

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

Mission Statement

West Pierce Fire & Rescue, in partnership with the community, protects lives and property through a well-trained, cost effective, pro-active fire department, serving and educating the community.



Vision Statement

West Pierce Fire & Rescue is a premier fire and life safety organization, dedicated to providing modern, community focused service.

3631 Drexler Drive West
University Place, WA
98466

www.westpierce.org



*Respond
Efficiently.*

*Execute
Flawlessly.*

BE NICE!

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Letter From the Chief

This past year has proved challenging for our citizens, our community and for West Pierce Fire & Rescue. In 2012 we experienced the largest decline yet in the assessed valuation of properties in University Place and Lakewood. In the previous two years, assessed valuations declined by more than 11% and in 2012 they dropped even further, by nearly 8%. This decline in assessed valuation over the past three years has caused a corresponding decline of nearly 20% in revenues for West Pierce. To meet this challenge, we have eliminated programs, reallocated and reduced our daily firefighter staffing, eliminated staff positions and reduced the overall size of our organization by eliminating positions. In addition, during the past three years all of our employees have stepped up and provided contract concessions to help the organization weather this economic storm.

In addition to reductions, we have also taken an aggressive approach to grant opportunities that have allowed us to continue to provide technical training for our personnel, purchase necessary capital equipment and offset various community program costs. These grants have provided critical support in a challenging economic environment, without expanding our operating budget.

While the economy has not recovered, there are promising signs that recovery is on the horizon. We are cautiously optimistic that the assessed valuation of properties in West Pierce will stabilize and begin to steadily recover. While this is underway, we continue to move forward as an organization. In September we entered into a contract for service with the Town of Steilacoom. This contract provides basic fire and emergency medical service responses to the town from West Pierce's existing resources. This provides an additional source of revenue for the fire district, while also providing a reliable emergency service delivery system in the town. This is working well and proving to be a true win/win for all involved.

In November 2011 the voters of Pierce County approved Proposition 1, which funded South Sound 911, a county-wide 911 dispatch service. West Pierce is one of five signers to the original agreement that created South Sound 911 and we have played a pivotal role in moving this organization forward. West Pierce Assistant Chief Jim Sharp was contracted to serve as the project manager for the agency until an Executive Director could be hired. In one short year since passage of Proposition 1, South Sound 911 has successfully brought dispatch centers across the county together, while also beginning the work to build out an interoperable digital radio network across Pierce County. Design work is now underway for new facilities that will conform to current standards, eventually allowing these dispatch centers to consolidate. While there is a lot of work ahead, significant work has been accomplished during 2012 and West Pierce was a major contributor to the success of South Sound 911.

West Pierce Fire & Rescue is proud to provide dedicated service to the citizens of Lakewood, University Place, and Steilacoom. We are fortunate to receive your steadfast community support and we remain committed to delivering the high quality, caring and professional service you deserve and have come to expect. As we enter 2013, **West Pierce Fire & Rescue** is looking forward to earning your continued support.

Ken Sharp, Fire Chief

2012 Fire Commissioners

Pat Tobin, Chair

Term: 2008-2013

Grant Blinn

Term: 2010-2015

John Clancy

Term: 2010-2015

Bart Dalton

Term: 2008-2013

Grant Erb

Term: 2010-2015

Dan Rankin

Term: 2006-2015

Ted Wier

Term: 2008-2013



Operations

Programs

Rescue Technician

Currently WPFR has 40 trained rescue technicians. They are trained to handle incidents related to confined space, structural collapse, trench rescue and high/low angle rescue. WPFR also belongs to a regional response team that includes Central Pierce Fire and Rescue, Gig Harbor Fire and Medic One, and East Pierce Fire and Rescue.

Marine Operations

Currently WPFR has 2 boats, one of which is housed on American Lake and the other is trailered, which allows it the versatility to respond to all water locations. WPFR has 26 trained rescue divers and 23 trained rescue swimmers.

Hazmat Technician

Currently WPFR has 12 trained Hazmat Technicians who respond to any incident that involves the potential of a hazardous material threat. WPFR also belongs to a regional hazmat response team that consists of Central Pierce Fire and Rescue, Graham Fire and Rescue, Gig Harbor Fire and Medic One, and East Pierce Fire and Rescue. This team was recently utilized for the train derailment.

Program/Number of Personnel Assigned

Paramedic

56

Technical Rescue

40

Rescue Diver

26

Rescue Swimmer

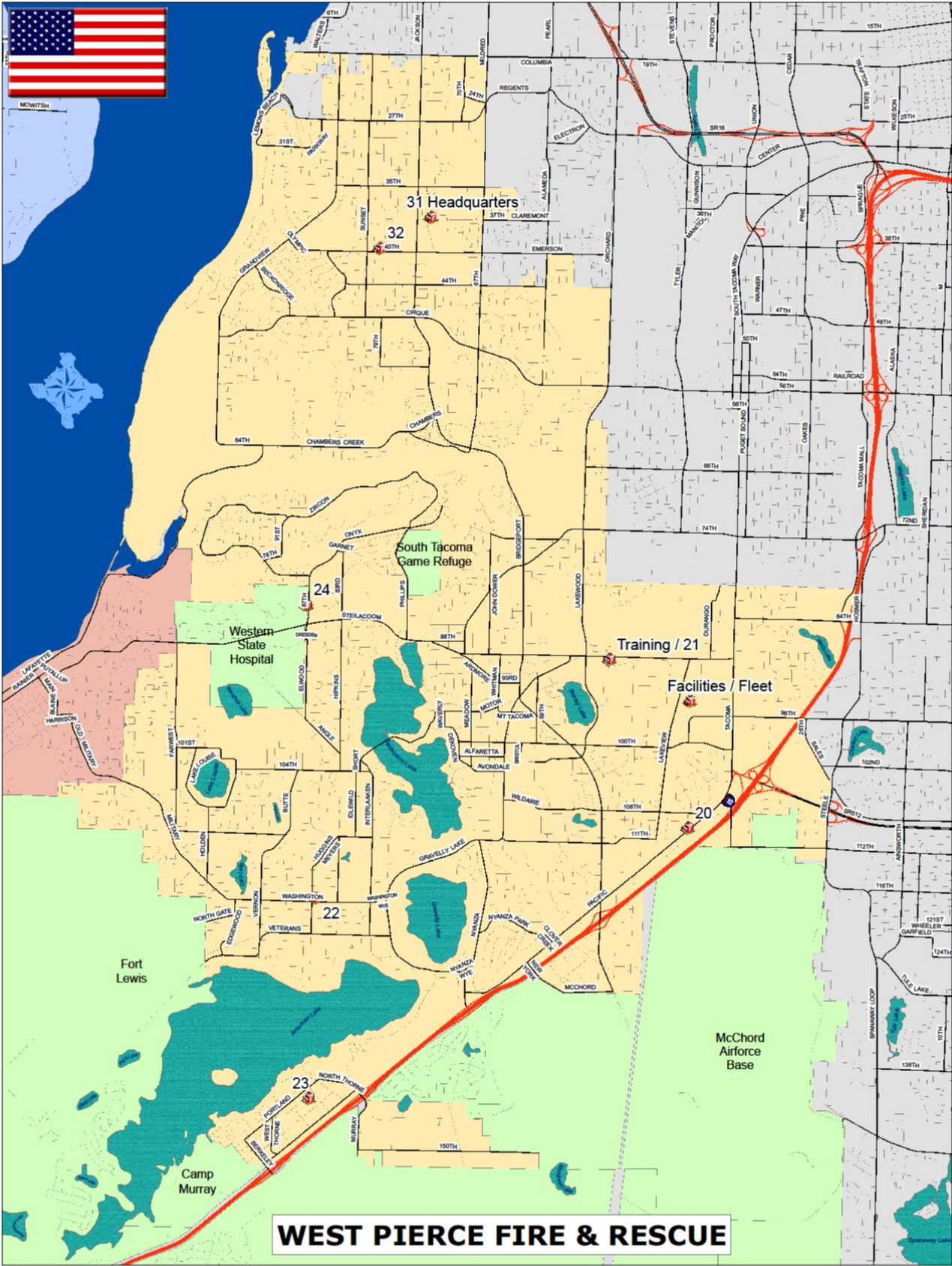
23

Hazmat Technician

12



WPFR Jurisdiction



West Pierce Fire & Rescue Stations

North Battalion

HEADQUARTERS-STATION 31



Location:
3631 Drexler Dr. West
University Place, WA 98466

Apparatus:
Battalion 31
Ladder 33
Medic 31

STATION 32



Location:
7409 40th St, W
University Place, WA 98466

Apparatus:
Engine 32
Medic 32
Rescue Technician Trailer

STATION 24



Location:
8310 87th Ave
Lakewood, WA 98498

Apparatus:
Engine 24

West Pierce Fire & Rescue Stations

South Battalion

STATION 20

**Location:**

10928 Pacific Hwy SW
Lakewood, WA 98499

Apparatus:

