the department in purchasing medical equipment. The graph below shows the annual revenue generated from billing since 2010. In total the department has received \$1,493,663 since 2010. These funds are utilized for annual and capital purchases for EMS. Examples include: EMS high visibility coats, new rescue squad, monitors, equipment maintenance, cots, and supplies.



Mutual Aid

The Brunswick Hills Twp. Fire Department not only responds to incidents within Brunswick Hills but also to our neighboring communities. In turn, our neighbors provide mutual aid to our Township. There are a variety of circumstances in which an agency may request mutual aid. The following are some examples:

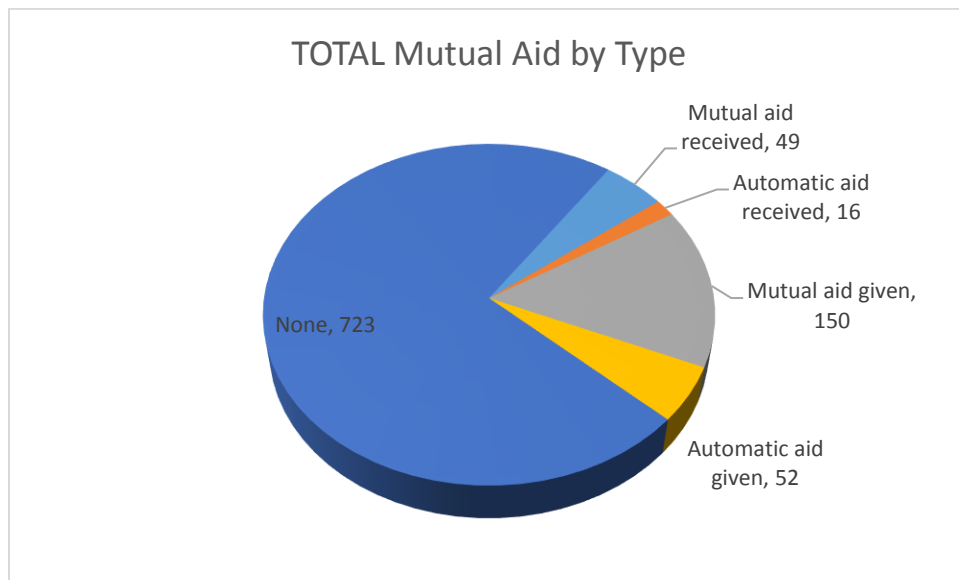
- Large or complex incident requiring additional resources
- Incident requiring specialized equipment
- All personnel on an incident when another call for service is received
- No personnel available
- Nature of call received from dispatch

Mutual aid can be further broken down into the following types:

Automatic – departments are automatically dispatched without delay

Mutual – departments are requested after on scene personnel determine additional resources are needed.

The graph on the following page shows mutual aid we provided (aid given) and we received (aid received) during 2019.



AID TYPE	TOTAL	% of TOTAL
Mutual aid received	49	4.95%
Automatic aid received	16	1.62%
Mutual aid given	150	15.15%
Automatic aid given	52	5.25%
None	723	73.03%
Totals	990	100.00%

To further aid in deployment analysis, the fire department breaks down the Township into response zones for the purpose of tracking response times and incident types. Below you will see the 5 zones, the average response times and the incident types responded to.

Zone Title	AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME in minutes (Dispatch to Arrived)
04a - Brunswick Hills I 71	11:15
04 - Brunswick Hills 4	09:32
03 - Brunswick Hills 3	07:24
02 - Brunswick Hills 2	06:27
01 - Brunswick Hills 1	06:10



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	33	3.33%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	1	0.10%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	781	78.89%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	51	5.15%
Service Call	22	2.22%
Good Intent Call	46	4.65%
False Alarm & False Call	54	5.45%
Special Incident Type	2	0.20%
TOTAL	990	100.00%



Personnel

As with any organization, our personnel are our most important resource. During 2019, there were several new members added to the department, including 2 Full-time Firefighter-Paramedics.

New Part-time Personnel

Jacob Samsel , Gavin Kruchan, John Otscsak



*Note that Gavin Kruchan resigned for another job opportunity shortly after beginning his training.

New Part-time Administrative Assistant

The BHFD welcomed new Administrative Assistant Carol Bianchi during 2019. Carol will assist with daily administrative duties that need to be completed.



