



# 2009 Annual Report

## Bloomfield Township Fire Department

“ I want you to know how much we appreciate your expert care and attention. You came quickly and with a high level of professional expertise. You were able to help me calm down and assure us that we were in very capable hands...

Please be assured of our support in the future.”

- Mary & Paul Galvin





## 2009 Fire Chief Report

# Bloomfield Township Fire Department



**Dave Piché**  
Fire Chief  
*24.7 Years of Service*

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

During 2009, the fire department sustained some major changes that will dictate the future of the department for many years to come. The two most significant changes were the collective development of visions and goals for our organization and the completion of the construction of Central Fire station. These items were needed to ensure our fire department would continue to progress and develop allowing us to evolve into the most efficient and effective fire/EMS service for the community.

Early in 2009, all of our fire officers convened to evaluate the operation of our organization and where it needed to change, improve, and grow in the years to come. The results were then set as our visions and goals for all of our personnel to follow and achieve. With a clear sense of direction, our department will better focus its energies. The more focused we are the better we become at performing in a more efficient manor now and into the future.

The rebuild of Central Fire station and the move of our entire firefighting staff back into Central Fire station took place in 2009. The fire department is extremely pleased and thankful for the opportunity to perform within this great facility. The station contains many components that will help us better serve the community with exceptional fire/EMS services. The new station has been laid out to provide for increased efficiency of daily operations, a new fire training tower, a state of the art training classroom, conference rooms, and a variety of specialized rooms to handle fire/EMS equipment maintenance and storage.

The fire department would like to thank the Township Elected Officials for their vision and follow through with providing the community and fire department a more functional station to operate from. Additionally, I would like to extend a thank you to all of the residents of the township for their support and patience during our construction.

In 2010, the fire department will continue to evaluate all current operations, programs, and practices to ensure we meet the needs of the community. We will work aggressively to achieve our new visions and goals in an effort to fulfill the direction our fire officers have set for the future of the department and ensure that the residents, visitors, and business owners receive the best fire/EMS service possible with our available resources.

It is with great pride that I present you the Bloomfield Township Fire Department 2009 Annual Report.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Piché  
Fire Chief

2009

## Fire Department Administration



**Dave Piché**  
Fire Chief  
*24.7 Years of Service*



**Lyal Bigger**  
Asst. Fire Chief  
*25.9 Years of Service*



**Mike McCully**  
Fire Marshal  
*22.9 Years of Service*



**Lt. Doug Brown**  
Fire Inspector  
*29.7 Years of Service*



**Lt. Peter Vlahos**  
Fire Inspector  
*13 Years of Service*



**Lt. Mike Morin**  
EMS Coordinator  
*23.2 Years of Service*



**Pat Simonian**  
Administrative Assistant  
*16.5 Years of Service*



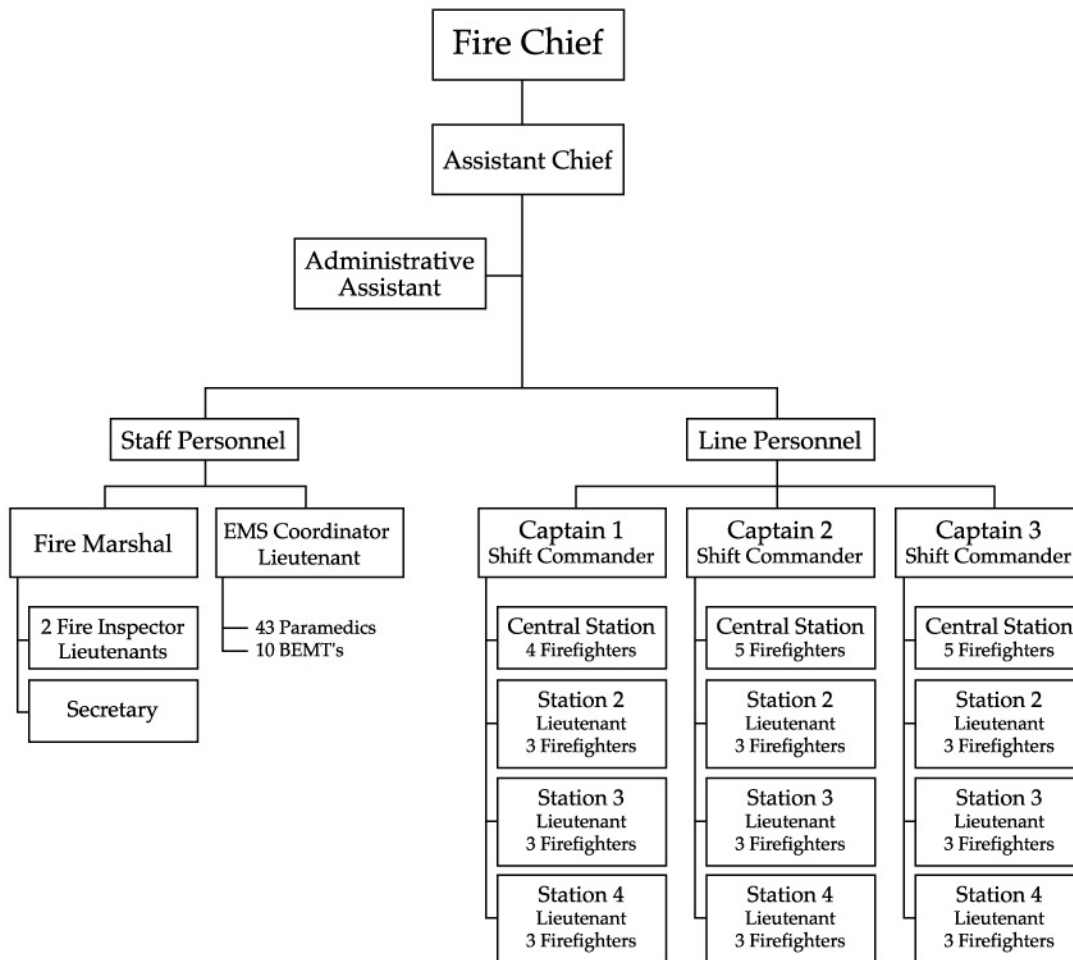
**Linda Hemming**  
Secretary  
*12.9 Years of Service*



**Rick Foreman**  
Department Chaplain  
*Retired BTFD Lieutenant*

2009

# Fire Department Organization



## 59 Uniformed Personnel

1 Fire Chief  
1 Assistant Chief  
1 Fire Marshal  
2 Lieutenant Fire Inspectors  
1 Lieutenant EMS Coordinator  
2 Civilian Secretaries

3 Captains  
9 Line Lieutenants  
41 Firefighters

## 2009 Annual Report

### Station Information

#### Central Fire Station

806 Incidents (371 Fire Related / 435 Medicals)

Central Fire Station is located at 1155 Exeter in the Township government complex. It houses one Paramedic Engine, one Ladder Truck, one Shift Commander Van, one Reserve Engine, one Multi-Purpose Response Unit (Hazardous Materials, Mobile Command Center), several staff/utility vehicles, and one Technical Rescue vehicle.



Central Fire serves a predominately residential district within the Township. Within it's district, Central Fire protects such notable buildings as the Kirk in the Hills, Andover and Lahser High Schools, Wabeek Country Club, and the Township Library, to name a few. Additionally, Central Fire has several apartment and condo complexes, some light mercantile, and the major thoroughway Telegraph Road to protect.

Central Fire is staffed with one shift commander (Fire Captain) and up to 4-5 other firefighters. It also houses the Fire Department Administration that include the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Fire Marshall, EMS Coordinator, two Fire Inspectors, one Administrative Assistant to the Chief, and one Fire Prevention Secretary.

