

Bloomington Fire Protection District No. 1

2022 Annual Report



SERVICE * SAFETY * TEAMWORK



LETTER FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

As I enter my third year as fire chief it is once again my honor to present the 2022 Annual Report for the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District. The district prides itself on being prepared for the future and remains focused on delivering safe, effective, and efficient service to our community. This year the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District was reevaluated by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in November to maintain its Class 1 ISO classification. The reevaluation process takes place every five years with results presented approximately 180 days after the visit. An ISO Class 1 rating represents an exemplary fire suppression program that determines how well the fire district can protect your community and home.

In 2022, the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District responded to 5,896 calls, which continues to increase on an annual basis. Calls include fires, rescues, medical emergencies, hazardous material spills and public service requests. We were successful in increasing our daily staffing from 13 to 14 personnel each day. This gives us the ability to staff a third ambulance and our tender more effectively.

We have faced new challenges in 2022 due to inflation and lengthy delays in getting vehicles, equipment, and parts delivered. A new ambulance was ordered in January 2021 and due to the prolonged delay, we are hoping to take delivery in October 2023. This delay has resulted in numerous repairs and additional maintenance to keep our current ambulances in service. We have formed a committee to research replacing our ladder tower. Current build times are 34 to 38 months with costs increasing by almost 25 percent. We will navigate these new challenges with effective planning and budgeting.

Our annual open house continues to be an enormous success with nearly a thousand people attending the event. The fire district has partnered with the Bloomingdale police, library, and park district for this event. The fire district also participates in many events throughout the year. We have been a big part of the Septemberfest parade and the Christmas tree lighting event in Old Town.

We look forward to 2023 and the new challenges it will present. Setting attainable goals and expectations is always our priority as we continue to deliver a service that is efficient and cost-effective. Thank you to the Board of Trustees, Fire Commissioners, and all our community partners for their continued support. It is an honor and privilege to serve with the men and women of the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District and I am proud to be their fire chief.

Sincerely,

Matthew E. Beyer



WE ARE COMMITTED TO:

SERVICE

The delivery of prompt and professional service to the district is our ultimate commitment.

SAFETY

Maintaining a work environment where safety is paramount at all times, especially in emergency situations which are inherently dangerous.

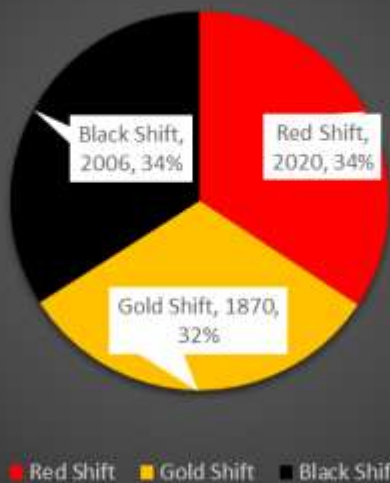
TEAMWORK

A team oriented approach which fosters excellence in the performance of our duties.

