

Ashmont Fire Department

2011 Annual Report

Prepared By James Preston

Equipment

No major equipment purchases were made this year. We did do a major upgrade of our medical equipment with the help of a new member who is a Paramedic. We now carry oxygen, multiple spine boards, head chocks, and neck braces as well as a very large amount of specialty bandages and dressings. Two new sets of bunker gear were ordered for members as per our bunker gear replacement program. During personal equipment inspections this year virtually all of our helmets were found to be at least 20 years old. New helmets were ordered for all members, and from now on when bunker gear is replaced a new helmet, and boots will be ordered also to make sure that the entire set of gear is replaced on a rotation. At the end of 2011 a Kodiak stabilization kit was ordered for our department. The tool was not placed into service until early 2012 and will be very helpful at most accident scenes where a vehicle needs to be stabilized for extrication.

New Members

Two new members joined this year

Corey Sagstuen – army trained paramedic who has completed two tours of duty in Afghanistan

Wendall Baerg – past member of the Linden Fire Dept. who has medical training as well as trench rescue and various other firefighter training

Members Leaving

George Newby retired after 31 years of service.

Community Involvement

In 2011 we participated in a number of community events. Some of the events we participated in included;

- bartending, and auctioning for Ladies' Night Out in Ashmont in support of the Ashmont Mom's and Tot's

- providing Emergency services for the Ashmont Quad Rally
- Kindergarten class tours of the fire hall and equipment
- Pancake breakfast for Ashmont Heritage Days
- Hose-laying during Ashmont Heritage Days
- Fire Prevention week tours and presentations
- Giving out candy at the fire hall on Halloween
- Bartending a benefit dance for one of our previous members families



Training

All members received regular in-house training on our regularly scheduled training nights. This year members re-certified their First Aid skills. In addition to regularly scheduled training, members also participated in a S-1100 course (vehicle extrication) in St. Paul, and more in-depth medical training with our new equipment. There has also been interest from a lot of members about a possibly attending a S-600 course (pump operations) if one becomes available. Throughout the year we will also be holding more scheduled weekend afternoon practices, as attendance seems to be better holding them during these times.

Calls for 2011

In 2011 we responded to 28 calls.

- 8 – MVC
- 1 – Structure Fire
- 9 – Outside Fire
- 2 – Medical Assist
- 3 – Mutual Aid
- 2 – Vehicle Fire
- 2 – Other

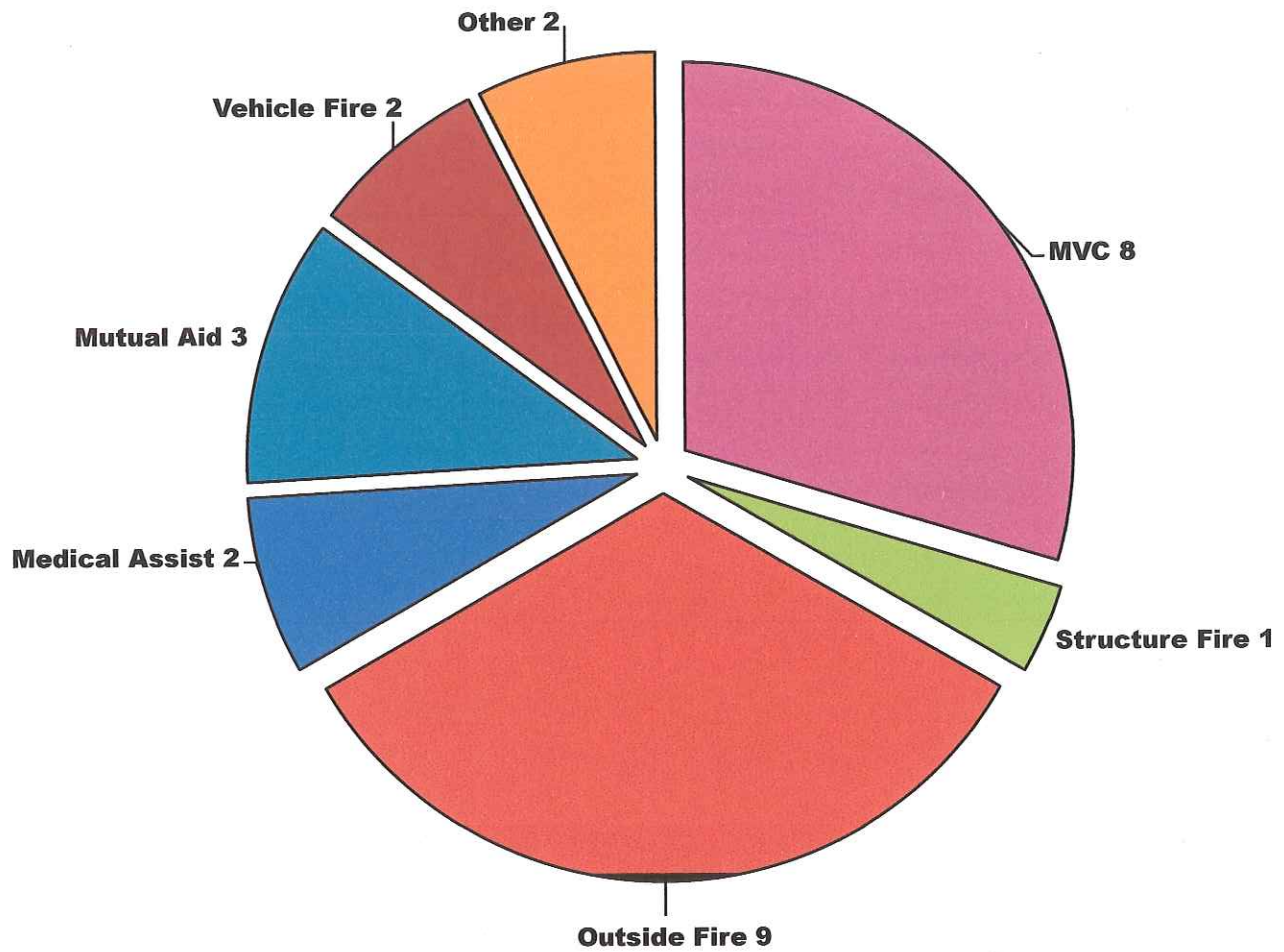
Average Response Time: 18.7 minutes (Avg. distance travelled 15.3km)

In Review

The past year did not bring many surprises for our department. In spring we had our normal busy season responding to 8 calls in a little over a week. There were a couple of calls this year that were a little different than normal. One was responding to St. Paul for the Portage College fire, and the other was responding to Vilna when a unit inside their fire hall caught fire. The big story for our fire department this year was the beginning of planning for a new fire hall. We have selected a location where we would like the hall to be placed, and have worked with Mallaig to come to an agreement on a common design for both communities. The new fire hall is badly needed as we have equipment that cannot be stored in our current hall and must be stored offsite. This hall would be a great asset to our department and our community. We were very fortunate this year to have both of our new members join. Both members bring a vast amount of experience and training to our hall, which has already benefited us in the short time that they have been with us. In the upcoming year we plan to continue to recruit new members, especially those available to respond during regular working hours. Call numbers this past year were below average, but things can change very quickly, especially if no moisture is received long term.



2011 Calls



Total Calls = 28