#### Station 2

730 Incidents (236 Fire Related / 494 Medicals)

Station 2 is located at 1063 Westview on the Township's northeast side. This fire station houses one Fire Engine and one Paramedic Rescue to protect its district. There are four firefighting/paramedic personnel with one being a station officer (Lieutenant). The station serves an area that is predominately residential, some light mercantile, and major thoroughfares of I-75, Woodward Ave and Square Lake Road. Some notable buildings that are protected by Station 2 are the International Academy, Sacred Heart Academy, Georgian Nursing Home, Bowers Farm and Alternative High School, and Oakland Community College Offices.



### **Station 3**

1120 Incidents (448 Fire Related / 672 Medicals)

Station 3 is located at 4151 W. Maple on the Township's southwest side. This fire station houses one Fire Engine, one Paramedic Rescue, and one Air Trailer to protect its district. There are four firefighting/paramedic personnel with one being a station officer (Lieutenant). The station serves an area that is predominately residential, including Bloomfield Village, some light mercantile, and major thoroughfares of Telegraph and Maple Roads. Some notable buildings that are protected by Station 3 are Oakland Hills Country Club, Franklin Cider Mill, Birmingham Athletic Club, and the Temple Beth El.



### **Station 4**

713 Incidents (226 Fire Related / 487 Medicals)

Station 4 is located at 2389 Franklin Road on the Township's north side. This fire station houses one Fire Engine, one Paramedic Rescue, one Reserve Fire Engine, and one Fire Safety Trailer. There are four firefighting/paramedic personnel with one station officer (Lieutenant). The station serves an area of residential, light through heavy mercantile, light industrial, and major thoroughfares of Telegraph road, Square Lake Road, Woodward Ave., and I-75. Some notable buildings that are protected by Station 4 are Forest Lake Country Club, Bloomfield Town Square, Carl's Golf Land, and Sunrise Assisted Living.



### **Station 5 Village Fire Station**

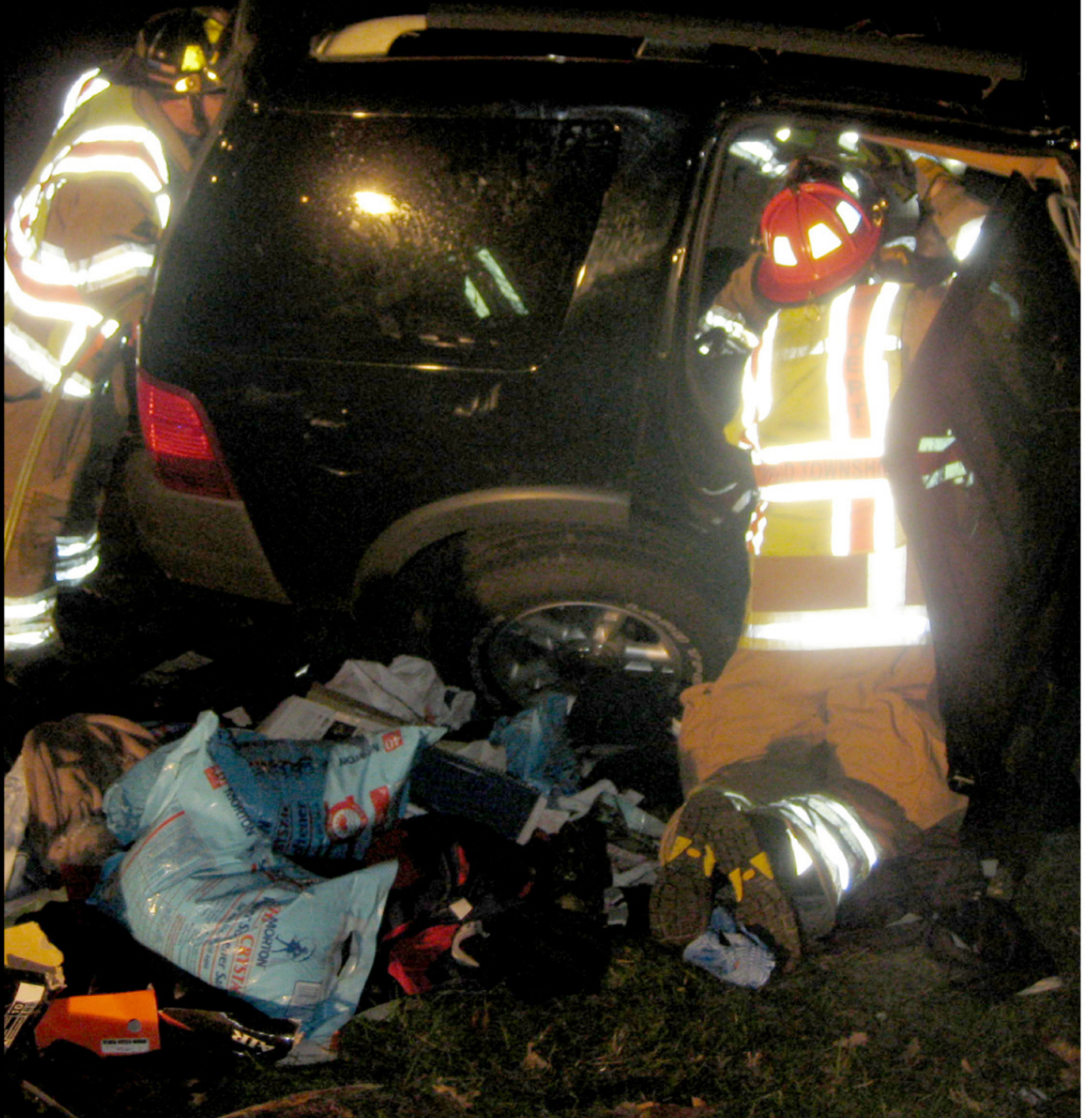
7 Fire Related Incidents

Station 5 is located at 3595 Bradway Boulevard on the Township's southeast side. This fire station houses one Fire Engine and one four wheel drive utility vehicle. There is one full time Deputy Fire Chief and 12-15 volunteers that serve the Bloomfield Village area of the Township.



“ We are very proud of our firefighters serving our community and helping to keep us safe.”

- Mac & Mary McElmerly





*2009 Annual Report*  
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2009

## Line Personnel Roster

Richard Watson	Lieutenant/EMT-A	31.4
Mimikos, Alex P.	Captain/EMT-A	29.7
Cummings, Gary M.	Captain/EMT-A	29.3
Cieslak, James J.	Captain/EMT-A	26.6
Nancarrow, Ronald J.	Lieutenant/EMT-A	26.6
Bradford, Larry M.	Firefighter/EMT-A	25.9
Kiebusch, Michael A.	Firefighter/EMT-A	24.7
LaBelle, Mark F.	Firefighter/EMT-A	24.7
Martin, Rex S.	Firefighter/EMT-A	23.3
Fecteau, Dennis S.	Firefighter/EMT-A	23.3
Scott, Michael E.	Firefighter/EMT-A	22.9
Klein, Michael C.	Lieutenant/EMT-A	22.9
Whitehead, Christopher	Lieutenant/EMT-A	22.4
Crouch, David A.	Lieutenant/EMT-A	22.4
Koskinen, Daniel C.	Lieutenant/EMT-A	19.7
Sesock, Nicholas D.	Firefighter/EMT-A	19.6
Bertucci, Donald B.	Lieutenant/EMT-A	19.3
Fox, Gary K.	Firefighter/EMT-A	19.3
Fritz, William D.	Firefighter/EMT-A	16.2
Kowalski, Kenneth E.	Firefighter/EMT-A	14.4
Ross, Timothy A.	Firefighter/EMT-A	14.4
VanHeck, Alan D.	Firefighter/EMT-A	14
Cardinale, Kevin J.	Lieutenant/EMT-A	13.6
Husch, Ryan A.	Firefighter/EMT-A	13.5
Collins, Scott N.	Firefighter/EMT-A	13
Martinec, Matthew J.	Lieutenant/EMT-A	12.7
Cowher, Timothy J.	Firefighter/EMT-A	11.7

