



Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Annual Report 2022



SERVING WITH P.R.I.D.E.

Professional **R**eady **I**nnovative **D**edicated **E**mpowered

Eric T. Helm, City Manager
City of Crystal Lake

Dear Mr. Helm;

I present to you the 2022 Annual Report for the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department. This report outlines the efforts and accomplishments of the Department during the past year. I am pleased to provide this information to you, the City Council, the Trustees of the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District, the Board Members of the Village of Lakewood, and the citizens of the Crystal Lake community.

Listed below you will find highlights of the Department's accomplishments for 2022:

- Responded to 7,642 calls for service.
- Conducted training for City staff on the Emergency Operations Center Call Log System for use during severe weather events.
- Police and Fire Rescue personnel participated in an active shooter tabletop exercise with representatives from School District 155.
- Conducted an exercise with the City's regional dispatch center, SEECOM, to test a revised policy of the City's Command Center during severe weather events.
- Conducted an in-person open house after two years of hosting virtual events due to COVID-19.
- Conducted training and placed into service, three new Rosenbauer fire pumpers.
- Conducted an operations and utilization study for the Fire Rescue Department.
- Conducted 378 plan reviews and 1,277 fire inspections.
- Conducted a variety of public education events that made contact with nearly 18,000 participants.
- Fire Rescue members logged over 14,500 hours of training.
- Executed an automatic aid agreement with the Woodstock Fire Rescue District for station coverage during structure fire responses.

On behalf of the members of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department, I thank you for the opportunity to serve the Crystal Lake community.

Sincerely,

Paul DeRaedt

Fire Rescue Chief



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Department Overview

The City of Crystal Lake is located in McHenry County, Illinois, approximately 45 miles northwest of the City of Chicago. The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department provides service for the City of Crystal Lake, the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District, the Village of Lakewood, and portions of Lake in the Hills. The area served is approximately 51.2 square miles, with a resident population of nearly 56,000 based on the 2020 census. Services provided include fire protection, emergency medical care (Advanced Life Support), fire inspections, public education, and special team responses such as hazardous materials, dive rescue, trench, confined space, rope, and structural collapse. The City of Crystal Lake is the largest city in McHenry County, and the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's service area includes four U.S. highways, a railroad (Union Pacific), three large lakes (Crystal Lake and Three Oaks Recreation Area), and McHenry County College. The Department also provides automatic aid to the Nunda Rural Fire Protection District, McHenry Township Fire Protection District, Algonquin / Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District, Huntley Fire Protection District, and Woodstock Fire Rescue District. Mutual Aid is provided to communities in McHenry, Lake, and Kane Counties through the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

The Fire Rescue Department provides 24-hour emergency response, operating out of three stations with 69 personnel. Staffing is provided by three shifts of full-time firefighters on a 24/48-hour schedule. Approved full-time positions include 3 Battalion Chiefs, 9 Lieutenants, and 48 firefighter/paramedics. Full-time firefighters and lieutenants are members of the Crystal Lake Professional Firefighters Association, Local 3926, of the International Association of Firefighters. Emergency response minimum staffing is 15 personnel per shift. Administrative staffing positions include Fire Rescue Chief, Deputy Chief, Bureau Chief of Training, Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention, two Fire Inspectors, and two Administrative Assistants. In 2022, the Department responded to 7,642 incidents of which 64% involved emergency medical care.



Year in Review

In-person Open House

On October 8, 2022, the Fire Rescue Department conducted an in-person open house after COVID-19 caused us to pause gathering in person for two years.

Activities included displays of firefighting gear, fire engines, ambulances, and other emergency equipment. There were hose drills for children, blood pressure checks for adults, rope rescue demonstrations, a live fire demonstration, an arson dog demonstration, and much more.

Other groups and partners in the community that participated were: Crystal Lake Police Department, Life Net aeromedical helicopter service, McHenry County Health Department, McHenry County Substance Abuse Coalition, Senior Services, Nicor, ComEd, Crystal Lake Park District, Crystal Lake Public Library, and Salvation Army who provided refreshments.

New Personnel

On Monday, January 10, 2022, the Fire Rescue Department welcomed Probationary FF/PM Brian Van Laeke. He comes to us from the Grayslake Fire Protection District where he served as a part-time member. Previously, he worked for A-Tec Ambulance here in Crystal Lake.



