

CHATHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT



PETER S. GLOGOLICH, Chief

DANIEL B. SMITH, Secretary

February 18, 2013

Mayor Bruce A. Harris
Chatham Borough Council Members

Dear Mayor & Council,

The following is a report of activities of the Chatham Fire Department for the calendar year of 2012.

During the year, the fire department responded to a total of three hundred and eight (308) incidents, which was a tremendous decrease over last year's four hundred and sixty-six (466) responses, mainly due to Hurricane in 2011. This year showed a decrease of one hundred fifty-eight (158) calls, which represents a 6% decline. Although we went through Superstorm Sandy this year, the call volume was much less as it was a wind event only, and didn't involve the flooding that took place during the hurricane, where over eighty (80) responses were made over a five (5) day period for water conditions and damage assessments. During the course of the year, there were nineteen (19) reported fires. This total included one (1) vehicle fire, eight (8) brush or vegetation fires, two (2) outside rubbish fires, and eight (8) building or property fires, which constituted the annual fire loss. Actual loss was posted for six (6) months during the year totaling \$167,950. Last year, fire loss totaled \$546,200 due to several costly structure fires. Total loss was \$378,250 less in 2012, which was a 30% decline. Reportable fires also declined this year by 50%.

The members of the Chatham Fire Department contributed a total of five thousand five hundred twenty-six (5526) man hours of service to the community in 2012. Incident responses accounted for fifteen hundred ninety-one (1591) man hours, while the remaining thirty nine hundred thirty-five (3935) hours were logged for training, work details and fire duties to facilitate the programs sponsored by the department throughout the year. Compared to last year, total hours decreased by five thousand fifty-nine (5059), or a 52% decline. This was largely due to the vast difference in call volume, and the fact that much of the "specialized" training and certification took place last year, causing the non-incident man hours to drop by 47% over 2011. Fortunately, new technology and constant training make it possible to accomplish more with less without ever compromising service or safety.

As indicated in the statistics over the past several years, mutual aid and shared services is an area that continues to be an important factor as we, as well as our neighboring towns, rely more on each other to fill the void of available manpower and resources, especially during the daytime hours. In 2012, mutual aid was utilized a total of twenty-nine (29) times, staying very

consistent with last year's total of thirty-two (32) times. This year, aid was given eighteen (18) times and received eleven (11) times. The respective breakdown is as follows:

Mutual Aid Given:

- To Chatham Township - 6
- To Green Village - 2
- To New Vernon (Harding Township) - 2
- To Madison - 5
- To Florham Park - 3

Mutual Aid Received:

- From New Vernon - 2
- From Chatham Township - 2
- From Green Village - 1
- From Madison - 2
- From Florham Park - 3
- From Morris Plains (County Air Truck) - 1

Summary Comparison Data From 2012 To 2011

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Incidents -	308	466	-158	-6%
Man Hours -	5526	10,585	-5059	-52%
(NFIRS) -	1591	2287	-696	-6%
(Non-NFIRS)	3935	8298	-4363	-46%
Fire Loss -	\$167,950	\$546,200	-\$378,259	- 30%
Reported Fires -	8	16	-8	-50%
Mutual Aid -	29	32	-3	-.9%
(Given & Received)				

In addition to local responsibilities, I along with thirty-eight (38) other Chiefs in Morris County, attend meetings once a month at the Public Safety Training Academy to address issues at the County level through the Morris County Alliance of Active Fire Chiefs (MCAAFC). This group shares ideas and strategies and addresses pertinent issues within the fire service that effect us on local, state and federal levels. With this group being part of a UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative) region, we continue to research and revise plans and recommend purchase and implementation of specialized equipment that will not only benefit our immediate area, but surrounding areas as well. This is accomplished by working closely with County OEM Officials and the area Fire Coordinators. After serving as Vice President for the past two years, I am honored to announce that I was elected to serve as President of this organization effective 1/1/12.

Through this group, several initiatives were again able to be implemented, which allowed us to save quite a large sum of money for the municipalities using group rate discounts for certain services. The initiatives include ladder and pump testing as well as hose testing, with fit

testing for SCBA use still being pursued. These are all mandatory annual tests, so whatever savings that can be gained by negotiations through this group can be very beneficial to each department and their municipality using these services.

Much of this year's specialized equipment needs were focused on additional upgrades and equipment for the County radio system for complete interoperability and integration with the Morris County Communication Center for both users and non-users. Upgrades will also allow for over the air programming of radios on the system. Once again, funding for training and additional equipment is being planned in the area of gross and technical decontamination. Regional task forces will be re-evaluated by next year to accommodate additional hands-on training, and regrouping of resources staged throughout the County. The County-wide accountability system (which had been tabled for some time) is again being reviewed for necessary changes, and may become available in the first quarter of 2013.