First Full-time Personnel

Charles Cali and Nicholas Mehalic began serving as the Township's first Full-time Firefighter-Paramedics on December 5th 2019. Both Chuck and Nick have been serving in a part-time capacity with the Brunswick Hills Fire Department and have demonstrated they possess the knowledge, skills and dedication to be great assets in their new rolls. A public swearing in was held on December 10th where the families of both members were able to pin badges 01 and 02 on their loved ones.



PROMOTION



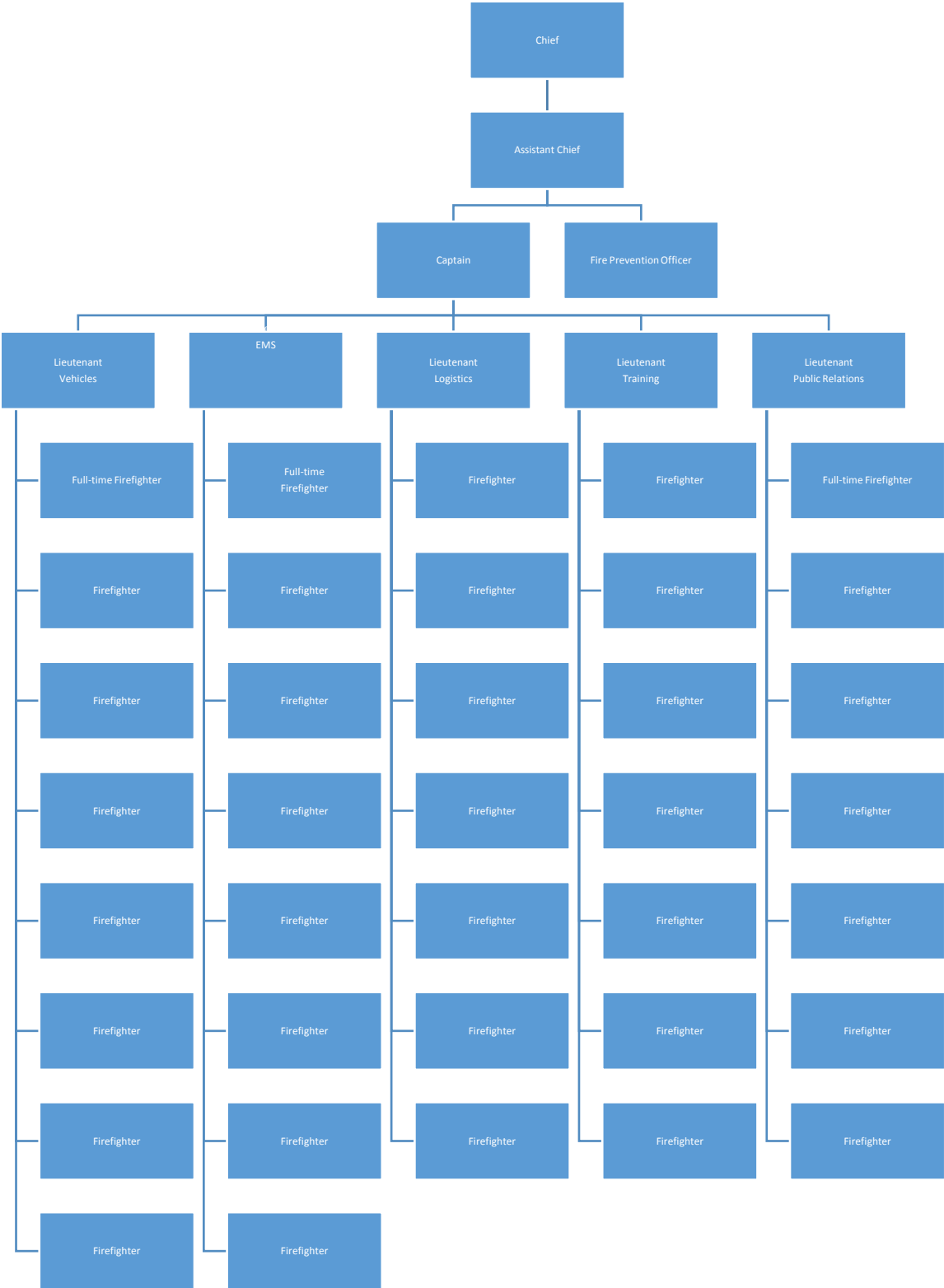
Firefighter Matt Bengini was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant following a vacancy that opened when a Lieutenant requested to be moved back to the rank of firefighter. Lieutenant Bengini's responsibilities will include all logistics to ensure our department can function. This includes ordering consumable and cleaning supplies. Lieutenant Bengini will also coordinate our facility maintenance program.

"FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR"

In December of each year the officers of the BHFD meet to select a "Firefighter of the Year." The officers nominate personnel that exhibit dedication, compassion, have a great work ethic, assist in teaching other members, and are in good standing with the administration. This year Andrew Pavell was selected. Firefighter Pavell has been a long-time member on the department and goes above and beyond. Congratulations Andrew!!



The following is the current organizational chart which shows the department chain of command.



Public Relations

The Brunswick Hills Twp. Fire Department has a long history of community involvement. 2019 proved to be no different. Throughout the year, members of the department attended and worked events both while on duty and off duty. We believe this is important in developing a positive relationship between the department and the community. In addition, it gives fire department personnel an opportunity to educate the public on fire and safety prevention. The department is fortunate to have Lt. Brian Dalziel coordinating our community events.

The following is a list of events which the department attended or hosted:

EVENT NAME	LOCATION
Biomedical Education Day	Brunswick High School
Fire Safety Talk	The Crossings Club House
Superhero PR Event	Hickory Ridge Cinema
Mock Interviews	Brunswick High School
Station Tour	Station 2
Spring Parade	Station 1
Bunny Brunch	Skyview Lodge
Station 2 Tour	Station 2
Middle School Ground Breaking	Middle School
Boy Scout Troop	Station 2
The Crossings Home Owners	Brunswick United Methodist Church
Mock Disaster Planning BHS	Brunswick High School
EMS Week Lunch at Hickory Ridge	Hickory Ridge Elementary
Memorial Day Parade	Brunswick City
RPM PR Event	RPM Brunswick Hills
Home Depot Safety Days	Brunswick Home Depot
Open House	Station 2
Fire Safety Talk	Plum Creek Assisted Living
Halloween Bonfire	Station 2
Meet Santa	Station 2



Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention Officer Matt Payne had a busy year ensuring hazards within our community were identified and abated in addition to ensuring our crews have the ability to access occupancies without causing damage.

A total of 249 inspections were completed during 2019. The chart below and on the following pages details the inspections by type and the occupancy type they were conducted in.

Fire Prevention Officer Matt
Payne can be reached by calling
330-225-9095

OCCUPANCY	COUNT
INSPECTION TYPE: Adoption/Foster Care	
Residential	1
INSPECTION TYPE: Alarm System Test	
Business Office	1
Fire Station	1
Mercantile	1
INSPECTION TYPE: Annual	
Assembly	7
Assisted Living Facility	1
Auto Sales and Maintenance	5
Automotive Repair/Refinishing	1
Bakery/Food Store	2
Bar/Tavern	5
Barber/Beauty Shop	2
Book/Craft Store	1
Business Office	20
Car Wash	1
Church/Places of Worship	6
Construction/Remodel Supply	3
Convenience store	3
County Building	2
Day Care	1
Gun/Ammunition Sales	1
Home Repair/Construction	1
Landscaping/Farm Sales	3
Low Hazard Storage	1
Machine/Mill Works	2
Mercantile	10
Multi Unit Storage Facility	2
Municipal Services	2
Recreational	5

Residential	23
Swimming pool supply store	1
Veterinary/Animal Care	1
Workshop-Metal	3
INSPECTION TYPE: Fire Protection System Inspection	
Assembly	1
Church/Places of Worship	1
Fire Station	2
INSPECTION TYPE: Hood and Duct Inspection	
Assembly	5
Assisted Living Facility	1
Bar/Tavern	2
Recreational	1
INSPECTION TYPE: Plan Review	
Automotive Repair/Refinishing	1
Home Repair/Construction	1
INSPECTION TYPE: Pre-Plan	
Assembly	1
Bar/Tavern	2
Day Care	1
Landscaping/Farm Sales	1
Mercantile	1
Recreational	2
INSPECTION TYPE: Reinspection	
Assembly	3
Auto Sales and Maintenance	8
Automotive Repair/Refinishing	1
Bar/Tavern	1
Barber/Beauty Shop	1
Book/Craft Store	1
Business Office	13
Church/Places of Worship	5
Construction/Remodel Supply	1
County Building	1
Day Care	2
Glass Repair/Installation	1
Gun/Ammunition Sales	1
Heavy Transportation/Delivery	2
Landscaping/Farm Sales	1
Low Hazard Storage	1
Machine/Mill Works	1
Mercantile	9
Multi Unit Storage	3
Multi Unit Storage Facility	4
Municipal Services	2
Petroleum Service Station	1
Recreational	2
Residential	20