Battalion Chief 20
Engine 20
Medic 20
Dive 20

STATION 21

**Location:**

5000 Steilacoom Blvd.
Lakewood, WA 98498

Apparatus:

Engine 21
Air & Light 21
Rescue 21
Medic 21
Hazmat 21

STATION 22

**Location:**

8517 Washington Blvd.
Lakewood, WA 98498

Apparatus:

Engine 22
Medic 22
Marine 22

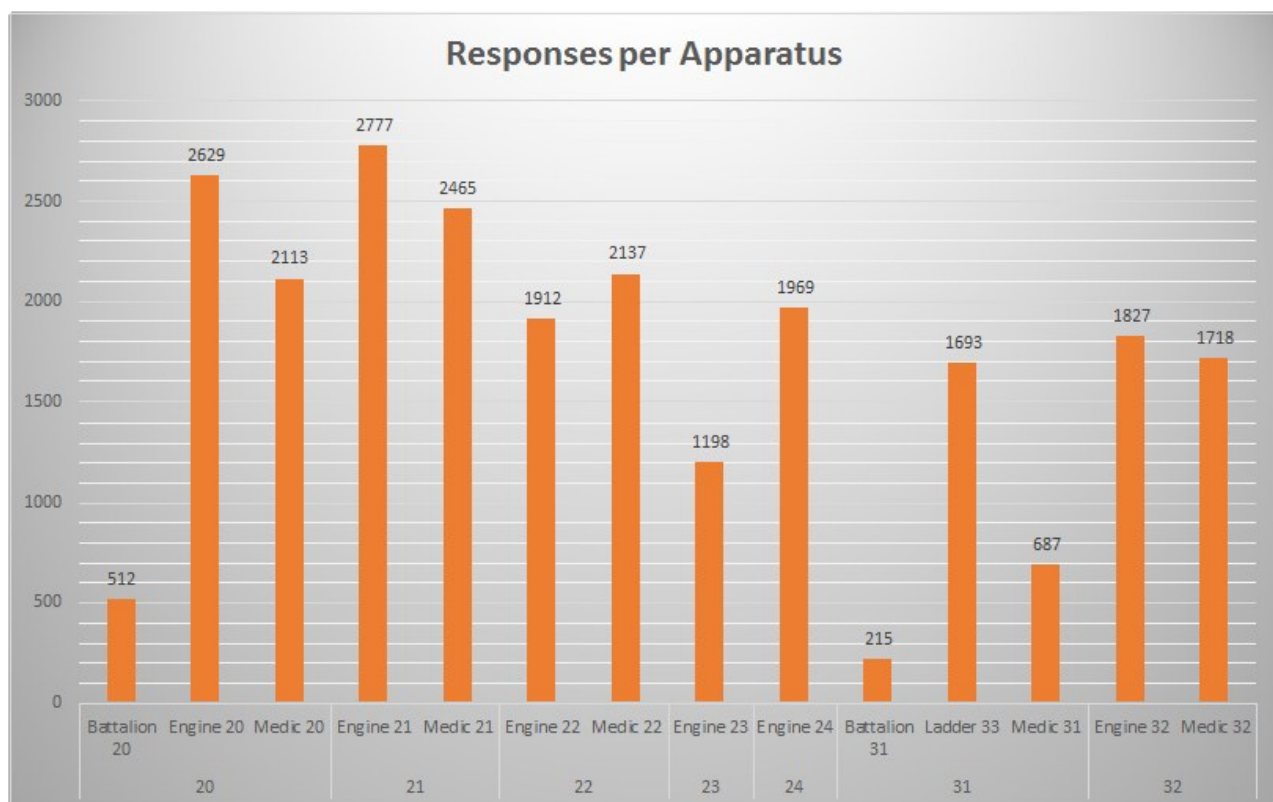
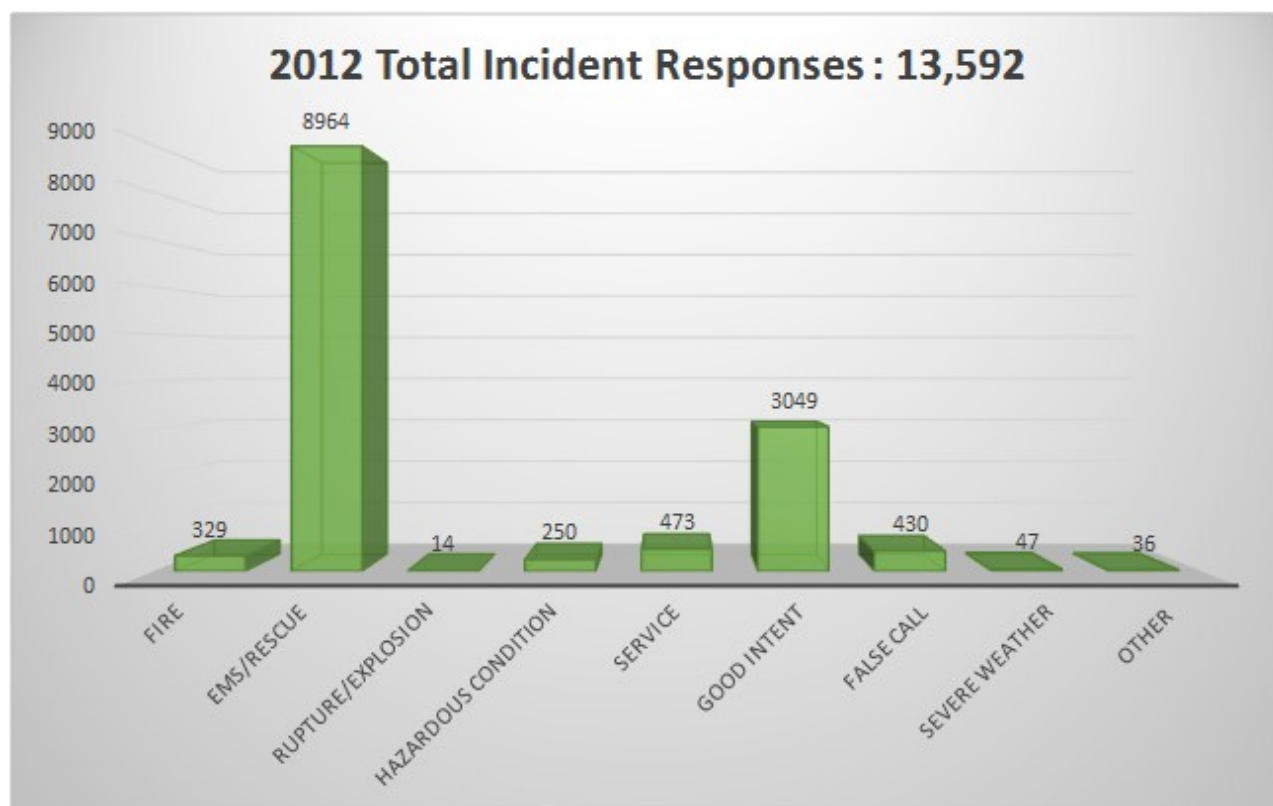
STATION 23

**Location:**

14505 Grant Ave.
Lakewood, WA 98498

Apparatus:

Engine 23
Marine 23





Caleb Fitts and Fleet Manager Steve Hodge

West Pierce Facts

Each vehicle in the West Pierce fleet receives an annual 75-point safety inspection. Routine maintenance checks are performed either quarterly or semi-annually based upon the equipment's use

Fleet Maintenance

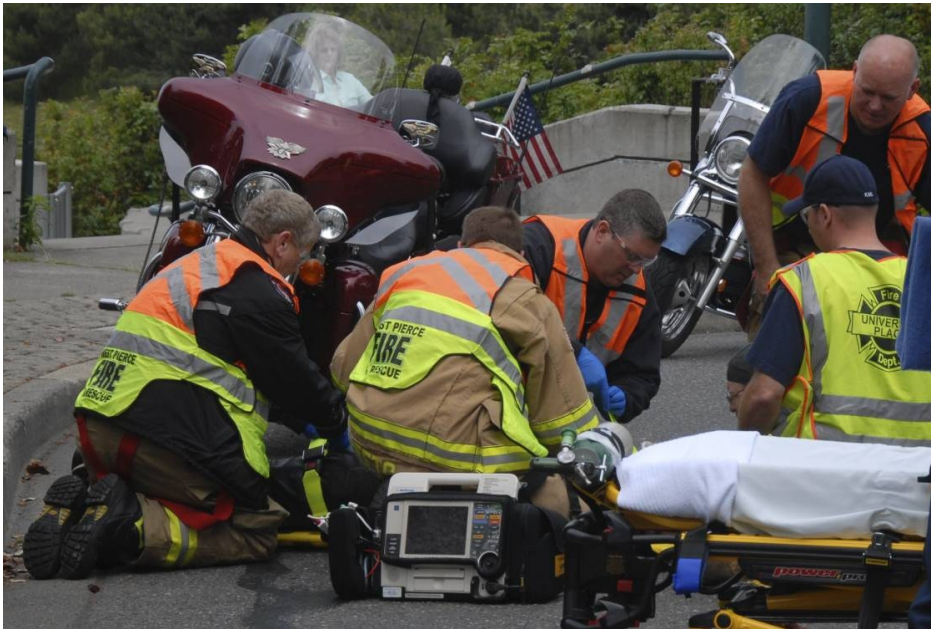
The Fleet Maintenance Division consists of a Fleet Manager and three Mechanics who operate out of spacious maintenance facility located in the City of Lakewood. The facility has a fully equipped machine shop with welding capability, parts room, office space, day room and a fully furnished kitchen. The shop has the ability to lift over 200,000 lbs. worth of vehicles with the use of 3 post in-ground hoists that are capable of lifting an engine or ladder truck with ease. Also, a 2 post above ground 15,000 lb. hoist safely allows medic units and staff vehicles to be lifted. In addition to these fixed hoists, there are six (6) portable column lifts with the lifting capacity of 108,000 lbs., allowing for the option of lifting vehicles anywhere within or outside the facility.