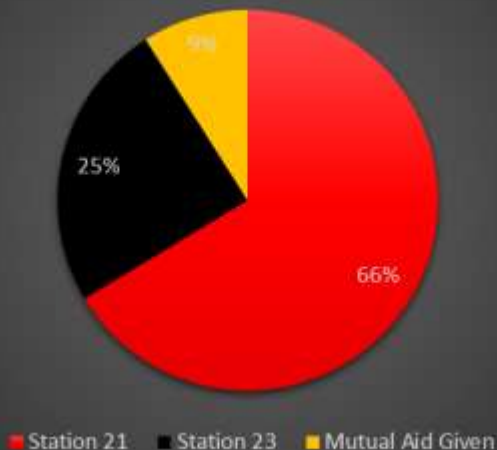


CALL VOLUMES

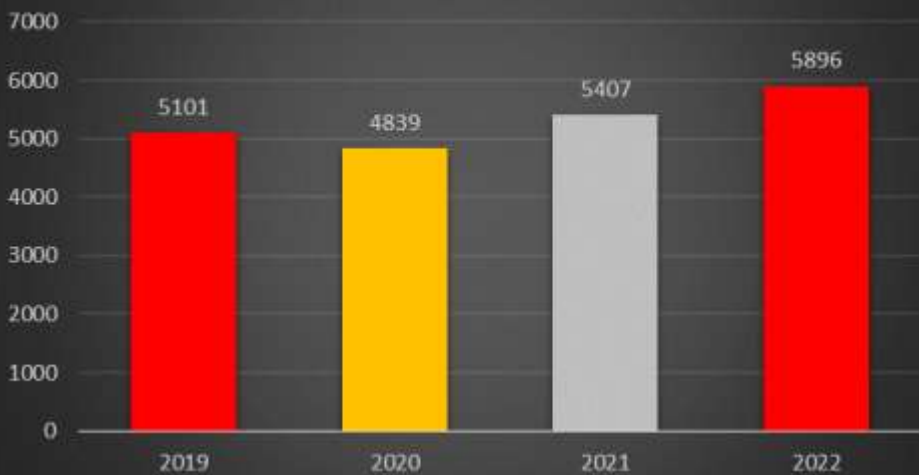
Emergency Calls per Shift



Emergency Calls per Station



Call Volume by Year

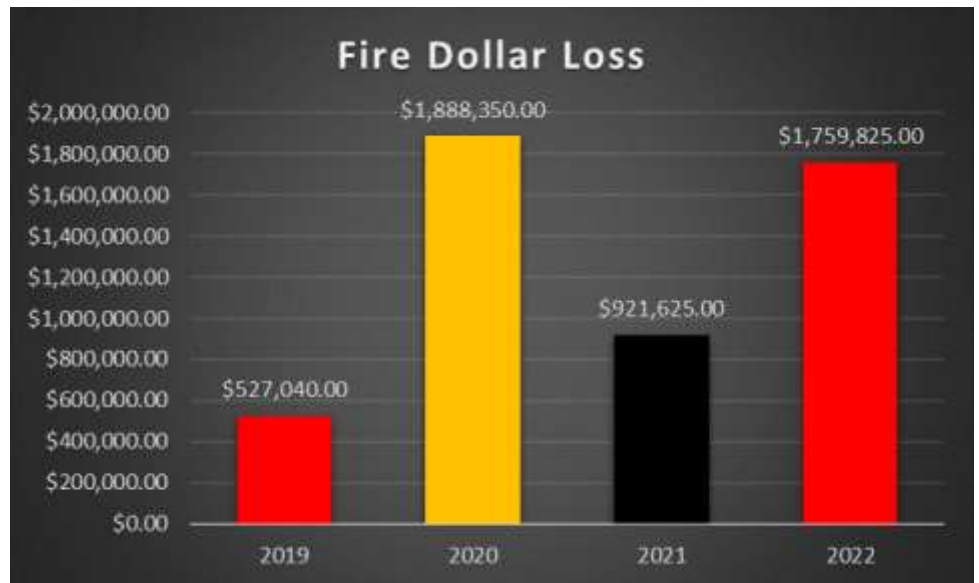


- 1 Tender
- 2 Engines
- 1 Tower
- 3 Command Vehicles
- 1 Utility Truck
- 3 Ambulances
- 1 Brush Truck

AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME:

(for all calls in district)

4 Minutes 54 seconds



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- * Purchased new International ambulance—waiting for delivery
- * Purchased two new Ford Explorers—EMS & Fire Prevention
- * Upgraded HVAC system
- * Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting Award (GFOA)
- * Hired six firefighter/paramedics

GOALS

- * Upgrade Facilities—new roof at Station 21
- * Purchase new tower ladder truck
- * Training Facility at Station 22
- * Repair apparatus floor /drains at Station 23

