

City of Madison Fire Department



2010 Annual Report

325 W JOHNSON ST
MADISON WI 53703
608-266-4420 PHONE
608-267-1153 FAX
www.madisonfire.org



A Message from Fire Chief Debra H. Amesqua:

What if every home had a working smoke alarm? That was the question some 40 years ago when national statistics counted an average of 10,000 fire-related deaths every year in the U.S.

The answer to the question turned out to be an astounding 50% reduction in fire-related deaths.

2010 saw the end of an intensive 3-year campaign in which every member of the Department became involved in a program of prevention and smoke alarm installation, replacing hundreds of outdated and inoperable smoke alarms.

More than anything, the federal grants that funded smoke alarm installations for more than 800 homes offered a unique opportunity for Department personnel to develop a closer connection to the community we serve.

Our firefighters and paramedics will always be there to respond to emergencies. But we want you to know that even when it's not an emergency, our Department is working with you to improve public safety.

We thank you for your continued trust in the work we do to keep Madison safe.




Services Provided:

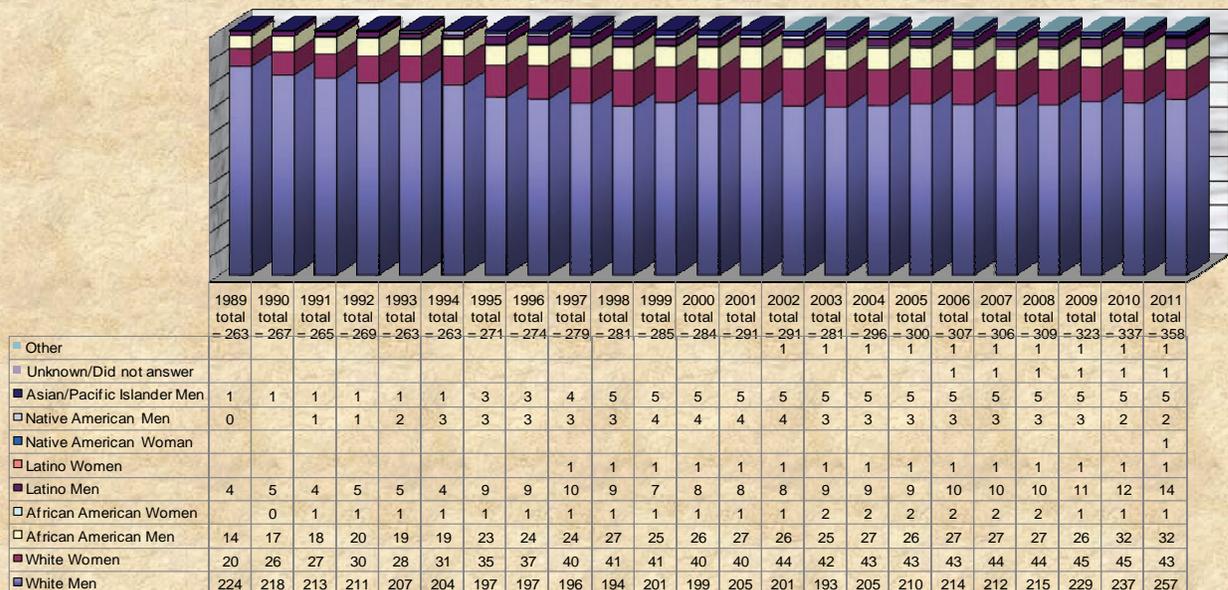
The Madison Fire Department currently operates out of 12 Fire Stations throughout the City with a staffing of 78 personnel on duty each day. There are 10 Engine companies, 5 Ladder companies, 8 Paramedic Medic Units and 1 Command Vehicle in service every day to serve the citizens of and visitors to the City of Madison. In 2010 the City of Madison Fire Department responded to 23,666 calls for service. The largest single type of call was Emergency Medical calls and they accounted for 18,409 of this total.

The Department's Community Education Unit reaches out to thousands of residents through educational programming. The emphasis is on children and older adults, both at higher risk for fire-related injuries and fatalities.