Jackson, Daniel A.	Firefighter/EMT-A	11.7
Chopski, Joseph E.	Firefighter/EMT-A	11.6
Syracuse, Joseph B.	Firefighter/EMT-A	10.7
DeRousse, Matthew W.	Firefighter/EMT-A	10.3
Keeton, Nathaniel A.	Firefighter/EMT-A	9.7
Lietz, Edward J.	Firefighter/EMT-A	9.4
Valigura, James A.	Firefighter/EMT-B	9.4
Schuette, Kevin W.	Firefighter/EMT-B	8.9
Bailey, Kevin G.	Firefighter/EMT-A	8.6
Gahlau, Robert A.	Firefighter/EMT-B	8.4
Wineski, Leonard V.	Firefighter/EMT-B	8
LeRoy, John E.	Firefighter/EMT-A	8
Barton, Mark W.	Firefighter/EMT-B	8
Grunwald, Jason P.	Firefighter/EMT-B	7.6
Pucci, Michael A.	Firefighter/EMT-B	6.7
Overby, Matthew K.	Firefighter/EMT-A	6.6
Bartlett, Jeffrey R.	Firefighter/EMT-B	6.5
Nichols, Robert A.	Firefighter/EMT-B	6.2
Patterson, Shawn	Firefighter/EMT-B	5.7
Zsido, Mathew	Firefighter/EMT-A	1.45
Koziel, Jeremy	Firefighter/EMT-A	1.45
Gainer, Brandon	Firefighter/EMT-A	1.45
McGrail, Joseph	Firefighter/EMT-A	1.45
Bradford, Benjamin	Firefighter/EMT-A	.9
Gibson, Andrew	Firefighter/EMT-A	.9
Sova, Michael	Firefighter/EMT-A	.66

Total Personnel Listed - 53

10 EMT-B = *Emergency Medical Technician-Basic*

43 EMT-A = *Emergency Medical Technician-Advanced*

2009

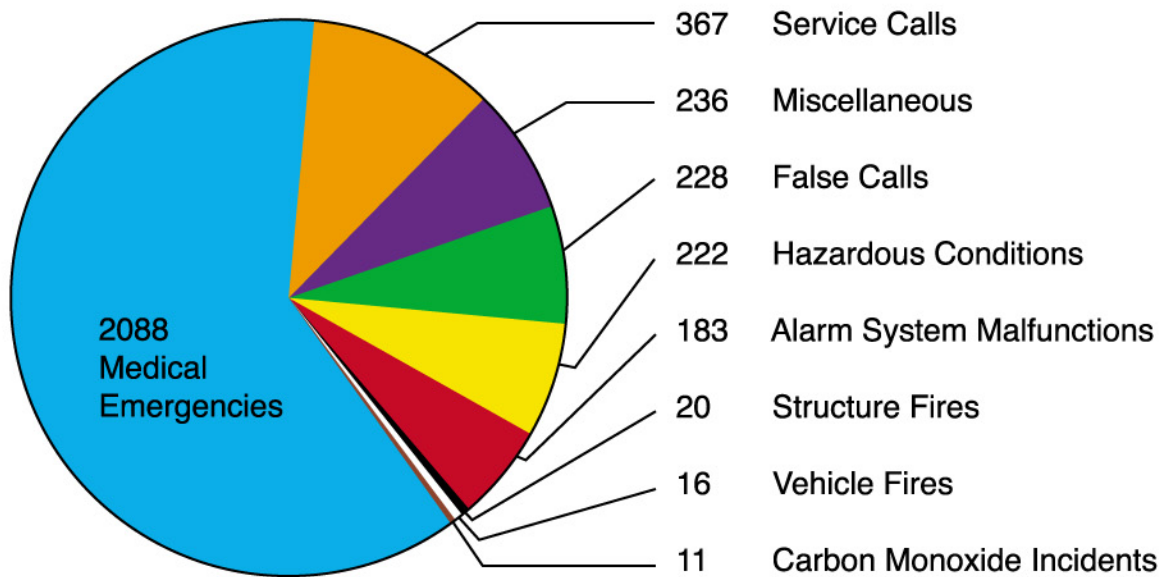
## Response Types

Type of situation	Number of occurrences
Building Fire	20
Fires in Structures other than in a building	01
Cooking fire, confined to container	07
Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	03
Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire contained	02
Trash or rubbish fire, contained	01
Passenger Vehicle fire	16
Natural vegetation fire, other	01
Forest, woods or wildland fire	01
Brush, or brush & grass mixture fire	09
Grass fire	01
Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	06
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	01
Outside equipment fire	05
Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	02
Medical assist, assist EMS crew	02
EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	1,897
Vehicle accident with injuries	169
Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	06
Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	09
Search for person on land	01
Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	02
Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	02
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	14
Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	37
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	01
Chemical spill or leak	02
Carbon monoxide incident	11
Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	05
Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	02
Overheated motor	04
Power line down	94
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	21
Vehicle accident, general cleanup	02
Lock-out	07
Ring or jewelry removal	02
Water problem, other	01
Water evacuation	01
Water or steam leak	14

Smoke or odor removal	05
Animal problem	02
Public service assistance, other	01
Assist police or other governmental agency	35
Police matter	12
Public service	77
Assist invalid	185
Unauthorized burning	24
Cover assignment, standby, move up	01
Good intent call, other	01
Dispatched & cancelled en route	56
EMS: Dispatched and cancelled en route	04
Wrong location	02
No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	41
Authorized controlled burning	02
Smoke scare, odor of smoke	101
Steam vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	10
Barbeque, tar kettle	04
EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	04
Hazmat release investigation w/ no hazmat	02
Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm	04
Direct tie to FD, malicious/false alarm	01
Telephone, malicious false alarm	01
Central station, malicious/false alarm	03
Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	05
Bomb scare - no bomb	01
Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	01
Extinguishing system activation due to malfunction	03
Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	41
Heat detector activation due to malfunction	03
Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	91
CO detector activation due to malfunction	44
Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	03
Sprinkler activation, no fire-unintentional	01
Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	81
Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	28
Alarm system sounded, no fire - unintentional	84
Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	14
Dispatch error	07
Citizen complaint	02
 TOTAL	 3,369