On February 16, 2022, Fire Inspector John Hussey joined the Fire Rescue Department. John comes to us with a Fire Protection Engineering degree from Oklahoma State University and 4 years of experience in the fire service. He previously served as a fire inspector with the Arvada, CO Fire Department.



Emergency Operations Center Application Exercise

On Thursday, April 21, the Fire Rescue Department conducted an exercise with the City's call takers for an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation involving a severe weather event.

The exercise entailed simulated calls for service not normally received through 911 being sent to the call takers. The call takers in turn would enter information into the City's Emergency Operations Center application that the City rolled out last year. The information is then available real time in the EOC for viewing by City supervisors from Police, Fire Rescue and Public Works who assign City resources to answer these calls for service not captured by 911.

The goal of the exercise was to re-familiarize the call takers with the EOC application before we entered severe weather season. The call takers performance was excellent in this exercise. The EOC application identified all the calls entered by the call takers ensuring no call for service either through 911 or through the City's phone system were missed.



Fire Pumper Deliveries

In November, the City took delivery of three Rosenbauer fire pumpers. During November and December, the pumpers were prepared for being placed in service. Before this occurred, equipment needed to be transferred from our existing pumpers, along with vehicle familiarization training and driver/pump operator training. On December 27th, the last pumper was placed in service.



Tabletop Exercise with School District 155

On Monday, August 29th, representatives from Crystal Lake Police and Fire Rescue attended a tabletop exercise with staff of School District 155. The focus of the exercise was to discuss an active shooter incident.

The goal of the exercise was to determine areas for improvement in current school plans regarding incident command and re-unification of students and parents.

Lakeside Festival and Fireworks

This was another successful year for the Lakeside Festival and City fireworks display. The Fire Prevention Bureau was active inspecting the food service set up and carnival rides with little to no issues. Our consistent enforcement of the City's fire codes over the years has helped our returning vendors know our expectations.

The Fire Prevention Bureau was also active with the inspection of the fireworks display. The process to approve the show begins in January each year and ends when the last fireworks shell is fired. Our Bureau put in long hours that began at 8:00 am the day of the show and ends at 2:00 am after the fireworks vendor has left the site. Their efforts provided for a safe and enjoyable event for all who attended.



Swearing In Ceremony

COVID-19 made an impact on all of us during the past two years. One event that impacted our ability to gather in small numbers was the public swearing in of our personnel. These events offered an opportunity to publicly recognize the accomplishments of our personnel who were either taking their initial oath of office or were promoted to another rank. It was also an opportunity for family and friends to share in this special day.

On October 18, 2022, several of our members were afforded the opportunity to be sworn in at the City Council meeting by Mayor Haleblan. The members being sworn in were as follows:

Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Van Laeke

Lieutenants David Kaltenbach, Matt Thuma, and Dan Williams

Battalion/Bureau Chief James Sustek

Deputy Chief Craig Snyder



FF/PM Brian Van Laeke



(L-R) Lieutenants Dave Kaltenbach,
Matt Thuma, and Dan Williams



BC James Sustek



DC Craig Snyder



Retired Members

In 2022, the following members of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department retired after many years of dedicated service to the residents and business owners of the Crystal Lake community.