Each year, it seems that there is more to accomplish with less time, whether it be training (basic, specialized and mandatory), attending meetings, administrative responsibilities, or responding to emergencies and incidents. This year was certainly no exception, and although call volume decreased, there was still more than enough to keep the department busy. In addition to fire related calls, the department began to respond with the Emergency Squad this year to all motor vehicle accidents with injuries as a pre-planned response and an automatic dispatch by the County for both entities for such events. This was done not only to insure the safety of the patients, but more importantly, to protect the first responders. A fire engine is set up as a shadow vehicle (blocker) to protect the scene and the ambulance, provide scene safety for battery disconnects, disabling airbags, mitigating fluid spills, and assisting the squad in patient packaging and removal for faster transport. Doing this has proven to be very successful, and further training and implementation will follow next year. The FD assisted the CES forty-seven (47) times for this type of call during the year. * A full statistical breakdown can be found later in this report.

The following is a brief monthly summary of events that took place in 2012:

January:

- Implementation of new ESP Incident Reporting System software.
- Mutual Aid given four (4) times this month to Harding, Summit, Chatham Township and Madison for fire calls, plus two (2) assistance calls on Rt. 24 to provide a shadow vehicle for medical calls.
- Several carbon monoxide alarms were answered
- Several natural gas leaks were investigated.
- Eight (8) active alarms or malfunctions were answered.

February:

- Mandatory training and testing to be done through March
- Two (2) structure fires on the same day initiating a 2nd alarm assignment. Mutual aid received from a total of seven (7) departments including Summit as a secondary RIC and Morris Township for the County air truck to refill SCBA cylinders.
- Two (2) additional mutual aid responses: One (1) to Chatham Township and one (1) to provide a shadow vehicle for a medical call on Rt.24.
- One (1) electrical fire
- One (1) smoke condition in a residence
- Five (5) motor vehicle accidents with injuries

- Seven (7) activated alarms or malfunctions

March:

- Two (2) mutual aid responses: Green Village for Juniper Village, and Chatham Township for smoke in the condos.
- Two (2) MVAs with injuries
- One (1) electrical fire
- Two (2) hazmat/gas odor/gas leak calls
- One (1) chimney fire with no damage to the structure, contained to flue
- Three (3) smoke conditions
- One (1) elevator emergency
- Eleven (11) activated alarms or malfunctions
- Mandatory annual training completed

April:

- Five (5) MVAs with injuries
- One (1) public assist
- One (1) electrical fire
- Two (2) smoke conditions
- One (1) carbon monoxide incident
- Four (4) brush or mulch fires
- Eleven (11) activated alarms or malfunctions
- Small Fry Fishing Derby at Kelley's Pond

May:

- Eight (8) activated alarms or malfunctions
- Two (2) mutual aid responses: Florham Park for a Sun Valley call, and a Rt 24 medical assist
- Two (2) structure fires: (1) fire in a garage and (1) apartment fire on Main Street which prompted assistance from three (3) additional fire departments, and caused the highest single fire loss for the year.
- Fire department conducted its Annual Fund Drive

June:

- Nine (9) MVAs with injuries
- One (1) open burn (verbal warning given)
- One (1) electrical fire
- One (1) brush fire
- One (1) oven fire
- One (1) mutual aid call to assist Chatham Township on Southern Blvd.
- Two (2) alarm activations or malfunctions
- The Tri-County Firematics competition was held; department received a trophy

July:

- Two (2) outside rubbish fires
- One (1) mutual aid response to Rt 24 to assist the State Police
- One (1) fence fire in a rear yard on River Rd.
- Three (3) electrical fires
- Four (4) MVAs with injuries
- Eight (8) activated alarms or malfunctions
- The Annual July 4th Parade and Fireworks took place

August:

- Three (3) MVAs with injuries
- Two (2) brush or mulch fires
- One (1) gasoline or oil spill
- Two (2) electrical fires
- Two (2) smoke conditions or investigations
- Eleven (11) activated alarms or malfunctions

September:

- One (1) hazardous condition investigation
- One (1) elevator emergency
- Two (2) MVAs with injuries
- One (1) brush or mulch fire
- Two (2) electrical hazards
- One (1) gasoline or oil spill
- NJ State Fireman's Convention was held in Wildwood. Delegates and Life Members attended.

