



# *2011 Annual Report*

## Bloomfield Township Fire Department

“ Your response time was incredible -  
it is good to know we have such an efficient team on the ready.”

- Carol Gillespie Black



“ Thanks to the professionalism of your first responders, the damage to our home, while extensive, was certainly much less than what it could have been. The amount of water placed on the fire was minimized and your personnel did an exceptional job of insuring there was no additional damage to the contents by the water. The kindness extended to us by you and your personnel was deeply appreciated.”

- Bruce J. Koedding, LTC (ret), US Army



## 2011 Fire Chief Report

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Fire Chief of Bloomfield Township Fire Department, it's with great pride that I present you this summary of activities for the year 2011. Our department continues to accept the challenges presented by the economy, demands for service, and ever changing technology. We constantly evaluate our operational platform to ensure it provides efficient and effective services to the community and make necessary changes when needed. The department also continues to collaborate regionally with other fire departments on training, specialized response teams, purchase of equipment, and of course mutual aid. These collaborations greatly reduce our overhead costs while at the same time allowing us to provide a broader array of service levels to the community.

We responded to 3720 calls for emergency service during 2011, this is 29 calls less than what we responded to in 2010. Of the 3720 total calls, 2360 calls were for EMS, which represents 63.4% of our total response for emergency service.

Our firefighters/paramedics are some of the best trained in the state. Providing exceptional training to our personnel continues to be at the forefront of our daily operations. Our training program has evolved into one of the most innovative and comprehensive programs in Michigan. I am proud to say that it has served as a model for others to follow. We truly believe that our dedication to exceptional training directly affects the safety of our citizens and firefighters while helping to ensure positive outcomes to your emergencies.

The department upgraded the services it provides in three areas during 2011. Engine 4, located at Fire Station 4, at 2389 Franklin Road, was upgraded and licensed to provide Advanced Life Support (ALS). Engine 4 is now staffed with two firefighter/paramedics and equipped with advanced EMS equipment. This improvement allows us greater coverage of EMS and more efficient use of personnel and equipment. In July, 2011, we received a new ladder truck that is housed at Central Fire Station located on the township's main campus. The truck will serve the community in a capacity different from our past ladder trucks. It has been designed to serve as a ladder truck, fire engine, and EMS vehicle all in one. This allows us the flexibility to handle a variety of common emergency incidents with one vehicle. And finally, our department initiated a formal water rescue program. The township has many lakes, ponds, streams, and pools that provide opportunity for water related accidents to occur. The new program provides for all necessary equipment and training to enable our firefighter/paramedics to execute warm or cold water rescues.

I am proud to say that our delivery of emergency services is efficient and effective for the community and will continue to be our top priority. Additionally, we will continue to be proactive and progressive in providing the best available Fire/EMS/Rescue services our industry has to offer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Piche'  
Fire Chief



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



“ We realize that your well equipped team helped us get through the accident and were a large part of our recovery. We can't thank you enough and are grateful to have people like you in our community.”

- *Name withheld*

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*2011 Annual Report*  
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*2011*

