

# Park Ridge Fire Department

OUR MISSION: TO LIMIT THE LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY THROUGH  
PLANNING, PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

On June 28, 2013, a swearing in ceremony took place at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall for probationary FF/PM Aaron Wilson. Pictured below from left to right is Fire Chief Zywanski, City Clerk Betty Henneman, FF/PM Aaron Wilson and his mother, Julia Wilson. Welcome to the Park Ridge Fire Department Aaron!

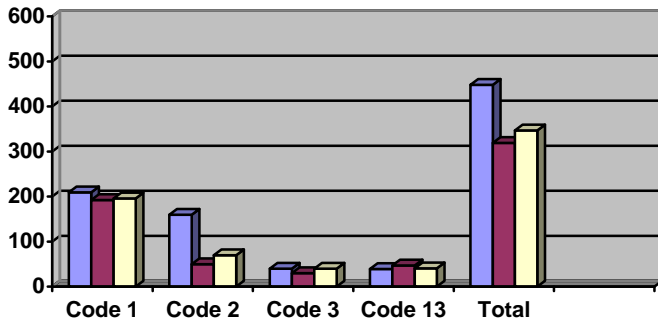


**June 2013**

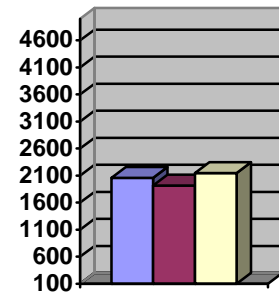


**Response Statistics**  
Fire Administration

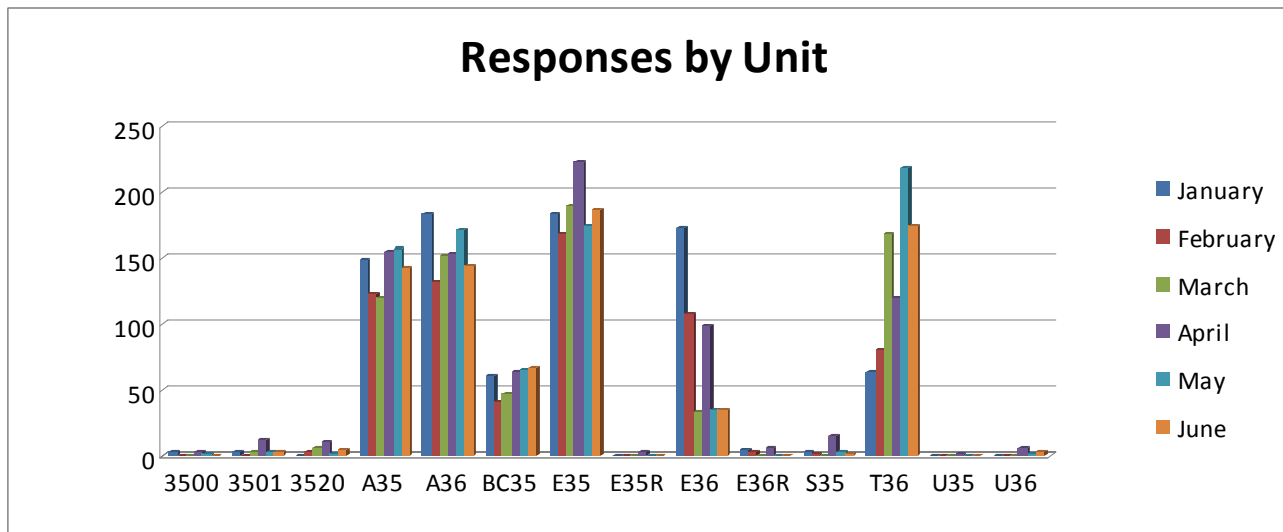
CODE	MONTHLY REPOSES 2012	MONTHLY REPOSES 2013	MONTHLY PERCENT 2012	MONTHLY PERCENT 2013
1- ambulance	237	242	63%	63%
2- single vehicle	56	58	15%	15%
3 - full fire	45	41	12%	11%
13 - mutual & auto aid	38	42	10%	11%
<b>TOTAL RESPONSES</b>	376	383	100%	100%