Each vehicle in the West Pierce fleet receives an annual 75-point safety inspection. Routine maintenance checks are performed either quarterly or semi-annually based upon the equipment's use. Emissions and pump tests are also done on an annual basis for all appropriate vehicles. These routine and emergent repairs are performed on over 70 WPFR vehicles, vessels, and trailers and on another 70+ contracted fire service vehicles and equipment. These contracted vehicle and equipment services are performed for the Town of DuPont and Brown's Point Fire Department, and Engine Company pump testing is performed for Tacoma Fire Department under a service contract signed in 2011. Other regular responsibilities include the engine maintenance and repair services for seven facility generators, two "breathing air" compressors and all the departments' small power tools; chainsaws, portable ventilation fans, extrication tools, and portable generators.

Other major projects completed in 2012 were the specifications for a new 37' salt water catamaran slated for regional use in the south Puget Sound and the ongoing updating of all front line emergency response vehicles with mobile data computers (MDCs). The installation of a new or updated MDC unit sometimes takes a week or more to accomplish and is coordinated with regular vehicle maintenance whenever possible. This was another busy and productive year for the Fleet Maintenance Division and it looks forward to continuing to provide quality service to West Pierce Fire & Rescue and its contracted agencies in 2013.

EMS

West Pierce Fire & Rescue's EMS provider group changed from 59 Paramedics and 100 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) in 2011, to 56 Paramedics and 98 EMTs by the end of 2012. The reduction in manpower was due to attrition through retirements, with the positions not being replaced due to a declining budget associated with the downturn in the economy.



WPFR participates in the Pierce County Paramedic Advanced Airway Management course, which allows Paramedics to practice all of their airway skills while foregoing visits to an operating room to attain their annual intubation requirements. The data has shown that this has increased our personnel's proficiency in field airway management. Another EMS educational and quality assurance opportunity is the monthly WPFR "Base Stations," where EMS personnel have a chance to meet with the District's Physician Advisor and also receive a focused medical lecture. Past Field EMS incidents and their reports are also critiqued at this meeting.

EMTs are required to receive 165 initial training and testing hours, before entering an Ongoing Training and Evaluation Program (OTEP), which requires quarterly continued education over a three year recertification period. Paramedics need to attend an approximately 2000 hour yearlong college level program in order to learn advanced emergency medicine procedures. They are then required to take several examinations to become certified and subsequently will need to perform quarterly OTEP in order to recertify every three years.

WPFR provides this continuing medical education (OTEP) in a variety of ways. In addition to classroom and hands on training activities, we subscribe to two online Emergency Medical Services training programs. These programs allow our EMTs and Paramedics to utilize the internet at all times or any location. EMTs and Paramedics are also afforded the opportunity to attend several regional EMS classes and conferences. Additionally, in house training of advanced classes in adult and pediatric resuscitation, trauma management and adult medical emergencies are conducted twice each year.

West Pierce Facts

West Pierce Fire & Rescue has 56 Paramedics and 98 Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs)

EMTs are required to receive 165 hours of initial training and testing, followed by an Ongoing Training and Evaluation Program (OTEP)

BLS (Basic Life Support) patients are those that require medical care and transport but don't require advanced medical care such as ECG monitor, IV or drugs



EMS

The WPFR EMS Subscriber Program continues to provide residents of the District with a return on their EMS tax dollars. This program mandates that if a citizen of WPFR is transported by a District Medic Unit, only the patient's insurance provider will be billed for services. If a patient does not reside within the District's boundaries; the patient's insurance provider is billed first and the patient is billed for the costs not covered by their insurance. In 2012, this program saved WPFR residents over \$500,000.

With the expansion of the transport plan in 2011, which allowed for basic life support (BLS) patients to be more routinely transported, 2012 was a very busy EMS transport year for WPFR. The number of EMS transports in 2011 were 3766, while total of transports in 2012 were 5635, for an annual increase of almost 50%. Our data shows that this increase in transports has predominantly been for our own citizens and therefore has allowed us to provide a greater level of service for those we serve.

Training

The West Pierce Fire & Rescue (WPFR) Training Division is responsible for scheduling, tracking and coordinating the delivery of training for all the District's personnel. The goal is to make sure we provide our personnel with the knowledge, skills and abilities they may require while performing their duties for our citizens. These duties include, but are not limited to; firefighting fundamentals, safety, emergency vehicle operations, fire officer and command functions, specialized rescue operations, hazardous materials responses, dive and marine operations, as well as customer service and leadership development. The goal is to provide some type of training or learning opportunity every day.



With the merger forming WPFR in 2011, the Training Division now provide these services for over 200 employees. In order to be more efficient and to limit needed movement of resources outside their response areas, Training implemented a new web based computer training (CBT) program called Target Solutions. This program allows personnel to conduct their assigned training from any computer with internet access and works well for classes that would be normally taught in a classroom setting. Target Solutions (an Enterprise site) was subsequently set up between WPFR and the other Pierce County Fire agencies who also use this same Target Solutions program. Several classes were developed and shared among these agencies in 2012 through this Enterprise connection. The ability to share several training courses through the internet creates efficiencies by reducing and/or eliminating the duplication of efforts by individual agencies.

Also in effort to create some efficacy and to gain the ability of certifying our personnel in various fire service disciplines, WPFR pursued and was designated a Pro-Board Certifying agency in 2011. This accomplishment allowed the department to expedite the process of certifying all suppression personnel up to the level of Firefighter II. With the attainment of this certification level, the number of required fire service continuing education hours was reduced from 180 to 120 hours annually. Working with the other three Pro-Board agencies in the State (Central Pierce, South King, and Spokane Valley), a Pro-Board Alliance was established in order to facilitate the sharing of classes and the exchange of ideas.





Fire boat, Endeavor

West Pierce Facts

Thirteen WPFR
Hazardous Materials
Technicians completed
1455 total training
hours in 2012

Training

The recent addition of our fire boat Endeavor, which was provided by Port Security grant funding, triggered the development of the WPFR Marine Pilot Program. Development and research began in 2012 with the District sending a training division representative through the instructor education at the Maritime Science Program at Clatsop Community College in Astoria, OR. Classes totaling 21 semester hours and certifications were completed in Seamanship, Nautical Charting, and Small Vessel Operations. Development and research continued at the Flagship Maritime Center in Tacoma, WA, where classes in Operator of Uninspected Vessel Captains and Master 110 Ton Captains certifications were completed for a total of 110 hours. The design of the WPFR Marine Pilot Qualification Course took an estimated 360 hours, with the qualification course consisting of 80 hours being required for each of the department pilots.

Thirteen personnel from WPFR participate on the regional Pierce County Hazardous Incident Team along with personnel from Central Pierce Fire & Rescue, East Pierce Fire & Rescue, and Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One. These WPFR Hazardous Materials Technicians personnel completed 1455 total training hours during 2012.

WPFR participates in a training and certification program titled Blue Card Incident Command. This nationwide program is modeled after the incident command structure used by the Phoenix Arizona Fire Department. Blue Card provides training, direction, and structure for arriving equipment at all types of emergency incidents. Sixty-three

personnel from WPFR have completed online and simulated training required for certification. Blue Card Incident Command is now being utilized by fire departments within King, Pierce, and Thurston Counties.

WPFR twice provided training and certification in 2012 to first responder agencies throughout the region for Rapid Entry Water Rescue Operations. Participants of the program gain operational water skill confidence and techniques, as well as training in managing water emergencies. This nationally certified program has provided training to a large number of departments within Washington State.

