

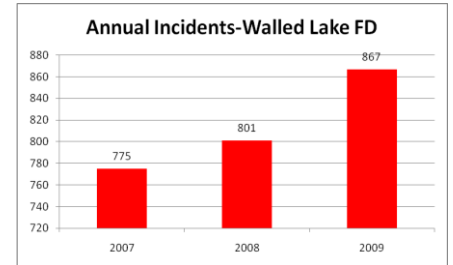


## Message from Fire Chief Ken Van Sparrentak

**2009** is another year that the citizens of Walled Lake can be proud of the service provided by their fire department. The men and women of the Walled Lake Fire Department (WLFD) remain professional, compassionate and dedicated even as fiscal restraints reduced training, while total incidents increased 8% over 2009 and 11% over 2007. We are maintaining our Class 4 ISO rating attained in 2008 that helps reduce fire insurance premiums for Walled Lake residents and businesses.

### OUR PEOPLE

The firefighters continue to be our number one resource and their commitment to the Walled Lake community is unmatched. In 2009, WLFD hired two paid on call firefighters, Ethan Marijanovich and Brian Murray. Fire Marshal Jim Coomer became the first member in WLFD history to complete the Eastern Michigan University School of Fire Staff and Command. For the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Walled Lake Firefighters participated in MDA's *Fill the Boot Drive*.



### MEDIC 1

March 7<sup>th</sup>: For the first time in Walled Lake's 55-year history, WLFD placed Medic 1 into service and began emergency medical transport to area hospitals. With an initial goal of 96 transports per year, our firefighters far exceeded that goal and transported 145 patients within 10 months. The result is improved response, better patient care, and costs recovered that are expected to exceed the annual costs for Medic 1. In 2009, WLFD recovered \$23,415.42.

### GRANTS AND AWARDS

With shrinking budgets, obtaining funds outside the budget are pursued in the form of grants. In 2009, WLFD obtained six Zoll Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) through a donation by *Community EMS* with an approximate value of \$11,000. WLFD was awarded 2 grants from the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Association that included a \$1,000 reduction on our Stryker Ambulance Cot (\$4,500). According to MMRMA officials, this is the first grant issued towards an ambulance cot from a risk management perspective in Michigan. WLFD also obtained \$1,500 towards Fire Marshal Jim Coomer's tuition at the EMU Fire Staff & Command course. Fire Marshal Coomer also received a \$1,500 grant from State Farm for smoke detectors for Walled Lake residents.

From Oakland County, WLFD received a grant award for \$1,518 to provide H1N1 mitigation on specific supplies and equipment. To encourage citizen preparedness, we received a grant award from State of Michigan for 72 CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) backpacks for Walled Lake residents with an approximate value of \$4,500. WLFD was also reimbursed \$5,015.16 for NIMS 300 – 400 training.

Our Dive Rescue team through cooperation with the Walled Lake/Wolverine Lake Police Department received training funds in 2009 that brought our capability to a previously unmatched level. Through the efforts of Sgt. Kyle Murphy, WLFD received a \$1,000 donation from Wal-Mart towards the team. On August 7, Firefighter Carol Leach took 55 minutes to swim 1.25 miles across Walled Lake to raise money. Her efforts raised \$1,001.<sup>50</sup> for the Dive Rescue Team. In conclusion, our mission remains maintaining the public trust and preventing harm in our community. Every firefighter is committed to that goal and it is my honor to serve this fine community with the brave men and women of WLFD.

Respectfully,

Ken Van Sparrentak-Fire Chief

Each year the Walled Lake Fire Department reviews the actions of department members who have performed outstanding acts or deeds. This year's recipient is

**Firefighter Brian Toohy**

Firefighter of the Year

**WALLED LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
SPECIAL ORDER**

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Firefighter Toohy joined the Walled Lake Fire Department as an Explorer in 2003 and was hired as a Paid on Call Firefighter on July 10, 2006. Firefighter Toohy has exhibited professionalism and a commitment to service above self as demonstrated when he left to serve in the U.S. Navy in the spring of 2007.

Firefighter Toohy's leadership led to his appointment as the Lead Advisor to the Explorer Program. With the cadets, he has instilled the core values of teamwork, customer service and mutual respect. In December 2008, Brian was part of a team of firefighters whose actions included CPR, resulting in a life saved.

Congratulations on a job well done.

Ken Van Sparrentak  
Fire Chief

# Fire Prevention



Fire Marshal James Coomer is a 27 year veteran of our fire department. He is certified fire inspector, fire investigator and continues to maintain firefighter, NIMS 300/400 and EMS state licenses. Jim graduated from Eastern Michigan University, Center for Regional and National Security, Staff and Command program this year.