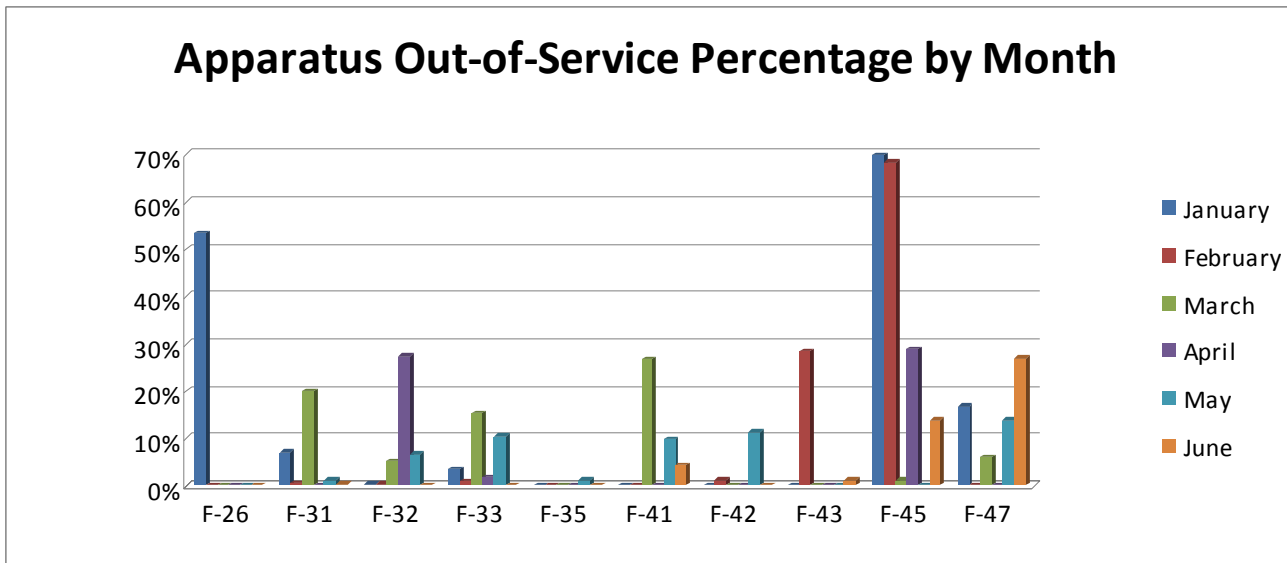
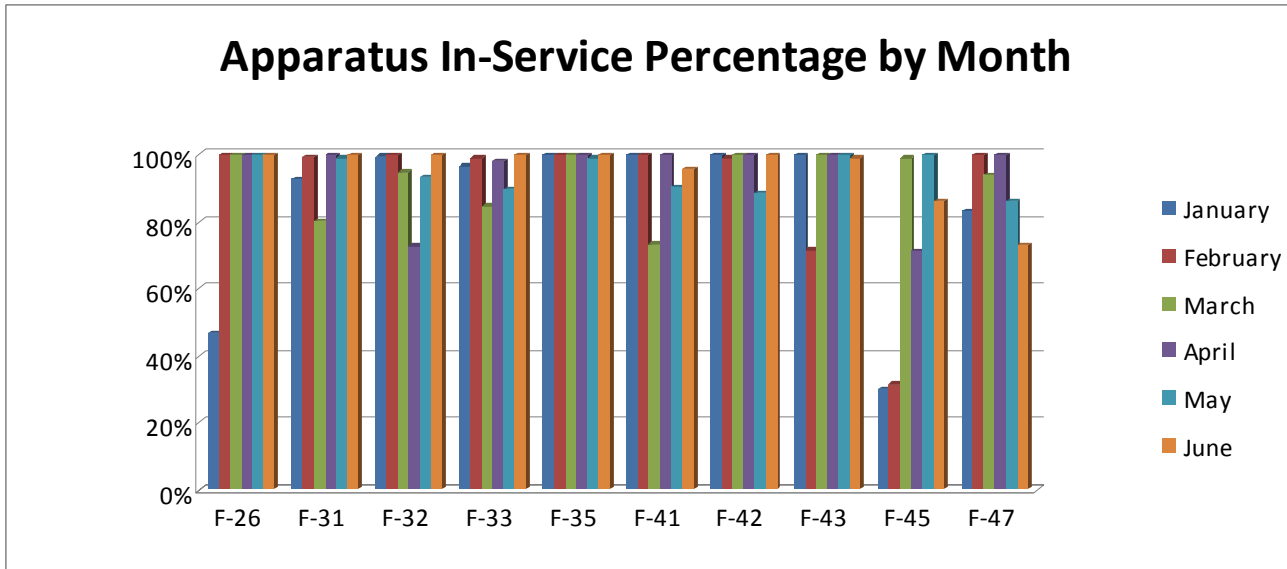


CURRENT MONTH



TOTAL ALARMS YTD





**Incident Response**  
Deputy Chief Jeff Sorensen

- June 5 Park Ridge firefighters were called to assist the Evanston Fire Department at the scene of a MABAS 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm for a fire in a multi-family apartment building. One injury was reported to a civilian.
- June 7 A two-vehicle crash on Oakton Street, West of Northwest Highway, resulted in two patients being transported to Lutheran General Hospital.



