# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

" I want to thank your station for saving the life of my best friend and the love of my life. The short response time and clearly the care and knowledge they used to revive him are the reasons I can still hold his hand... "



- Grateful Resident

" I wanted to let you know how impressed I was with your terrific fire department.. Thank you for heading up a superb local governmental agency! "

- John Kaichen

# 2014 Fire Chief Report

The members of the Bloomfield Township Fire Department are pleased to offer you this Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 2014 for your consideration.

Our firefighter/paramedics responded to 5021 calls for service as compared to 4444 calls in 2013. The majority of our calls for service are emergency medical services (EMS) related (approx. 65%) and the remainder are fire related calls (35%). The demand for fire, EMS, and rescue services, from our community continues to trend higher each year. The calls we receive for service are extremely important to our personnel and to the entire community of Bloomfield Township. Each



Dave Piché Fire Chief 29.7 Years of Service

call for help represents someone from our community experiencing an unexpected, and most times unfortunate, incident requiring them to call the fire department for help. Our firefighter/paramedics truly understand the pain and loss that is often associated with an incident that requires our services to mitigate. With that, our personnel strive to provide the utmost compassion, empathy and support necessary to all those with emergency situations each and every day.

Our 2014 Annual Report will provide an analytical and strategic perspective of our operational platform of how fire, EMS and rescue services are delivered to the community. The annual report also provides our department the opportunity to reinforce our capabilities, resources, and strategies to the community we serve. And finally, the opportunity to communicate our organizational standards and efforts in meeting the expectations of our customers, businesses, residents, and visitors is paramount to our continued mission and success.

We made a commitment going into 2014 that our department would strive to achieve OSHA compliance, evaluate and improve our current ISO rating, and finish building our Fire Training Facility. I'm pleased to say that these items were extensively addressed throughout 2014 and are either completed or near completion. Our fire stations have been approved by OSHA as being safe work places for our personnel. We conducted an evaluation of our department relative to the new ISO standards and will build a plan in the coming year to improve our rating for the community. And finally, the construction of used shipping containers into a three story structure for our fire personnel to train is now ready for our use. The facility will provide "real life" type training to properly prepare our firefighters for emergencies they will face. I am especially proud to say that almost the entire construction process was completed by our own fire personnel.

Providing superior local government services requires visionary leadership, commitment and effective governance. It requires a "community first" approach from all employees to achieve maximum service performance. I can honestly report that our fire department personnel continue to be cutting edge with each activity, project, and program that the fire service can provide. This innovative approach coupled with a "community first" platform ensures the best fire, EMS and rescue services to the community.

I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the personnel of Bloomfield Township Fire Department for their continued dedication and professionalism while serving the community. I would also like to thank the entire elected official body for their continued support and guidance in allowing the fire department to evolve into an effective organization.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Piché Fire Chief " .. I can not say enough about how well they were prepared, and how well equiped they were for such a problem. It is indeed comforting to know that we have such a great department available in case of trouble. "

- James Gullberg

# *2014 Annual Report* Table Of Contents

### Fire Department 2014

Department Administration	6
Department Organization	7
Station Information	8-9
Line Personnel Roster	10-11
Response Types	12
Ten Year Comparison	13
Training Report	15

### **Fire Prevention**

Fire Marshal Report	17
Inspections & Plan Review	19
Hydrant Report	21

## **Emergency Medical Services**

EMS Report	23

### **Other Services**

25
27
29
31
33
35
36-37
38

### 2014 Fire Department Administration



**Dave Piché** Fire Chief 29.7 Years of Service



**Mike Morin** Asst. Fire Chief 28.2 Years of Service

**Mike McCully** Fire Marshal 27.9 Years of Service

Capt. Chris Whitehead **EMS** Coordinator 27.4 Years of Service







Lt. Doug Brown Fire Inspector 34.7 Years of Service



Lt. Peter Vlahos Fire Inspector 18 Years of Service

> Pat Simonian Administrative Assistant 21.5 Years of Service



Linda Hemming Secretary 17.9 Years of Service

Sandy Heath Secretary 0.6 Years of Service







64 Uniformed Personnel 3 Civilian Employees

### 2014 Annual Report Station Information

#### **Central Fire Station**

1,088 Incidents (663 Fire Related / 425 Medicals)

Central Fire Station is located at 1155 Exeter, in Bloomfield Township's Municipal Government Complex. It houses one Paramedic Ladder truck, one Incident Command vehicle, one Paramedic Rescue truck, one Water Rescue Boat, one Special Operations and Rescue truck (S.O.A.R.), and numerous staff and utility vehicles.



Central Fire Station serves a mostly residential area in the heart of Bloomfield Township. In addition to residences, Central Fire Station protects many well known structures such as Wabeek Country Club, Kirk in the Hills, and the Bloomfield Township Library to name a few. Central Fire Station also has the job of protecting several condo complexes, some light mercantile, and the major thoroughfare of Telegraph Road.

Central Fire Station is staffed with one Shift Commander (Captain/Paramedic), one Lieutenant/Paramedic, and five additional Firefighter/Paramedics. The fire department's administrative staff includes the Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, EMS Coordinator, Operations Officer, two Lt. Fire Inspectors, one Administrative Assistant, and two Secretaries located at this station.

### **Station 2**

1,064 Incidents (402 Fire Related / 662 Medicals)

Fire Station 2 is located at 1063 Westview, on the Township's northeast side. This fire station houses one Paramedic Engine and one Paramedic Rescue truck to protect its district. A Lieutenant/Paramedic and three Firefighter/Paramedics, are assigned to this



fire station. Fire Station 2 protects residential areas, light mercantile areas, and the major thoroughfares of I-75, Woodward Avenue, and Square Lake Road. Some of the notable structures located in Station 2's area are the International Academy, Bowers School Farm, Oakland Community College offices, and Heartland Healthcare - Georgian Bloomfield nursing care facility.