## **Fire prevention division consists of the following areas of responsibilities:**

- Emergency response and preparedness
- Code enforcement inspections
- Construction site plan review
- Fire investigations
- Public education



### **Emergency response and preparedness:**

The Fire Marshal is assigned to a 24 hour shift. He is responsible that fire apparatus, station and equipment are maintained ready for emergency response. He responds to emergencies and performs in-service fire inspections. He responded to 228 incidents in 2009.

### **Code enforcement inspections:**

Enforcing existing fire code regulations and standards provides the citizens and visitors to the Town a safer atmosphere in which to live, work, shop, and dine. Throughout the year the Fire Marshal conducts in-service building inspections to ensure that the detection and suppression systems are functioning properly, the means of egress are unimpeded, the electrical and heating systems do not have any visible deficiencies, and that there is no improper storage of hazardous materials. Code compliance inspections provide property owners and the fire fighters with an acceptable level of assurance that a potentially hazardous condition can be identified prior to it becoming a life-threatening incident. 46 businesses were inspected and 113 violations were cited with 117 violations corrected.



### **Construction site plan review:**

The Fire Marshal provides information and responds to complaints regarding a variety of subjects such as emergency planning, hazardous materials storage, fire and life safety hazards. He ensures that submitted plans for new construction and renovation comply with current Codes. He attends preconstruction meetings and advises developers of fire department concerns. Upon completion of the building, He inspects the project to insure that final construction is in accordance with the code.

### **Fire and arson investigations:**

State law mandates that all fires must be investigated. All fires are investigated for cause, in an effort to prevent future fires. When a fire is undetermined or considered suspicious, it is turned over to investigators. If the fire is determined to be arson, it is pursued through the legal system to conclusion.



### **Public education:**

The Department participated in 28 public fire education programs, which impacted approximately 1,199 people. Our open house this year attracted 300 residents. We used Highland Township Fire Departments Fire Safety house to teach kids how to react if there house was on fire.

Recently, State Farm Insurance presented the Walled Lake Fire Department a charitable donation of \$1500.00 to contribute to their campaign in providing fire prevention awareness to local residents, students, especially young people.

With the funds, the fire department plans on purchasing 10 year lithium battery smoke alarms for the students that attend the Walled Lake Schools Head Start program. Head Start is a free preschool for at risk and low income families in the area. The remaining smoke alarms will benefit the students of Safety Town, a nationally recognized program sponsored by the Walled Lake School District.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), roughly 70 percent of home fire deaths in the Country result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms when properly installed, give an early audible warning needed to safely escape from fire. That's critical because 85% of all fire deaths occur in the home, and the majority occur at night when most people are sleeping.



From left to right: Captain Jason Gonzalez (WLFD), State Farm Representative Margaret Sills, Fire Marshal Jim Coomer (WLFD), Captain Ryan Potter (WLFD) and Walled Lake Schools Joan Sare.

# Training

Captain Jason Gonzalez

Training for the Fire Department consisted of ongoing continuing education that enhances our Fire Fighters knowledge to be prepared to respond in our multifaceted environment. The Department participated in over 3500 hours of training in 2009. The Department continued training Firefighters in EMS continuing education, drivers training, Pump/Aerial Ladder operations, Hazardous Materials & and Basic Emergency Medical Technician.

In 2007 the WLFD became an ISO class 4 community, putting us in the top 5% of Michigan fire departments. The ISO rating system measures the major elements of a community's fire-suppression system and develops a numerical grading. Nine percent of the grading is of the Fire Departments Training. Trained personnel are vital to a competent fire –suppression force. ISO evaluates training facilities and their productivity; training at fire stations; training of fire officers, drivers, and recruits; and building familiarization and pre-fire planning inspections.

## WLFD Training hours break down:

	HOURS
<b>Engine operations:</b> Pump operator, hose line operation, and water supply-	78.75
<b>Ladder Operations:</b> Aerial operator, ground ladders, ventilation -	33.5
<b>EMS:</b> Continuing education, Basic EMT course, ALS recertification-	178.53
<b>Apparatus:</b> Equipment checks, vehicle checks, maintenance-	224.75
<b>Hazardous Materials:</b> Responses, Safety, Equipment, On-Site Review-	26
<b>Self Contained Breathing Apparatus/PPE:</b> Donning-wearing-maintenance-	28
<b>Firefighter Safety:</b> FF Survival, Fire-ground Safety, Tactics, and RIT-	68.5
<b>Officer Development:</b> Public Info Officer, Leadership, and Tactics-	115.08
<b>Technical Rescue:</b> Ice Rescue, Dive Rescue, and Vehicle Extrication-	95.42
<b>Public Education:</b> In school safety programs, Open House and station tours-	20
<b>Administrative:</b> Standard Operating Guidelines, Rules and regulations-	20.5
<b>Driver Training:</b> New drivers, Refresher training, CEVO-	28.5
<b>Physical Fitness:</b> Strength, Endurance, Cardio, ISO points-	236
<b>Target Safety online Training:</b> NFPA, EMS, and Firefighting-	47
<b>Total HRS:</b>	<b>1200.53</b>
<b>Total Man-hours:</b>	<b>3566.75</b>
<b>Average Hours per Firefighter</b>	<b>169.84</b>

