

Buffalo Grove Fire Department

2024 Annual Report



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BUFFALO GROVE WELCOMES NEW FIRE CHIEF

I am a third-generation firefighter following in the footsteps of my grandfather and father, both of whom retired from the Chicago Fire Department. I began my public service career as a police officer and left after three years to pursue my dream of becoming a firefighter. In 2001 I was hired by the Glenview Fire Department where I served in every rank, from Firefighter to Battalion Chief. In 2022, I left Glenview to become the Deputy Chief in Buffalo Grove. After serving in this role for just over two years, I was promoted to Fire Chief in July of 2024. I am supported by my wife and our two children.

I am fortunate to be surrounded by such great firefighters and staff here in Buffalo Grove. These individuals make coming to work enjoyable and make the challenges we face manageable. The success of the organization is reliant on all these people. I pride myself on being part of a fire department that values customer service, professionalism and team work to solve any problem that we may encounter. I look forward to meeting the challenges that lie ahead head on and continuing to serve in the proud tradition of the Buffalo Grove Fire Department.



Fire Chief Lawrence Kane



WHO WE ARE

The Buffalo Grove Fire Department is a full-service public safety agency with the responsibility of responding to and mitigating incidents involving fires, medical emergencies, hazardous materials, technical rescues, and for providing public fire safety education and fire safety inspection services. The Department operates out of three fire stations from which it equips and deploys one engine company, two truck companies and three Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances. All fire suppression companies are ALS equipped and staffed with a minimum of three personnel. The Department's 54 shift personnel **responded to roughly 5,280 calls in 2024** and provided service to nearly 42,000 residents and over 800 businesses located in the Village of Buffalo Grove. In addition, the Buffalo Grove Fire Department is a member of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), which is a regional and multi-state agreement that ensures access to a wide variety of resources from other fire departments.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

MISSION Provide professional services with Commitment, Loyalty, Integrity, and Pride.

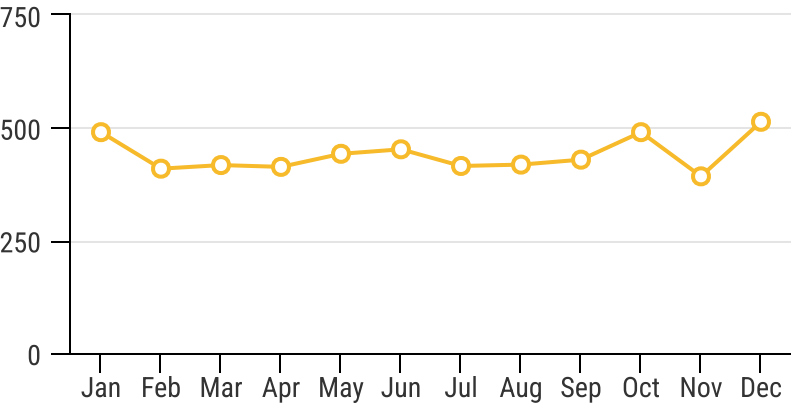
VISION The Buffalo Grove Fire Department will aspire to be the premier emergency services provider, delivering exceptional service and value to our community.

VALUES The Buffalo Grove Fire Department will endlessly strive to achieve our mission based on these values: Service, Adaptability, Fairness, Empowerment, and Respect.

