



WISCONSIN RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT







TO: Mayor Blaser, Police & Fire Commissioners, and City Common Council
FROM: Todd Eckes Fire Chief Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department
RE: 2023 Annual Summary
Date: 3/4/2024

WISCONSIN RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Organizational Mission

- **Professional at all times**
- **Proficient in all assigned tasks**
- **Polite to all whom we serve**
- **Compassionate to those in need**

Organizational Motto

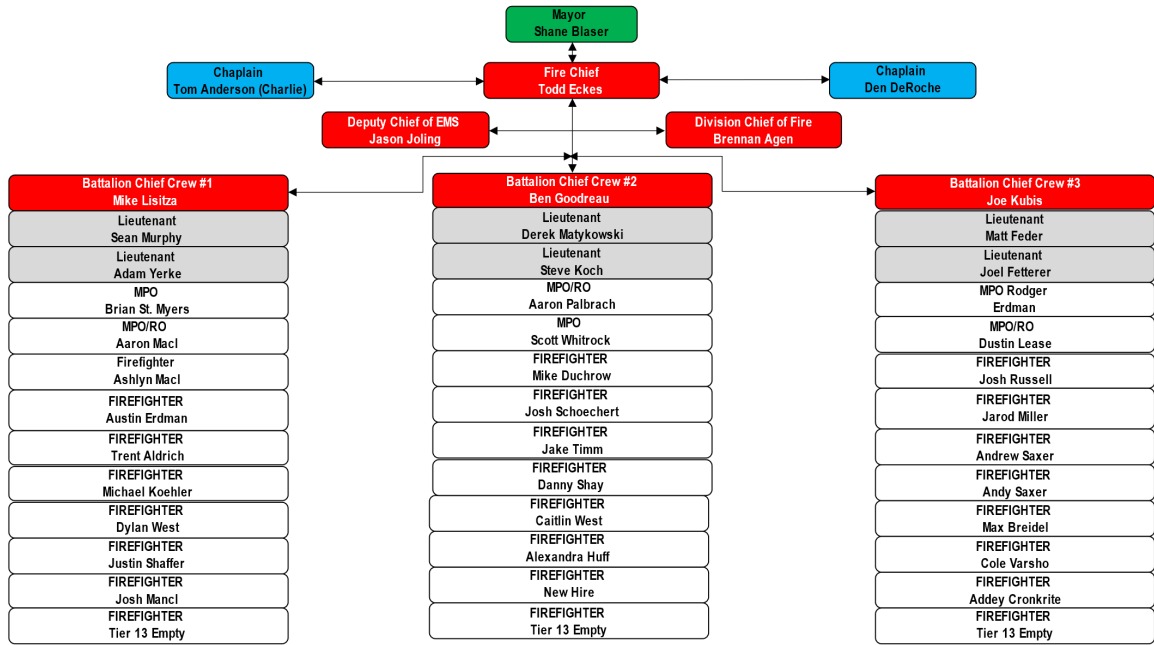
"Commitment to Excellence"

Organizational Objectives:

- **Remain a community orientated organization.**
- **Research and develop policies that enhance community and member safety.**
- **Make every day a training day.**
- **Apply best practices in EMS and fire operations.**
- **Promote a culture of teamwork.**
- **Remain fiscally responsible to those we serve.**
- **Develop and mentor our future leaders.**
- **Promote public education with a focus on fire safety and health related issues within the community.**

Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department

Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department 2024 Organizational Chart



Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department

2023 Conferences

- **Conferences attended.**
 - **Members attended the Fire Investigators conference held annually in Steven’s Point.**
 - **Four members attended the Winter In Service for Fire Chiefs**
 - **Three members attended the State Fire Chiefs Conference in Green Bay.**
 - **Members attended the North Central Regional Trauma Advisory Council conference.**
 - **Four members attended Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC)**
 - **Fire Marshal attended the Wisconsin State Fire Inspectors conference.**

- **Seven members attended the Wisconsin Association of Hazardous Material Responders (WAHMR) conference.**
- **Three members attended the Wisconsin EMS Association conference.**
- **Participated in National Night Out**
- **Attended State Haz-Mat coordinators meeting.**
- **The department hosted Electric Vehicle Training attended by 30 different departments.**
- **Partnered with MSTC to host the 2nd annual Fall Conference attended by 70 Firefighters from 19 different departments.**
- **Attended Insurance Services Office (ISO) training.**