October:

- Two (2) MVAs with injuries
- Two (2) smoke conditions
- One (1) gas or oil spill
- One (1) natural gas leak
- Six (6) mutual aid responses: Chatham Township- 3, Harding- 1, Madison- 2
- Eight (8) Fire Prevention school programs delivered, interacting with 243 kids
- Twenty-six (26) Wind storm assessments during Superstorm Sandy
- Three (3) activated alarms or malfunctions
- Fire Prevention Week Open House attended by approx. 225 residents and families, plus several additional programs held throughout the month

November:

- One (1) open burn (verbal notice given)
- One (1) oil spill
- One (1) power line down
- Six (6) electrical conditions/arcing wires
- Three (3) smoke conditions
- Five (5) hazardous condition investigations
- Three MVAs with injuries
- Three (3) gas leaks / odor of natural gas
- Three (3) CO incidents due to improper generator use
- Two (2) mutual aid calls to Madison for structure fires
- Twenty-one (21) activated alarms or malfunctions (Majority related to power recovery due to the storm

December:

- Seven (7) MVAs with injuries
- Four (4) hazardous condition investigations
- Two (2) electrical issues / arcing
- Two (2) natural gas leaks
- One (1) elevator emergency
- Two (2) mutual aid responses: Florham Park- 1, Harding Township- 1
- Eight (8) activated alarms or malfunctions

- Santa's arrival on the North Pole Express (Engine 2 this year due to mechanical issues)
- Three (3) members certified in Confined Space Rescue, both Awareness and Operations (P. Glogolich, GH Sweetin, GB. Traver)
- Annual Meeting for election of Officers for 2013

As the year comes to a close, I would like to thank outgoing Deputy Chief Paul Carroll for his six (6) years of dedicated service to the Department as Deputy Chief and two (2) years as President of the Association. Congratulations to Jeffrey Fricke, who was newly elected to the rank of Deputy Chief by the membership this month. Good luck to Jeff and all the new and returning Officers for 2013, who I look forward to working with very much. I would also like to thank all the members of the Chatham Fire Department for another job well done this year in protecting the lives and the property of the Borough residents. Minimizing loss is always a top priority, and that goal was certainly accomplished this year. May we all have a safe and Happy New Year!

As you can see, the Chatham Fire Department had another very active year. It takes a very dedicated and motivated group of individuals to volunteer their time to make this organization function as it does today. Mandatory and specialized training is now more time consuming than ever and I am very proud to be in command of a group with this kind of commitment. Preventing fires and raising awareness levels in all age groups remains a top priority in the upcoming year. It is our mission to provide the community with the annual events that they have come to enjoy so much, as well as providing the fire protection that they expect. It is again my top goal to inform and train our firefighters so that they may safely and professionally serve the Borough of Chatham.

Other goals and objectives that I hope to accomplish within the next calendar year for 2013 are a continuation of some of last year's goals, which are as follows:

- 1) **RECRUITMENT & RETENTION**- My goal is to keep a balance within the membership of the department and encourage all interested parties who can fulfill the mandatory requirements to join. As the average age increases every year, it is imperative to actively recruit younger members to become qualified and active. The need for the development and creation of a Junior Program is now more important than ever. Being overseen by a Deputy Chief, a committee of officers will develop and implement a plan for accomplishment. Preliminary target date is June, 2013.
- 2) **UPDATING SOP'S & SOG'S**- Bring the standard operating procedures and guidelines up to date and be clear and specific so that all members both new and old can fully understand how procedures are to be implemented and followed within the department. These documents are to be reviewed and updated annually by a special committee, overseen by a Deputy Chief, and changes presented to the membership in writing as needed. This will be on-going.
- 3) **FIREHOUSE WALKWAY**- Construct a paving stone walkway at the rear of the firehouse between the side door and the storage garage on the track side of the building. This will not only benefit us in moving things in and out of the building, but will also benefit the commuters who use this area as a foot path, which is currently not paved.

Project completion target date is August of 2013. Storms in 2012 tabled this project until this year.

- 4) **RIC CERTIFICATION TRAINING-** Under the new standards, any firefighter who is part of a Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) must receive specialized training and certification as outlined under the new Guidelines and Best Practices for Rapid Intervention Crews. Two Deputy Chiefs have completed a Train the Trainer course and were certified. They will formulate and implement the training program for the members. This will take place by July of 2013, with team certification complete by the end of the year.
- 5) **PROVIDE A TRAINING ENVIRONMENT-** It is my goal to arrange and provide an environment and a vehicle to comply with all the necessary NIMS training classes to assure eligibility for possible grant funding for the future. These levels of training and certification must be fulfilled in order to qualify. These outreach programs will include not only our members, but also our mutual aid companies as well as the Police and EMS. The target date is subject to availability during 2013.
- 6) **IMPROVE THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY -** This year, I intend to move the department ahead into the computer age, installing Toughbook or Tablet computers in all apparatus, allowing all responders to be better informed in transit as to the incident location, special hazards noted and integration with the County CAD system. This integration along with a better reporting system, which is web-based, will allow greater ease in creating reports and retrieving information. Initial target start date is April with completion before the end of the year.