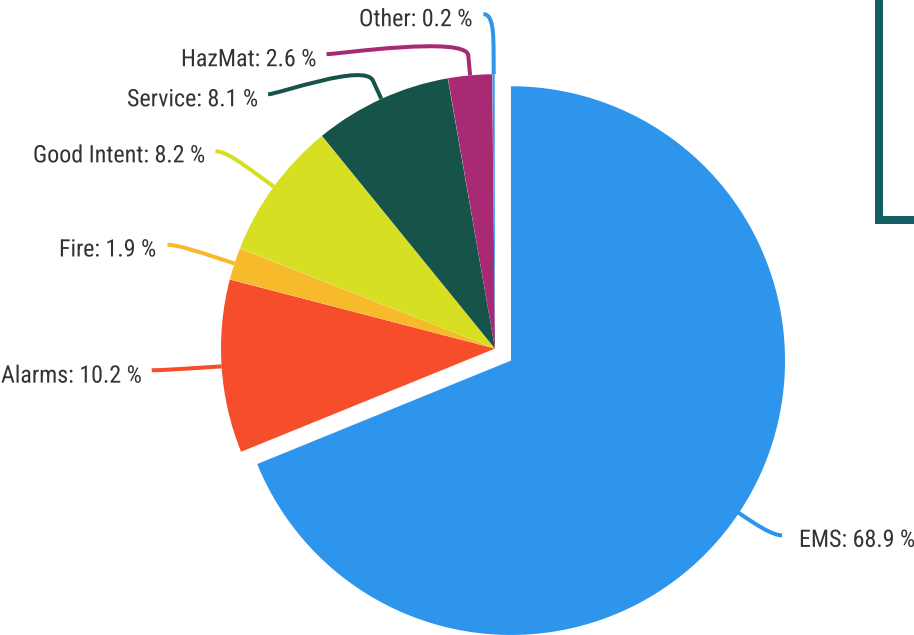


2024 BY THE NUMBERS

Monthly Calls



2024 Call Types



Average Time
Dispatch to En Route

1:25 mins



Average Time
En Route to Arrival

4:14 mins



Average Time
Dispatch to Arrival

5:39 mins



Average Time
911 Call to Arrival

4:54 mins



92%

of all calls are
under a 9:00 min
Total Response Time



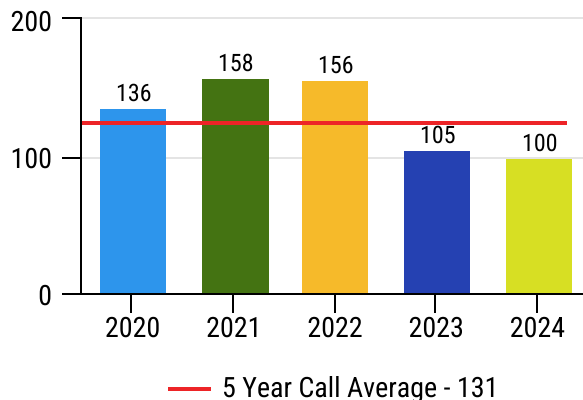
FIRE OPERATIONS

The Department responded to **100 fire related calls** in 2024. The arrival of fire department personnel and their actions on the scene of building fires resulted in approximately **1.07 million dollars in saved property** in 2024. Through the Department's mutual aid relationships, Buffalo Grove could rely on a significant number of outside fire suppression resources, allowing the Department to quickly contain and extinguish the fires. The Fire Department responded to **53 in town fires and 47 out of town fires**



Appliance Chimney
Vehicle
Building
Dumpster/Trash Special/Outside
Rubbish Mulch Cooking
Brush/Grass Mixture