2009

## Response Types



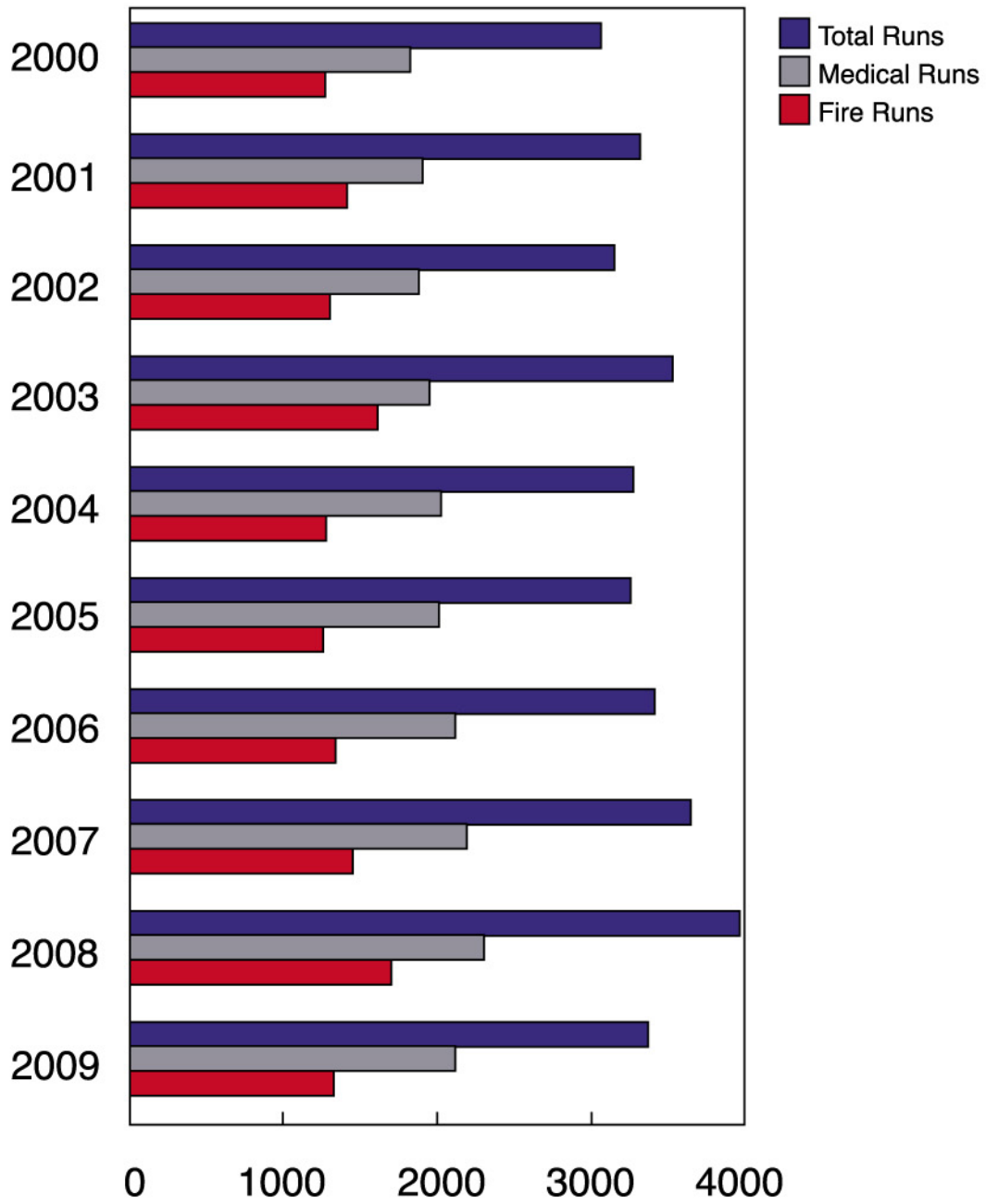
## Incident Comparison - 3 years

Type of Situation	2009	2008	2007
False Calls	226	293	286
Hazardous Conditions	222	408	267
Vehicle Fires	16	17	16
Service Calls	367	430	338
Alarm System Malfunctions	183	220	196
Miscellaneous	236	312	297
Structure Fires	20	30	32
CO Detector Calls	11	11	12
Medical Emergencies	2088	2265	2179
<b>Total</b>	<b>3369</b>	<b>3986</b>	<b>3623</b>

*The above figures include the following:*

<i>Mutual Aid Given</i>	4	9	18
<i>Mutual Aid received</i>	11	14	13

## 10 Year Comparison



" We have the best  
Fire & Rescue Team in the country."

- Ruth Danto





## 2009 Training Report

# Bloomfield Township Fire Department



**Lyal Bigger**  
Asst. Fire Chief  
*25.9 Years of Service*

I'm not sure who first said, "Experience is the best teacher", but whoever it was knew what they were talking about. There is no better way to learn than through experience. Since we cannot just create emergencies on command, how does someone gain the necessary experience to efficiently mitigate an emergency situation? The challenge then becomes, absent emergent situations, how does someone learn the techniques and gain the knowledge necessary to become an expert at handling a multitude of difficult and varying types of emergencies.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department Training Division believes the best way to meet this challenge is head on through realistic training that duplicates as closely as possible the conditions we typically encounter when we arrive on the scene of an emergency. In an effort to provide realistic training in 2009, the fire department, in addition to our usual in-house training, used the CREST fire training facilities seven times and made great use of a house donated to us for training purposes.

CREST, located on the Auburn Hills campus of Oakland Community College, has a facility that allows firefighters to experience flashover conditions in a somewhat controlled environment. Flashover is a dangerous situation that is often deadly to firefighters. The firefighters learned how to identify the conditions leading to flashover and how to buy precious seconds when faced with this deadly phenomenon, precious seconds that may provide just enough time to escape alive. During another training we used the CREST burn tower and worked on firefighting tactics and strategies involving victim rescue in heat and smoke conditions that are normally encountered while fighting fire. Another training focused on firefighter survival techniques used for immediate evacuation, or escaping when entangled or trapped. The CREST tower gave the firefighters the opportunity to practice the maneuvers necessary to safely and rapidly escape through an upper story window.

Many hours were spent training over a variety of firefighting skills at the house that was donated to the Fire Department. Firefighters exercised their rescue and survival techniques by breaching interior and exterior walls. Holes were opened in the roof both as a means of gaining access to areas of the structure and also to train on our ventilation skills, which are essential for the survival of trapped occupants and for safe and effective firefighting. Our incident command system was exercised using the new Open Sky radio system, which allows for enhanced communications with other fire departments. The ability to practice our skills using an actual structure provides great hands-on practical experience that is difficult to get any other way.

In 2009, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department spent 11,310 man-hours in training, gaining valuable experience that will benefit citizens, visitors, and firefighters. We covered topics required by MIOSHA such as our Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), HazMat, and structural and non-structural firefighting. Additional topics like flashover, rescue, building construction, ventilation, forcible entry, confined space rescue, EMS techniques and procedures and tactics and strategies were also covered to ensure we are more than capable when it comes to serving, the citizens of Bloomfield Township, whatever emergency arises.

We are committed to "train like we fight and fight like we train" ensuring the delivery of the best possible service to Bloomfield Township citizens and visitors, whenever and wherever our help is needed.

Thank you for your support,

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyal Bigger  
Assistant Chief

## *2009 Fire Marshal Report*

### **Bloomfield Township Fire Department**

2009 has been a very challenging year for the fire department. With tough economic times, dropping property values and possible cuts looming, the Fire Prevention Division of the fire department continues to look for new and better ways to serve the community with the resources we have.

Coordination of pre-incident planning is a function of the Fire Prevention Division. Under the direction of Lt. Fire Inspector Doug Brown, buildings are assigned to fire companies to gather information about the buildings and the systems contained within the buildings. This information is then organized, copied and put in notebooks on the fire trucks. In the case of the new Bloomfield Township Command Vehicle this information can be accessed on line. Pre-incident planning provides firefighters the opportunity to locate fire department connections, sprinkler valves, electrical rooms, gas meter, fire alarm panel, etc. before an emergency event happens. Pre-plans are also important in identifying and controlling hazardous materials use and their storage throughout the Township. This is accomplished through identifying sites that use or store these materials and helping the owners and/or operators develop a plan that ensures safe handling of hazardous materials.

In 2009, Lt. Fire Inspector Peter Vlahos was honored by the Michigan Fire Inspectors Society as "Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year". Lt. Fire Inspector Peter Vlahos has played a major role in preparing and teaching an injury prevention program to the second grade students of the Bloomfield Hills School District. This program's base curriculum is National Fire Protection Association's "Risk Watch". Additionally this program includes the Hazard House that is on loan from the University of Michigan Trauma Burn Center and the Bloomfield Township Fire Department's Safety Trailer. Reviews and evaluations from the second grade teachers in the district are all very positive and we will be continuing this program in 2010.