Fire Department Administration



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



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



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



**Capt. Mike Morin**  
EMS Coordinator  
*25.2 Years of Service*



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



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



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

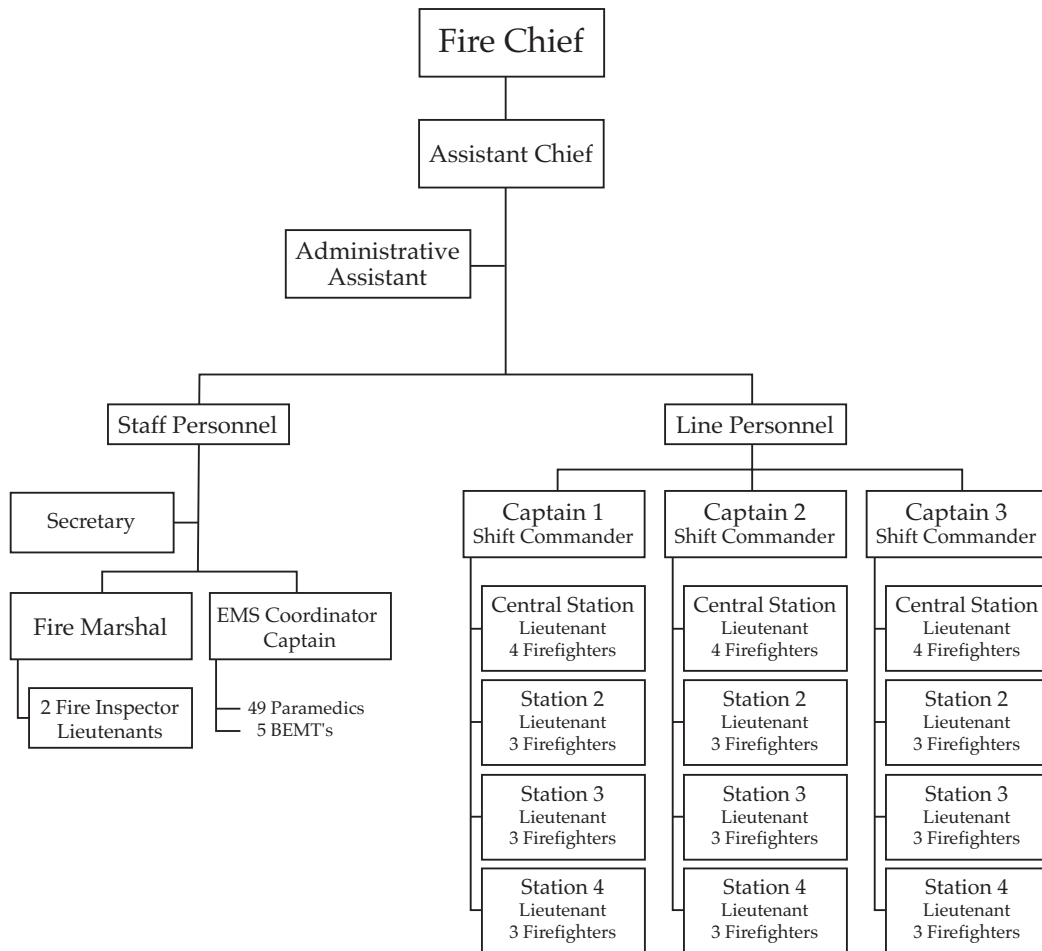


**Linda Hemming**  
Secretary  
*14.9 Years of Service*



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

# 2011 Fire Department Organization



60 Uniformed Personnel  
(Including)

- 1 Fire Chief
- 1 Assistant Chief
- 1 Fire Marshal
- 1 Staff Captain
- 2 Lieutenant Fire Inspectors
- 1 Administrative Assistant
- 1 Secretary

3 Captains  
12 Line Lieutenants  
39 Firefighters

## *2011 Annual Report*

### Station Information

#### Central Fire Station

679 Incidents (339 Fire Related / 340 Medicals)

Central Fire Station is located at 1155 Exeter, in Bloomfield Township's Municipal Government Complex. It houses one Paramedic Ladder Truck, one Incident Command Vehicle, one reserve Paramedic Rescue, one Water Rescue Boat, one Technical Rescue Vehicle, and numerous staff and utility vehicles.



Central Fire serves a mostly residential area in the heart of Bloomfield Township. In addition to residences, Central Fire protects many well known structures such as Wabeek Country Club, Kirk in the Hills, and the Township Library to name a few. Central Fire also has the job of protecting several condo complexes, some light mercantile, and the major thoroughfare of Telegraph Road.

Central Fire Station is staffed with one Shift Commander (Fire Captain), one Paramedic Lieutenant, and 3-4 additional firefighters, including at least two firefighter/paramedics. The fire department Administration staff, including the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, EMS Coordinator, two Fire Inspectors, Administrative Assistant, and one Secretary, are also located at this station.

#### Station 2

818 Incidents (276 Fire Related / 542 Medicals)

Fire 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. A Paramedic Lieutenant and three firefighters, including at least two firefighter/paramedics, are assigned to this station. Station 2 protects residential areas, light mercantile areas, and the major thoroughfares of I-75, Woodward Avenue, and Square Lake Road. Some of the notable structures located in Station 2's area are the International Academy, Bowers School Farm, Oakland Community College offices, and Heartland Healthcare - Georgian Bloomfield nursing care facility.





### Station 3

1,378 Incidents (523 Fire Related / 855 Medicals)



Fire Station 3 is located at 4151 W. Maple on the Township's southwest side. This fire station houses one Paramedic Fire Engine, one Paramedic Rescue, and one reserve Fire Engine. A Paramedic Lieutenant and three firefighter/paramedics are assigned to this station. Station 3 serves a mainly residential area, including Bloomfield Village, with

some light mercantile, and the major thoroughfares of Telegraph and Maple Roads. Some of the notable buildings protected by Station 3 are Oakland Hills Country Club, Franklin Cider Mill, Birmingham Athletic Club, Birmingham Country Club, Sunrise Assisted Living (South), and Temple Beth El.

### Station 4

845 Incidents (222 Fire Related / 623 Medicals)

Fire Station 4 is located at 2389 Franklin Road on the Township's north side. This fire station houses one Paramedic Fire Engine, one Paramedic Rescue, one reserve Fire Engine and an Air Supply Trailer. A Paramedic Lieutenant and three firefighter/paramedics, are assigned to this station. Station 4 serves an area of



residential, light through heavy mercantile, light industrial, and major thoroughfares of Telegraph Road, Square Lake Road, Woodward Avenue, and I-75. Some of the notable buildings in this area include Forest Lake Country Club, Bloomfield Town Square, Carl's Golf Land, and Sunrise Assisted Living (North).

## 2011

### Line Personnel Roster

Watson, Richard P.	Lieutenant/AEMT	33.4
Mimikos, Alex P.	Captain/AEMT	31.7
Cummings, Gary M.	Captain/AEMT	31.3
Cieslak, James J.	Captain/AEMT	28.6
Nancarrow, Ronald J.	Lieutenant/AEMT	28.6
Bradford, Larry M.	Firefighter/AEMT	27.9
Kiekbusch, Michael A.	Firefighter/AEMT	26.7
LaBelle, Mark F.	Lieutenant/AEMT	26.7
Martin, Rex S.	Firefighter/AEMT	25.3
Fecteau, Dennis S.	Firefighter/AEMT	25.3
Scott, Michael E.	Firefighter/AEMT	24.9
Klein, Michael C.	Lieutenant/AEMT	24.9
Whitehead, Christopher T.	Lieutenant/AEMT	24.4
Crouch, David A.	Lieutenant/AEMT	24.4
Koskinen, Daniel C.	Lieutenant /AEMT	21.7
Sesock, Nicholas D.	Firefighter/AEMT	21.6
Bertucci, Donald B.	Lieutenant/AEMT	21.3
Fox, Gary K.	Firefighter/AEMT	21.3
Fritz, William D.	Lieutenant/AEMT	18.2
Kowalski, Kenneth E.	Firefighter/AEMT	16.4
Ross, Timothy A.	Firefighter/AEMT	16.4
VanHeck, Alan D.	Lieutenant/AEMT	16.1
Cardinale, Kevin J.	Lieutenant/AEMT	15.6
Husch, Ryan A.	Firefighter/AEMT	15.5
Collins, Scott N.	Firefighter/AEMT	15
Martinec, Matthew J.	Lieutenant/AEMT	14.7
Cowher, Timothy J.	Firefighter/AEMT	13.7
Jackson, Daniel A.	Firefighter/AEMT	13.7
Chopski, Joseph E.	Firefighter/AEMT	13.7