Senior Project

Five seniors from Curtis High School took part in our senior project program this year. Students are able to fulfill their 20 hour requirement for graduation by participating in this program

Smoke Alarm Installations

We installed nearly 300 smoke alarms this year

Media

30 press releases were sent to local media throughout the year. All of these stories were run in our local media and many of them were covered by the major news outlets

South Sound 911 Marketing Committee

Participated in the branding, marketing and mission and vision statements for South Sound 911



Captain Michelle Johnson at the University Place Festival

Prevention

Education Programs

Preschool Program—Forty two engine appearances were made to local preschools and daycares. We teach the children basic fire safety lessons and that firefighters are their friends.

Safe Sitter Program—Two classes were taught this year to approximately 50 students. This is a 13 hour course that teaches children ages 11-13 basic tips for babysitting, including CPR and basic first aid.

Elementary School Programs—We taught in 258 classrooms this year. We were in 20 of the 20 elementary schools and taught a variety of lessons to the different grade levels.

Kindergarten—Sixty seven fire safety presentations

1st Grade—Forty seven fire safety presentations

2nd Grade—Forty eight fire safety presentations

3rd Grade—Thirty six disaster preparedness presentations

4th Grade—Forty wheeled sports safety presentations

5th Grade—Twenty first aid presentations

Prevention

Education Programs

CPR in Schools—Six CPR classes were taught to approximately 170 students at Lakes High School. Six CPR classes were taught in 11 classrooms at Curtis High School reaching approximately 270 students. This is a six hour course taught over a three day period.

Fire Prevention Week Activities—A contest was held and each child throughout the district received a Fire Prevention Checklist to take home and complete with their families. If families completed the checklist, the parents were to fill out the entry form, sign it and return it to the school. Classrooms with 100% participation received an ice cream party. Twenty eight classrooms throughout Lakewood and University Place won parties. We also drew six names from the hundreds of entries received to win rides to school on the fire engine. Public Education Team Members scheduled and coordinated their ride on the fire engine. Fire Prevention Week could not be accomplished successfully without the support of suppression personnel.

Fireflies Newsletter—This newsletter is available online for teachers.

Juvenile Fire Setter—We educated five juvenile fire setters on the dangers of playing with fire.

Car Seat Inspections—The Prevention Division conducted 72 car seat checks by appointment throughout the year, 38 seats were checked at our Pumpkin Patch event and 27 seats were checked at our summer child passenger safety event.

Water Safety—We conducted ten water safety presentations throughout the year. We also fit 35 life jackets.

Safety Presentations—We conducted over 35 presentations on various safety topics.

Helmet Fittings—Approximately 250 helmets were fit this year.

First Aid and CPR—Twelve First Aid and CPR classes were taught this year. We offer these classes to community members on a monthly basis alternating between Lakewood and University Place. We also recertified the dispatchers and provided a couple of free classes for the Headstart families.

Crime Free Multi-Housing—We partnered with Lakewood and University Place Police to teach this course twice.

Station Tours—Firefighters hosted 22 station tours for various groups throughout the year.

Auction Birthday Parties—Three birthday parties were redeemed by auction winners.

Organization Affiliation

Safe Kids Pierce County, Washington Public Fire Educators, Firestoppers, Pierce County PIO Network, King County Fire Prevention Officers, Region IV Fire Investigators, Washington State Association of Fire Marshals, International Code Council, Partners for Parks, YWCA, Caring for Kids, Lakewood Knight Lions and the CTE Committee

Training

- WPFE Mini-conference
- Fire Marshal's Roundtable
- Child Passenger Safety Technician
- National Fire Academy
- Code Update classes



Prevention

Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement Activities

Code Meetings— 26 Code Meetings were attended by prevention personnel. These meetings are held every other Thursday at City Hall and members of the City's Building Department, Police Department and Code Enforcement Divisions are in attendance along with us. The goal of these meetings are to rid the City of problem properties.

Building Meetings— 48 meetings were conducted with personnel from the building departments of Lakewood and University Place to discuss developments within the cities.

Pre-Application Meetings and TRC's— 42 meetings were attended in Lakewood and University Place to educate future business owners on the City requirements they will need to fulfill in order to open their business. Members of the Building Department, Water District, Fire Department, Planning Division and Public Works participate in these meetings.

Plan Reviews— 223 Plan Reviews were conducted. The plans reviewed include, fire alarm, fire suppression, fire sprinkler and building plans.

Fire Investigations— 45 Fires occurred in 2012 which required an investigation by the Prevention Division



Fire Inspection Numbers

**Prevention Division
Annual Inspections:**
380

**Prevention Division
Re-Inspections:**
102

**New Construction
Inspections:**
130

**Engine Company
Inspections:**
1,237

**Engine Company
Re-Inspections:**
264

Daycare Inspections:
25

School Inspections:
33



FF Mike DeCarlo at the U.P. Festival



Duck Daze Parade

Community Events 2012

- Read Across America—March— We read to nearly 1,600 kids in 60 classrooms!
- Disaster Preparedness Day—500 attendees
- Kids Fishing Derby—May—500 attendees
- Mock DUI Crash—June—200 seniors
- Duck Daze Open House—June—2,000 attendees
- SummerFEST—June—10,000 attendees
- National Night Out—August—84 parties
- UP Festival—August—2,000 attendees
- Caring For Kids—August—gave away 100 helmets
- UP Back to School Fair—August—gave away 100 helmets
- Reflection Park Dedication—September—400 attendees
- Pumpkin Patch—October— 2,000 attendees
- Pizza Takeover at Roundtable
- Career Fair at Clover Park Technical College
- Lakewood Community Workshop



One of the activities at the Pumpkin Patch

CERT

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is comprised of volunteers from the community who have taken training to assist their family and neighbors in the event of an emergency that may delay First Responders to the scene



Disaster Preparedness

Meeting Hours

Includes CERT Advisor meetings and any meeting to share ideas and direction.

Training Hours

Included: All events where CERTs participated in training. This includes the basic CERT class or advanced training opportunities.

Public Event Hours

Included: All events where CERTs promoted the program at public events by staffing the CERT booth, handed out fliers or brochures, or spoke publicly about the event. (e.g. Disaster Preparedness Day, Safety Pumpkin Patch, etc.)

Response Hours

Included: Any event where CERTs were called to "deploy". These are events when LFD2 needs CERTs to use their skills in real life events (e.g. a large disaster, a LFD training burn, large event where crowd control is necessary, etc.)

Victim Hours

Includes hours when CERT members or non CERT members play a victim in any of our CERT drills.

Volunteer Tracking Report 2012

West Pierce & DuPont Combined



Highlights for Emergency Preparedness and the CERT program for 2012:

- Four newsletters were published for CERT members to keep them apprised of ongoing events and training.
- CERT member Judi Vose, was nominated to receive the Governor's Volunteer Service Award.
- Four quarterly training opportunities were held and covered topics such as terrorism, medical review, Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and dealing with animals in emergencies.
- CERT members assisted with the Memorial for Park Ranger Margaret Anderson.
- CERT website www.westpiercecet.org was created. West Pierce CERT Facebook page, continues to be maintained.
- A "Meet & Greet"/Holiday Potluck was hosted to allow CERT members to meet and talk.
- Participation in the national Formidable Footprint tabletop exercise on pandemics.
- We held an Incident Command System (ICS) drill for Team Leaders and our UP Team
- CERT members participated in public events including the Duck Parade, UP Open House, SummerFEST, Fall Safety Day and Disaster Preparedness Day
- CERT members attended the state-wide CERT EXPO at the Washington State Fire Academy
- Three CERT classes were held in West Pierce and two in DuPont
- Disaster Preparedness Coordinator, Colleen Adler completed the FEMA CERT Program Manager Course and the National Emergency Management Academy course of study
- West Pierce CERT Received the 2012 FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Award in the category of Volunteer Integration and also received an Honorable Mention in the category of Outstanding CERT Initiative



Fire Communications

Fire Comm serves as a dedicated Fire and EMS dispatch center, for fifteen fire agencies, the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and the Pierce County Fire Marshal's Office. Fire Comm dispatch staff is made up of four Dispatch Supervisors and sixteen Dispatchers, who work on a 24-hour, four shift schedule.

In 2012 Dispatchers handled 112,859 phone calls, resulting in 45,102 Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) entries. These numbers show an increase over 2011 volumes, specifically a 2.87% increase for phone calls and 0.16% increase for CAD entries.

The CAD incidents entered by dispatchers included 32,800 (73%) medical calls, 8304 (18%) Fire/Non-EMS calls and 3998 (9%) incidents handled by Fire Comm with no unit responses.