The Fire Prevention Division also educates business owners with fire safety inspections and commercial plan reviews. During 2009, the Bloomfield Township Fire Prevention Division conducted nine hundred and ninety four (994) fire safety inspections and pre-construction plan reviews totaled three hundred twenty eight (328). With each inspection or review, an explanation of the violation and an education on why the violation is a hazard is provided. This promotes fire safety awareness and reduces the number of repeat violations.



**Michael McCully**  
Fire Marshal  
*22.9 Years of Service*

The Fire Prevention Division is also responsible for investigating all structure fires, suspicious fires, and fires resulting in injury and/or death. These investigations are done for the purpose of preventing fires and identifying common risk factors. Bloomfield Township has a fire investigation team of four (4) members. Three (3) are fire department employees and one (1) is a police department employee. All four (4) investigators have had special training and attend continuing education classes on fire investigation. In 2009, the Fire Prevention Division conducted twenty (20) cause and origin investigations. No fires were determined to be maliciously and deliberately set in 2009. Property damage for all fires during 2009 totaled \$22,357,225.00.

As we move forward into 2010, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department is looking forward to the challenges that the new year will hold. The Fire Prevention Division is looking for new ways to spread the message of fire safety including a program to educate seniors in injury and fire prevention. We are always looking for ways to improve our customer service and we are dedicated to preventing fires and injuries, making Bloomfield Township a safer Community. Working together for a better, safer community is part of what makes Bloomfield Township a great place to live and work.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fire Marshal  
Michael J. McCully

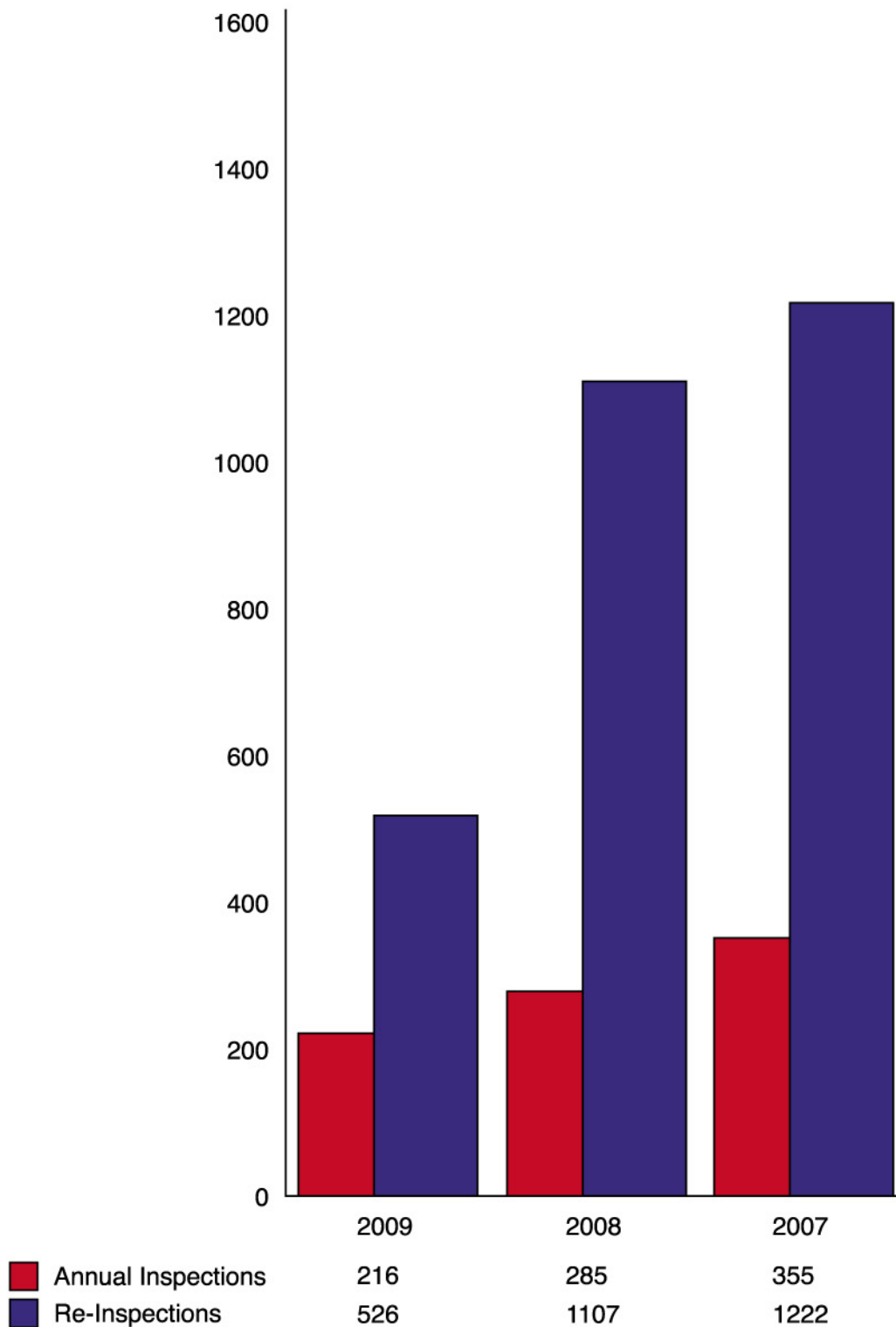
*2009 Inspections & Plan Reviews*

**Bloomfield Township Fire Department**

<b>Type of Inspection</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Annual	216	285	355
Re-Inspections	526	1107	1222
Complaints	36	43	23
Pre-Construction Inspections	3	7	20
Site Inspections	37	62	37
Fire Alarm Acceptance	11	24	32
Fire Suppression Acceptance	7	42	31
Fire Works Site Inspections	1	5	4
Hood Suppression Acceptance	3	7	6
Knox Box Installation	24	38	29
Change of Occupancy	35	69	45
Special Event Inspections	32	48	24
Final Building	63	96	146
<b>Total</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>1833</b>	<b>1974</b>

<b>Type of Review</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
New Construction Plan Review	139	133	113
Fire Alarm Plan Review	11	21	24
Fire Suppression Plan Review	4	26	21
Fire Suppression (Clean System)	0	0	3
Hood System Plan Review	1	8	6
Site Plan Review	114	105	115
Special Event Plan Review	59	63	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>357</b>

*2009 Inspection Comparison - 3 years*  
**Bloomfield Township Fire Department**



## *2009 Fire Safety and Injury Prevention Program* **Bloomfield Township Fire Department**

In 2009 the Bloomfield Township Fire Department (BTFD) completed its 4th annual session of the Fire Safety and Injury Prevention School Program. Since the inception of the program in January of 2006, over 1425 second grade students have participated.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), unintentional injuries, including traffic crashes, drownings, burns, choking, poisonings and falls, kill more than 5,500 kids and permanently disable more than 92,000 throughout the United States.

Every time a child is injured or killed by an unintentional injury, everyone suffers - the child, his or her family, classmates and friends and the entire community. Sadly, the vast majority of these injuries are not random "accidents" - they are predictable and preventable. With education, motivation, and the support of caring adults, children can learn to be much safer.

The Fire Safety and Injury Prevention School Program covers a nine-week span and includes all of the 2nd grade classes within the Bloomfield Hills School District. Classes are taught in the classroom and by fire department personnel. Each student receives a workbook that includes



lessons and activities to promote participation. The curriculum includes the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Risk Watch outline and other fire department displays. Additional information about the Risk Watch Program may be found at [www.riskwatch.org](http://www.riskwatch.org). The NFPA's Risk Watch curriculum includes: motor vehicle and bus safety, fire and burn prevention, choking/suffocation/strangulation prevention, poisoning prevention, firearm injury prevention, fall prevention, bike and pedestrian safety, and water and boat safety.