Lt. Joyce Stevenson
42 Years



BC Dan Grischow
30 Years



Lt. Casey Cork
29 Years



FF/PM Brian Menzimer
22 Years



FF/PM Megan Miller
9 Years



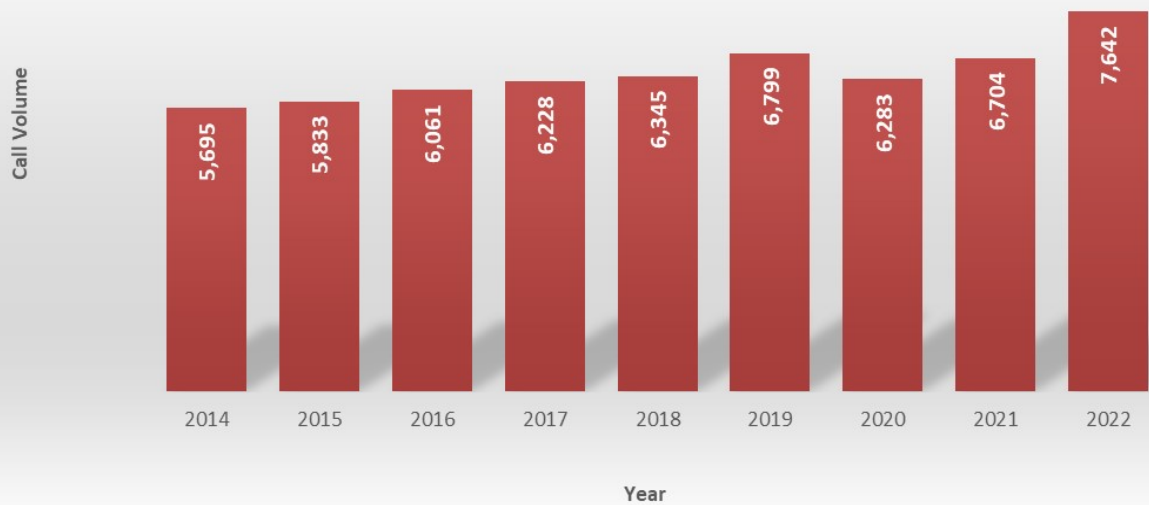
Incident Statistics

Battalion Chief William Whyte

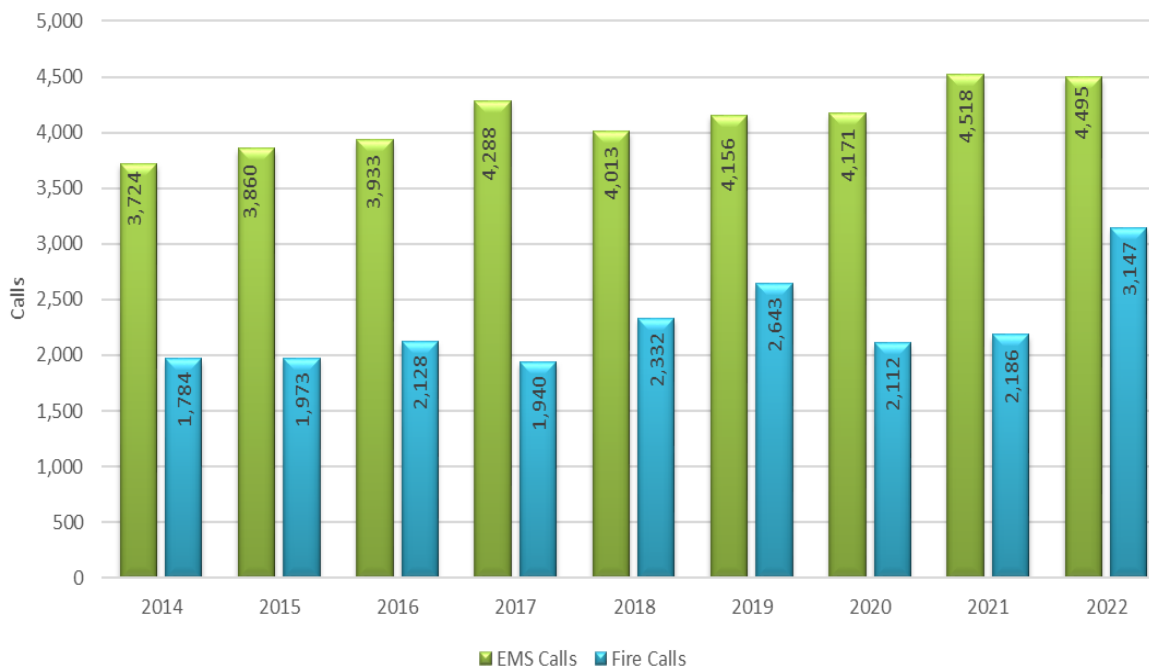
Incident Type	#2020	%2020	#2021	%2021	#2022	%2022
Fire	65	1.03%	85	1.27%	91	1.19%
Over Pressure, Rupture, Explosion	1	0.02%	1	0.02%	5	0.07%
Rescue and EMS Incidents	4,171	66.39%	4,528	67.54%	4,904	64.17%
Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)	165	2.63%	216	3.22%	212	2.77%
Service Call	727	11.57%	751	11.20%	975	12.76%
Good Intent Call	298	4.74%	336	5.01%	426	5.57%
Fire Alarms	846	13.46%	779	11.62%	1,014	13.27%
Special Incident Type	10	0.16%	8	0.12%	15	0.20%
Total	6,283	100.00%	6,704	100.00%	7,642	100.00%
Jurisdiction	#2020	%2020	#2021	%2021	#2022	%2022
City of Crystal Lake	5,114	81.39%	5,669	84.56%	6,596	86.31%
Crystal Lake Rural FPD	698	11.11%	587	8.76%	611	8.00%
Village of Lakewood	314	5.00%	316	4.71%	324	4.24%
Out of District	157	2.50%	132	1.97%	111	1.45%
Total	6,283	100%	6,704	100.00%	7,642	100.00%