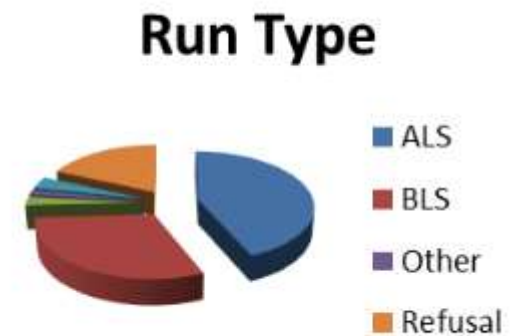
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District continues to strive for excellence within the scope of Emergency Medical Service providers. In 2022 our paramedics obtained over 1,500 hours of continuing education. We embrace the mission, vision and values of both the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District and the Northwest Community Emergency Medical Services System. We have made notable advances in our ability to serve the community with some fairly revolutionary purchases and implementation of practices.

In **2022** we completed **4050** EMS runs resulting in the following types of calls:

EMS Run Type	Number	Percentage
Advanced Life Support*	1738	42%
Basic Life Support*	1283	32%
Refusal of Service	423	10
DOA	46	1%
Other	560	13%

* Transports



NORTHWEST
COMMUNITY
EMERGENCY
MEDICAL
SERVICES
SYSTEM

In 2022 the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District had the busiest 911 ambulance in the Northwest Community Emergency Medical Services System. Medic 21, which runs out of our headquarter station, ran 2,319 emergency medical calls. This does not include calls for invalid assists, general public service assistance or refusal of services.

CPR PROGRAM



In 2022 the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District made great strides to bring back our CPR program. In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic many CPR programs were shut down across the country, leaving a massive void in CPR trained responders. The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District added four new CPR instructors to it's ranks and is now offering a CPR class every month throughout 2023.

American Heart Association: Heartsaver CPR AED

Heartsaver CPR AED is geared for anyone with limited or no medical training who needs a course completion card in CPR and AED use to meet job, regulatory, or other requirements. Upon successful completion of the course, students receive a course completion card, valid for two years.



NEW AMBULANCE



In 2021 the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District ordered a new ambulance which will replace a 2013 Ford currently running out of our satellite station at Army Trail Road and Gary Ave. Initial delivery was set for October of 2022, however, due to global supply chain issues delivery is now delayed to October of 2023.

It was a fun and exciting year for public education for Bloomingtondale FPD! We met our goal for the year of focusing on reaching our younger residents. It is extremely vital to start fire and life safety at an early age. The fire department kept their presence within the grade schools teaching our “Exit Drills in The Home -- E.D.I.T.H.” as well as good fire/bad fire, stop drop and roll, and education on smoke detectors. Safety talks also were done at some of our KinderCare schools in town and at multiple “Touch a Truck” events. In total, the fire department was able to educate over 1,000 children. Other fun events the department proudly supported included the BBSA opening day parade, National Night Out, the Septemberfest Parade, and our favorite the annual Christmas tree lighting in Old Town. Public education isn’t just reaching our younger citizens, but our senior citizens as well. The fire department attended the Shriners Senior Fair and Alden Gardens senior living meetings. We handed out important information and answered questions regarding File of Life magnets, smoke detectors, elder abuse, lock box, and medication safety. Over 800 informational pamphlets and magnets were handed out. The fire department teamed up with the Village of Bloomingtondale for an annual VFW coat drive as well as a food collection location for the food pantries “Go Orange for Hunger” drive.

Lastly, our open house was a success with over 1,400 residents coming through our firehouse. We had multiple guests participating that showed our residents the inner workings of our response, specialty teams, and capabilities. Such groups included our dispatching with DuComm, COMED, NICOR, METRO SWAT, and Glen Oaks Emergency Room. The highlight and end to the open house was our annual side-by-side sprinkler burn prop.

Moving forward it is our goal to continue our successful work in the grade schools. We truly believe if we can teach proper fire safety at a young age, it will be instilled in them for generations to come.