**Peter Vlahos**  
Lieutenant Fire Inspector  
*13 Years of Service*

Each nine week session includes visits from the University of Michigan Trauma and Burn Center's Hazard House and the BTFD Safety Smoke House. The Hazard House is a large table top model that is used to help students identify common household hazards. The Safety Smoke House is a large enclosed trailer equipped with bench seating, a mock bedroom and kitchen and fire detection systems. Also, it can be filled with non toxic theatrical smoke to help children practice escaping from a "smoke filled" house.

To evaluate the effectiveness of this program, three tests are administered to the students: a preprogram test, a post program test and a follow up test. The pre-program test, provides a baseline of current fire and injury prevention knowledge. The post program test measures what they have learned after the program instruction. And the follow up test is given to the students the following school year, after entering third grade, and measures what they were able to retain from the previous school year. For 2009 the average pre-program student score was 68.9% and the post program score rose to 86.1%, an increase of over 17%.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department strives to offer the most innovative and progressive fire safety and injury prevention programs available. We are committed to the protection of our citizens and children through public education. BTFD would like to thank the Elected Officials and Board of Trustees of Bloomfield Township for their continued support with this valuable safety program as we look forward to its continued success in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Vlahos  
Lieutenant Fire Inspector





## 2009 Hydrant Report

# Bloomfield Township Fire Department



**Mike Cummings**

Captain

*29.3 Years of Service*

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department has an extensive hydrant program that is designed to ensure the safety of our citizens to the best of our ability.

This program includes:

- Operating one quarter of the hydrants every fall to make sure all hydrants are in working order.
- In the colder months all hydrants are checked for standing water in the barrel, which could freeze rendering the hydrant inoperable. These hydrants are immediately pumped dry.
- Locating and shoveling hydrants during snow emergencies.
- Any hydrants found frozen are immediately thawed.
- During the warmer months the hydrants are painted on a regular rotation to help increase visibility.
- The hydrants are also cleared of any vegetation that may interfere with the visibility or proper operation of the hydrant.
- Any hydrants found damaged or broken are turned over to the Bloomfield Township Water Department for repair.

Fire hydrants are an integral part of a fire suppression system. The importance of a properly working hydrant cannot be overstated. The fire department has taken great strides to assure optimal performance of our hydrants when needed in a crisis.

In 2009, a total of 983 man hours were committed to ensuring the reliability of the nearly 3,000 fire hydrants located in Bloomfield Township.

The fire department will continue to operate and maintain the township's fire hydrants in 2010 to assist our department in its fire suppression efforts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Cummings  
Fire Captain



“ It is reassuring to know that I live in a community with an outstanding fire department. ”

- Sarah Gaut

## 2009 Emergency Medical Services Report Bloomfield Township Fire Department



**Lt. Mike Morin**  
EMS Coordinator  
*23.2 Years of Service*

The last few years have been challenging for the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) of the Bloomfield Township Fire Department as a whole, both fiscally and operationally. With decreasing budgets and manpower, increased training requirements, and a strong demand for our services, we continue to review all aspects of our operation and ask ourselves, "How can we improve on providing the best EMS response time, patient care, and continue to be a leader amongst other EMS communities?"

In 2009, we worked diligently toward our goal of implementing EMS transport by January 1, 2010. We easily achieved that goal with the support and assistance of the Bloomfield Township Board, Chief Dave Piche' and Lieutenant Rich Watson. This change has also brought us a new source of revenue.

In order to keep our paramedics up to date with new technology while fulfilling state mandated Continuing Medical Educational (CME) requirements, we are looking at new ways to train our personnel. With the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG), we received our video conferencing equipment and we now have the ability of distance learning for CME. This technology provides us the means to train with our neighboring communities and utilize educational resources from around the state. This increases the quality of training while allowing personnel to stay within their response areas. It also improves fire department communications with daily briefings, meetings and post incident review.

The future holds many challenges as well as exciting opportunities. With advancements in health care, and insurance coverage changes, many people are being sent home from medical facilities earlier and with more sophisticated and high tech medical devices for their aftercare. This causes citizens to count on their local EMS system to function as advanced care; we function, as an extended family assisting them with their non-emergent needs as well.

Bloomfield Township Fire Department continues to be involved at the county and state level with changes that affect EMS care, as well as the pursuit of grant funding for equipment purchase and training. We continue to evaluate manpower and other resources to keep response times down, and to provide the best possible patient outcomes through our Advanced Life Support Service. All of which will help keep Bloomfield Township Fire Department a leader in emergency medical service.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Mike Morin  
EMS Coordinator

2009

## EMS Provider Impression Summary

Impression	No. of instances	% of Total
Abdominal pain	116	5.44%
Airway Emergencies	204	9.57%
Allergic reaction	20	0.93%
Altered level of consciousness	138	6.48%
Pain	38	1.79%
Behavioral - psychiatric disorder	43	2.02%
Cardiac arrest	34	1.60%
Cardiac Emergencies	194	9.11%
Diabetic symptom	70	3.29%
Do not resuscitate	26	1.22%
Electrocution	2	0.09%
Hemorrhaging/bleeding	529	24.82%
Hypertension	1	0.05%
Hyperthermia	12	0.57%
Hypotension	6	0.28%
Poisoning/Drug Ingestion	31	1.46%
Pregnancy/OB	3	0.14%
Seizure	78	3.66%
CNS Emergencies	174	19.35%
General Illness	412	19.35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,131</b>	

“ The emergency personnel that came to my home were professional and caring. They made a scary time for me more tolerable. ”

- Delores J. Robertson





## 2009 Bloomfield Village Fire Chief Report **Bloomfield Township Fire Department**

The Bloomfield Village Fire Department continues to provide fire services for the Bloomfield Village Association with its volunteer staff. The Village Fire Department is staffed by 12-15 volunteer firefighters and a full time/paid Deputy Fire Chief. Our department operates (one) Fire Engine and (one) four wheel drive utility vehicle from the Village Fire Station located at 3595 Broadway.



**Jeff Kern**  
Village Fire Chief

The Village Fire fund budget is authorized by a Special Tax Assessment District. These monies are billed by Bloomfield Township in the Winter Tax Statement to all properties in the Birmingham school District No. 34. These funds are tax deductible for those residents. This includes the Bloomfield Village Association members, comprised of 988 parcels of land.

The Village Fire Department supports and assists the Township Fire Department. We continue to follow the policies and procedures of their department. In addition, the Township Fire Department has provided valuable assistance to our firefighter training activities allowing us to stay current with the state requirement such as annual CPR and Emergency Vehicle operation certifications. The Village Fire Department currently has three new village volunteer firefighters training to pass the very rigorous Firefighter One and Firefighter Two certifications test. The Village Fire Department continues to work very hard to provide public service activities to the residents.



**Ted Gauthier**  
Deputy Fire Chief

I would like to thank Fire Chief Dave Piche' and the Bloomfield Township Fire Department for their leadership, help and guidance, which they provide to our fire department. They continue to provide leadership and great value for all the citizens in Bloomfield Township, making this a great place to live.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Kern  
Bloomfield Village Fire Chief

“ I called you and quickly your truck was here,  
with three so very, very, very nice men...  
You make us feel so safe.”

- Vince & Mary Louise Greeson





## 2009 Emergency Management Division Report **Bloomfield Township Fire Department**



**Michael McCully**  
Fire Marshal  
*22.9 Years of Service*

It has been a very busy year in Emergency Management. Prior to his retirement in July, Captain Bob Beagle updated many of the annexes and brought the emergency operations plan up to our current needs. He also performed the necessary tasks to meet the requirements that Bloomfield Township agreed fulfill in our annual work agreement with the State of Michigan Emergency Management Homeland Security Division.