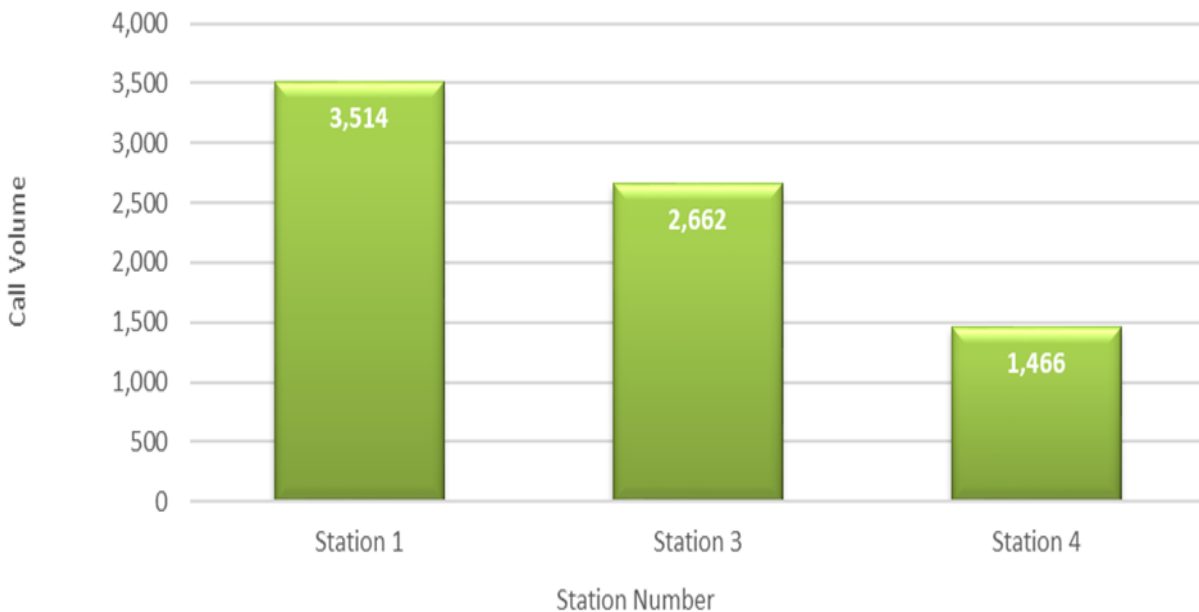
Total Calls 2014 Through 2022



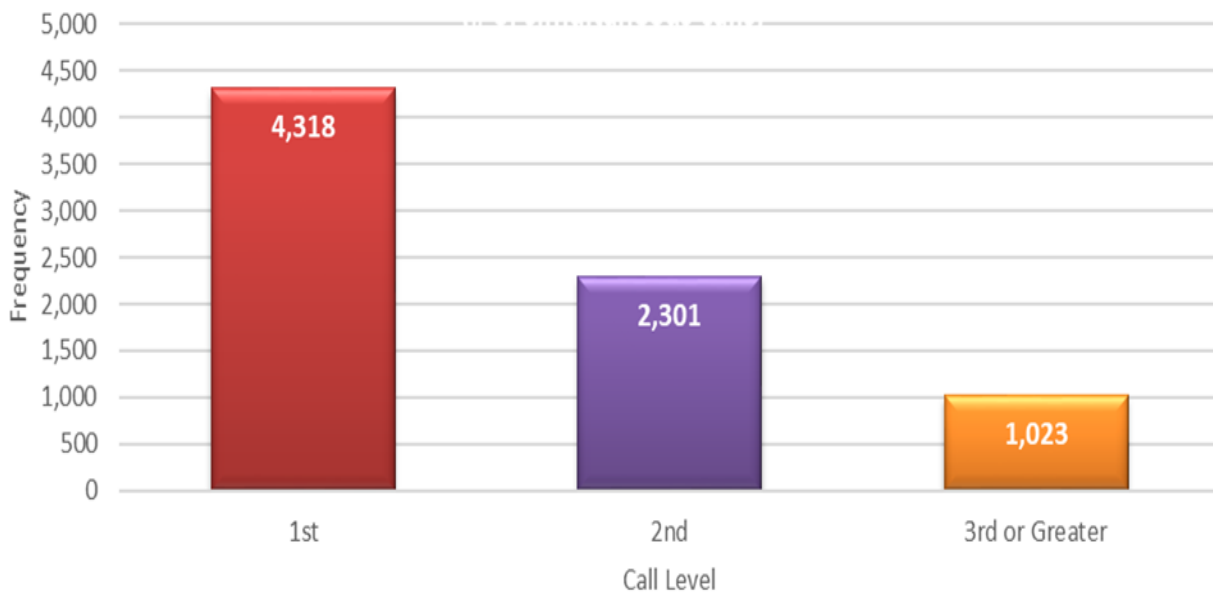
Fire and Ambulance Call Volume 2014 - 2022



Call Volume by Station



Depth of Call



Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Fire Suppression Response Times For Each Station

	Station 1	Station 3	Station 4
Average Alarm Processing Time	1:03	0:55	1:07
Average Turnout Time	1:09	1:04	1:08
Average Travel Time	5:01	5:19	5:32
Average Alarm To Scene Time	7:05	7:13	7:41

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department EMS Response Times For Each Station

	Station 1	Station 3	Station 4
Average Alarm Processing Time	1:03	0:58	1:00
Average Turn Out Time	1:03	1:01	1:03
Average Travel Time	4:32	4:27	4:55
Average Alarm To Scene Time	6:37	6:28	6:56



Fire Prevention Bureau

Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention – Christopher Kopera

The Fire Prevention Bureau is a key link between the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department and the business community. They work in an effort to protect the citizens and visitors in Crystal Lake against the loss of life and property, through its enforcement of adopted fire codes. The Fire Prevention Bureau ensures code compliance through the thorough examination of building plans, inspection of buildings, structures, and facilities. Examples of prominent fire protection systems include; fire alarm, fire sprinkler, and kitchen hood.