Restaurant	1
Small Motor Repair	1
Veterinary/Animal Care	5
Workshop-Metal	1
INSPECTION TYPE: Special Hazard	
Auto Sales and Maintenance	3
Bar/Tavern	1
Business Office	2
Construction/Remodel Supply	1
Landscaping/Farm Sales	1
Mercantile	2
Petroleum Service Station	2
Recreational	2

In addition to inspections, FPO Payne installed approximately 75 Roper Lock boxes on residences. The boxes ensure that the fire department can access the residence when the occupants are unable to provide them access.



Benefits of a Residential Lock Box Program:

1 Peace of Mind

for your residents
and their families

2 Affordable

all three models
recommended are
ONLY \$27⁹⁵ /ea.*

3 City Exclusive

key codes are
exclusive to your
city program

Keys are sold only to
authorized registered personnel
for \$7.00 /ea.*





* Does not include applicable sales tax and shipping.

Dilapidated homes/structures:

Throughout 2019, FPO Payne identified 8 structures throughout the Township that presented a fire and/or safety hazard to the community. FPO Payne worked with the Medina County Building Department, Zoning Inspector and Board of Trustees to contact the property owners to abate the hazards.

BEFORE



AFTER



Grants

During 2019, the department applied for several grants in an effort to offset capital improvement and operating costs for the fire department. The following Grants were applied for and awarded.

Grant:	Amount:	Item:	Disposition:
Assistance to Firefighters Grant	\$136,663	Radios	Awarded
Ohio EMS Grant	\$2,690	EMS Supplies	Awarded
State of Ohio MARCS	\$41,801.19	Radios	Awarded

In total, the department received **\$181,154.19** in grant funding. The department is committed to seeking sources of funding to offset costs.

Pictured below is Chief Strazzo and Chief Brad Winter from the Seville-Guillford FD delivering all Medina County MARCS Radio applications to State Fire Marshal Jeff Hussey and Deputy Marshal Spurgeon.



I.S.O. Rating Improves

On a periodic basis the Insurance Services Organization (I.S.O.) visits fire departments to assess their ability to provide fire protection to a community. This is also known as the Public Fire Protection Rating. The assessor collects information utilizing the Public Fire Protection Rating Schedule. The schedule provides a systematic means to collect information related to the following:

- Apparatus
- Personnel
- Training
- Equipment
- Dispatch
- Response Times
- Water Supply



Once all information is compiled, the I.S.O. issues the fire department a numeric value which indicates the level of protection provided. The Brunswick Hills Twp. Fire department was pleased to announce an improvement in its Public Fire Protection rating going from the previous Class 4 to a Class 3. This improvement to a Class 3 marks the second improvement since 2014. This improvement in rating will be reflected in the insurance premiums which are paid by our township homeowners and businesses.



Training

The Brunswick Hills Twp. Fire Department is an all hazards emergency response agency. This means that members of the department must be trained to respond to a wide variety of emergencies. The department's training program is coordinated by Lt. Mike Drum who is a State of Ohio certified Fire Instructor and by Emergency Medical service Instructors from Southwest General Hospital. Southwest and Lt. Drum utilizes a multitude of resources to ensure our members are trained to respond. The training resources are as follows:

- In house instructors: Each Monday, the department has training in which State Certified Instructors conduct training on department equipment, procedures, and apparatus.
- Outside instructors: Once a month, EMS instructors from Southwest Hospital come to the station to train personnel on emergency medical topics.
- Outside training courses: Members of the department may submit requests for training offered from institutions outside of the department.
- Personnel also have the opportunity to utilize online education through The Kaplan Career Institute. This web based training provides both EMS and fire components. There is no cost to the Township for this training as it is provided free through Southwest General Hospital.