Syracuse, Joseph B.	Firefighter/AEMT	12.7
DeRousse, Matthew W.	Firefighter/AEMT	12.4
Keeton, Nathaniel A.	Firefighter/AEMT	11.7
Lietz, Edward J.	Firefighter/AEMT	11.4
Valigura, James A.	Firefighter/BEMT	11.4
Schuette, Kevin W.	Firefighter/AEMT	10.9
Bailey, Kevin G.	Firefighter/AEMT	10.6
Gahlau, Robert A.	Firefighter/AEMT	10.4
Wineski, Leonard V.	Firefighter/BEMT	10
LeRoy, John E.	Firefighter/AEMT	10
Grunwald, Jason P.	Firefighter/BEMT	9.6
Pucci, Michael A.	Firefighter/AEMT	8.7
Overby, Matthew K.	Firefighter/AEMT	8.6
Bartlett, Jeffrey R.	Firefighter/AEMT	8.5
Nichols, Robert A.	Firefighter/BEMT	8.2
Patterson, Shawn C.	Firefighter/BEMT	6.8
Zsido, Matthew A.	Firefighter/AEMT	3.5
Koziel, Jeremy C.	Firefighter/AEMT	3.5
Gainer, Brandon R.	Firefighter/AEMT	3.5
McGrail, Joseph P.	Firefighter/AEMT	3.5
Bradford, Benjamin F.	Firefighter/AEMT	2.9
Gibson, Andrew M.	Firefighter/AEMT	2.9
Sova, Michael J.	Firefighter/AEMT	2.7
VanHeck, Cory D.	Firefighter/AEMT	.99
Hull, Christopher L.	Firefighter/AEMT	.72