WISCONSIN RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

2023 Highlights and Accomplishments

- **Hired three new employees to fill out Tier 12**
- **Worked with MSTC to acquire funding for a High School Fire/EMS Program**
- **Implemented a Community Risk Reduction program aimed at reducing falls.**
- **Annual Hose Testing meeting NFPA standards was completed.**
- **All Haz Mat physicals were completed in January.**
- **DOT Inspections were completed on all department vehicles.**
- **Fireworks Inspections were completed of the 4th of July display, BMX Bike Track display, and the Rafters Displays.**
- **New electric tools were outfitted on the Squad and Engine**
- **4 sets of turnout gear were purchased for replacement as per NFPA.**
- **Completed the remodel of Station II**
- **Held four retiree breakfasts culminating in a family Christmas party.**
- **Mental Health initiatives**
- **Initiated compliance for the Project Lifesaver program.**
- **Completed the three-year Commission for Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) review.**
- **Recognized 9 citizens for lifesaving measures they performed prior to our arrival.**
- **Participated in the Citizens Academy for the first time.**
- **Began the foundation for annual counseling of every member of the department.**
- **Applied for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant**
- **Applied for a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant.**

WISCONSIN RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Highlights and Accomplishments of 2023 Fire Operations

Fire Training Highlights

- **Fire Training**
 - **DNR Wildland Training**
 - **Ice Rescue Scenarios**
 - **Fire Ground Tactics for Officers and Fire fighters**
 - **Live Fire Scenarios**
 - **Department Health wellness training**
 - **Confined Space Rescue training**
 - **Auto Extrication**
 - **Swift Water Rescue**
 - **Ladder Proficiency**
 - **SCBA confidence Drills**
 - **Firefighter down MAYDAY Drills**
 - **Vent Enter Isolate Search (VEIS) drills.**
 - **Fire Behavior/Fire Attack Single Family Dwellings**
 - **Large Are and Primary Search Forcible Entry and door control.**
 - **Firefighter survival/Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT)**
 - **Residential Search and victim removal**
 - **Building Construction**
 - **Relay Pumping and pumping to a standpipe.**
 - **All Day Drills for all 3 crews**
 - **Night Drills for all three crews**
 - **Active shooter tabletop training for all three crews and local agencies.**
 - **Full Scale Active Shooter exercise with all three crews and local agencies.**
- **Driver Operator Training**
 - **Pre trip inspection**
 - **Pump Charts and Pump Calculations**
 - **Defensive Driving/Emergency Vehicle Operations Course**
 - **Fireground position of the Aerial and Engines**
 - **Hose selection, Flow Rates & Hose Testing**
 - **Drafting from Rivers and Drop tanks.**
 - **Effective Fire Attack at the company level**
 - **Supplying sprinklers and stand pipes.**
 - **Quick water and survivability**
 - **Strive to survive.**
 - **Aerial Apparatus Elevated attack & Rescue**
 - **Fleet/Vehicle maintenance**

- **Officer Training**
 - **Strategic planning emphasizing Training**
 - **Scene Size up & First in reports**
 - **Rapid Assessment**
 - **Servant Leadership**
 - **Safety Officer/Fireground accountability/Resource management**
 - **Decision Making and problem solving/Command & Control**
 - **Shelter in place during disasters**
 - **All Hazards communications**
 - **Effective Fire Service Leadership**
 - **Fire Accreditation Planning**
 - **Generational Differences and SOG Review**
 - **Working with the media**

➤ **WISCONSIN RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Highlights and Accomplishments of 2023 Special Operations

- **Planning ERCO Full Scale Exercise**
- **Coordinated & Conducted Confined Space Training for all members.**
- **7 Members attended Wisconsin All Hazards Materials Response Conference**
- **Performed Wood Counties Hazardous Materials Awareness training.**
- **Coordinated and completed Metering classes for the department.**
- **Developed a Checklist for the Haz-Mat Trailer**
- **Obtained a Grant from the REACT center to run three eight-hour refresher courses covering all three crews.**
- **Developed and sent quarterly reports to Wisconsin Emergency Management.**
- **Secured a \$2,700 grant to replace failed combustible gas meter.**
- **Attended North Central Region Transportation disaster exercise.**
- **Developed and conducted one of the night drills focusing on Vehicle extrication.**