- June 8 Reported motorcycle vs. van at Sibley and Dee Rd. Ambulance #35 and Ambulance #36 transported two patients off the motorcycle, both trauma patients, to Lutheran General Hospital.
- June 8 Ambulance #36 and Tower #36 responded to a fire in Niles. Ambulance handled the rehabilitation sector (Firefighter safety). No patient transports.
- June 9 Reported crash with a rollover at the intersection of Devon Avenue and Cumberland Avenue. Ambulance #35 and Ambulance #36 transported two patients to Lutheran General Hospital.
- June 13 Companies responded to Northwest Highway and Potter Road for a child on a bike struck by an auto. The child was transported to Lutheran General Hospital.
- June 15 A vehicle struck the Pickwick, resulting in no injuries to pedestrians; however both the driver and passenger were transported to Lutheran General Hospital. Two ambulances responded to the scene- Niles Ambulance #3 assisted due to multiple calls at the time. The vehicle had moderate front end damage with airbag deployment and windshield fracture.
- June 21 Crews responded to the outside fire at 801 N. Washington. A portable toilet in a park was destroyed by fire.
- Crews responded to a second outside fire at Franklin School, 2401 Manor Lane. Trash can that was burning and another trash can next to it was just starting to burn. Dry chemical extinguisher was used.
- June 23 Storms resulted in two calls, one for a tree vs. house at 1860 Birch Lane, the other for a parkway tree down, possibly by lightning, at 123 N. Home Avenue.
- A crash occurred at 1700 W. Dempster, resulting in one patient being transported to Lutheran General Hospital.
- June 24 Storms resulted in multiple calls. Fire crews responded to arcing electrical equipment, power lines down, and a total of 20 calls in a 48-hour period.
- A crash occurred at Washington and Northwest Highway. One patient was given basic life support care and transported to Resurrection Medical Center.
- June 26 Storms again struck our area, with crews responding to multiple calls for hazards due to water in the basement and cars in the water where people got caught by water that was deeper than they thought. The Park Ridge Fire Department responded to 19 emergency calls in a 24-hour period.
- Crews responded to a two-vehicle crash at Potter Road and Northwest Highway. Upon arrival, crews found a midsize GMC pick-up truck and Pontiac sedan both with moderate damage. One patient was transported to Lutheran General Hospital.
- June 27 Ambulance #36 dispatched to 8975 W. Golf Rd, into Niles for the motorcycle vs. car crash. One injured patient was transported to Lutheran General Hospital with a serious head injury.



June 28 Ambulance #35 responded to assist the Leyden Fire Department with a fire in an apartment building, at 11010 W. Grand Avenue. This alarm was elevated to a MABAS 1<sup>st</sup> alarm for Fire and EMS.

### Fire Investigation

Lieutenant Derek Decker

#### Investigation Summaries

June 8 All Park Ridge equipment along with the Niles and North Maine Fire Departments responded to the 700 block of N. Northwest Highway for an outside fire along the side of a building. Upon arrival, a garbage can fire was found near a residential structure. The fire was quickly extinguished confining the fire to its origin. The damage was isolated to the can and its contents with an estimated loss of \$200.

The investigation concluded that the fire was caused when firewood was improperly disposed of near the plastic garbage container. The fire was classified as accidental.

June 21 Tower 36 responded to the 800 block of N. Washington for an outside fire. A large stand-alone outdoor restroom structure was found fully involved. The fire was extinguished with a pre-connected hoseline and portable extinguishers. The fire was contained to its origin. The resulting damage was estimated to be \$1,550.

The investigation could not identify a source of heat for ignition for the suspicious fire. The fire is currently being classified as undetermined.

June 21 Tower 36 responded to the 2400 block of Manor for an outside fire. Upon arrival, the contents of a dumpster were found burning. Multiple portable fire extinguishers were used to extinguish the fire. The estimated monetary damage resulting was listed as \$200.

The investigation could not identify a source of heat for ignition for the suspicious fire. The fire is currently being classified as undetermined.