2022 was an innovative time for the paid-on-call program. We started the year with one new paid on call employee, Joseph McAsey. Joseph is also on the eligibility list to become a full-time employee with us and is working diligently to complete his required training. Joseph recently passed EMT school and is applying for paramedic programs. Mary Pagnoni returned to work as a POC after completing her probationary training on the Chicago Fire Department as a paramedic. Both POCs worked various events throughout the year including the annual open house. A new probationary guide was completed for new hires. Sebastian Koziel is a secondary instructor if POC drills return in the future. An 8-hour introductory training day for new hires was approved and helpful getting paid-on-call members ready for their first shift.

"Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together."

~James Cash Penney

In 2022, the Local reelected board members Kevin Lind as Vice President and his term runs through December of 2023, James Ketcham as the union president and Gio Lopez the treasurer/secretary whose terms run through December of 2024. The Local maintains a Facebook page to interact with the public and provide information regarding fundraising activities and community involvement. The Local is looking forward to continued success in working cooperatively with the district and the administration toward our common goals of serving our citizens and the community and are very proud to have successfully negotiated a collective bargaining agreement which will run until May of 2025.



TRAINING

The Bloomington Fire Protection District No.1 Training Division's Mission is for our firefighters to become: SAFER, FASTER, BETTER AND SMARTER. Our training division prides itself on making all of our training realistic, relevant and referenced.

BLOOMINGDALE FIREFIGHTER TRAINING IN 2022



14,350 hours



Yes,
we train for
that.



The training division is responsible for training all career and paid-on-call members in fire suppression, emergency medical service, special operations rescue, hazardous materials, fire investigations, fire inspections services, officer development and other related topics. We are committed to the safety and welfare of our members. Our goal is to have the best trained firefighters and paramedics so that we can deliver the highest quality service to our residents, visitors and neighbors.

Our companies participated in special operations and multi-company training with our fellow departments within the West Suburban Fire Rescue Alliance. Live fire evolutions were held at the training tower at Carol Stream Fire Station 28 and Kress Rd Facility in West Chicago.

District Training 2022:

- * Over 19,410 drills added to approximately 14,350 hours of training received by our firefighters in 2022, averaging 287 hours per firefighter.
- * Each month's training schedule includes: Officer Development, Firefighter Training (individual and company), EMS (Paramedic and EMT), Special Operations Rescue, Hazardous Materials and other required training topics.
- * Members participated in over 300 hours of specialized WSFRA Special Ops training .
- * Company operations and skills focus for the training division in 2022 were: company effectiveness and survival on the fire ground, engine company operations, tower ladder operations, medic company operations, special operations and officer/ leadership development for every level of our organization.
- * Individual skills areas of focus for the training division in 2022 were: self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) survival skills, fire ground emergency communications, fire hose line tactics, forcible entry skills, ladder placement skills, ropes, knots and rescue system proficiency, fire victim removal and resuscitation.
- * Emergency medical system training focused on: trauma, medical, cardiac, pediatric, geriatric and several sub-specialties of emergent medical care.



SPECIALTY TEAMS

Fire Investigation Team

Coordinator FF/EMT Sniegowski, LT Skelley, LT Ketcham, LT Vinyard, FFPM Korous, FFPM Prokop

The Fire Investigation Team is responsible for finding the origin and cause for all fires that occur within the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District #1. The process of fire investigation consists of taking pictures, interviewing witnesses, digging through debris, examining physical evidence, and documentation of the scene.

Two of our investigators are members of the Dupage County Fire Investigation Task Force. The investigator is on call for two weeks every other month. The experience that is gained is beneficial for the fire district. We were involved in six investigations with the task force in 2022.

Each of the investigators is required to have continuing education of twenty-five hours a year, over a four year period, to maintain their certification with the State of Illinois Fire Marshal's office. This includes but is not limited to didactic classroom and hands-on training.



TRT Team

Coordinator LT Smith, FFPM Miller, LT Ketcham, FFPM Korous, FFPM Kuntzman III



Training: Some members participated and in taught an "In-house" rope-operations class hosted at Station 28 in April. Members also attended monthly special ops drills within the Alliance towns.