Since adding some of the responsibility for Emergency Management to my job as Fire Marshal, I have learned a great deal. In September, Bloomfield Township conducted an exercise to meet the requirements of the State and Federal governments for an annual exercise. This exercise was held in the new Bloomfield Township EOC and qualified as a seminar under State and Federal guidelines. The exercise was a brainstorming session to familiarize Bloomfield Township Emergency Managers with the new facility and to decide where we needed to go from this point to make the EOC an effective tool for Bloomfield Township. Issues were noted with communications in and out of the building, as well as our own emergency preparedness. Most of these issues have been mitigated and the new EOC is very close to becoming a functional tool.

We have also taken exercise planning in a different direction. Soon after the retirement of Captain Beagle, we developed an Exercise Design and Development Committee to help bring fresh new ideas into the program. The committee is composed of a representative from each annex holder in the Bloomfield Township Emergency Operations Plan. It is our hope that this move will give us better, more realistic exercises that encompass all township departments and divisions.

We have also taken a closer look at training. There have been many middle managers in the township who have retired over the past few years. There are training requirements for Incident Command classes that need to be met for Bloomfield Township to be compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). In addition, there are training sessions for the E-Team software that allows Bloomfield Township to communicate with the State and other local Emergency Operations Centers in the event of a disaster.

As we move into 2010, it is my hope that we can improve our Emergency Management Program and increase involvement of other departments within the township as well as public awareness and preparedness. Our best defense to a disaster is to minimize the impact on the community and make recovery an easier process for the township as well as the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. McCully  
Fire Marshal

## 2009 HAZMAT Report

# Bloomfield Township Fire Department

The definition of “Hazardous Materials” is any item or agent which has the potential to cause harm to humans, animals, or the environment. With the possibilities of up to 18 billion chemicals in existence, the Bloomfield Township Hazardous Materials team is continuously, preparing, training, and educating its members for the next hazardous materials incident.

Over the past year we have trained new members to our team who have replaced Haz-Mat Technicians who have retired

### 2009 Bloomfield Township Fire Department Haz-Mat Team Members

#### Unit 1

F.F. Kevin Schutte  
F.F. Mark Barton  
F.F. Shaun Patterson

#### Training Certification Level

Hazardous Materials Technician  
Hazardous Materials Technician  
Hazardous Materials Technician

#### Unit 2

F.F. Mike Kiebusch  
F.F. Ryan Husch  
F.F. Joe Syracuse

Hazardous Materials Technician  
Hazardous Materials Technician  
Hazardous Materials Technician

#### Unit 3

Lt. Ron Nancarrow  
F.F. Alan Van Heck  
F.F. Joe Chopski

Hazardous Materials Technician  
Hazardous Materials Technician  
Hazardous Materials Technician

All of these firefighters are trained to the eighty-hour Hazardous Materials Technician level. The Bloomfield Township Haz-Mat Team trains on a monthly basis with other members of the South Oakland Haz-Mat Team. Along with our regular monthly trainings, many members have attended other specialized courses instructed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Military, and many experts in the field. Two Bloomfield Township Haz-Mat Team members attended radiological and nuclear technician school held in Mercury, Nevada. This training was designed to show us how to handle anything from a radiological leak during transportation, to a “Dirty Bomb” incident, which during these times of terrorism is a real threat to all of us. This training was sponsored by a federal grant which covered all expenses.



**Alan VanHeck**  
F.F. / AEMT  
*14 Years of Service*

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department has a Haz-Mat trailer located at Central Fire Station equipped with many of the tools needed to help us mitigate most hazardous materials releases. Since we cannot carry every tool needed for every incident, we have the availability of two Oakland County South Haz-Mat vehicles which are located just minutes away in the City of Birmingham and West Bloomfield Township. These departments along with Waterford, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Ferndale, Madison Heights, and Southfield make up the South Oakland County Hazardous Materials Team. Each department will deploy their Haz-Mat team members and equipment to assist other communities in a time of need.

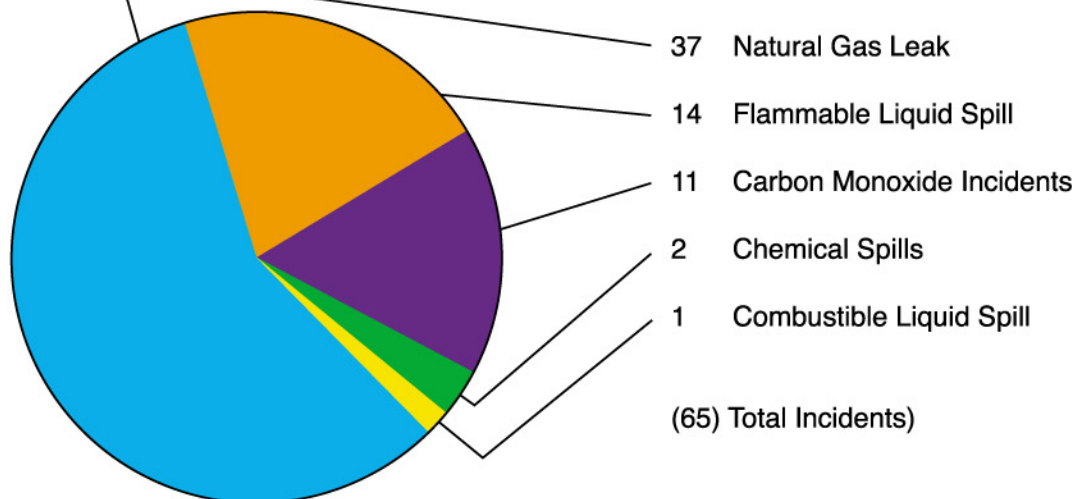
With continuous training, the proper tools, the aid of other local fire Departments, and most importantly, the support of our community we will be there to help make our township a safer place for us all.

In 2010, the BTFD Haz-Mat Team will continue to train and collaborate with other area fire departments to provide the best protection against Hazardous Materials accidents for the community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan D. Van Heck  
Firefighter / AEMT

### 2009 Hazardous Materials Incidents



## *2009 Technical Rescue Report*

### **Bloomfield Township Fire Department**

Technical Rescue incidents, by their very nature, are risky for the victim and the rescuer. The fact that these types of incidents do not occur very often only serves to increase the risk factor. To be prepared for the greater risk and volatility of Technical Rescue emergencies additional training and specialized equipment is necessary. All Bloomfield Township Firefighters are trained for mitigation of some incidents such as basic confined space, rope, trench and collapse. Other firefighters have gone on to more advanced levels of training in those areas.

In 2009, all members of the Fire Department trained and participated in a rescue at one of our water department confined spaces. The exercise took place at one of the metering pits where water enters the township from the Detroit water system. Atmosphere monitoring and a supply of fresh air was established prior to entering. A lifting system was rigged to remove the victim and the rescuers and tag lines were established to provide fall protection. In entry teams of two, firefighters entered the below ground vault, packaged the simulated victim, and removed them from the confined space. Several entries were made so that each firefighter was able to perform the different functions necessary.

In addition to the confined space training, the department practiced a new technique for removing victims from a multi story building. This technique was developed within the OAKWAY Mutual Aid System following the fire in West Bloomfield Township at the Hechtman Center. At the Hechtman fire, elderly residents were removed from the third floor of their apartment building by firefighters using ladders. Members of our fire department performed these rescues along with West Bloomfield and other mutual aid fire departments. The rescues were slow, tedious, and manpower intensive. As an option to removal by ladders, our new system uses ropes and rescue harnesses to remove victims. This process allows for the rapid removal of victims from heights not accessible or beyond the reach of ladders.

Training was also conducted to familiarize members with the unique equipment carried on our Technical Rescue truck. A Structural Collapse Awareness class was presented for the department. Members went to Rope Operations level classes in Southfield and Rope Technician level classes held in Wixom.