### Training

Battalion Chief Scott Sankey

#### Quick Drill

Throughout the month the Training Division assigns various quick drills to be discussed at the morning roll call. The June quick drills covered:

- Tension Buttress Stabilization Video
- Standpipes in multi-family buildings
- Fire Triangle & Tetrahedron Review
- Methods of Heat Transfer Review
- Fire Behavior & Building Construction



**Word of the Week**

Throughout the month shift members at each station are assigned a word. The member researches the word as it relates to the fire service and presents his/her findings to the rest of his station during the morning roll call meeting. The words for June were:

- Lamella Arch
- Ultrasonic Inspection

**Report of the Week**

Throughout the month the shifts are assigned a report from the National Firefighters Near Miss web portal. The site provides firefighters a place to anonymously document and share their close calls and near miss experiences with other firefighters around the country. By sharing these reports we hope to prevent similar situations from happening in the future. The following report was covered in June:

- Disrupting the flow path has consequences

**Job Performance Requirements (JPR's)**

- Three firefighter ladder raises
- Firefighter & civilian ground ladder rescues
- Firefighter survival skills module A

**Outside Training**

FF/PM Smaha	Vehicle & Machinery Operations	40 hrs
FF/PM Wolff	Vehicle & Machinery Operations	40 hrs

**June Training Hours Analysis**

Description	Hours
Apparatus Familiarization	1.5
Communications/Radios	1
Driver Operator Training	129
Emergency Medical Services	37.25
EMS Skills	5
Auto Extrication	15
Fire Investigator Experience	3
Job Performance Requirements	105
Pump Operations	11
Report of the Week	11
Daily SCBA Familiarization/Checks	72.06
SCBA Skills Training	0.75
Quick Drills	56.81
Word of the Week	17.44
Walk-Through & Preplan	10.5
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>476.31</b>



**Special Teams**  
Battalion Chief Scott Sankey

**Hazardous Materials Team (HAZMAT)**

Park Ridge Fire Department members participated in two days of training during the month of June. Each day was a different scenario that required team members to utilize monitoring, patching, and mitigation skills. The drills were held in two locations and involved all members of MABAS Division III hazardous materials team.

**Underwater and Rescue and Recovery Team (URRT)**

Members of the Park Ridge URRT participated in a MABAS Division III training session hosted by Wilmette. The training was conducted on Lake Michigan on the shores in Wilmette. The drill focused on boat operations for a large scale search in a body of water. During the training, the Division III team also had the opportunity to operate the new set of boats that were recently placed in service.

**Technical Rescue Team (TRT)**

In June, the TRT participated in a trench rescue skills drill in Evanston. There were 3 trenches dug and multiple shore types used

**Apparatus & Equipment**  
Battalion Chief John Hanson

Due to the high amount of miles and the stresses that the vehicles are put under, it is critical that we perform routine and emergency maintenance in cooperation with the City Garage. Below is a list of the maintenance completed for the month:

F-26	1998 Command Van	- Repair auto-eject - Replace backup light
F-31	2005 Ambulance	- Repair fuel sensor seal
F-33	2005 Ambulance	- Repaired latch on drawer in module
F-41	1995 Engine	- Repaired turbo intake hose
F-43	2005 Engine	- Replaced lights - Repaired compartment
F-45	2001 Tower Ladder	- Repaired master stream controller - Front end alignment - Replaced radiator brackets
F-47	1994 Utility Vehicle	- Replaced starter
		-



## Fire Prevention

Lieutenant Kevin Plach

Activity	Monthly Totals 2012	Monthly Totals 2013
Initial Inspections	44	30
Re-Inspections	45	62
Pre-Permit Meetings	1	0
Construction Visits	6	18
Final Inspections	10	4
Plan reviews	18	28
Sprinkler Hydros	1	7
Storage Tank Installs	0	0
Storage Tank Removals	0	0
Residential Sprinklers	0	0
Fire Flow Tests	4	4
Fire Alarm Tests	3	2
Fire Pump Tests	0	1
Key Box Insp./Installs	13	3
Hood Test	0	0
Single Family Home Inspections	1	1
Citations	0	3
Meetings	15	8
Fire Drills	0	0
Seminar/Schools	0	0
Complaints	2	0
Shift Tours	1	0
Public Education Tours	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>171</b>
<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>930</b>

### Highlights

- Lt. Plach gave a tour of the fire department and equipment to Brownie troop 40959
- Lt. Plach taught a babysitting class to 18 kids at the library

### Car Seat Safety Checks

27 car seat safety checks were performed in June.

### CPR and First Aid classes

26 people attended CPR classes in the month of June 2013.