Special Operations Training Highlights 2023

- **Ice Rescue & Metering**
- **Ropes & Knots/Lowering & Raising systems & High Hazard Pre planning**
- **Active Shooter Response & Haz-Mat IQ Chlorine emergencies**
- **Water Rescue & Leak & Spill Mitigation**
- **Confined Space Rescue & Radiological & Nuclear Awareness**
- **Heavy Equipment Extrication & Hazardous Materials contingency planning**
- **Road Transport Rollover**
- **School Emergencies**
- **Vehicle Stabilization/Extrication & Homemade Explosives**
- **High Angle Rope Rescue & Energy Storage Systems and Solar Power**
- **Elevator Emergencies/Extrications & Tactical Response to Natural gas Emergencies**

- **Shoring & Structural Collapse & Flammable Liquids by Rail**

➤ **WISCONSIN RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT**
Highlights & accomplishments of 2023 EMS Operations

- **Conducted 24 hours of training for our allied EMR agencies.**
- **3 Members completed Critical Care Training**
- **Completed Advanced Pediatric Life Supports certifications for all members.**
- **Provided Field Internships for MSTC students at the EMT basic and Paramedic level.**
- **Completed Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness course.**
- **WRFD/Life Link III joint EMS training**
- **Maintained CARES (cardiac arrest) and Coverdell (Stroke) Registry ensuring WRFD meets or exceeds industry standards.**
- **Had a three-year re-accreditation from CAAS receiving a perfect score with no deficiencies.**
- **Continued or Continued Quality Improvement (CQI) and Quality Assurance (QA) programs**
- **Replace all 5 Stair Chairs with motorized devices to reduce injuries.**
- **Acquired a High-Fidelity Airway Mannequin**
- **Placed a new Multi-function State of the Art ventilator into service.**
- **Upgraded Tactical EMS Gear.**
- **Completed Joint Active Shooter Exercises.**
- **Gave away Citizens Awards**
- **Updates all Field Operating Guidelines (FOG)**
- **Initiated Leave Behind NARCAN Program**
- **Initiated CRR Fall reductions program partnering with ADRC for referrals.**

EMS Training Highlights 2023

- **Pediatric Advanced Lifesaving skills (PALS)**
- **Documentation**
- **Critical Care**
- **QA Review with crews**
- **License Renewal**
- **Falls and ADRC Training**
- **PALS Training with new Handtevy books and APP**
- **3 Active Shooter exercise**
- **Hamilton Ventilator Training**
- **Trauma**
- **Burns**
- **Critical Care training**

WISCONSIN RAPIDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Highlights and Accomplishments of 2023 Building & Grounds

- **All the electrical updates completed at both Stations have a 4 year payback on the investment and we received a Focus on Energy grant for nearly \$1,000 for the project.**
- **Station I Renovation/Remodel. This was a yearlong project taking up a large amount of time in this area. Some of the highlights for Station I are below.**
 - **Apparatus space was painted.**
 - **Set up a current cleaning schedule for Station I**
 - **Security Cameras were installed.**
 - **Installed Maps on Station walls.**
 - **Moved antennas for garage door openers to the exterior.**
 - **Installed new Gear Lockers**
 - **All lighting was switched to LED lighting and timers placed on fans.**
- **Station II**
 - **Installed Modine Heaters in Station II Bay area to replace failing heating system.**
 - **Make up air and exhaust system in the bay area updated.**
 - **Carpet replacement and LVT installation including Asbestos abatement.**
 - **Painting on the failing exterior and north stairwell**
 - **Completed the Gender-Neutral remodel in the upstairs Bathroom/Shower area.**
 - **New refrigerator to replace the failing one at Station II.**
 - **All lighting at Station II was changed to LED and all fans placed on a timer.**

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Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department Health & Safety 2023

- **Review Injury/Near misses and make recommendations to operations or equipment alterations.**
- **Review and identify the need for new workout equipment by identifying and allocating funds for replacement. This year one Treadmill and one Elliptical was identified and added to the 2023 budget.**
- **Work with Chaplain Dan identifying Behavioral Health needs and identify the support needed.**
- **Helped to rewrite our Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) 313 Behavioral Health Issues**
- **Attended the "Broken Like Me" national speaker at MSTC on Behavioral Health crisis.**

- Helped with the Mike Gagliano program held 9/30/22. This was an all-department mental health initiative focused on the family dynamics and challenges related to a Firefighter Marriage.
- Complete the Addition/Renovation with regards to the cancer reduction component in a post fire setting. This includes exhaust systems, gear cleaning, personal exposure limitations, and Steam Showers for post fire Decontamination.

Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department

Community Involvement Highlights 2023

- **Community Involvement**
 - **Wood County Car Seat Clinic**
 - **Dispatch Meeting**
 - **4th of July Fireworks**
 - **Lifeguard Training**
 - **Firefighters Memorial Clean-up (3 Weeks)**
 - **Cranberry Blossom Parade, Rekindle the Spirit**
 - **BMW Bike Track Standby**
 - **High School Football Standby**
 - **National Night Out**
 - **Silent Night parade and final alarm ceremony**
 - **Fill the Boot for Muscular Dystrophy**
 - **Firefighters Final Alarm Ceremony**
 - **Career Day at Lincoln high School**
 - **Teen Leadership Program**
 - **Trunk or Treat**
 - **Lincoln High School Career Day**
 - **Division 5 Football, and WIAA 8-man football championship standby**
 - **Numerous Boy Scout and Girl Scout station tours.**
 - **Firefighter Cadet Training monthly**
 - **Citizen's academy**
 - **Polar Plunge**
 - **Fire Alarm Drills with businesses as requested.**
 - **Held 2 Pop Up splash pad events after Aquatics center closed.**
 - **Smoke Detector Installs**
 - **Festival of Trees**

Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department 2023

Employee: New Hires, Promotions, Notable Anniversaries, & Retirements

New Hires:

- *Addey Cronkrite, Firefighter/Medic February 21, 2023*
- *James Hibbard, Firefighter/Medic February 22, 2023*
- *Justin Shaffer, February 23, 2023*
- *Joshua Mancl, September 18, 2023*

Promotions:

- *Brennan Agen Division Chief Fire January 8, 2024*
- *Dustin Lease, Motor Pump Operator December 25, 2023*
- *Scott Whitrock, Motor Pump Operator January 1, 2024*

Notable Anniversaries

- *LT. Sean Murphy, 25 Years*
- *RO/MPO Dustin Lease, 15 Years*
- *Chaplain Dan DeRoche, 10 Years*
- *FF Josh Schoechert, 5 Years*
- *FF Jake Timm, 5 Years*
- *FF Trent Aldrich, 5 Years*
- *FF Andrew Saxer, 5 Years*

Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department 2023

2023 Run Data

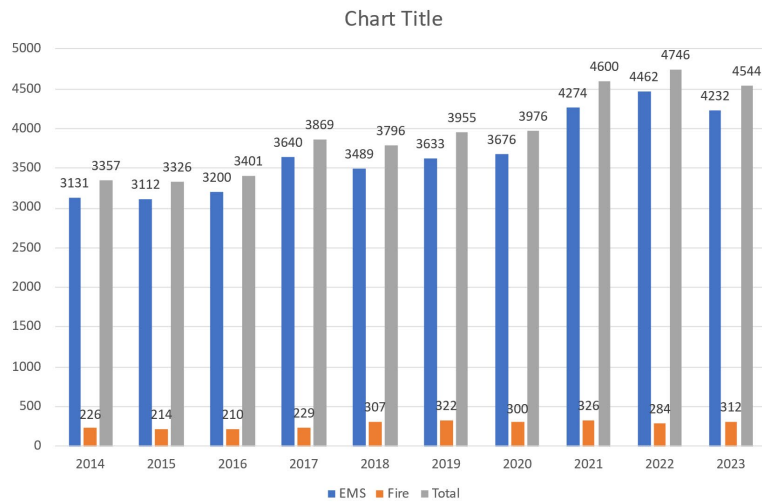
<i>Month</i>	<i>Fire 100/200 Series</i>	<i>Fire 400/500 Series</i>	<i>Fire 600 Series</i>	<i>Fire 700/800 Series</i>	<i>EMS 911</i>	<i>EMS IFT</i>	<i>CCP</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>January</i>	3	6	3	4	338	0	0	354
<i>February</i>	0	2	4	5	300	3	0	314
<i>March</i>	8	4	2	3	415	3	0	435
<i>April</i>	5	19	6	4	373	1	0	408
<i>May</i>	5	6	6	6	350	2	0	375
<i>June</i>	1	8	6	7	338	2	0	362
<i>July</i>	10	14	9	11	383	3	0	430
<i>August</i>	5	5	7	10	341	1	2	371
<i>September</i>	4	9	3	11	305	0	0	332
<i>October</i>	2	7	2	13	360	2	1	387
<i>November</i>	5	9	3	9	335	1	1	363
<i>December</i>	4	11	9	15	371	1	0	411
<i>Year End Totals</i>	52	100	62	98	4209	19	4	4544