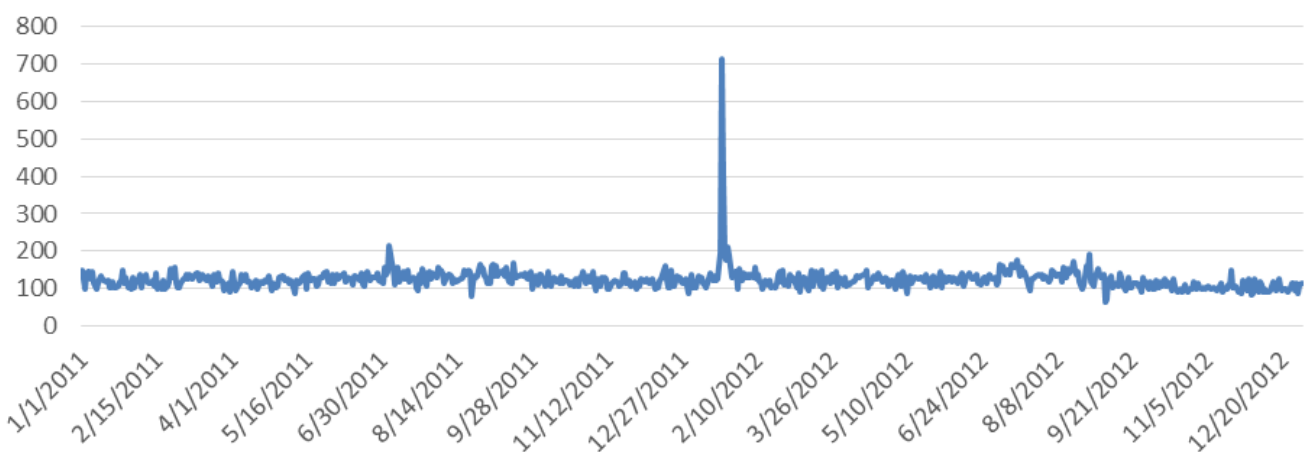
The top five medical related incidents were; Sick Person (13.9%), Falls (12.9%), Chest Pain (10.5%), Breathing Problems (10%) and Traffic Incidents (7.2%).



Dispatcher Lisa Campbell

Fire and Non-EMS top five incidents were; Alarms (25.3%), Outside Fire (23.4%), Citizen Assist/Service Call (20.4%), Structure Fire (10.3%) and Electrical Hazard (9.5%).

Fire Comm Daily Calls for Service 2011 - 2012



Fire Communications

Projects

- **Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) – System Upgrade**

The computer system utilized by dispatchers to enter and process calls for service was replaced. The new system replaced aging software and hardware, which was at risk of significant failure. The deployment of the new system finalized a two year process of evaluation, programming, testing and training on the new system.

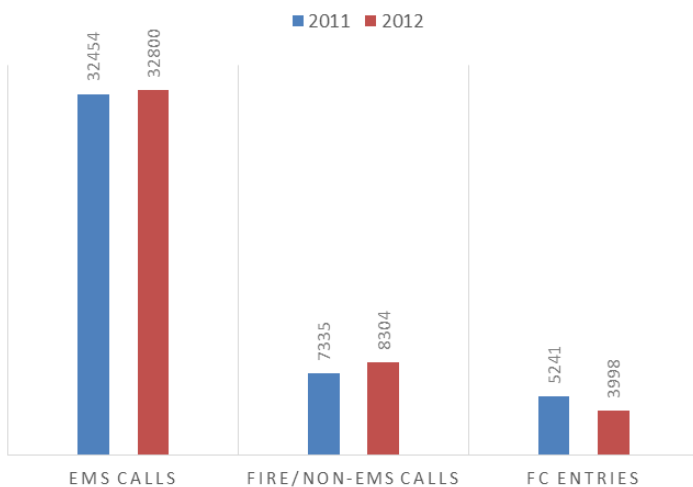
- **Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Protocols**

Fire Comm staff partnered with Tacoma Fire Department's dispatch administration to evaluate Emergency Medical Dispatch protocols. The effort resulted in the selection of a common EMD system that both agencies will utilize to evaluate and code medical calls for service. The system utilizes local control by a committee representative of a medical doctor, agency EMS staff, dispatch staff and dispatch management.

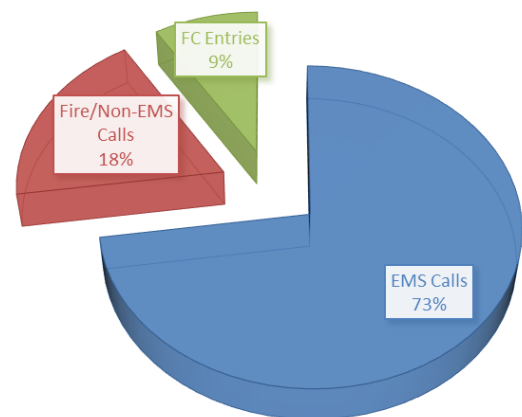
Significant Event

In January of 2012 Pierce County experience a major winter storm that lasted several days, bringing with it a significant amount of snow and ice. The storm's effect was felt throughout Pierce County, taxing Fire Department resources. During the event, Fire Comm calls for service increased setting a record of calls for service.

2011 TO 2012 CALLS FOR SERVICE COMPARISON



2012 CALLS FOR SERVICE



Fire Communications

Fire & Non-EMS			Medical		
Incident Type	# of Incidents	% of Fire & Non-EMS Calls	Incident Type	# of Incidents	% of EMS Calls
Aircraft Emergency	5	0.1%	Abdominal Pain/Problems	1292	3.9%
Alarms	2097	25.3%	Allergies/Envenomation	420	1.3%
Citizen Assist/Service Call	1698	20.4%	Animal Bites/Attacks	65	0.2%
Confined Space	2	0.0%	Assault/Sexual Assault	491	1.5%
Electrical Hazard	790	9.5%	Back Pain	459	1.4%
Elevator/Escalator Rescue	22	0.3%	Breathing Problems	3290	10.0%
Explosion	18	0.2%	Burns/Explosions	45	0.1%
Extrication/Entrapped	9	0.1%	Carbon Monoxide/Inhalation/Hazmat	13	0.0%
Fuel Spill	55	0.7%	Cardiac/Respiratory Arrest/Death	390	1.2%
Gas Leak/Gas Odor	104	1.3%	Chest Pain	3429	10.5%
Hazmat	15	0.2%	Choking	114	0.3%
High Angle Rescue	3	0.0%	Convulsions/Seizures	1096	3.3%
Lightning Strike	1	0.0%	Diabetic Problems	853	2.6%
Marine Fire	6	0.1%	Drowning/Diving/Scuba Accident	2	0.0%
Assist Outside Agency	35	0.4%	Electrocution/Lightning	5	0.0%
Odor	87	1.0%	Eye Problems/Injuries	32	0.1%
Outside Fire	1941	23.4%	Falls	4236	12.9%
Smoke Investigation	273	3.3%	Headache	255	0.8%
Structure Fire	858	10.3%	Heart Problems/ A.I.C.D.	465	1.4%
Vehicle Fire	219	2.6%	Heat/Cold Exposures	23	0.1%
Water Rescue	51	0.6%	Hemorrhage/Lacerations	844	2.6%
Watercraft in Distress	13	0.2%	Inaccessible/Other Entrapments	5	0.0%
Suspicious Package	2	0.0%	Mental Health Transport	614	1.9%
			Overdose/Poisoning	857	2.6%
			Patient Assist	330	1.0%
			Pregnancy/Childbirth/Miscarriage	182	0.6%
			Psychiatric/Suicide Attempt	594	1.8%
			Sick Person	4549	13.9%
			Stab/Gunshot/Penetrating Injury	78	0.2%
			Stroke (CVA)	1089	3.3%
			Traffic/Transportation Incidents	2369	7.2%
			Transfer/Interfacility/Palliative Care	406	1.2%
			Traumatic Injuries	1237	3.8%
			Unconscious/Fainting	1959	6.0%
			Unknown Problems	683	2.1%
			WALKIN/No Chief Complaint	29	0.1%