2010 was the second year of the City's Smoke Alarm Ordinance. The ordinance led to two federal grants funding smoke alarm installation programs. In order to fulfill the terms of the grant, school assemblies during the month of October (where the Department interacts with 5,000 to 7,000 students) were suspended for the year. Instead, the entire Department participated in the installation program, with more than 5,000 alarms installed in more than 800 City homes.

With that, the Department's total number of contacts in 2010 was just over 11,000 children and adults, many of those involving personalized education modules delivered at the time of the installations.

City of Madison Fire Department
Total Number of Firefighters Employed as of January 1st of Each Year



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Over a 3-year period, the City recorded a single fire fatality, in August 2010. Statistically, an average US population the size of Madison's would be about 2.5 fatalities per year, or about 7-8 over 3 years.
- The MFD continued with the most far-reaching smoke alarm installation program in the Department's history. More than 5,000 alarms have been installed in more than 800 homes as part of two federal grants awarded following the City's passage of a new smoke alarm ordinance. The installation program included one-on-one fire safety education.
- The Community Education Unit increased its involvement in the coordination of Safety Town in partnership with the Madison Area Safe Kids Coalition. Station #7 was the 2010 site, with 130 children participating.
- The MFD Elevator Inspection Program had its first full calendar year of operation in 2010. They performed 2,918 periodic inspections and 1,545 reinspections, as well as 101 plan reviews for new and altered installations. Altogether it was a very successful year, generating revenue of \$863,595.
- The MFD purchased one new ladder truck, L-8, and two remount medic units to keep the fleet current with safe vehicles.
- The MFD purchased a new repeater system which was installed in the Command vehicle to address our radio communications in buildings where MFD personnel would lose their radio signal. This will greatly improve operations as well as the safety of the firefighters.
- The MFD implemented a new air management policy ensuring that all our firefighters exit contaminated atmospheres with an intact emergency supply of air.
- All MFD field personnel completed the Firefighter Skills Assessment Evaluation ensuring that they have the skills and fitness to perform at emergencies.
- The MFD continued to expand on development of GT viewer mapping software, enabling field personnel to identify routes to emergencies, locate hydrants, identify special hazards at specific locations, and determine water main sizes for sufficient supply at fires.
- MFD's eighth Medic unit went into service at Station 7 on April 4, 2010. This will reduce the response times to incidents on the west side and will distribute call volume more evenly between medic units.
- On November 1, 2010, an additional Ladder Company was placed in service to create a double company on Madison's west side. This double company is located at Station #7 which now houses an Engine Company, Ladder Company and a Medic unit.
- Seven Firefighters completed the paramedic training program at MATC. This was the first time the MFD has utilized MATC as an initial paramedic training provider.
- MFD eastside Medic units fully started to utilize St. Mary's Sun Prairie Emergency Center. This allows a shorter/faster travel time to a hospital facility. It also translates into a shorter return to territory time.
- Second computer workstations were installed at our receiving hospitals. This allows the completion of patient run reports in a more timely fashion when multiple medic units are at the hospital.
- The MFD held a process for selection of students for the next paramedic class. Nine candidates were selected and started paramedic training in the fall.
- MFD started the implementation of new protocols for our EMS system. This involved the training of all paramedics and the purchase of new medications and equipment. The use of the new protocols started in January 2011.
- The MFD held a process for the selection of paramedics for the Paramedic II position. Five candidates were selected to fill openings.
- The MFD planned and implemented a number of special events. These included separate visits by President Obama and Vice President Biden. These events required additional staffing by the command staff, firefighters, paramedics and TEMS medics.
- The Department continues to staff an extra Medic Unit at Station #4 on Monroe Street on UW home football game days. This Medic unit averaged 12 calls a day on the seven Saturday UW home football games. Even with the addition of the eighth Medic unit this extra unit is invaluable to maintain balanced coverage to the City of Madison during those high-demand event days.