- **Fire 100 Series: Fire (structure, vehicle, wildland)**
- **Fire 200 Series: Over Pressure, Rupture, Explosions, Overheat**
- **EMS 300 Series: Rescue & Emergency Medical Services**
- **Fire 400 Series: Hazardous Condition (spills, leaks with no fire)**
- **Fire 500 Series: Service Calls (water & smoke problems, burning complaints)**
- **Fire 600 Series: Good Intent Calls**
- **Fire 700 Series: False Alarms**
- **Fire 800 Series: Severe Weather, Natural Disaster, Special Incident**
- **CCP: Community Care Paramedic**
- **IFT: Inter-Facility Transfers**

Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department

Annual Run Volume Past 10 Years

YEAR	FIRE	EMS	TOTAL
2014	226	3131	3357
2015	214	3112	3326
2016	210	3200	3401
2017	229	3640	3869
2018	307	3489	3796
2019	322	3633	3955
2020	300	3676	3976
2021	326	4274	4600
2022	284	4462	4746
2023	312	4232	4544



Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department

2023 Financial Overview:

2023 Allocated Budget:	\$5,706,867.00	
2023 Spent Budget:	\$5,482,316.04	
2023 Budget Net:	\$224,550.96	
SALARIES & WAGES:	Allocated: \$2,977,488	Used: \$2,944,107
	Net: \$33,381	
OVERTIME:	Allocated: \$80,000	Used: \$240,940
	Net: \$160,939	
INTER-FACILITY PAY:	Allocated: \$6,000	Used: \$1,412
	Net: \$5,488	
EMS REVENUE:	2023	2022
BILLED:	Total: \$4,022,125	\$3,274,847.65
COLLECTED:	Total: \$1,414,803	\$1,311,738.45
CONTRACTS:	Total: \$317,929	\$206,409

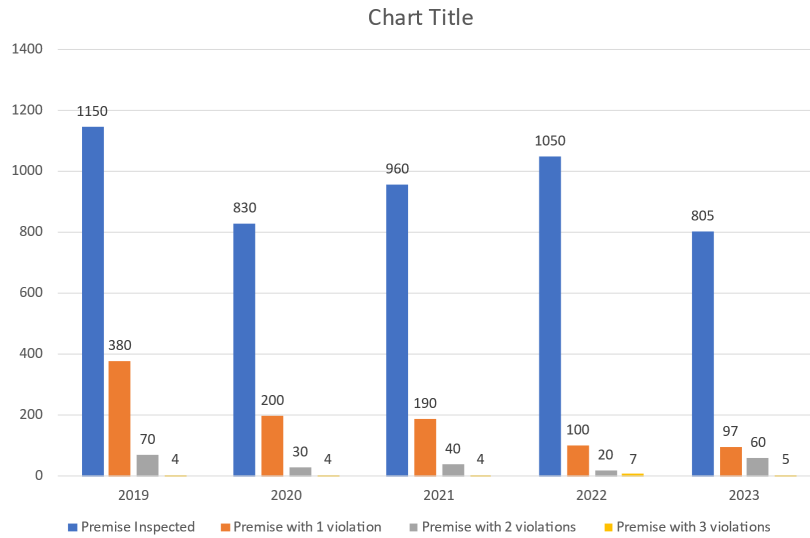
Largest Contributors to 2023 Budget

OVERTIME:	\$240,940
SALARIES & WAGES:	\$2,944,107
AMBULANCE SUPPLIES:	\$97,794
ELECTRICITY:	\$31,779
TELEPHONE & INTERNET:	\$55,044
HEATING:	\$10,358
AMBULANCE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE:	\$19,675
FIRE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE:	\$53,620
FIRE EQUIPMENT OUTLAY:	\$36,728
FIRE DEPARTMENT Outlay:	\$64,761

Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department

2023 Inspection Information:

- **The Department completed 805 Inspections, finding 162 instances of non-compliance. Of those violations all 162 were corrected.**



Confined Space Standby totals

- **Issued 425 Confined Space Standby Permits a decrease of 34 from 2022**
- **The WRFD provides 'rescue' stand-by services at no charge to area businesses.**