Finance

Population – 92,265

Assessed Value - \$7,968,874,611

Levy Rates

Regular \$1.50

EMS \$0.50

Excess \$1.106

Lakewood

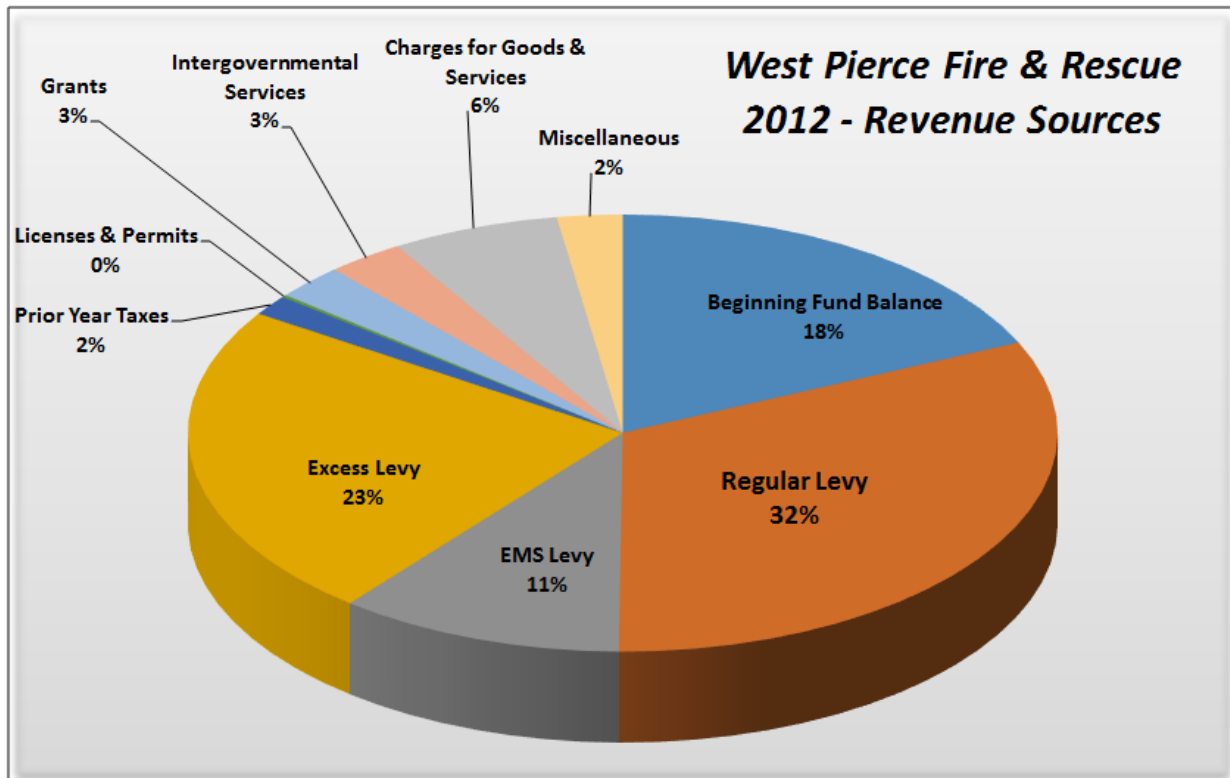
Median home value \$246,700

Per capita income \$26,316

University Place

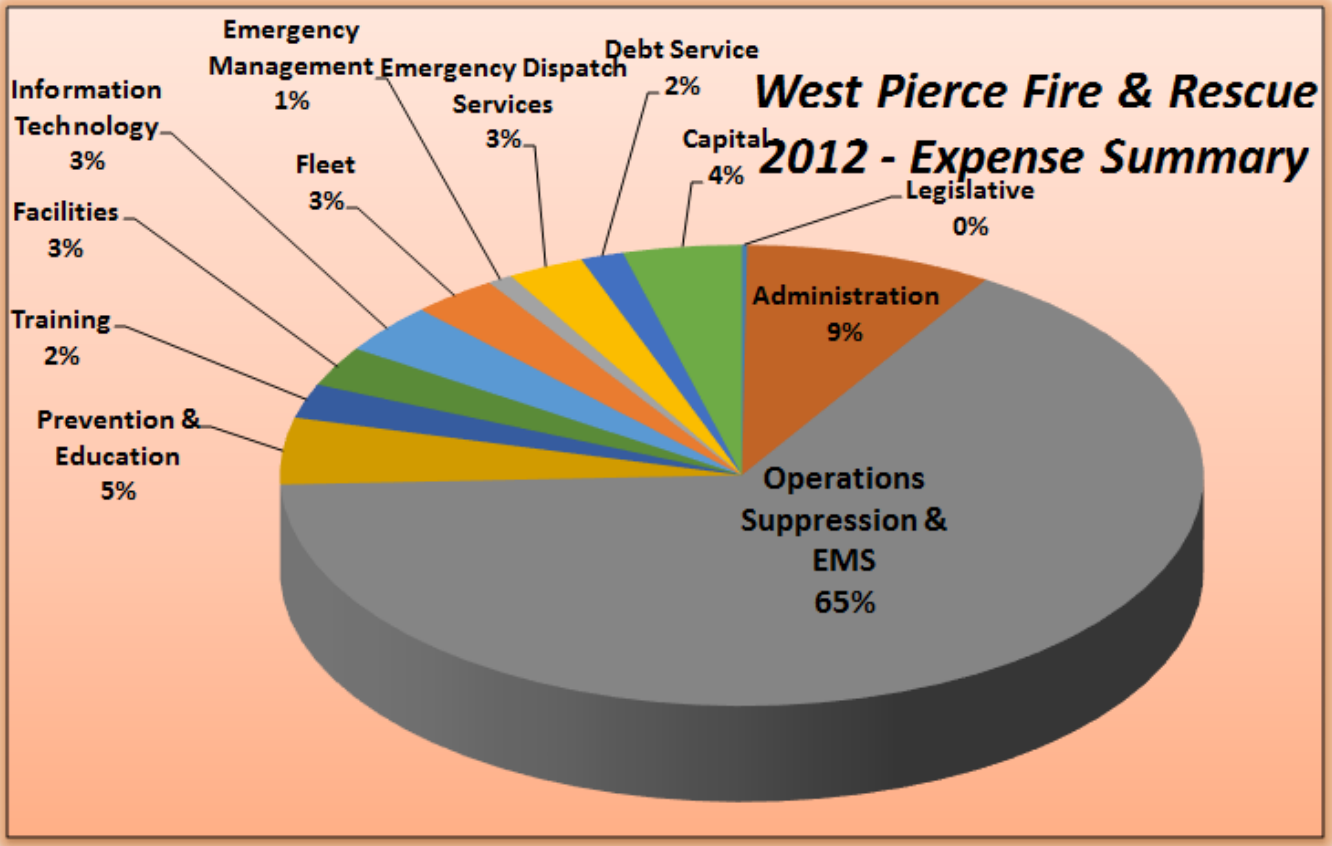
Median home value \$317,800

Per capita income \$31,168



Beginning Fund Balance	6,600,000
Regular Levy	11,575,908
EMS Levy	3,858,636
Excess Levy	8,482,987
Prior Year Taxes	540,500
Licenses & Permits	65,335
Grants	934,266
Intergovernmental Services	1,042,000
Charges for Goods & Services	2,266,945
Miscellaneous	882,432
	36,249,008

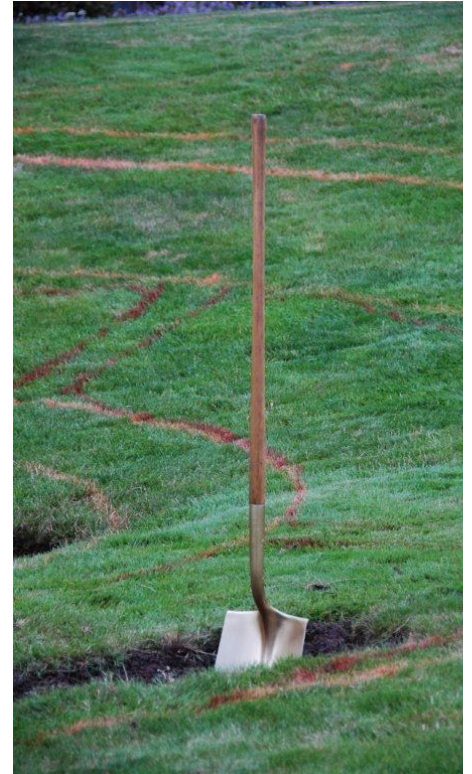
Finance



Legislative	55,639	
Administration	2,600,480	
Operations Suppression & EMS	19,606,867	
Prevention & Education	1,399,045	
Training	720,461	
Facilities	843,964	
Information Technology	1,050,586	
Fleet	901,901	
Emergency Management	263,483	
Emergency Dispatch Services	804,914	
Debt Service	451,943	
Capital	1,244,000	
		29,943,283



Before the park dedication on September 11, 2012



9/11 Reflection Park

Following the 9/11 tragedy, pieces of steel from the World Trade Center wreckage were being made available to government agencies across the country. West Pierce Fire & Rescue's request was granted and a volunteer team of firefighters traveled to New York to pick up our piece of steel. It was always our goal to proudly display this artifact where the public could see and touch a piece of the event that forever changed America.