If an incident should occur beyond the training and equipment present in Bloomfield Township, a call can be made to the OAKWAY Technical Rescue Team. This team is made up of the following communities: Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Southfield, Waterford, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Madison Heights, Ferndale and Bloomfield Township. On duty personnel (up to 36 firefighters) would come to assist us bringing additional and more specialized equipment. All 9 communities share resources and expertise to help keep the cost of maintaining a Technical Rescue Team to a minimum.



**Ronald Nancarrow**  
Lieutenant  
*26.6 Years of Service*

Last year Bloomfield Township participated in training held with the other OAKWAY departments for Confined Space, Trench Rescue and Rope Rescue. It was at one of these trainings that the rope evacuation system mentioned was presented.

The next level of assistance for a Technical Rescue Incident would be the newly formed Michigan Task Force One. This team was set up using Homeland Security Grant funds to provide a regional technical rescue capability here in Michigan. The team expanded last year to 108 members who are trained and equipped to respond to a large-scale incident beyond the means of local and mutual aid rescue teams. Bloomfield Township added a sixth member to the regional team in 2009. Members attended team orientation training and a class dealing with weapons of mass destruction.

The members of the Bloomfield Township Fire Department Technical Rescue Team are proud to serve the citizen of Bloomfield Township and look forward to providing the absolute best service possible in Technical Rescue for our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Nancarrow  
Fire Lieutenant / Technical Rescue Team Coordinator





## 2009 Community Emergency Response Team Report Bloomfield Township Fire Department

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) continues to develop and mature year after year. Once again in 2009, they demonstrated their ability to rise to the challenge and provide assistance when needed. Continuous training is required to keep our skills sharp and learn new techniques, which allow us to serve the community in new ways. The team had four scheduled trainings through out the year covering topics like first aid and scene management. Additionally two special trainings were held, one exercising our communication skills and capabilities; the other, held at the CREST training facility, exercised our search and rescue skills as well as our incident command skills.

The CERT members are divided into 5 smaller teams of 9-10 members. Each of the smaller teams has a leader and is assigned a special project they work on during the months between our training sessions. Their projects benefit the team in areas ranging from team Standard Operating Procedures to financing and grant opportunities.

In 2009, CERT members assisted in a number of emergency situations as well as providing assistance with planned events such as the Woodward Dream Cruise and the November elections. They provided assistance to a number of township departments including fire, police, public works, senior services and the clerk's office. Towards the end of 2009, the team decided that the four scheduled trainings held in 2009 were just not enough training to keep our skills sharp. The team decided to schedule training every other month hoping it would be more conducive to their training needs and be of great benefit to the team. It is this type of attitude that demonstrates the CERT member's commitment and dedication to serving this community. With this kind of commitment to service and preparation you can be sure we will be ready to respond when we are called upon to serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyal Bigger  
Assistant Chief / CERT Coordinator



**Lyal Bigger**  
Asst. Fire Chief  
*25.9 Years of Service*



## **2009 Bloomfield Township Fire Department Charities Report**

Dedication to assisting and serving the public, as well as members of the fire profession beyond the scope of the fire service continues to guide the BTFD Charities in our fundraising efforts. The BTFD Charities utilize the funds raised to support our mission of aiding burn treatment research, juvenile arson prevention, and assistance to local individuals in need as well as community based assistance programs.

The BTFD Charities works year round by hosting many fundraising events. 2009 was an exciting year for our organization. Here are some of the highlights.

### **Bloomfield Youth Guidance Outstanding Youth Citizen Awards**

In April The BTFD Charities was once again proud to sponsor a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.00, given annually to one of the Bloomfield area's fine young students. The scholarship award was the highlight of the Bloomfield Youth Guidance Awards dinner held this year at the Bloomfield Open Hunt Club.

### **BTFD Charities Golf Tournament**

This May we held our largest fundraiser, the BTFD Charities Golf Tournament, co-sponsored by the Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club. This was the 22nd annual tournament and was held at Wabeek Country Club where everyone enjoyed a beautiful spring day of golf and fun.

### **Annual Polar Bear Plunge**

In March we donned our bathing suits, as well as some other creative costumes, to jump into the icy waters at our second annual Polar Bear Plunge. Money raised at this event goes towards the Don Jiles Firefighters Fund.

### **The Bloomfield Classic**

In August the BTFD Charities partnered with other charitable organizations and the Township of Bloomfield to put on the "Bloomfield Classic" featuring classic cars and classic food. This event is held during the annual Dream Cruise event on Woodward Avenue.

### **Christmas Wish Program**

In December the BTFD Charity teams with the Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club to support their Children's Wish Program. This joint venture has provided gifts to hundreds of Oakland County children to give them a taste of the holiday spirit. Each year you will find our members and their families donating their time doing holiday shopping, wrapping and delivering gifts to those in need.

### **Challenge Day**

The BTFD Charities was one of the main sponsors that allowed Bloomfield Hills Andover and Bloomfield Hills Lahser High Schools to bring "Challenge Day" to their schools. This program challenges high school students to stand up to conflict and promote leadership. Challenge Day is rapidly growing momentum across the country and the BTFD Charities is proud to be a part of it.

### **BTFD Charities Pool Tournament**

One of winter's favorite past times is to stay indoors and enjoy the camaraderie of our friends and families at our annual pool tournament, once again held at the Shark's Club in Waterford. During this tournament 2 person teams compete in 9-ball format until an eventual champion is crowned.



### **Oakland Community College Fire Academy**

This year the BTFD Charities again donated funds used for a scholarship to the Oakland Community College Fire Academy. We are proud to “give back” to our own profession, helping to develop future firefighters.

### **University of Michigan Straight Talk Program**

Several times each year the BTFD Charities send our members to the University of Michigan to help present the Straight Talk Program. This program was developed to help teach juvenile fire-starters the dangers involved in setting fires. These juveniles learn not only the dangers fire puts upon themselves but also the threats to Firefighters and the community.

Throughout the year the BTFD Charities not only supports the above-mentioned events but also supports many individuals, families, and organizations that show specific needs.

Moving forward we hope to continue our charitable ways into the year 2010.

### **The B.T.F.D. Charities Executive Board**

- Captain Mike Cummings - President
- Chief Dave Piché - Vice President
- Firefighter Ken Kowalski - Secretary
- Firefighter Matt DeRousse - Treasurer
- Captain Alex Mimikos - Director
- Firefighter Bill Fritz - Director
- Firefighter Ed Lietz - Director

### **The Don Jiles Firefighters Fund**

Over the years the Bloomfield Township Fire Department Charities have been very generous helping others in time of need. Several years ago we realized that through all of our efforts, we had nothing in place in case one of our own needed help or assistance.

We created a firefighters fund that would be used only in cases where a current Bloomfield Township Fire Department member was in need of support. We named the fund the “Don Jiles Firefighters Fund” after one of our own, Don Jiles, who passed away after a long battle with cancer.

This fund works under the license and direction of the B.T.F.D. Charities and is funded from various smaller fundraisers such as candy box sales in the fire stations, the Polar Bear Plunge, as well as other creative ideas from our firefighters.

### **The Don Jiles Firefighters Fund Board**

- Chief Dave Piché - Director
- Firefighter Nick Sesock - Director
- Firefighter Joe Chopski - Director
- Firefighter Ryan Husch - Director



**Mike Cummings**  
Captain  
*29.3 Years of Service*







### *BTFD Retirees 2009*

*Captain Robert Beagle  
35 Years of Service*

*Lieutenant Jeff Callahan  
29 Years of Service*

*Lieutenant Steve Kuzmanovich  
31 Years of Service*

*Firefighter / BEMT Wayne Snyder  
23 Years of Service*

*The Bloomfield Township Fire Department would like to recognize and express our gratitude to firefighters Scott Collins, Ryan Husch and John LeRoy for their diligence and creativity in helping to develop the 2009 Fire Department Annual Report.*