Working with building designers, contractors, business owners, and their employees through code enforcement encourages business stability and a safer work environment. Code enforcement serves to encourage the prevention of fires, while also minimizing the impact of experiencing a fire.

Plan Reviews

During calendar year 2022, the Fire Prevention Bureau completed 378 plan reviews. The Fire Prevention Bureau strives to complete plan reviews within the following timelines for the requesting department or contractor; within 10 business days for 1st reviews and within 5 business days for re-submittals. The annual goal is to have 98 percent of the reviews completed within the timeframes.

Fire Inspections

In 2022, the Fire Prevention Bureau completed 1,277 inspections. Inspections are completed for a variety of reasons ensuring code compliance requirements are being met.



Fire Plan Review

Fire Plan Review	2019	2020	2021	2022
Building Permit Plan Review	301	235	112	202
Sprinkler Plan Review	51	38	39	34
Fire Alarm Plan Review	61	44	49	52
Wet Chemical/Clean Agent Plan Review	5	7	3	6
PUD Plan Review	27	6	0	7
SUP Plan Review	6	7	0	2
TUP Plan Review	0	0	0	0
Variation Plan Review	0	8	0	1
Cursory Plan Review	24	11	21	25
FOIA Fire Prevention Bureau Request	40	19	37	36
County-Residential Plan Review	2	0	0	4
Special Event	42	3	7	9
Annexation	1	0	0	0
Total	560	378	268	378