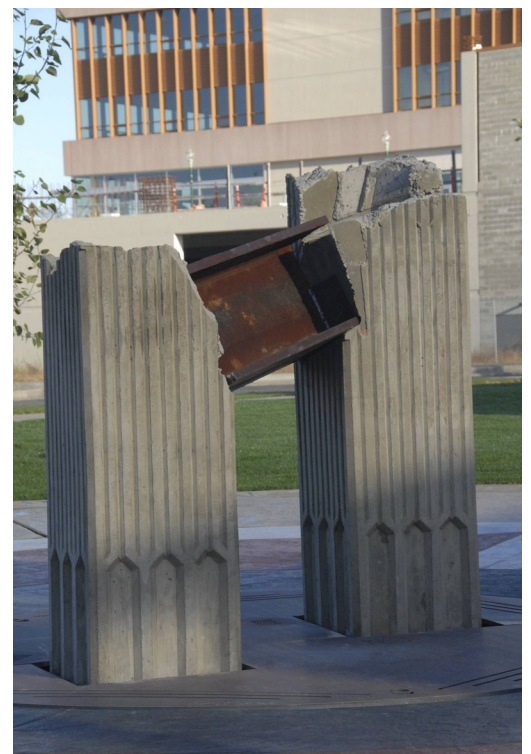
In early 2012, Fire Chief Ken Sharp assembled a committee to begin discussions on the construction of a park at Station 31 to display the steel and tell the story of the tragedy. The ideas poured in, plans were drawn and soon, architects and artisans from several trades were graciously volunteering their time to help transform this vision into reality. In a few short months, employees, labor groups, service organizations, artisans and vendors generously donated all the necessary funds and labor to construct the 9/11 Reflection Park. On a beautiful summer evening on September 11, 2012, the Reflection Park was filled with hundreds of people who came to attend the dedication ceremony.



9/11 Reflection Park



Commissioners Rankin, Erb, Chief Sharp, Blinn, Tobin and Clancy at the 9/11 Reflection Park groundbreaking ceremony



Steel from the World Trade Center



9/11 Reflection Park



WEST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE

Proudly serving the citizens of Lakewood and University Place

3631 Drexler Drive West, University Place, WA 98466
phone 253.564.1623 | fax 253.564.1629 | www.westpierce.org

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Deputy Chief Mitch Sagers

RE: 2012 RCW 52.33 Report

DATE: May 15, 2013

Enacted in 2005, RCW 52.33 requires each "substantially career fire department" to maintain a written document declaring the department as "established" and describing the department's basic organizational structure, core services provided, and response time objectives for such services. Beginning in 2007, RCW 52.33 requires an annual report be issued documenting the achievement of each response time objective. The report shall identify the objectives which are met less than 90% of the time, the predictable consequences of the deficiencies, and the steps necessary to improve achievement. As a supporting document, I have included West Pierce Fire & Rescue's Resolution 060711-008 for your review.

The 2012 report has been delayed by several factors beyond our control. In the fall of 2012, WPFR halted our electronic patient care reporting program due to technical problems which could not be resolved. We then reverted to paper reporting which further delayed the completion and logging of incident reports. In addition, you will recall our system-wide computer failure which further delayed our ability to track and complete reports.

The 2011 performance metrics were obtained by tedious calculations of raw data. Subsequently, we have purchased *VineLight*, a computer-based fire intelligence software program which would be used to obtain the data for the 2012 and future reports.

In the end, these reports will continue to assist us in monitoring and improving our service delivery. If you have specific questions or need additional information please feel free to contact me.

Respond Efficiently • Execute Flawlessly • BE NICE!

Definitions

Turnout Time

The time interval that begins when the notification process begins by either an audible alarm or visual annunciation, or both, and ends at the beginning point of travel time of the first arriving unit. Reference NFPA 1710 3.3.53.8.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 1710 Standard 2010 Edition)

The standard for the organization and deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments.

NFIRS

National Fire Incident Reporting System

Fire Incident

All NFIRS 100 incident types.

Special Operation Incident

Those emergency incidents to which the fire department responds that require specific and advanced training and specialized tools and equipment. Reference NFPA 1710 3.3.41.2.

CPR

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation

PIERCE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #3 RESOLUTION NO. 060711-008

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR PIERCE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3, ESTABLISHING THE CORE SERVICE PROVISIONS AND RESPONSE TIME OBJECTIVES AS REQUIRED BY RCW 52.33.030

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature adopted House Bill 1756 in 2005, and subsequently was codified as chapter 52.33 of the Revised Code of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the purpose and intent of this resolution is to provide documentation so as to comply with the intent of the statute; and

WHEREAS, such statute requires that each substantially career fire department maintain a written statement declaring the department "established", and listing the following:

- Services required to provide;
- Basic organizational structure;
- Expected number of employees;
- Functions employees are expected to perform; and

WHEREAS, such statute also requires establishment of response time objectives for the major service components including fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, and special operations; and

WHEREAS, such statute also requires compliance with the locally established response time objectives 90% of the time; and

WHEREAS, such statute requires issuance of an annual report documenting the achievement of each response time objective within the jurisdiction of the fire protection district;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 3 was established under RCW Title 52 in 1944 and thereafter a career fire department has been established.

Section 2. The core services provided by the district and the department, in accordance with the mission and statutes that govern fire protection districts and fire departments, are as follows:

- Fire suppression;
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Basic Life Support (BLS);
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Advanced Life Support (ALS);
- Hazardous Materials Response-Operations;
- Technical Rescue/Special Operations;
- Fire Prevention/Public Education

PIERCE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #3 RESOLUTION NO. 060711-008

Section 3. The district has a basic organizational structure which includes officers and firefighters with Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and/or Paramedic certifications, elected officials and support personnel.

Section 4. Effective March 1, 2011, the District employs the equivalent of 216 full time employees. These employees perform the tasks necessary to deliver and support the aforementioned core services.

Section 5. The fire protection district hereby establishes the following service delivery response time objectives for the core service components, as applicable:

Turnout Time (all incidents): 110 seconds

Fire Suppression:

1. Response time, first arriving engine company: 6 minutes;
2. Response time, full first alarm assignment: 10 minutes;

Emergency Medical Service:

1. Response time, BLS, first unit with "first responder" or higher: 6 minutes;
2. Response time, ALS, first unit with a paramedic: 6 minutes;

Hazardous Materials-Operations: Response time: 6 minutes;

Special Operations: Response time: 6 minutes

Section 6. The annual report shall define any geographic areas and circumstances in which the achievement of these standards is less than 90% of the time. The annual report shall explain the predictable consequences of any deficiencies and address the steps that are necessary to achieve the objectives.

Section 7. Adoption of this resolution shall rescind Resolution 121906-435.

Definitions

BLS

Reference NFPA 1710
3.3.36.2

ALS

Reference NFPA 1710
3.3.36.1

Emergency Medical Incident

The treatment of patients using basic first aid, CPR, BLS, ALS, and other medical procedures prior to the arrival at a hospital or other health care facility. Reference NFPA 1710 3.3.17. Note: Only NFIRS 321, 322, and 323 incident types.

Response Time (aka Travel Time)

Means the time immediately following the turnout time that begins when units are en route to the emergency incident and ends when the first arriving unit arrives at the scene. Reference NFPA 1710 3.3.53.7.

NFPA 1710

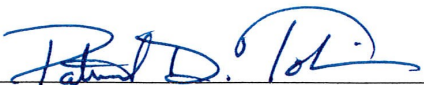
The standard for the organization and deployment of fire suppression, emergency medical operations, and special operations to the public by career fire departments.

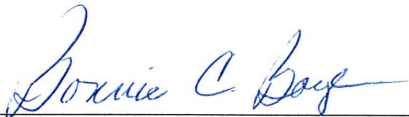
Engine Company


Apparatus whose primary functions are to pump and deliver water and perform basic firefighting at fires; including search and rescue. Reference NFPA 1710 5.2.3.1.

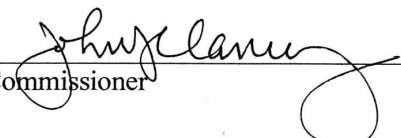
ADOPTED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 3
this 7th day of June, 2011.

PIERCE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3


Chairman

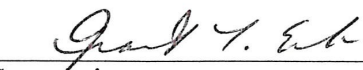

Commissioner

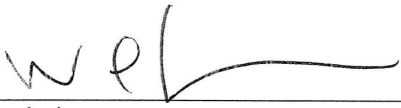

Commissioner


Commissioner



Commissioner


Commissioner

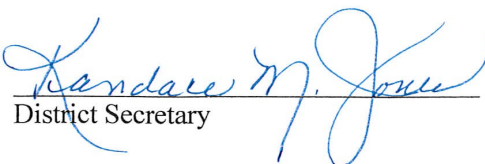

Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner

Attest:


District Secretary

WEST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE 2012 RCW 52.33 REPORT

1. Turnout Time¹

- a) The National Fire Protection Association² defines 80 seconds as the turnout time¹ performance standard for a fire suppression¹⁵ and special operation response⁵. Our agency meets this objective **29** percent of the time.
- b) Our agency has defined 110 seconds as the turnout time¹ performance standard for a fire suppression¹⁵ and special operation response⁵. Our agency meets this objective **39** percent of the time.
- c) 90% of our fire¹⁵ and special operation⁵ responses have a turnout time¹ of **175** seconds or less.
- d) The National Fire Protection Association² defines 60 seconds as the turnout time¹ performance standard for an emergency medical services response⁹. Our agency meets this objective **19** percent of the time.
- e) Our agency has defined 110 seconds as the turnout time¹ performance standard for an emergency medical services response⁹. Our agency meets this objective **59** percent of the time.
- f) 90% of our emergency medical services responses⁹ have a turnout time¹ of **161** seconds or less.