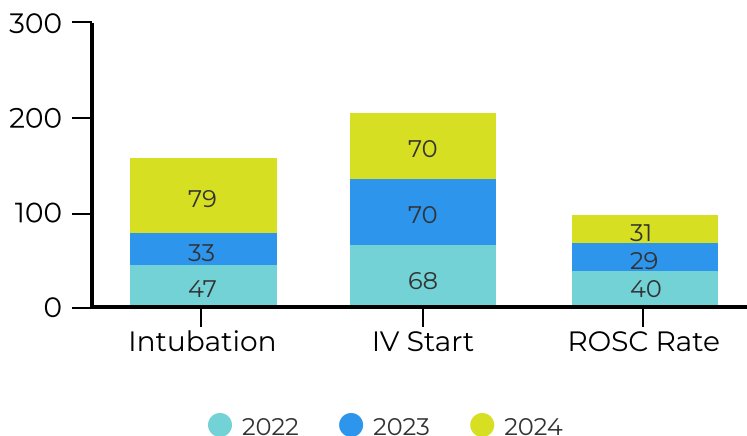
Fire Calls Per Year



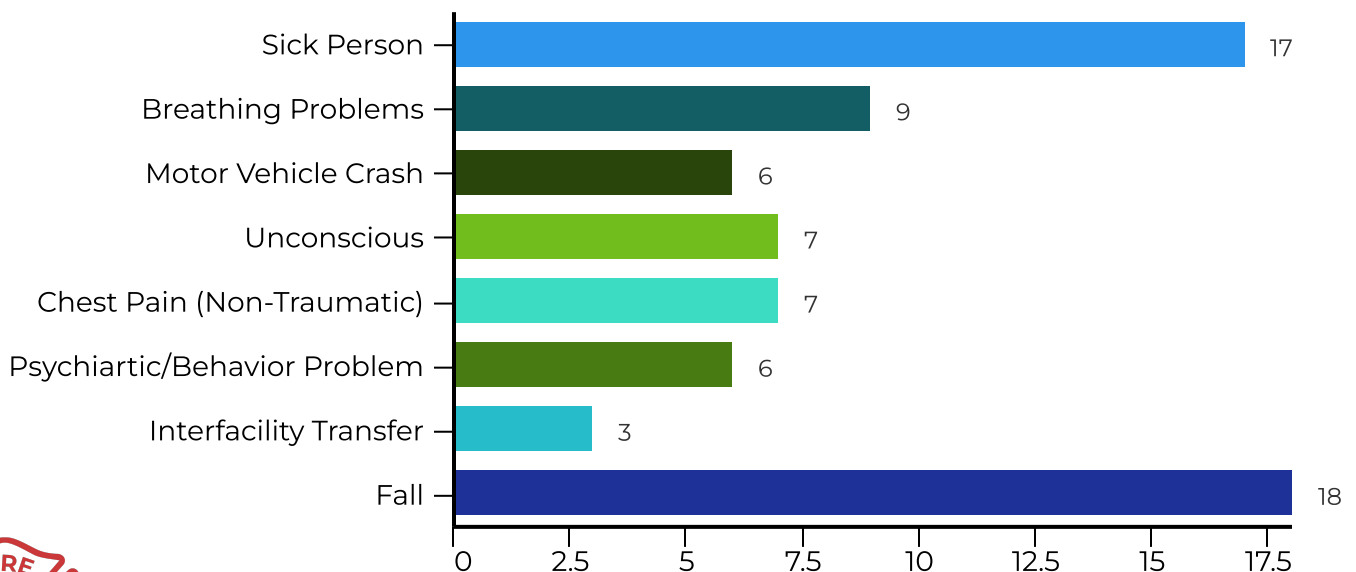
EMS OPERATIONS

In 2024, the Department's paramedics **responded to 3,636 emergency medical calls**. Emergency medical services make up the bulk of the Department's workload and still continues to be a top priority for the Department. EMS Operations performed **over 1,900 hours of training** throughout 2024. The Buffalo Grove Fire Department strives to be a premier EMS agency.

Success Rate Percentage



Percentage of Top Reasons for EMS Calls



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Buffalo Grove Fire Department is home to the Village's Emergency Management Agency (EMA), with the Fire Chief acting as the Director of Emergency Management. EMA is responsible for preparing for and responding to a wide range of natural or man-made disasters. The EMA program consists of two volunteer teams:

- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Mobile Com (MCSC)