Classes/Certifications: Smith - Collapse Tech, Kuntzman III- Rope Ops, Korous- Rope Ops and Trench Ops

New Equipment: The team purchased several items including additional rope for sections of specific lengths per the required equipment list in order to attend the Rope-Ops course in Carol Stream.

- 300 feet of new life safety rope to compliment the reserve engine
- A pre-rigged patient harness for the T23 stokes basket
- FOG Rope guides for T23 and E21 and rope tech team members
- Shock absorbers to replace the outdated ones



Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

Coordinator FFPM Takoy, LT Skelley, FFPM Miller, FFPM Bzdelik, FFPM Gross

The self-contained breathing apparatus is one of the most important pieces of equipment that a firefighter wears. The SCBA provides breathable air in an environment that is "immediately dangerous to life or health." (IDLH). Today's fires burn hotter and faster due to synthetic furniture and building materials. Some of the deadly gasses released in these fires include carbon monoxide, hydrogen cyanide, and hydrogen chloride to name a few.

Failures of the SCBA in an IDLH environment are unacceptable. It is the mission of the team through constant testing and routine maintenance, to keep the SCBA in excellent operating condition. The SCBA team uses an industry standard flow test. The flow test is done annually and whenever invasive maintenance has been done on an air pack. The flow test consists of a 5-step computerized program and a calibrated breathing machine. Each member of the BFPD#1 must go through annual F.I.T testing to ensure a proper fit of their mask with no air leaks. Our technicians also perform F.I.T testing for the police officers and public works employees for the Village of Bloomingdale. Along with the SCBA (firefighting) mask the SCBA team services and tests the CBRN (gas mask), Auga mask (dive team) and MSA half mask (investigators).



Metro SWAT DuPage County

FFPM Spejcher, FFPM Bzdelik

Bloomingtondale FPD has two members that are Tactical EMS Paramedics attached to the MERIT Metro SWAT, a multi-jurisdictional special operations unit comprised of law enforcement agencies in DuPage County. The two paramedics assigned to the METRO SWAT Team respond as a Tactical Emergency Medical Support providers that operate under dangerous conditions with unconventional hazards. The medics continued to refine their training with flight medevacs, K9 trauma, and operating in low lit high stress environments. Medics responded to multiple calls throughout the year including warrants, active shooters, and barricaded armed subjects to name a few. This training is being brought back to the fire district, further increasing our knowledge and experience in handling traumatic injuries, shooting incidents, and small to large mass casualty incidents (MCIs). Training is also being integrated with Bloomingtondale Police at their roll call drills. These vital initial lifesaving training techniques will only make Bloomingtondale first responders more prepared to take care of our community. The TEMS team members responded to nine call-outs in 2022.



Haz Mat Team

Coordinator LT Skelley, LT Vinyard, LT Ketcham, FFPM Manion

The Bloomingtondale Fire Protection District #1 maintains response capabilities, equipment and training for minor hazardous incidents within our response district and works closely with the area alliance towns (Roselle, Carol Stream, Wheaton, Winfield, West Chicago) in providing emergency response to hazardous materials incidents. District personnel respond to many hazardous incidents including carbon monoxide, fuel spills, compressed gases, natural gas leaks, and chemical spills.

2022 Calls:

Haz-Mat mutual aid to Glenside for the Anhydrous Ammonia leak.

Natural gas leaks (53)

Carbon Monoxide (19)

Gas/Diesel spills (4)

Carbon Dioxide (2)



SPECIALTY TEAMS

DIVE TEAM

Coordinator LT Lopez, FFPM Spejcher, FFPM Mencl, FFPM Koziel, FFPM Heckenbach, FFPM Stimac

The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District Water Rescue & Recovery Team's mission is to provide a professional response to water rescue and recovery incidents to the residents and visitors of the Village of Bloomingdale, Glendale Heights, Hanover Park and several other unincorporated areas of DuPage County.

Responsibility & Methodology

The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District Water Rescue & Recovery Team was founded as a special unit of the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District. There are currently six members on the team each with varying skillsets and years of experience. The Water Rescue & Recovery Team responds to all water rescue calls within the district and is called out to other areas in need of mutual aid as a part of the West Suburban Fire Rescue Alliance.