2. Response time¹⁰ for the arrival of the first arriving engine company¹² at a fire suppression incident¹⁵ (building or dwelling only)

- a) The National Fire Protection Association² defines 4 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **43** percent of the time.
- b) Due to circumstances outlined in Appendix 1, our agency has defined 1 geographic area within our jurisdiction:
 - For this geographic area, our agency has defined 6 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **79** percent of the time..
 - 90% of our response times¹⁰ for this objective are **7 minutes 23 seconds** or less

3. Response time¹⁰ for the arrival of the first arriving engine company¹² to all other fires¹⁶

- a) The National Fire Protection Association² defines 4 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **51** percent of the time.
- b) Due to circumstances outlined in Appendix 1, our agency has defined 1 geographic area within our jurisdiction.
 - For this geographic area, our agency has defined 6 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **75** percent of the time.
 - 90% of our response times for this objective are **8 minutes 29 seconds** or less.

Definitions

NFIRS 111

Building fire.

NFIRS 121

Fire in mobile home used as fixed residence.

All Other Fires

All NFIRS 100 level incident types except 111 and 121.

Full First Alarm Assignment

Means the appropriate number and type of both apparatus and fire suppression personnel as defined by each jurisdiction sufficient to perform the eight NFPA defined fire-fighting tasks at a working structure fire incident. Reference NFPA 1710 5.2.4.2.2

First Responder

A trained individual providing initial assessment and basic first-aid intervention, including cardiac pulmonary resuscitation and automatic external defibrillator capability. Reference NFPA 1710 3.3.24

Advanced Life Support Unit

Personnel and equipment capable of providing ALS care.

Fire Department

Reference Revised Code of Washington 52.33.020 (4)

WEST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE 2012 RCW 52.33 REPORT

4. **Response time¹⁰ for the arrival of the 4th firefighter at a fire suppression incident¹⁵ (building or dwelling only)**
 - a) The National Fire Protection Association² defines 4 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **42** percent of the time.
 - b) Due to circumstances outlined in Appendix 1, our agency has defined 1 geographic area within our jurisdiction.
 - For this geographic area, our agency has defined 6 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **53** percent of the time.
 - 90% of our response times¹⁰ for this objective are **6 minutes 28 seconds** or less.
5. **Response time¹⁰ for the deployment of a full first alarm assignment¹⁷ at a fire suppression incident¹⁵ (building or dwelling only) In WPFR, a full first alarm assignment includes 3 engines, 1 ladder, 2 medic units, and 1 Battalion Chief.**
 - a) The National Fire Protection Association² defines 8 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **14** percent of the time.
 - b) Due to circumstances outlined in Appendix 1, our agency has defined 1 geographic area within our jurisdiction.
 - For this geographic area, our agency has defined 10 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **55** percent of the time.
 - 90% of our response times¹⁰ for this objective are **14 minutes 32 second** or less.
6. **Response time¹⁰ for the arrival of a unit with first responder¹⁸ or higher level capability at an emergency medical incident⁹**
 - a) The National Fire Protection Association² defines 4 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **60** percent of the time.
 - b) Due to circumstances outlined in Appendix 1, our agency has defined 1 geographic area within our jurisdiction.
 - For this geographic area, our agency has defined 6 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **87** percent of the time.
 - 90% of our response times¹⁰ for this objective are **7 minutes 59 seconds** or less.

WEST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE 2012 RCW 52.33 REPORT

7. **Response time¹⁰ for the arrival of an advanced life support unit¹⁹ at an emergency medical incident⁹, where this service is provided by the fire department²⁰.**
- a) The National Fire Protection Association² defines 8 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective 60 percent of the time.
 - b) Due to circumstances outlined in Appendix 1, our agency has defined 1 geographic area within our jurisdiction.
 - For this geographic area, our agency has defined 6 minutes as the performance standard. Our agency meets this objective **64** percent of the time.
 - 90% of our response times¹⁰ for this objective are **9 minutes 33 seconds** or less

Premises

1. We are only capturing the apparatus' times when that unit is responding and arriving priority.
2. We are only reporting on incidents that occur within our own jurisdiction.
3. Apparatus from neighboring agencies that respond into our jurisdiction Mutual Aid and Automatic Aid received apparatus will be measured.

Appendix 1:Geographic Areas

The 2012 West Pierce Fire & Rescue delivery area is a homogeneous, suburban locality with a fairly uniform population density and geography. These features, in addition to 24/7 staffing at seven fire stations and multiple main arterial roadways preclude the need to establish additional geographic areas.

2012 RCW 52.33 Annual Report Summary

RCW 52.33 requires substantially career-staffed fire departments to document their core services and response time objectives which are intended to be met 90% of the time. Furthermore, agencies must annually report their achievement of these performance metrics. In 2010, the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Data Collection sub-committee produced a standardized reporting template. This template includes benchmarks from NFPA's 1710 Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments, 2010 Edition. Although a nationally recognized standard, few agencies have formally adopted 1710, as the staffing and resource requirements are financially prohibitive. As required by 52.33, this annual report shall identify and comment on West Pierce Fire & Rescue's performance against our objectives. Since the 2011 report we have installed a new data analysis program.

Intuitively, the consequences for not achieving our time objectives 90% of the time are delayed total response times, which in turn delay intervention actions for the protection of life and property. The deficiencies (<90%), explanations, and steps for improvement are as follows:

1.b. Turnout Time for fire suppression and special operations response: 39% achievement

- This represents a performance reduction from 2011. We are addressing the importance of speeding up crew pre-departure preparations while paying particular attention to safety practices.
- WPFR maintains crew safety guidelines which require all personnel to don complete Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) prior to the apparatus' departure from the station.

1.e. Turnout Time for emergency medical services response: 59% achievement

- Although slightly lower than 2011, this is statistically insignificant. WPFR continues to monitor this metric and company officers are encouraged to achieve turnout time improvements in the future.

2.b. Response Time for the arrival of the first arriving engine company at a fire suppression incident (building or dwelling only): 79% achievement

- Although less than 90%, this represents a slight improvement over 2011. Travel times can be impacted by road construction, railroad traffic, hazardous weather/conditions, and general traffic congestion. It is not our intent to encourage faster travel times which could place crews and the public at even greater risk for collisions.

3.b. Response Time for the arrival of the first engine company to all fires, other than building/dwelling fires: 75% achievement

- 75% represents a reduction from 2011.
- Travel times can be impacted by road construction, railroad traffic, hazardous weather/conditions, and general traffic congestion. It is not our intent to encourage faster travel times which could place crews and the public at even greater risk for collisions.

2012 RCW 52.33 Annual Report Summary

4.b. Response time for the arrival of the 4th firefighter at a fire suppression incident (building or dwelling only): 53% achievement

- 53% represents a slight, yet statistically insignificant increase from 2011.
- For this metric, the arrival of any additional unit fulfills the 4th firefighter requirement.
- Travel times can be impacted by road construction, railroad traffic, hazardous weather/conditions, and general traffic congestion. It is not our intent to encourage faster travel times which could place crews and the public at even greater risk for collisions.

5.b. Response Time for the deployment of a full first alarm assignment at building/dwelling fires: 55% achievement

- Although less than 90%, 55% achievement represents a slight improvement from 2011.
- Call volumes and frequency of back to back alarms continue to increase. We are also increasing our medic unit transports (much of the time to downtown hospitals). As a result, response units may be deployed on other alarms or out of their first-due areas. This in turn will require units from other response zones/agencies to be dispatched, increasing response times.

6.b. Response Time for the arrival of a unit with first responder or higher level capability at an emergency medical incident: 87% achievement

- Although less than 90%, this represents a slight improvement from 2011.
- Call volumes and frequency of back to back alarms continue to increase. We are also increasing our medic unit transports (much of the time to downtown hospitals). As a result, response units may be deployed on other alarms or out of their first-due areas. This in turn will require units from other response zones/agencies to be dispatched, increasing response times.

7.b. Response Time for the arrival of an advanced life support at an emergency medical incident, where this service is provided by the fire department: 64% achievement

- 64% represents a slight, yet statistically insignificant reduction from 2011.
- Call volumes and frequency of back to back alarms continue to increase. We are also increasing our medic unit transports (much of the time to downtown hospitals). As a result, response units may be deployed on other alarms or out of their first-due areas. This in turn will require units from other response zones/agencies to be dispatched, increasing response times. In 2013 we have initiated an additional Peak Activity Medic Unit in our operational model. We anticipate this will enhance our ability to provide ALS care more expeditiously.

West Pierce Fire & Rescue



Facility Maintenance Crew



Mechanic Mike Shuster



Hose practice at U.P. Festival



Dispatcher Aaron Crouch



Extrication training



Capt. Rick Jankowiak on the Endeavor