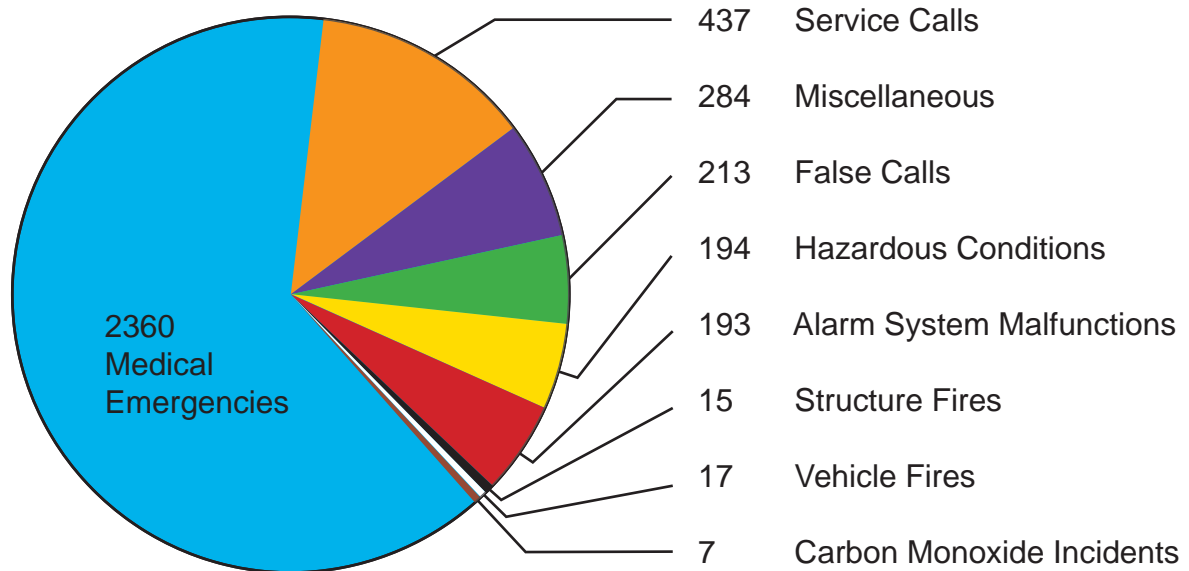
Total Line Personnel - 54

5 - BEMT Basic

49 - AEMT Paramedic

2011

## Response Types



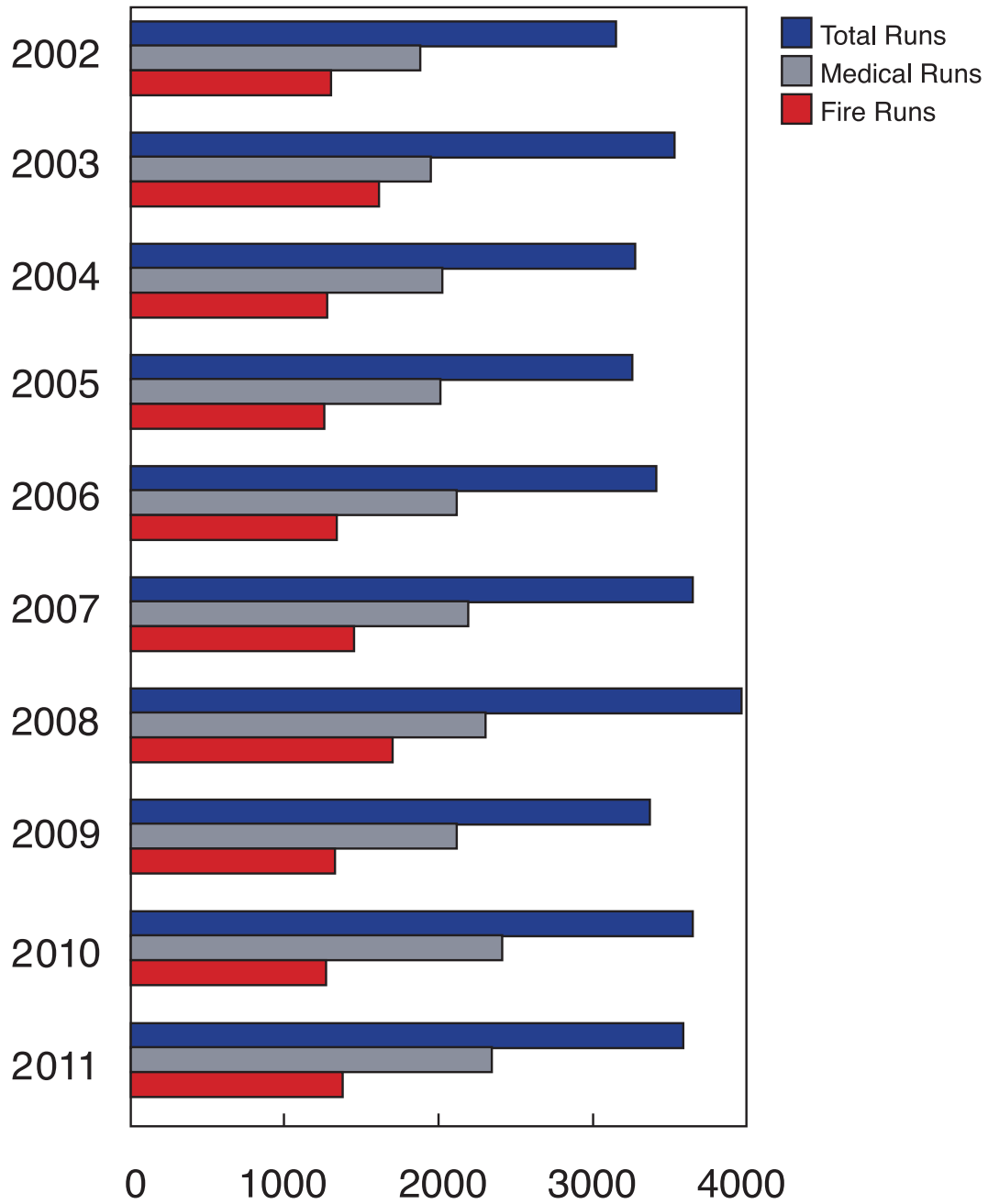
## Incident Comparison - 3 years

Type of Situation	2011	2010	2009
Medical Emergencies	2360	2418	2088
Service Calls	437	404	367
Miscellaneous	284	299	236
False Calls	213	211	226
Hazardous Conditions	194	180	222
Alarm System Malfunctions	193	176	183
Structure Fires	15	38	20
Vehicle Fires	17	15	16
CO Detector Calls	7	8	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>3720</b>	<b>3749</b>	<b>3369</b>

*The above figures include the following:*

<i>Mutual Aid Given</i>	19	22	4
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## 10 Year Comparison





## 2011 Training Report

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department works hard to constantly improve our delivery of service to our citizens. Our training program is a major part of that. In 2011, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department spent over 12,000 hours training to ensure that our delivery of service is the best that it can be. Tracking 12,000 hours of training for 60 individuals is an enormous task. In 2011, two Bloomfield Township firefighter/paramedics, Joe Chopski and Joe McGrail, developed a website to assist our training program. The website helps us stay organized and provides an easy mechanism for distributing some types of training accessible to the firefighters at work or at home. **Check us out at [www. bfdtraining.us](http://www.bfdtraining.us).**



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

It takes hard work and sometimes sacrifices to change who you are for the better. You have to train your mind and your body to think differently and to act differently; improvement will not just happen. We spent many hours improving our techniques, learning how to use new equipment and honing our skills. To ensure our patients the best and most advanced pre-hospital care possible, we spent over 3,000 hours refining and refreshing our emergency medical skills. Effective training always involves critical evaluation. Evaluating ourselves and ascertaining our strengths and our weaknesses allows us to develop training needed to improve our skills and help us discover new and improved techniques.