In closing, I would like to thank the Mayor and all Council members for the continuing guidance and support which you have demonstrated throughout the years, and as always, I look forward to a safe and productive future.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter S. Glogolich
Peter S. Glogolich, Chief
Chatham Borough Fire Department

Chatham Office of Code Enforcement
 Activity Report
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Incident Types (NFIRS)

Incident Type Group	# Inc.	% of Total
10-Fire, other	1	0.3%
11-Structure Fire	7	2.3%
12-Fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure	0	0%
13-Mobile property (vehicle) fire	1	0.3%
14-Natural vegetation fire	8	2.6%
15-Outside rubbish fire	2	0.6%
16-Special outside fire	0	0%
17-Cultivated vegetation, crop fire	0	0%
20-Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat, other	0	0%
21-Overpressure rupture from steam (no ensuing fire)	1	0.3%
22-Overpressure rupture from air or gas (no fire)	0	0%
23-Overpressure rupture, chemical reaction (no fire)	0	0%
24-Explosion (no fire)	0	0%
25-Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	0	0%
30-Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS), other	0	0%
31-Medical assist	0	0%
32-Emergency medical service (EMS) Incident	46	14.9%
33-Lock-In	0	0%
34-Search for lost person	0	0%
35-Extrication, rescue	1	0.3%
36-Water or ice-related rescue	0	0%
37-Electrical rescue	0	0%
38-Rescue or EMS standby	0	0%
40-Hazardous condition, other	6	1.9%
41-Combustible/flammable spills & leaks	12	3.9%
42-Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition	5	1.6%
43-Radioactive condition	0	0%
44-Electrical wiring/equipment problem	20	6.5%
45-Biological hazard	0	0%
46-Accident, potential accident	4	1.3%
47-Explosive, bomb removal	0	0%
48-Attempted burning, illegal action	0	0%
50-Service call, other	2	0.6%
51-Person in distress	1	0.3%
52-Water problem	0	0%
53-Smoke, odor problem	12	3.9%
54-Animal problem or rescue	0	0%
55-Public service assistance	27	8.8%
56-Unauthorized burning	1	0.3%
57-Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up	0	0%
60-Good intent call, other	3	1.0%
61-Dispatched and canceled en route	0	0%
62-Wrong location, no emergency found	6	1.9%
63-Controlled burning	1	0.3%
64-Vicinity alarm	0	0%
65-Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke	5	1.6%
66-EMS call where party has been transported	0	0%
67-HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	2	0.6%
70-False alarm and false call, other	1	0.3%
71-Malicious, mischievous false alarm	4	1.3%
72-Bomb scare	0	0%
73-System or detector malfunction	25	8.1%
74-Unintentional system/detector operation (no fire)	78	25.3%
75-Biohazard scare	0	0%
80-Severe weather or natural disaster, other	0	0%

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Incident Type Group	# Inc.	% of Total
81-Severe weather or natural disaster	26	8.4%
90-Special type of incident, other	0	0%
91-Citizen complaint	0	0%
	<u>308</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Report Types

Incident Type Group	#Inc.	#Pers.	#Hrs in Svc	#Man Hrs
D-Drill	24	398	56.6	846.0
M-Meeting	17	452	15.4	363.7
N-NFIRS	308	3030	157.8	1590.9
O-Other (not NFIRS)	178	726	398.3	1999.3
S-Special Assignment	63	197	75.8	317.3
W-Work Detail	27	197	30.6	408.8
	<u>617</u>	<u>5000</u>	<u>734.6</u>	<u>5526.0</u>

Reports by Category

Incident Type Group	#Inc.	#Pers.	#Hrs in Svc	#Man Hrs
1-Fire	19	203	15.2	219.2
2-Overpressure Rupture, Explosion...	1	18	0.4	6.3
3-Rescue & Emergency Medical S...	47	424	36.1	338.0
4-Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	47	472	23.1	227.4
5-Service Call	43	453	32.9	340.2
6-Good Intent Call	17	164	4.5	45.1
7-False Alarm & False Call	108	936	37.7	304.5
8-Severe Weather & Natural Disast...	26	360	8.0	110.1
9-Special Incident Type	0	0	0	0
D-Drill	24	398	56.6	846.0
M-Meeting	17	452	15.4	363.7
O-Other (not NFIRS)	178	726	398.3	1999.3
S-Special Assignment	63	197	75.8	317.3
W-Work Detail	27	197	30.6	408.8
	<u>617</u>	<u>5000</u>	<u>734.6</u>	<u>5526.0</u>