# Apparatus

Captain Matt Salow

## **Vehicle Mileage Totals:**

Medic 1 – 2008 Medtec Ford	5,559
Rescue 1 – 1997 International	21,307
Ladder 1 – 2001 E-One	18,929
Engine 23 – 1999 Seagrave	20,243
Engine 22 – 1981 Howe Ford	52,206 SOLD 2009
Utility 1 – 2005 Ford F150	20,196

## Vehicle Maintenance:

At the beginning of each shift a daily (Readiness) inspection is performed. Once a week, a weekly inspection is conducted on all equipment and apparatus. This allows the department to inspect all the equipment to ensure everything is in good working order. In addition to the department inspections, once a year a certified fire apparatus mechanic conducts preventive maintenance and DOT Inspections on all fire apparatus.

Below is a list of some of the repairs and test results on apparatus in 2009.

### Rescue 1

- Muffler and tailpipe repaired under warranty
- Shoreline Repaired
- Prep Radios Installed
- Need front tires to pass DOT Inspection
- Need to replace back up camera, out of service

### Ladder 1

- Front Brake hoses replaced
- Passed Annual Pump Test
- Passed Annual Aerial Test
- Outrigger sensors replaced
- Both rear leaf spring replaced
- All outside cabinet doors repainted under warranty
- Passed DOT Inspection

### Engine 23

- Tailpipe replaced
- Brake Pedal Valve replaced
- Under Cab Rocker Panel replaced
- Open compartment sensor replaced
- Air Brake Switch replaced
- Hydraulic Ladder Rack Bracket replaced
- Fuel leak stopped with tank patch – fuel tank will need replacing

- Antifreeze leak stopped – rear pump panel blower motor needs replacing
- Passed DOT Inspection
- Passed Annual Pump Test

### **Engine 22**

This truck was nursed along in 2008. The repairs needed for this truck exceeded its value. Below is a list of the items that needed replacement or repair. Due to the age of this vehicle and the cost of the maintenance, this truck was removed from service in January 2009 and SOLD.

### **Utility 1**

- Preventive Maintenance
- Needs new rear bumper

### **Medic 1**

This truck was placed into service December 2008 at a Non-Transport Level. In March 2009 the truck was licensed for Basic Transport (BLS). M1 was under the manufactures warranty for most of 2009. Below is a list of repairs made under warranty.

- Front Bumper Mounts
- Sway Bar replaced
- Air Horn solenoid.
- Gold Leaf Lettering x 3
- Defroster Control
- Console lighting and backboard cabinet lighting
- LED Warning light

### **Ladder Maintenance:**

All fire department ladders are required to be tested annually. The Non-Destructive Testing Corporation tested a total of 230 feet of ground ladders based off of the NFPA 1932 Standards in 2008. These ladders range from a 10-foot folding attic ladder to a 35-foot extension ladder. All department ladders are mounted on department apparatus.

### **Fire Hose Maintenance:**

It is recommended that fire hose be tested annually based off of the NFPA 1962 Standards. In 2009, the Fire Department tested 8,220 feet of fire hose In-House. 600 feet failed inspection and was removed from service. During the hose inspection a series of tests were done which included: Outside jacket and hose liner, Identification and tracking process, all couplings checked, and unpack/repack of all hose beds.

### **Additional Responsibilities:**

- Responsible for ordering, issuing, washing, and repairs of all department personal protective equipment. This includes turnout gear, fire helmets, protective hoods, gloves, and boots.
- Responsible for all department radios, ordering, programming, and repairs.
- Responsible for ordering, repairs and maintenance of water rescue equipment.

- Certified Fire Instructor eligible to teach department trainings, as well as, the Highland Fire Academy.
- CERT Instructor and New Mexico Tech Instructor.
- Attended 16 hrs of instruction for Dept. Public Information Officer.
- Member of the County 800 MHz Radio System Committee.
- AMA Committee and provide training to Fire Personnel and Dispatch related to Automatic Mutual Aid.
- Completed MABAS Cards and OC Fire Dispatch to FD liaison.
- In-Charge of all Dept. Apparatus.

## Records

Captain Ryan Potter

For the calendar year of 2009, the Walled Lake Fire Department was actively involved in its mutual aid pact with neighboring departments. Walled Lake Fire had provided mutual aid to its neighbors a total of 24 Times. This is for both mutual aid, and automatic aid. To further break these figures down, 21 times aid was given to Commerce Township Fire Department, and twice to Wixom Fire Department. These totals include emergency calls such as structure fires, multiple vehicle accidents, and medical emergencies where the requesting agencies were tied up on multiple calls and unable to respond in a quick and efficient manner.