One of the trainings, conducted in 2011, that helped our firefighter/paramedics discover new techniques and improve their skills, was conducted at Northland Mall in Southfield. In conjunction with the Southfield Fire Department, we set up a training in a large storage area. The room contained a balcony, separate storage rooms, including a fenced area, storage bins, room dividers, and was cluttered with mobile storage racks and numerous other entrapment hazards. This created a maze of hazards and entanglement features that greatly restricted mobility. The room was in total darkness to help simulate fire conditions with zero visibility and firefighters were not allowed to use flashlights. A firefighter was placed in the rubble to simulate a victim; crews were divided into four man teams and challenged to perform a rescue on the trapped victim. Crawling around on your hands and knees, sometimes on your belly, in full gear including air tanks, with zero visibility, in a strange place, carrying or pulling victims, through obstacles and entanglements, was challenging both physically and intellectually. The education received during this training was a real eye opener and the knowledge will no doubt save lives. This training allowed us to exercise our Incident Command System, our communications, our Rapid Intervention Crew (RIC) protocols, our search and rescue techniques, and air management. Additionally, in 2011, we received a new ladder truck and we conducted training through the month of August on the basics of set up and using all the features that the ladder truck has to offer. In September and October, we conducted "best practices" type training with the ladder truck at a house that was donated for training to the department prior to its demolition. This training helped us develop department protocols regarding how to use the truck most effectively and efficiently.

It is the Bloomfield Township Fire Department's commitment to provide the best service possible to everyone that lives, works or visits Bloomfield Township. Whether it is a medical emergency, a fire emergency, or an emergency of another nature, we are committed to mitigating it as quickly and efficiently as possible with the resources at our disposal. We will continue to challenge ourselves through our training and education to ensure that we are prepared to fulfill that commitment.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lyal Bigger  
Assistant Chief

“ Thank you for saving our “new” house from burning to the ground last month. This was the last thing we anticipated when we bought the house just one week prior and thanks to you it was salvagable. We are so excited to move into such a great neighborhood knowing that the local fire and police departments are so wonderful.”

- Sarah Christensen





## 2011 Fire Marshal Report

In 2011, the Fire Prevention Division continued to support the mission of the Bloomfield Township Fire Department while serving the citizens of Bloomfield Township. We accomplished this through our aggressive inspection program, public fire safety education and identifying common causes of fire, bringing greater public awareness to identified hazards.

Pre-incident planning is also a function of the Fire Prevention Division. Data is collected through inspections and surveys of commercial buildings. The data is then organized, identifying the locations of critical building features. Once organized, the data is entered into a web based pre-plan program called Mobile Eyes Responder. This allows the Incident Commander access to the information from the command vehicle while on the scene of an emergency.

The Fire Prevention Division also provides a Fire Safety and Injury Prevention program to all second graders in the Bloomfield Hills School District. Each week, for eight-weeks, a Fire Prevention Officer visits the elementary schools with a different safety subject. The curriculum is based on the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Risk Watch Program. The Risk Watch curriculum is then enhanced by the Hazard House and Bloomfield Township's Fire Safety Trailer.

The Fire Department also participates in the annual Bloomfield Township Public Open House. This event coincides with National Fire Prevention Week and provides residents an opportunity to see the services that are available to them through Bloomfield Township. The Fire Department's participation in this event includes a live fire show, visit from the U of M Medical Helicopter, fire safety games for the children, and many other exhibits that promote safety in the home.

An integral part of fire prevention is the investigation of all structure fires, suspicious fires, and fires resulting in injury and/or death, for the purpose of identifying common risk factors and preventing fires. The Fire Prevention Division is responsible for all cause and origin investigations. In 2011, the Fire Prevention Division conducted 15 cause and origin investigations. This compares to 26 in 2010. There were no fires determined to be maliciously and deliberately set in 2011. Property damage for all fire incidents in 2011 totaled \$1,380,930, while the potential loss of property involved in these fires was \$29,746,130.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Prevention Division looks forward to meeting the challenges of fire prevention and building safety that we will face in the coming year and will continue to strive for excellence while protecting the community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael J. McCully  
Fire Marshal



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

## *2011 Inspections & Plan Reviews*

<u>Type of Inspection</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<i>Annual</i>	165	288	216
<i>Change of Occupancy</i>	28	70	35
<i>Complaints</i>	19	22	36
<i>Final Building</i>	80	39	63
<i>Fire Alarm Acceptance</i>	24	10	11
<i>Fire Suppression Acceptance</i>	61	17	7
<i>Fire Works Site Inspections</i>	2	0	1
<i>Hood Suppression Acceptance</i>	10	3	3
<i>Knox Box Installation</i>	32	29	24
<i>Pre-Construction Inspections</i>	17	0	3
<i>Reinspections</i>	481	729	526
<i>Site Inspections</i>	63	27	37
<i>Special Event Inspections</i>	41	0	32
<i>Total</i>	1023	1234	994

<u>Plan Reviews</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<i>Change of Occupancy</i>	3	0	0
<i>Fire Alarm Plan Review</i>	28	12	11
<i>Fire Suppression Plan Review</i>	28	17	4
<i>Hood System Plan Review</i>	8	6	1
<i>Plan Alteration</i>	72	0	0
<i>New Construction Plan Review</i>	28	78	139
<i>Seasonal Sales</i>	5	0	0
<i>Site Plan Review</i>	38	55	114
<i>Special Event Plan Review</i>	76	20	59
<i>Total</i>	286	188	328





“Your compassion and professionalism are second to none.”