FIRE / ARSON INVESTIGATION DIVISION

- In 2010, the Fire/Arson Investigation Division investigated 93 fires, of which 25 were determined to have been intentionally set. Seven (7) persons were arrested, two of whom were responsible for seven (7) of the 25 intentionally-set fires.
- A fire fatality origin and cause investigation was conducted on August 2, 2010 in which investigators determined food left on the stove ignited which spread to surrounding combustible materials. The lone occupant of the unit succumbed to inhalation injuries.
- Two notable arson arrests in 2010:
 1. The arrest of the “serial” arsonist came on the evening of April 10, 2010 as MFD and MPD were conducting surveillance operations. This person was responsible for starting in excess of 20 fires in the Warner Park area since 2008. He was charged with “Intentionally Set Fire To Another’s Land or Marsh”, a Class H Felony and was sentenced to five (5) years probation.
 2. The second notable case was the arrest of a UW Madison Student responsible for starting four (4) fires during the early morning hours of May 25, 2010. Working in tandem with UW-Madison PD and the Dane County District Attorney’s Office, this case was successfully adjudicated with the student being found guilty of “Arson of Property Other Than Building” and “Graffiti”, both Class I felonies. He was sentenced to 30 days in the Dane County Jail, four (4) years probation, and restitution for damages which are in excess of \$20,000.



SPECIAL TEAMS AT A GLANCE

The Hazardous Materials Team completed 377 hours of training in 2010. Trainings included three seminars sponsored by Wisconsin Emergency Management on response to pressurized containers.

The Hazardous Materials Team worked closely with the 54th Civil Support Team to better prepare for incidents involving weapons of mass destruction. The team also participated in exercises with other agencies including the United States Postal Service, Dane County, and Wisconsin Emergency Management.

The Hazardous Incident Team responded to 11 incidents in 2010. They also participated in telephone consults with 9 different agencies assisting their hazmat response.

The HIT participated in 10 events in 2010 including:

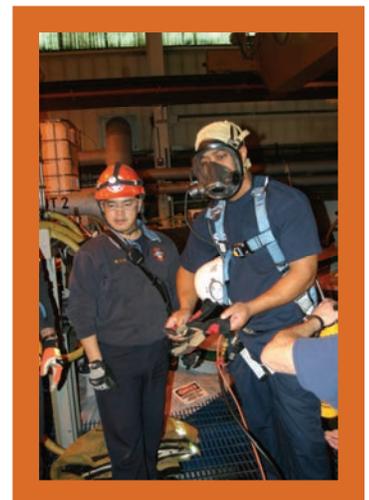
- Discussion with Shanghai, China, Hazardous Materials Response Coordinator
- Tabletop exercise with Wisconsin Emergency Management
- Outreach with Madison Area Technical College
- Outreach with Sauk County Fire Chiefs
- Outreach with Kilbourne Fire Department
- Outreach with DeForest Fire Department
- Outreach with the Madison Area Technical College
- Exercise with postal employees and Dane County Decontamination Teams at Madison’s Main Post Office

The Lake Rescue Team responded to 36 total Scuba calls in 2010

The Lake Rescue Team purchased a Wireless Communications device that will complement the hardwire communications device already in place.

A side-band sonar was installed on the Lake Rescue Team’s boat to pick out objects on the lake floor. This is a major advancement in our technology for locating possible drowning victims.

The Lake Rescue Team purchased two new dry suits and upgraded all of their buoyancy compensation vests.



GRANT AWARDS AND UPDATES:

- **2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant - Application was submitted in February 2009. The Grant would include \$490,000 for a mobile live fire training simulator, \$17,000 to cover entry-level medical exams, and \$22,000 for structural firefighting gear for new members. MFD was not awarded this grant.**
- **2009 Assistance to Firefighters Station Construction Grant - Application was submitted in July 2009. \$4.3 million was requested to demolish and rebuild Fire Station 2. The request was made due to the growing Westside community. MFD was not awarded this grant.**
- **2009 FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant - The Department requested a \$15,000 Large Group Hazard House, a 7-foot by 4-foot model home that includes numerous hazards commonly found in the home. It enables the instructor to demonstrate real-life hazards and ways to correct or remove the hazards. MFD was not awarded this grant.**
- **Staffing for Adequate Firefighter Emergency Response, (SAFER) - Was awarded in 2008 to increase staffing by 18 members. A total of \$1.9 million over 5 years was awarded. Members are assigned to bring up an additional ladder truck at fire station #7.**
- **2010 Assistance to Firefighters Grant - A request was made for three items. A camera for the investigation division to properly identify fire scenes was requested along with five stair-stepper machines to assist firefighters with their workout programs. The five machines will be placed at the stations that currently are without the equipment. The final request was for self-contained breathing apparatus air bottles. These larger air bottles will give firefighters additional time to evacuate from a contaminated environment. This grant was submitted in June of 2010 and all award notices should be out by June of 2011.**
- **The Department submitted a request for funding through the 2010 Assistance to Firefighters Prevention and Safety Grant program. Realizing an increase in cooking fires, the Department requested \$7,500 to purchase materials and equipment to develop a community education program related to cooking safety. Grant awards should be completed by September of 2011.**
- **Metropolitan Medical Response System - The 2007 MMRS grant provided \$250,845 for the purchase of items such as the ambulance disinfecting unit, inter-operability communications equipment, a mass decontamination training video, an H1-N1 medical site for Public Health, drug boxes, cyanokits, an area long-term care evacuation project, surge plan development, pharmaceutical exercise, Garmins for the ambulances, N95 masks for major events, E-sponder software revisions, etc.**
- **Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) - The Department's Hazardous Materials Team received \$10,000 for equipment and items related to County response.**
- **In 2011 the Department will continue to research available grant funding. We anticipate that we will apply for a SAFER grant in 2011 for approximately 18 people to staff new fire station #13.**



IMMEDIATE FUTURE PLANS:

- Reorganize the Heavy Rescue Team at Station #8 and deliver training to 12 new team members in Rope, Confined Space, and Trench Collapse Rescue (160 hours of content).
- Develop the Pre-Incident Plan part of our GT Viewer software.
- Have all Field Companies complete our Company Standards to ensure all companies have the skills to operate efficiently at fires.
- The addition of a 4th Fire/Arson Investigator.
- Reviewing operational plans for 2011 special events which include the Mifflin Street Block Party, Madison Marathon, Rhythm and Booms, Ironman Triathlon, and Freakfest (the State Street Halloween program). Through planning, experience, and cooperation with other agencies we are able to effectively manage the public safety concerns generated by these and other special events.
- Designing and building Fire Station 13 on the far east side.
- Design and remodel of Station #2
- Complete the Entry Level Firefighter process to establish a two year eligibility list.

LONG TERM PLANS:

- Begin exploring new incident reporting systems (for EMS and fire).
- Research new hardware to allow mobile data entry of incident information and wireless data transfer.
- Evaluate the need to purchase new ECG monitors to increase their capability and to improve patient care in the field.
- Re-mount an additional ambulance chassis.
- Research inventory tracking programs to reduce expenses related to medical supplies and expiration dates.
- Run a process to establish additional candidates for the next paramedic training class (and activate firefighters who are currently paramedics).
- Purchase a Rescue/Pumper/Dive Boat with a front end load and unload, a wheel-house, and pumper capabilities for the Lake Rescue Team.
- Purchase additional dive masks for the Lake Rescue Team and field test night vision goggles.



NEW INITIATIVES:

- MFD has accomplished several small remodels to our fire stations in order to make our buildings energy efficient. This will continue to be an initiative in the future.
- Continue to purchase recycled/LEED Furniture for a "green" MFD.