Inspections / Code Enforcement

Fire Inspections	2019	2020	2021	2022
Building	374	270	325	279
Fire Alarm	81	62	72	72
Fire Sprinkler System	123	67	94	65
Hood or other Suppression/Clean Agent	16	11	28	15
Target Hazard	99	44	29	1
Occupancy	127	118	172	157
Fire Protection Follow up	not reported			338
Special Event/Tent	20	8	11	10
Mobile Food Truck	13	8	12	15
Life Safety Inspection	not reported			325
Total	853	588	743	1,277



Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

EMS Coordinator – Battalion Chief Heidi Olsen

EMS Statistics – 2022

Transport Destination	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Northwestern McHenry	1,356	27.45%
Northwestern Woodstock	394	7.98%
Northwestern Huntley	1,457	29.50%
Advocate Good Shepherd	244	4.94%
Advocate Sherman	20	0.41%
Other	5	0.10%
Non-Transport	1,463	26.62%
Total	4,939	100.00%

EMS Incident Outcome	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Hospital Transport	3,476	70.38%
Non-Transport	1,463	29.62%
Total	4,939	100.00%

Services Provided	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Advanced Life Support	2,364	47.86%
Basic Life Support	2,575	52.14%
Total	4,939	100.00%



Training Bureau

Bureau Chief of Training – Heidi Olsen

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department continues to emphasize development of our personnel. Training requirements are outlined by several organizations such as Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department (CLFRD) personnel participated in over 14,500 hours of training in order to remain proficient in all areas of emergency operations.

In 2022, the Training Bureau has accomplished the following:

- Ice rescue training for all personnel
- Provided live fire training with Huntley and Algonquin/LITH Fire Protection Districts.
- Conducted mutual aid training with Woodstock Fire / Rescue District.
- Coordinated a Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) training with McHenry Township FPD.
- Provide training to all fire apparatus engineers on the new Rosenbauer pumpers.

These goals were able to be accomplished through the commitment, hard work, and support from Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department personnel.



In 2022, Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department personnel logged **14,589** hours of training. Each member participated in approximately **228** hours of training for the year, or **19** hours of training monthly per person.

Professional Development and Certifications

Some of the certification courses attended by Department personnel in 2022 are as follows:

- Incident Safety Officer
- Instructor I and II
- International Association of Arson Investigators Conference
- Structural Collapse Operations
- Confined Space Operations
- Hazardous Materials Incident Command
- Training Program Manager
- Advanced Technician Firefighter
- Fire Investigator
- Leadership Development and Decision Making
- Trench Operations
- Fireground Company Officer

Live Fire Training Evolutions

Crews had two opportunities to completed live fire training at Huntley’s training tower this year. Several drills were conducted that were specific to each shifts needs. These included; second floor fire evolutions, search and rescue operations, vertical ventilation, and vent/enter/search drills.