### The following classes were provided:

- 1 Health Care Provider class
- 1 Heart Saver CPR and AED class





**CPR training was provided to:**

- 18 faculty and staff from St. Andrew School
- 8 people in our public classes

**Park Ridge Fire Explorer Post 3536**

The Explorer program has been temporarily suspended.

**Highlight of the Month**

Fire Administration

Deputy Chief Sorensen ( #3501) responded to a structure fire in a three-unit condominium building, at 620 Ballantrae Drive in Northbrook. The response was part of the MABAS Division III Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT). Upon arrival, #3501 was assigned to safety. Companies on the scene worked to confine the fire to the top floor and mansard-style roof of the structure. There were no injuries to civilians or fire personnel, but there was substantial water damage to the building. This alarm was elevated to a MABAS 2nd alarm for fire, bringing an approximate total of 35 units and 75 personnel to the scene.



**World Trade Center Steel Update**  
Fire Administration

The next meeting for the Public Arts Commission will be in June.

**Monthly Tip**

Senior Administrative Assistant  
Jennifer Steurer

Tornadoes are nature's most violent storms. With little or no warning, powerful thunderstorms can produce tornadoes that can cause extensive damage in a short time. The strong rotating winds can easily destroy large buildings, turn small, normally harmless items into deadly missiles, and hurl people, animals, and even heavy machinery hundreds of yards. Flying debris carried along by the funnel causes most injuries and deaths from tornadoes.

Since 1950 all counties in Illinois have experienced tornadoes. Tornadoes can occur any time of the year in the state, but the prime months are March through June. Illinois has averaged 31 tornadoes per year since 1950, but there have been as many as 107 in one year (1974). Fifty percent of all tornadoes occur between three and seven p.m., but they can strike any time of day. Only about 15% of all tornadoes strike during the night.

The City of Park Ridge has installed 5 early warning sirens throughout the city to alert residents to severe weather who are not watching TV or listening to a radio. These sirens will be activated, using a steady tone, whenever a funnel cloud has been sighted or confirmed by local public safety officials. It will also be utilized whenever a funnel cloud is sighted within ten miles of Park Ridge or the National Weather Service has issued a tornado warning. This system will allow the City to quickly alert all citizens of impending emergency situations, including an approaching tornado.

It is important to note that normal channels of communication may be interrupted by a tornado. Local media resources may be off the air due to power outages or damages to their facility and equipment. Citizens are encouraged to obtain battery-operated radios, before a disaster strikes, as part of a home preparedness kit.

The following guideline will help you prepare for a tornado.



First, know the terms used to describe tornado threats:

- Tornado Watch: Tornadoes are possible – stay tuned to radio and TV reports.
- Tornado Warning: A Tornado has been sighted – take shelter immediately.
- Severe Thunderstorm Watch: Severe thunderstorms are possible.
- Severe Thunderstorm Warning: Severe thunderstorms are occurring in the warning areas.

Second, be prepared to take shelter. Determine a safe place to seek shelter, such as a basement/storm cellar, or an interior room on the lowest floor. Make sure everyone in the family knows where to go. Remember to have emergency supplies on hand, such as extra food, blankets, flashlights, batteries, and battery-operated radio. Third, property and possessions are accounted for. Keep an inventory of your possessions.

**What to do during a tornado watch:**

- Listen to a radio or television broadcasts for the latest information.
- Be alert for approaching storms. Be prepared to take shelter if threatening weather approaches.

**What to do during a tornado:**

- When a tornado has been sighted, go to the basement immediately. If there is no basement, go to an interior part of the building on the lowest level. Stay away from windows, doors and outside walls.
- Vehicles, trailers, and mobile homes will not provide adequate shelter. If at all possible, get out immediately and find shelter in a substantial structure.
- If you are caught outdoors and there is no shelter nearby, seek a low-lying area and shield your head with your hands.
- Stay in your shelter until the danger has passed. Stay tuned to radio or television broadcasts for updated information on the current weather situation.

If a tornado is spotted in the area and is considered a threat to the residents of Park Ridge, the City will activate the outdoor emergency warning sirens. These sirens will sound a warning for three minutes and then stop.

The early warning sirens are tested the first Tuesday of every month, at 10:00 a.m. The test lasts three minutes. There is one minute of steady signal- this is the weather warning- followed by one minute of silence. Then there is one minute of rising and falling signal- this is an attack warning. As with the actual warning siren, there is no all-clear signal.

For your information, the Village of Rosemont tests their sirens on Monday nights at 6:00 p.m. They are the only municipality in this area that performs the test at a different time and day (s).