During 2019, department members completed 2,325 hours of training.



Vehicles and Apparatus

The agency maintains a fleet of vehicles which respond to emergency situations and support the day to day operations of the department. Lt. Joe Posa is delegated the responsibility of ensuring that our vehicles are maintained and ready to respond to emergency situations. Lt. Posa schedules all annual maintenance and required testing, as well as performs minor repairs when he can. The following is a description of the vehicles which the department maintained during 2019 and any associated repairs.

Squad 27



2007 Road Rescue Ambulance

Apparatus: 27 Vehicle: 10823				
6/6/2019	Preventive Maintenance	PM	Completed By: Boston Road Auto	\$99.99
9/3/2019	Minor Repair	AC recharge	Completed By: Posa, Joseph	\$149.99
				\$249.98

Squad 27-2



2017 Braun Ambulance

Apparatus: 27-2 Vehicle: 29703				
6/6/2019	Preventive Maintenance	Annual PM	Completed By: Liberty Ford	\$306.99
6/6/2019	Preventive Maintenance	Annual PM	Completed By: Fallsway Equipment	\$995.00
9/10/2019	Minor Repair	New Tires	Completed By: Posa, Joseph	\$1,696.34
				\$2,998.33

Squad 27-1



2008 Road Rescue Ambulance

Apparatus: 27-1 Vehicle: 55658				
1/11/2019	Minor Repair	Overhead dome light replacement		\$100.00
1/11/2019	Minor Repair			\$8.00
1/16/2019	Major Repair	Fuel tank	Completed By: Equipment Sales and Service (ESS)	\$2,095.87
2/22/2019	Moderate Repair	accident damage repair	Completed By: Gerber Collision	\$3,319.02
5/7/2019	Preventive Maintenance	Annual PM	Completed By: Boston Road Auto	\$427.99
6/15/2019	Minor Repair	Pneumatic side door strut replaced		\$100.00
7/11/2019	Advanced Inspection	Check engine light on runs like shit	Completed By: Boston Road Auto	\$1,712.84
				\$7,763.72

****NOTE – Squad 27-1 has been removed from service and sold.**

Engines 21-1 and 21-2



2015 Sutphen Rescue Pumpers with

Apparatus: 21-1 Vehicle: 03050				
7/1/2019	Minor Repair	Install tower light bulb	Completed By: Harris, Duriel	\$420.00
7/24/2019	Moderate Repair	Follow up repairs from PM	Completed By: Fallsway Equipment	\$335.60
8/7/2019	NFPA Annual Test	Annual PM	Completed By: Posa, Joseph	\$1,749.00
				\$2,504.60
Apparatus: 21-2 Vehicle: 03095				
6/5/2019	Moderate Repair	Tank Leak		\$0.00
7/18/2019	NFPA Annual Test	Annual PM	Completed By: Posa, Joseph	\$1,254.00
8/7/2019	Moderate Repair	Replace 4 batteries	Completed By: Posa, Joseph	\$749.78
11/14/2019	Moderate Repair		Completed By: Mehalic, Nicholas	\$738.00
11/15/2019	Major Repair	Pump fixed	Completed By: Sutphen	\$13,416.55
11/22/2019	Minor Repair	Check Engine Codes	Completed By: Mehalic, Nicholas	\$174.90
12/11/2019	Moderate Repair	Check engine codes	Completed By: Cummins Sales and Service	\$717.60
				\$17,050.83

Tanker 22



1994 Semo Tanker, 2,600 Gallons of Water, 1,250 Gallon per minute pump

Apparatus: 22 Vehicle: 13665				
1/31/2019	Moderate Repair	dump chute inop	Completed By: Fallsway Equipment	\$700.00
8/7/2019	NFPA Annual Test	Annual PM	Completed By: Posa, Joseph	\$1,749.00
12/11/2019	Major Repair	Brakes and misc.	Completed By: Mehalic, Nicholas	\$1,913.13
				\$4,362.13

Brush Truck 24



1996 Ford F250 Pickup

This vehicle has a "slide in" tank and pump for brush fires and is utilized as our plow truck during the winter to maintain fire station driveways and parking lots.

Apparatus: 24X Vehicle: 48237				
3/1/2019	Moderate Repair	Brake Job Rear	Completed By: Boston Road Auto	\$661.00
				\$661.00

Car 29



2014 Ford Interceptor SUV

This vehicle is used by department staff as a command vehicle, night time duty car, fire inspector vehicle, and to travel to trainings.