CERT

53 Active Volunteers
37 Training Events
19 Meetings
0 Incidents
22 Events
Total Hours: 1,059.25

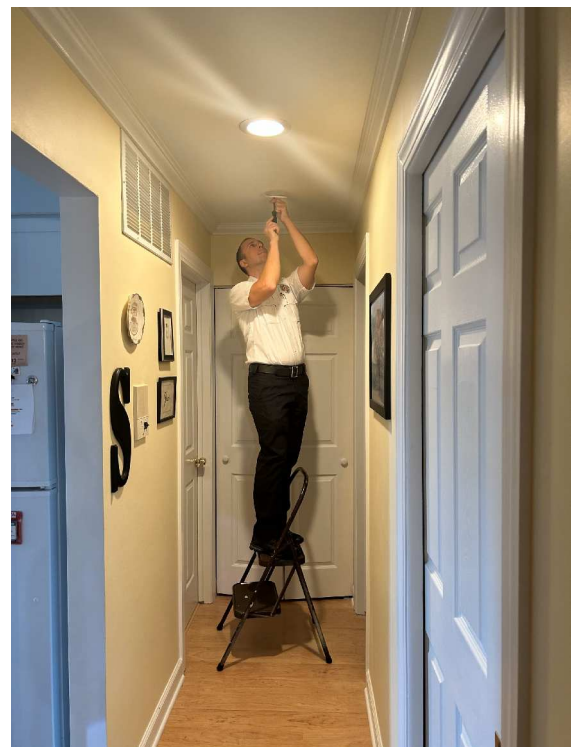
MCSC

18 Active Volunteers
378 hrs of Training
195.5 hrs of Maint.
67 hrs of Pub. Relat.
Total Hours: 1,249.5

PUBLIC EDUCATION

One of the most exciting developments that the Public Education Team offers is classroom visits! All age students learn about 'stop, drop, and roll,' the right time to dial 911, and early lessons in identifying trustworthy individuals. In 2024 the team reached every 1st grade classroom in the Village of Buffalo Grove. They also visited Kindergarten, Pre-Kindergarten, and 6th grade classrooms. This year the Public Education Team participated in the Smoke Alarm Installation Blitz. In 2024 alone, they installed 600 detectors in over 200 units within a 3-day period! Yearly programs consist of:

- Fire Department Open House
- National Night Out
- "Please Return on Monday" (PROM) program with the high school
- Camp-I-Am Me Fire Apparatus visits



FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The Buffalo Grove Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for enforcing state and local building codes through the inspection of commercial, industrial, mercantile, multi-family and other occupancy type buildings. This team regularly assesses risk levels for different businesses and bases its inspection frequencies on the fire risk level and life safety issues present within each building. Through the hard work of a full-time Fire Marshal and a part-time inspector, this team **completed 1,736 inspections** this year which included all 13 schools in the Village, all day-cares and group homes.



FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

In the State of Illinois, every fire incident requires an investigation by the fire department. While minor incidents can be examined by on-duty fire officers, significant fires must involve certified fire investigators. All investigations follow a seven-step process that aligns with the scientific method. In 2024, Buffalo Grove **experienced 20 fires** that required the expertise of a certified fire investigator, all of which were handled by one of our in-house investigators



WATER RESCUE TEAM

The Buffalo Grove Water Rescue Team has a wide range of capabilities including dive, sonar, swift water, and ice rescue. Through its regional memberships, the Team can be deployed to significant water rescue and recovery incidents throughout the Chicago Suburbs. The team was **involved in 8 deployments** to search for a missing person in a body of water. This year one of the incidents involved the team traveling up to Kenosha, Wisconsin.



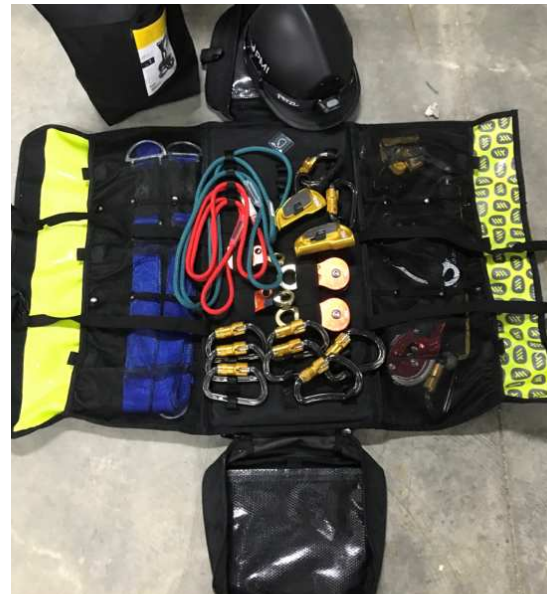
HAZMAT TEAM

Buffalo Grove's Hazardous Materials Team has the ability to respond to a wide variety of chemical spills and other industrial accidents. Each team member is trained to detect, identify, and contain or otherwise mitigate hazardous substance releases. High levels of awareness regarding personal protection gear and post-incident decontamination are necessary to ensure the safety of all team members. The incidents that stood out this year were the responses to a chlorine leak, a factory fire with hazardous materials involved, and a motor vehicle collision causing the tanker truck to leak gas.



TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM

The Technical Rescue Team is made up of technicians from a variety of specialties including rope rescue, trench collapse, structure collapse, and confined space rescues. While these types of incidents can happen anywhere, they are most common in industrial or construction settings. The Buffalo Grove Team is part of the MABAS Divisions 1 and 4/5.



CONTACT US

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A special thanks is owed to photographer John Kleeman for the use of his photos in this and many of the Buffalo Grove Fire Department's publications. Many of the photos in this report were captured and prepared by John and his efforts have made a tremendous impact on the Department's ability to communicate effectively with the community it serves.