The Water Rescue & Recovery Team is organized for rapid rescue response, responding quickly, gathering information, and deploying two or more rescuers to perform a rapid and effective search and retrieval.

Due to the variety of water environments in the area (lakes, rivers, ponds, drainage ditches, etc.) the Water Rescue and Recovery Team must be prepared for several types of water rescue situations.

Evidence Recovery - Assist law enforcement agencies, locally and through mutual aid in crime scene investigations and evidence recovery operations.

River Diving - Rescue or recovery of victims using underwater search patterns in a moving water environment.

Surface Water Rescue - Rescue of accident victims while they are still on the surface of lakes, ponds and other types of still water.

Swift-water Rescue - Rescues performed anywhere near rivers and other types of moving water.

Underwater Rescue - Scuba divers performing underwater search patterns to locate near-drowning victims.



Qualifications, Training & Continuing Education

All of the divers must attain at least their ERDI Rescue Diver certification, Open Water Diver certification, Dry Suit certification and Full Face Mask certification. Many members are certified as Swift Water Rescue Technicians, Watercraft Technicians and in Water Operations.

Surface Supplied Air System

In 2022 the BFPD Water Rescue/Dive Team took a huge step forward and began the transition from the traditional self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA) that is most commonly used among divers, to a surface supplied air system currently being utilized by the U.S. Navy and technical divers around the world. Surface-supplied diving is diving in water using equipment supplied with breathing gas using a diver's umbilical from the surface, either from the shore or from a diving support vessel. Surface supply diving is very different to scuba diving where a diver wears self-contained breathing apparatus. There are some obvious advantages to surface supply diving to scuba. Risk to divers is considered far lower for a start, mainly because the air supply is usually a far larger supply than just a small tank on a diver's back.

- The lightweight and compact design allows for rapid deployments
- Simplified control panel let's the attendant focus on the safety of the diver
- The shuttle valve makes it possible to change supply cylinders during the diving operation
- Available in lengths up to 120 meters
- The small diameter of the lightweight supply hose greatly reduces resistance in strong currents
- A thin communication cable can be wrapped around the hose
- Doubles as a safety line
- Integrated regulator – no need for manual adjustment of pressure for various depths



HOSE AND SMALL TOOLS

The Bloomingdale Fire Protection District strives to maintain an efficient and supernal response capability. This is accomplished through hard training and the implementation of various applications. In 2022, the district purchased new high rise valves to speed up high rise operations and get water to the fire faster. The district also purchased new equipment for vehicle stabilization. Finally, the district purchased air bags for the truck. This was to replace the aging and out of date set currently in operation. We strive to keep our tools and equipment up-to-date and in perfect working order! In 2023, we plan to fully stock our back up engine so it is ready to go into service and respond in a moment's notice.

FIRE PREVENTION

Adapt and overcome – one of the many mottos of the fire service. This year we continued to encounter numerous obstacles. This ranged from dealing with Covid as well as working with businesses that were already suffering from a decline in the economy. We also dealt with staffing issues as two of our inspectors took positions with other agencies during the year.

Throughout the year, our fire inspector attended various classes to obtain the Fire Prevention Basic Fire Inspector certification. In May of this year, Inspector Gross also started performing internal plan reviews for fire and sprinkler projects. By performing these reviews in-house, we have also been able to lower the overall costs to our residents and businesses.