Safety Committee

Fire Rescue Safety Officer– Bureau Chief Heidi Olsen

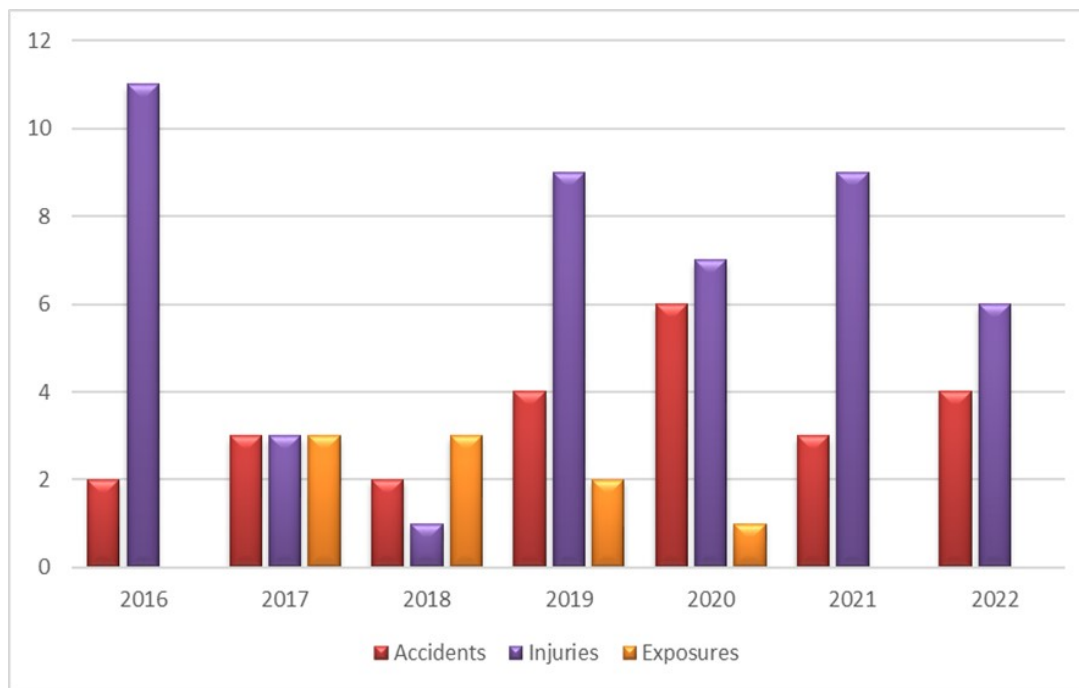
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Safety Committee continues to be an integral part of the City of Crystal Lake’s overall risk management plan and program. Through the Safety Committee, management and employees can communicate safety concerns and ideas to promote a safe work environment for Department employees.

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has accomplished many things over the past year. Some of those items are as follows:

- Reduce the total number of preventable employee injuries by 33%.
- Continued quarterly driver education training.
- Continue to promote the Department’s Behavior Observation Program.
- Promote the use of physical fitness equipment to improve personal strength and health.

Accident/Injury Investigations

The Fire Rescue Department Safety Committee conducted a total of 10 accident/injury investigations for the year 2022. The following graph shows a comparison between previous year’s accident/injury investigations:



Station Locations



Fire Station One
100 W. Woodstock Street



Fire Station Three
844 Virginia Road



Fire Station Four
8705 Bard Road



Department Roster

Officers

Paul DeRaedt

Craig Snyder

Christopher Kopera

Dan Grischow (retired 8/11/22)

Heidi Olsen (assigned 8/15/22)

William Whyte

Casey Cork (retired 5/15/22)

John Volenec

Brian Tamason

Brian Marino (promoted 5/17/22)

Richard Kaiser Jr.

Darrell Cook

Matt Thuma

Dave Kaltenbach (promoted 8/25/22)

James Sustek (promoted 8/17/22)

Chris Angelo

Chris Bedore

Dan Williams

Joyce Stevenson (retired 12/22/22)

Support Staff

Linda Olszak

Karyn Dorfman

John Hussey

Chris Williams

Position

Fire Rescue Chief

Deputy Fire Rescue Chief

Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention

Bureau Chief of Training

Bureau Chief of Training

Battalion Chief – Black Shift

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Battalion Chief – Red Shift

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Battalion Chief – Gold Shift

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Lieutenant

Administrative Assistant

Administrative Assistant

Fire Inspector

Fire Inspector



Department Roster

Firefighter/Paramedics

Aiello, Mike	Menzimer, Brian (retired10/1)
Bergstrom, Garret	Miller, Megan
Borst, Nick	Muscavitch, Ryan
Brechbiel, Bob	Newton, Matt
Bucheger, Adam	Odishoo, Tim
Chociej, Kamil	Pace, Palmer
Delgado, Sergio	Pireh, Martin
Forsberg, Joe	Rosner, Joe
Fowles, Adam	Ryan, John
Gualdoni, James	Seyl, Robert
Gundlach, Amanda	Smith, George
Hagen, Kim	Spivey, Jim
Hagen, Scott	Sypura, Andrew
Havemann, Ed	Szatkowski, Dane
Hurley, Mike	Brian Van Laeke
Kauke, Bryan	Vega, Ramon
Kempe, Kyle	Walker, Curt
Kerley, Tim	Wisz, Rob
Klug, Matt	
Kownacki, Kevin	
Kreher, Rich	
Landwer, Mark	
Leuck, Matt	
Linneman, Tom	
Lucas, Mike	