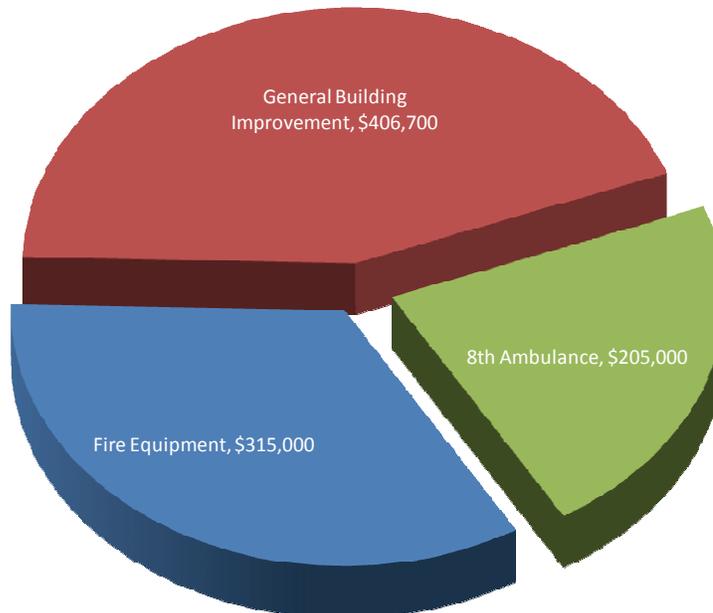
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

2010 OPERATING BUDGET AS OF APRIL 1, 2011

	Adopted Budget	Total Expenses with Encumbrances	Balance
Permanent & Premium Salaries	\$ 25,357,589	\$ 25,029,604	\$ 327,985
Hourly Wages	6,538	6,756	(218)
Overtime Salaries	924,845	795,224	129,621
Benefits	11,398,375	11,986,353	(587,978)
Purchased Services	1,551,014	1,251,295	299,719
Materials & Supplies	1,214,814	1,100,022	114,792
Inter-agency Charges	2,926,352	3,077,780	(151,428)
Capital Assets	-	-	-
Inter-departmental Billings	-	(881)	881
Revenue	(1,939,417)	(2,190,226)	250,809
Net Budget	\$ 41,440,110	\$ 41,055,925	\$ 384,185

Reduced expenses due to increased revenue, staffing equalization program, vacancies, lower utilities expense, reduction in contracted services and non-award of some grants.

2010 CAPITOL BUDGET \$926,700

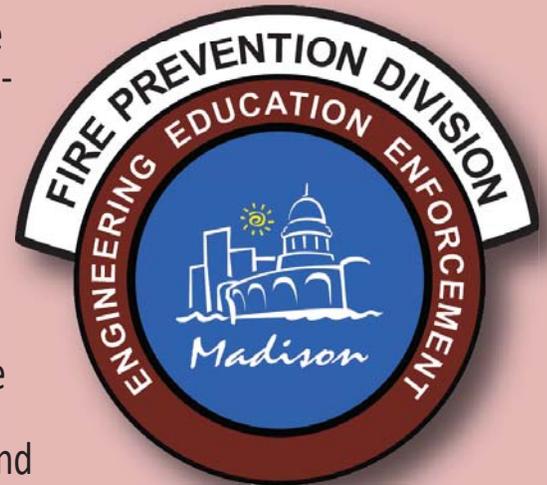


PREVENTION & PREPAREDNESS

There are hazards that can be prevented and those that happen without warning. The City of Madison Fire

Department's goal as an agency of public safety is to develop a plan of prevention and preparedness to lessen risk for residents and set the stage for resilience in the face of disaster.

To that end, our firefighters and paramedics train daily to be prepared for the infinite variety of emergency calls they receive. The entire Department participates in prevention and community education initiatives to teach citizens how to keep themselves and their families safer at work, home and school.



2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2010, the Department's public safety system of integrated approaches and multi-disciplined methods resulted in:

- A contemporary emergency management plan adopted by the Common Council.
- Successful EOC coordination of the Presidential visit and Freak-fest event.
- More than 33,000 inspection activities, and 11,000 citizen contacts for safety education.



PLANS FOR 2011

- The Department will turn its attention to lowering the number of fires caused by careless cooking – the leading cause of fires in Madison.
 - With close to 2,400 false alarm responses in 2010, Fire Prevention will organize a department-wide initiative to drive down false alarms. The goal is a 10% reduction.

The Department's long-term goal remains a community safety center. The facility would serve as a center for lifelong learning to prevent injuries, help residents make healthier lifestyle choices and support community efforts such as energy conservation or community gardening. The vision centers on a public-private collaboration model.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/fire/prevention/> or <http://www.cityofmadison.com/ems/emsCity.cfm>