*- Barbara Markoz*

## 2011 Emergency Medical Services Report



**Capt. Mike Morin**  
EMS Coordinator  
*25.2 Years of Service*

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division worked through many changes in 2011 that began with the release of new standards and protocols for Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) by the American Heart Association (AHA). The most current effective practices and procedures in ACLS are the backbone of Emergency Medicine that Paramedics depend on. It is these science-based standards that allow emergency providers to deliver accurate, effective, and prudent care necessary to help save lives.

The AHA also made some changes to Basic Life Support (BLS). One of the major changes was the introduction of AHA Family and Friends “hands only” CPR. AHA is now focusing on the quality and quantity of compressions during cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). This new approach is aimed at getting the general public more involved with providing this life saving procedure.

A few in-house improvements were also made in 2011. Training was provided to bring fire department personnel up to date on the changes in all areas mentioned above, as well as certification to the instructor level for CPR. Other areas of instruction included the use of the University of Michigan’s pediatric simulation trailer. This simulator provided paramedics with specialized training in pediatric care on high tech manikins. The training involved high risk/low frequency calls that were recorded and played back for critiquing allowing all involved to learn from the experience. The information was later entered into a database to study the need for increased pediatric care education in the State of Michigan. Bloomfield Township Fire Department (BTFD) also reached out to the University of Michigan (U of M) over our video conference system for classes on Geriatric Trauma, Pediatric Trauma, and Burn Injuries. With the help of Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital-Oakland (SJMHO), we provided training to neighboring fire departments through the video conference system on Blood Borne Pathogens and Trauma Assessment.

BTFD worked with William Beaumont Hospital (WBH) and SJM-O to implement the latest technology in electrocardiogram (EKG) transmission. This technology allows Paramedics in the field the ability to transmit a diagnostic quality 12-lead EKG of a patient to multiple locations within the hospital. Having this information, prior to the arrival of the patient, reduces the intervention time and loss of heart muscle resulting in better patient outcomes.

The implementation of our third paramedic engine at fire station #4 continues to provide better service to our citizens. The completion of paramedic school by two of our firefighters has added two new paramedics to our existing front-line staff bringing our total of cross trained firefighter/paramedics to 49. These additions will continue to help us improve upon yesterday and focus on the tomorrow of EMS and fire service.

As 2011 concluded, our “patient first” mentality will invariably lead us into 2012. We will continually look at new technology coupled with excellent training to consistently improve delivery of EMS care to the residents and visitors of Bloomfield Township.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Morin  
Captain/EMS Coordinator



## *2011 Bloomfield Village Fire Chief Report*

The Bloomfield Village Fire Department (BVFD) continues to provide fire services for the Bloomfield Village Association as a volunteer organization of Village residents. The BVFD is staffed by 15 certified active volunteer firefighters, two provisional firefighters, and a full time/paid Deputy Fire Chief. Our department operates one fire engine and one four-wheel drive utility vehicle from the Bloomfield Village Fire Station located at 3595 Bradway Boulevard.

The Bloomfield Village Fire Fund budget is authorized by a special 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, which include the Bloomfield Village Association members comprised of 988 parcels of land.

The BVFD supports and assists the Bloomfield Township Fire Department. This year the Village had one major fire at 776 Waddington Rd. The Township coordinated with several local fire departments, including our BVFD to bring this fire under control. We continue to follow the policies and procedures of their department and coordinate our training effort to best assist the Township. Our volunteer firefighters meet on a regular basis to train and keep current with the state qualification requirements. These requirements include our annual CPR and Emergency Vehicle Operation Certifications. In 2011, after many months of training and assistance from the Township Fire Department, two of our provisional firefighters passed the rigorous Firefighter One and Firefighter Two certification exams and earned active firefighter status. This brought the number of certified active volunteer firefighters in Bloomfield Village to 15.

Once again, I would like to thank Fire Chief Dave Piche' and the Bloomfield Township Fire Department for their assistance with training and leadership.

The Bloomfield Village Fire Department continues to work very hard to provide public service activities for the residents. We encourage our neighbors to contact us if they have questions about fire safety or suggestions to help us better serve the community.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeffrey Kern  
Bloomfield Village Fire Chief



**Jeff Kern**  
Village Fire Chief



**Ted Gauthier**  
Deputy Fire Chief



“...very responsive and professional, and above all kind and reassuring which was needed to calm my mom. Your guys went above the call of duty.”

*- Name withheld*



## *2011 Emergency Management Division Report*

In 2011, the Bloomfield Township Emergency Management program continued to evolve as the demands and requirements of the program continued to change.

Our 2011 exercise focused on Public Works and Human Services. It was conducted on June 7, 2011 and was a great success. The exercise scenario in 2011 was a major snow storm that hit the area, dumping three feet of snow in a twelve hour period. Participants in the exercise dealt with such issues as how to deliver meals, setting up warming centers, and clearing streets to make them accessible for emergency vehicles. The exercise was designed by a committee comprised of representatives from each department in the Township. Having a variety of input from the different departments provides a more realistic approach to the exercise and contributed to its success.

The exercise was a great reminder that preparing for emergencies is the responsibility of all citizens. In an actual disaster the police and fire departments will become overwhelmed quickly. While on any given day handling emergencies has a normal response time of five minutes or less. In a disaster this time could be extended to hours or even days. Having supplies such as canned food, extra water, blankets, flash lights with extra batteries, etc. can sustain your family while waiting for help to arrive.