Causes of Ignition (NFIRS)

Cause of Ignition	# Inc.	% of Total
Intentional	0	0%
Unintentional	8	57.1%
Failure of equipment or heat source	0	0%
Act of nature	3	21.4%
Cause under investigation	1	7.1%
Cause undetermined after investigation	2	14.3%
	<u>14</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Losses (NFIRS)

Total Losses \$	# Inc.	% of Total
None	300	97.5%
1 to 9	0	0%
1 billion and up	0	0%
10 to 99	0	0%
100 to 999	5	1.5%
1000 to 9999	0	0%
10000 to 99999	3	1%
100000 to 999999	0	0%
1 to 9.9 million	0	0%

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<u>Total Losses</u>	<u># Inc.</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
10 to 99.9 million	0	0%
100 to 999.9 million	0	0%
	<u>308</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Aid Given or Received (NFIRS)

<u>Aid Given or Received</u>	<u># Inc.</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Mutual aid received	3	1.0%
Automatic aid received	1	0.3%
Mutual aid given	15	4.9%
Automatic aid given	3	1.0%
Other aid given	0	0%
None	<u>286</u>	<u>92.9%</u>
	308	100.0%

Mutual Aid Agencies Used (NFIRS)

<u>Station/Agency Giving Aid</u>	<u># Responses</u>
1-New Vernon	2
10-Morristown Fire Dept	0
11-Millburn Fire Dept	0
12-Maplewood Fire Dept	0
13-Livingston Fire Dept	0
14-Basking Ridge Fire Dept	0
15-Bernardsville Fire Dept	0
16-New Providence Fire Dept	0
2-Chatham Township	3
3-Madison Fire dept	2
4-Summit Fire Department	0
5-Florham Park	3
6-East Hanover Fire Dept	0
7-Morris Twp Fire Dept	0
8-Morris Plains Fire Dept	1
	<u>11</u>

Other Districts Responded To (NFIRS)

<u>FDID Receiving Mutual Aid</u>	<u># Inc.</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
01405-Chatham Township	8	2.6%
01413-New Vernon	2	0.6%
01417-Madison Fire dept	5	1.6%
02018-Summit Fire Department	0	0%
07100-Livingston Fire Dept	0	0%
07110-Maplewood Fire Dept	0	0%
07120-Millburn Fire Dept	0	0%
14100-East Hanover Fire Dept	0	0%
14110-Florham Park	3	1.0%
14220-Morris Twp Fire Dept	0	0%
14230-Morris Plains Fire Dept	0	0%
14240-Morristown Fire Dept	0	0%
18020-Basking Ridge Fire Dept	0	0%
18030-Bernardsville Fire Dept	0	0%
20011-New Providence Fire Dept	0	0%
	<u>308</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

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Calls by Day of Week (NFIRS)

	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Avg Apparatus/Call</u>	<u>Avg Personnel/Call</u>
Sunday	30	4.1	10.7
Monday	60	4.2	11.7
Tuesday	48	3.6	9.7
Wednesday	40	3.8	10.1
Thursday	48	3.5	8.9
Friday	48	3.2	8.0
Saturday	32	3.6	9.6

Calls by Time of Day (NFIRS)

	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Avg Apparatus/Call</u>	<u>Avg Personnel/Call</u>
00:00-00:59	5	3.6	7.4
01:00-01:59	6	2.8	7.3
02:00-02:59	7	3.3	6.3
03:00-03:59	3	3.0	5.3
04:00-04:59	4	3.8	8.3
05:00-05:59	6	3.3	6.5
06:00-06:59	2	3.5	8.5
07:00-07:59	10	3.2	8.1
08:00-08:59	6	3.0	8.0
09:00-09:59	16	3.6	9.3
10:00-10:59	18	3.7	8.7
11:00-11:59	17	3.3	7.6
12:00-12:59	13	3.1	10.0
13:00-13:59	17	3.8	10.9
14:00-14:59	24	3.3	8.3
15:00-15:59	22	4.2	11.8
16:00-16:59	21	3.9	11.7
17:00-17:59	20	3.7	9.9
18:00-18:59	26	4.0	11.1
19:00-19:59	21	4.1	12.0
20:00-20:59	21	4.6	12.3
21:00-21:59	12	4.4	11.3
22:00-22:59	7	3.7	9.0
23:00-23:59	4	3.3	5.5