Mutual aid was provided to Walled Lake Fire a total of 10 times in 2009 by the Commerce Township Fire Department. Walled Lake Fire did not require aid from the Wixom Fire Department in 2009.

# MUTUAL AID

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**Department 06312: COMMERCE TWP FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Mutual Aid Received**

0000561	September 4, 2009 9:52	1	
0000254	May 1, 2009 10:12	1	
0000816	December 10, 2009 8:48	1	
0000029	January 17, 2009 19:57	1	
<i>Subtotal Mutual Aid Type</i>			<b>4</b>

**Automatic Aid Recieved**

0000735	November 9, 2009 22:06	2	
0000076	February 8, 2009 12:11	2	
0000355	June 12, 2009 20:39	2	
0000027	January 17, 2009 13:51	2	
0000413	July 2, 2009 23:31	2	
0000194	April 1, 2009 6:48	2	
<i>Subtotal Mutual Aid Type</i>			<b>6</b>

**Mutual Aid Given**

0000626	October 4, 2009 19:20	3	
0000460	July 22, 2009 13:13	3	
0000162	March 18, 2009 11:56	3	
0000545	August 27, 2009 4:17	3	
0000600	September 23, 2009 10:13	3	
0000686	October 22, 2009 21:17	3	
0000470	July 27, 2009 20:25	3	
0000705	October 30, 2009 14:58	3	
0000789	December 2, 2009 4:25	3	
0000248	April 27, 2009 10:41	3	
0000644	October 9, 2009 11:32	3	
0000775	November 26, 2009 20:19	3	
0000332	June 5, 2009 14:15	3	
<i>Subtotal Mutual Aid Type</i>			<b>13</b>

**Automatic Aid Given**

0000773	November 25, 2009 16:15	4	
0000652	October 10, 2009 13:03	4	
0000020	January 14, 2009 11:42	4	
0000112	February 23, 2009 23:29	4	
0000469	July 27, 2009 20:07	4	
0000482	August 2, 2009 18:38	4	
0000862	December 28, 2009 18:39	4	
0000376	June 19, 2009 21:35	4	
<i>Subtotal Mutual Aid Type</i>			<b>8</b>

*Subtotal Department* **31**

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**Department 6346: WIXOM FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Mutual Aid Given**

0000623	October 3, 2009 22:37	3	
<i>Subtotal Mutual Aid Type</i>			<b>1</b>

**Automatic Aid Given**

0000480	August 2, 2009 17:02	4	
<i>Subtotal Mutual Aid Type</i>			<b>1</b>

*Subtotal Department* **2**

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## Incident Breakdown Report

For Date Range: From 12/1/2009 To 12/31/2009

Station(s) Selected: All

Fire Incidents	12/1/2009- 12/31/2009	Year to Date 2009	Year to Month 2008	Percent Change
Structure Fires	2	21	14	50.00
Outside Structure Fires	0	0	0	0.00
Vehicles	0	0	8	-100.00
Grass	1	1	0	100.00
Refuse	2	3	1	200.00
Other Fires	0	2	1	100.00
<b>Total Fire Incidents</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12.50</b>

Non Fire Incidents	12/1/2009- 12/31/2009	Year to Date 2009	Year to Month 2008	Percent Change
Overpressure/Explosion	0	3	1	200.00
Rescues/Extrications	41	502	492	2.03
Hazardous Conditions (1)	4	50	49	2.04
Public Service	17	139	125	11.20
Good Intent (2)	4	52	47	10.64
False Alarms	8	60	32	87.50
System Malfunctions	0	26	24	8.33
Weather Emergencies	0	2	0	200.00
Other Non-Fires	0	6	7	-14.29
<b>Total Non Fire Incidents</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>8.11</b>

1- Includes Spills or leaks with no fire, excess heat, arcing wires, and chemical emergencies

2- Includes smoke scares, wrong locations, steam mistaken for smoke, and controlled burning

Category	12/1/2009- 12/31/2009	Year to Date 2009	Year to Month 2008	Percent Change
Total Fires	5	27	24	12.50
Total Non Fire Incidents	74	840	777	8.11
<b>Total Alarms</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>8.24</b>

Where Fires are Occurring	12/1/2009- 12/31/2009	Year to Date 2009	Year to Month 2008	Percent Change
Public Assembly	0	1	0	100.00
Educational	0	1	0	100.00
Institutional	0	0	0	0.00
Single Family Dwelling	1	9	8	12.50
Apartments	0	8	3	166.67
Motel/Hotel	0	0	0	0.00
Stores/Sales	0	1	2	-50.00
Office	0	0	0	0.00
Industrial	0	0	0	0.00
Storage	0	0	0	0.00