In 2011, Bloomfield Township completed its Hazard Mitigation Plan. This project was started several years ago and came to a conclusion in September, as the Township Board adopted the plan. The plan is approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and makes Bloomfield Township eligible for Federal grants for improvements in infrastructure and other actions that reduce risks.

Lt. Mark Martinez from the Michigan State Police Homeland Security Division provided two in-house training classes in May 2011. This training included Damage Assessment training and E-Team training. E-Team is the software program that links various communities and the State Emergency Operations Center together in the event of an emergency.

As we move forward into 2012, emergency management will continue to develop and improve at all levels, Federal, State, and Local. With continued threats against our homeland and weather patterns that are ever changing, our emergency management program will remain dynamic, changing as threats and needs change. We will continue to evolve to make our program and the security of our citizens the best it can be.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael J. McCully  
Fire Marshal



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



“ I made a call to 911 because I found my mother on our kitchen floor...

This quick response became very important...

Mom was on her way to the hospital just minutes after she collapsed...

... the doctors cited your actions as an important factor in her recovery.

My Mom is back today thanks in very large part to her receiving the proper medical treatment in a very short period of time, the credit for that lies with all of you.

We're so very grateful that you are there for the residents of the Township.”

- *Name withheld*

## 2011 HAZMAT Report



**Alan VanHeck**  
Lieutenant  
*16 Years of Service*

Chemicals make our daily lives more convenient in many different ways. Every year there are thousands of new chemicals that are developed. It is always a challenge for our Haz-Mat Technicians to stay up to date with our ever-changing world full of chemicals. The members of the Bloomfield Township Fire Department remain committed to protecting the members of our community and the environment in which we live.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department's first priority at any Haz-Mat scene is life safety of all persons that may be affected. The entire Bloomfield Township Fire Department is trained to Hazardous Material Operations level, which allows the fire department to handle hazardous materials incidents defensively. If a more aggressive and intense strategy is needed, the Hazardous Materials team is called.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team consists of 11 firefighter/paramedics with additional Hazardous Materials training. These 11 personnel, in addition to their normal firefighter/paramedic duties, have been trained to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician. This level of specialized training allows these personnel to mitigate any hazardous materials situation offensively. The Bloomfield Township Haz-Mat team members attend 12 trainings annually with some of our neighboring fire departments, including an annual six-hour scenario. The 2011 scenario was hosted in Waterford and simulated an overturned flammable liquids tanker. In addition to that training, several of the team members attended specialized schools this year. Some of the subject matters were, Flammable Tank Car Technician, Terrorist Bombing Response, and Live Chemical Weapons Training.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department responded to 60 hazardous materials incidents in 2011. A couple of the larger scale incidents that the Bloomfield Township Fire Department responded to were hydraulic fluid spills, one on Wing Lake, and one on Long Lake. The hydraulic fluid caused a light sheen on the surface of the water. The fire department placed booms to contain the spill and collect some of the product. The DEQ was notified and it was determined that no further action was necessary.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department will remain ever vigilant to make sure that we are prepared to protect our residents and visitors from the perils of hazardous materials.

Respectfully submitted  
Alan D. Van Heck  
Lieutenant/Haz-Mat Coordinator



## *2011 Technical Rescue Report*

Technical Rescues are not common emergencies. Because of the low frequency and yet complex nature of the calls, they require specialized equipment and dedicated individuals with additional incident specific training. The Bloomfield Township Fire Department has the equipment on hand to begin basic technical rescue operations and access to additional equipment if needed thru our OAKWAY Mutual Aid Agreement. Presently, on the team, we have several Rescue Specialists, fully trained in the five disciplines of Technical Rescue and attending regular continuing education to maintain their skills. In 2011, several more firefighter/paramedics began training as Technical Rescuers.



**Ronald Nancarrow**  
Lieutenant  
*28.6 Years of Service*

The five disciplines of Technical Rescue include Confined Spaces, Trench/Excavations, Structural Collapse, Rope/High Angle, and newly added, Machine Rescue. For each of these disciplines three levels of training are recognized: Awareness, Operations, and Technician. Awareness Level covers recognition of the incident needing the specialized training and equipment. It also includes initial actions that can be taken to control the scene and prevent additional victims. The Operations Level allows rescuers to work within specific limits to achieve a rescue. While the Technician Level covers skills to handle the more complex and dangerous rescues. In total, the Technical Rescue Specialist designation takes an additional 250 hours of initial training not to mention the required annual continuing education.

In 2011, the Tech Rescue Team responded to only one incident, which involved assisting West Bloomfield in the extrication of an individual in a machinery accident. This required stabilization of all moving components and the partial dismantling of a backhoe to release the entrapped worker. Machinery Rescue requires some knowledge and skills not required in the other disciplines of Technical Rescues. We are excited to have ten of our firefighters scheduled to receive this additional training in 2012.

Team members trained on simulated collapse incidents at the DTE Theater, and the old Northville Psychiatric facility. In Northville, team members worked as part of Michigan Task Force One; a 144 member team of trained individuals from across the state. In addition, members attended training in advanced rope rescue, confined space and structure collapse at the OAKWAY Technical rescue training site in Southfield as well as conducting some training within our own fire department.