This year we also saw a milestone of having the first 100 single family homes completed with residential fire sprinklers.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

- Ellyn Crossing Apartments, 1878 Somerset, Glendale Heights – reconstruction after major fire in 2020
- Dental Group, 140 N. Bloomingdale Road, Bloomingdale
- Medinah Country Club, 6N001 Medinah Road, Medinah – cold storage facility
- Army Trail Road Trade Center, 55 W. Army Trail Road, Glendale Heights
- Army Trail Road Trade Center, 85 W. Army Trail Road, Glendale Heights
- First Watch, 302 W. Army Trail Road, Glendale Heights
- Now Foods, 391 Glen Ellyn Road, Bloomingdale
- Now Foods, 395 Glen Ellyn Road, Bloomingdale
- Culvers, 455 Schick Road, Bloomingdale
- Aldi's, 203 E. Army Trail, Glendale Heights
- Industrial Warehouse, 845 W. Lake Street, Hanover Park



483

Life Safety Inspections—
New Buildings/Remodels

1357

Life Safety Inspections—
Annual Inspections

280

Plan Reviews Received

90

In-House Plan Reviews
Completed

The Foreign Fire Insurance Board was established pursuant to the Illinois Municipal Code to receive and account for revenues received from the fees on fire insurance policies sold by foreign (out-of-state) insurance companies, and to use such funds for the maintenance, use, and benefit of the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District No.1. The board consists of seven members from the fire district who meet five times out of the year to discuss such funds. Last year in 2022 it was a frugal yet accountable year for the fire department. With input from specialty team members the board purchased specific equipment for each firefighter. An example was each firefighter received a prusik cord and carabiner. We also focused on purchases that strengthened our specialty teams. Our Water Rescue Team was operating with only three swiftwater suits some of which are beyond their recommended life span and were requiring multiple repairs throughout the years. The Board purchased six swiftwater setups, one for each member of the BFPD water rescue team. Setting our team up to meet the needs of the training and eventual incidents other than just subsurface rescue. Moving into the new year the board will continue its focus on training and getting the best equipment for our firefighters.



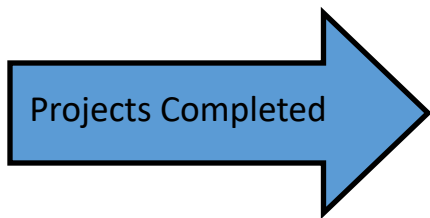
BUILDING AND GROUNDS

STATION-21

New HVAC System for the Day Room and Bunk Room
Nederman system was upgraded with the latest technology to fit our diesel exhaust system

STATION-23

- Bathroom remodel completed
- Ceiling tiles replaced
- Duct detectors added to HVAC
- Fire alarm was replaced
- New intercom and doorbells installed
- Drywall repairs to apparatus floor
- Ceiling on apparatus floor hot steam pressure washed
- Apparatus floor wall and ceiling painted
- Replaced cracked radiator on generator
- Nederman exhaust system upgraded
- New dishwasher installed
- New lawn mower purchased
- Tree and shrub trimming completed



The Mission of the Bloomingdale Fire District

The mission of the Bloomingdale Fire Protection District No. 1 is to assure the safety and well-being of the district we serve, by providing prompt and professional services in the event of fire, medical emergencies, disasters, or any other event which may threaten the public welfare.



40,000

Jurisdictional Population



3

Fire Stations



14.4 Square Miles

District Boundary

ISO

CLASS

1



5,896

Responses



5

VETERANS

SWORN PERSONNEL



45



535

YEARS OF SERVICE

2022 PROMOTION



FF/PM

Jim Ketcham

Promoted to Lieutenant

Serving Since 2010

2022 RETIREMENT



FFPM Allen Stough

Serving Since 1995

2022 NEW HIRES



Firefighter/ Paramedic

Augie Cervantez



Firefighter/ Paramedic

Max Kokoszka



Firefighter/ Paramedic

Jacob Bezely



Firefighter/ Paramedic

Luke Kulton



Firefighter/ Paramedic

Sierra Steffen



Firefighter/ Paramedic

Sebastian Peters



Board of Trustees: President, Tim Deutsche
Treasurer, Robert Gaseor
Secretary, William Wolff

Commissioners: Chairman, Marshall Gray, Jr
Commissioner, Brandt Leischner
Commissioner, Ed Aubin



Station 21

179 S. Bloomington Road



Station 23

246 S. Gary Avenue



Station 22

6N480 Keeney Road

bloomingtonfire.com

Administration: 630.894.9080