Apparatus: 29 Vehicle: 80136				
4/9/2019	Preventive Maintenance	OLF	Completed By: Boston Road Auto	\$48.49
6/6/2019	Major Repair	Steering Gear assembly inop	Completed By: Liberty Ford	\$1,800.00
				\$1,848.49

Car 25



2015 Ford Interceptor SUV

This vehicle is used by administrative staff to conduct daily operations, respond to emergencies while both on and off duty, as an incident command post, and to travel to and from meetings and trainings.

Apparatus: 25 Vehicle: 92435				
2/22/2019	Preventive Maintenance	LOF Tire Rotation	Completed By: Boston Road Auto	\$48.48
9/10/2019	Moderate Repair	Safety Recall From FORD	Completed By: Liberty Ford	\$0.00
				\$48.48

When possible, our personnel maintain and repair our equipment to make sure it is in good working order and to extend the service life of the apparatus.



Hydrant Flushing and Maintenance:

Every year you will see the members of the Brunswick Hills Twp. Fire Department out in the community completing tasks that ensure the safe and efficient operations of our department. Beginning in May our members begin to flush the 588 fire hydrants located in the Township. While flushing the hydrants the members check to ensure the following and perform the following general maintenance:

- Operation of the hydrant valve and stem
- Operation of all hydrant caps
- Oil all caps
- Check all gaskets
- Check drain valves of hydrants
- Verify hydrants are accessible

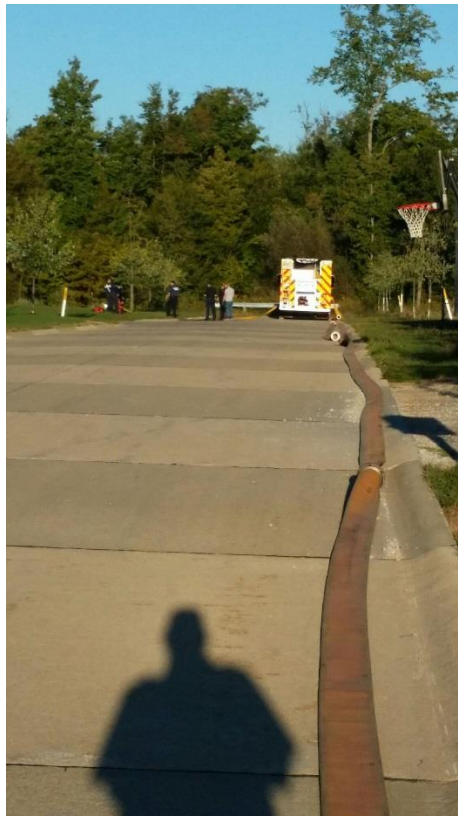
The Brunswick Hills Twp. Fire Department reminds all residents to keep your fire hydrants clear of all shrubs, weeds, brush and during the winter, snow. Your life may depend on it!



In 2015, crews also began a project to repaint hydrants located throughout the Township. The department identified hydrants which are most in need of a paint job and began there. This was a multi-year project that continued in 2019 and was greatly assisted by a resident who volunteered to assist in the painting. All Township hydrants have been painted as of 2019. The process will repeat itself starting in 2020. Pictured above is the paint scheme which helps firefighters quickly identify hydrant locations during day, night, summer and winter.

Hose Testing:

Annually, department members must test all fire hoses belonging to the department. The department has over 5,000 feet of fire hose. Each 50 foot or 100 foot length is stretched out, filled with water, and then pressurized. Members look for leaks, tears in the hose's protective cover, any loose couplings, and the condition of the gasket. This testing is completed to ensure that during a fire incident the department does not experience a failure of a hose line which could delay extinguishment of a fire, or place firefighters at risk while attempting extinguishment.



Closing

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve Brunswick Hills Township throughout the past year. The department is fortunate to have Township Trustees that recognize the importance of having a properly equipped and staffed fire department. During 2019, the department made great advances in providing efficient and prompt emergency response. All of the members of the department look forward to serving in 2020! I would be remiss if I did not thank the Brunswick Hills Police Department for their assistance on calls and for the collaboration on making the Township the safe community it is.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chief Strazzo