The Bloomfield Township Technical Rescue Team will continue to learn and practice the skills necessary for all types of Technical Rescues to ensure we are ready, willing and able to safely and efficiently mitigate Technical Rescue emergencies.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Nancarrow  
Lieutenant/Technical Rescue Coordinator



## *2011 Community Emergency Response Team Report*

The Bloomfield Township Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) continues to evolve and develop each year. They continue to improve their knowledge and skills through classes held every other month. Their training has kept them ready to respond to a variety of incidents. The trainings highlighting 2011 included a tour of the DPW building and learning where barricades and traffic control equipment is kept, specialized training from Common Ground, debris removal from a building collapse, and identifying hazards such as wires and gas leaks. They also participated in the annual renewal of their CPR certification as well as use of an AED. Several of the CERT members are also working toward their amateur radio license to assist in emergency communications.

CERT is comprised of 40 township residents that dedicate their time volunteering this valuable service. They are divided strategically into 5 teams that each has a leader. The CERT leaders meet on each of the off-training months to plan the following month's training as well as critiquing the past month's training.

The CERT is ready to assist Township agencies like Fire, Police, and DPW as the need arises. For example on storm related incidents where they may direct traffic, set up barricades, protect citizens from downed wires, remove debris, or assist in the closure of roads.

Our CERT was placed on stand-by several times this past year, while no activations occurred it was reassuring to know that they stood ready. Many CERT members volunteered their time to assist the Township with elections, hazardous waste and electronic waste collection, and the Township's annual open house.

As we look forward to the following year, there are several opportunities that CERT is already planning for. Members of our CERT are scheduled to train with the Oakland County Health Department to assist in the event of health emergencies. CERT is also poised to offer an academy in the spring to bolster our number of volunteers. With this type of commitment to service and preparation, you can rest assured that we will be ready to respond when called upon.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Whitehead  
Lieutenant/CERT Coordinator



**Chris Whitehead**  
Lieutenant  
*24.4 Years of Service*



“ It makes our family feel that much more secure knowing the quality of people protecting us.”

- Bill Burton



## 2011 Charities Report



**Mike Cummings**  
Captain  
*31.3 Years of Service*

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department Charities had an eventful year in 2011. The Charities annual golf outing celebrated its' 25th anniversary, held once again at the Wabeek Country Club right here in Bloomfield Township. This sold out event was the highlight of our fundraising activities.

Other fundraisers included our Bowling Tournament, the Polar Bear Plunge, the Bloomfield Classic Dream Cruise event, and several Poker Nights at the Shark Club in Waterford.

In total our Charity raised over \$18,000.00 in 2011.  
What a great year.

Some of the contributions made by our organization included:

- A scholarship, as well as a monetary donation to the Bloomfield Youth Guidance
- A donation to the University of Michigan Hospital
- A donation to the Juvenile Diabetes Association
- A donation to St. Jude Children's Research hospital
- A donation to The Children's Wish Fund
- Several monetary donations to various individuals and families in need

Additionally, this Holiday Season, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department Charities teamed with the Bloomfield Optimist Club to purchase, wrap, and deliver hundreds of gifts for area underprivileged children. This process involves not only the Fire Department, but also many Bloomfield Township employees and families.

New this year, the Fire Department and our families partnered with Kohl's Department Store and the B.T.F.D. Charities, donating enough food to provide 71 complete holiday meals for local families in need.

The B.T.F.D. Charities looks forward to another charitable year in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Cummings  
Captain/Charities President





## *FAQ's*

### **How do I get a copy of a Fire or Medical report?**

Call the Fire Department at 248-433-7745, during our regular business hours of 7:00AM-5:30PM Monday thru Thursday, for proper procedures to obtain a report.

### **Who do I call to learn CPR?**

You can call 248-433-7745 and ask for the EMS Coordinator.

### **What is a "Knox Box" & where can I obtain one?**

A Knox Box is a secured locked box that is placed on the front of a building/house and contains keys to the building or residence. The fire department keeps a key that opens the Knox Box locked and secured on their vehicles. This allows the fire department easy access to a home or business even when the building may be secured, ie after hours or when occupants have limited mobility. Information to purchase a "Knox Box" can be obtained by calling the Bloomfield Township Fire Prevention Division at 248-433-7745.

### **If my Carbon Monoxide detector activates, what should I do?**

Carbon Monoxide (ALSO KNOWN AS THE SILENT KILLER) is a colorless/odorless gas that is created by the incomplete combustion of carbon based fuels. It also connects to blood cells at a rate 200 times faster than oxygen. It is recommended that you install a Carbon Monoxide detector on each level of your home and if a detector activates, call 911 and leave your home. The fire department will come to your home and check the level of Carbon Monoxide (if any).

### **Why do firefighters cut holes in the roof and break windows of a building on fire?**

This is called "VENTILATION". There are two basic reasons for ventilating a structure. The first is, removal of dangerous gases, heat, and dark smoke that accumulate in a burning building reducing visibility and greatly impeding rescue and firefighting efforts. Second, ventilation allows firefighters to relieve the structure of superheated gases and smoke which spread fire and contribute to dangerous situations like flashover and backdraft explosions.

### **What should I do with HOT fireplace ash?**

DO NOT remove hot ashes from the fireplace immediately. Wait up to 2-3 days and let the ashes cool completely in the fireplace until there are no remaining hot embers before removing them. Place cool ash in a metal container and store outside away from the home and all combustibles.



The Bloomfield Township Fire Department would like to recognize and express our gratitude to firefighters Scott Collins, Ryan Husch, Jeremy Kozeil, John LeRoy, Joe McGrail and Muke Pucci for their diligence and creativity in helping to develop the 2011 Fire Department Annual Report.