### **Station 3**

1,869 Incidents (729 Fire Related / 1,140 Medicals)



Fire Station 3 is located at 4151 W. Maple on the Township's southwest side. This fire station houses one Paramedic Engine, one Paramedic Rescue truck, and one reserve Paramedic Engine. A Lieutenant/Paramedic and three Firefighter/Paramedics are assigned to this fire station. Fire Station 3 serves a mainly residential area, including Bloomfield Village,

some light mercantile and the major thoroughfares of Telegraph and Maple Roads. Some of the notable buildings protected by Station 3 are Oakland Hills Country Club, Franklin Cider Mill, Birmingham Athletic Club, Birmingham Country Club, Sunrise Assisted Living (South), and Temple Beth El.

### **Station 4**

1100 Incidents (364 Fire Related / 736 Medicals)

Fire Station 4 is located at 2389 Franklin Road on the Township's north side. This fire station houses one Paramedic Engine, one Paramedic Rescue truck, one reserve Paramedic Engine, and one reserve Paramedic Rescue truck. A Lieutenant/ Paramedic and three Firefighter/Paramedics are assigned to this station. Fire Station 4



serves an area of residential, light through heavy mercantile, light industrial, and major thoroughfares of Telegraph Road, Square Lake Road, Woodward Avenue, and I-75. Some of the notable buildings in this area include Forest Lake Country Club, Bloomfield Town Square, Carl's Golf Land, and Sunrise Assisted Living (North).

# Line Personnel Roster

Name	Rank	Years of service
Mimikos, Alex P.	Captain/Paramedic	34.7
Cummings, Gary M.	Captain/Paramedic	34.3
Nancarrow, Ronald J.	Captain/Paramedic	31.6
Kiekbusch, Michael A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	29.7
Crouch, David A.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	27.4
Koskinen, Daniel C.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	24.7
Sesock, Nicholas D.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	24.6
Bertucci, Donald B.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	24.3
Fox, Gary K.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	24.3
Fritz, William D.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	21.2
Kowalski, Kenneth E.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	19.4
Ross, Timothy A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	19.4
VanHeck, Alan D.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	19.1
Cardinale, Kevin J.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	18.6
Husch, Ryan A.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	18.5
Collins, Scott N.	Firefighter/Paramedic	18
Cowher, Timothy J.	Firefighter/Paramedic	16.7
Jackson, Daniel A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	16.7
Chopski, Joseph E.	Firefighter/Paramedic	16.7
Syracuse, Joseph B.	Firefighter/Paramedic	15.7
DeRousse, Matthew W.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	15.4
Keeton, Nathaniel A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	14.7
Lietz, Edward J.	Firefighter/Paramedic	14.4
Valigura, James A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	14.4
Schuette, Kevin W.	Firefighter/Paramedic	13.9
Bailey, Kevin G.	Firefighter/Paramedic	13.6
Gahlau, Robert A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	13.4
Wineski, Leonard V.	Firefighter/Paramedic	13
LeRoy, John E.	Lieutenant/Paramedic	13

Name	Rank	Years of service
Grunwald, Jason P.	Firefighter/Paramedic	12.6
Pucci, Michael A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	11.7
Overby, Matthew K.	Firefighter/Paramedic	11.6
Bartlett, Jeffrey R.	Firefighter/Paramedic	11.5
Nichols, Robert A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	11.2
Patterson, Shawn C.	Firefighter/Paramedic	9.8
Zsido, Matthew A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	6.5
Koziel, Jeremy C.	Firefighter/Paramedic	6.5
Gainer, Brandon R.	Firefighter/Paramedic	6.5
McGrail, Joseph P.	Firefighter/Paramedic	6.5
Bradford, Benjamin F.	Firefighter/Paramedic	5.9
Gibson, Andrew M.	Firefighter/Paramedic	5.9
Sova, Michael J.	Firefighter/Paramedic	5.7
VanHeck, Cory D.	Firefighter/Paramedic	3.9
Hull, Christopher L.	Firefighter/Paramedic	3.7
Ryan, Kevin A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	2.6
Miller, Benjamin E.	Firefighter/Paramedic	2.6
Switala, Ryan A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	2.6
Jezak, Cory T.	Firefighter/Paramedic	1.9
Czerwinski, Casimer A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	1.9
Trudeau II, Daniel J.	Firefighter/Paramedic	1.8
Morin, Ryan M.	Firefighter/Paramedic	1.6
Molnar, Brian A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	0.9
Sukarukoff, Matt B.	Firefighter/Paramedic	0.7
Edgemon, Kenneth S.	Firefighter/Paramedic	0.7
Krichiver, Ryan W.	Firefighter/Paramedic	0.7
Onderbeke, Craig A.	Firefighter/Paramedic	0.4

Total Line Personnel - 56 56 Firefighter/Paramedic's

### 2014 Response Types



## Incident Comparison - 3 years

Type of Situation	2014	2013	2012
Medical Emergencies	2963	2694	2540
Service Calls	798	621	664
Miscellaneous	315	257	298
False Calls	496	479	236
Hazardous Conditions	348	309	217
Structure Fires	22	19	39
Vehicle Fires	14	17	12
All Other Fires	47	31	34
CO Detector Calls	18	17	14
Total	5021	4444	4054
The above figures include the following:			
Mutual Aid Given	79	67	46
Mutual Aid Received	20	8	24

### **10 Year Comparison**



"..they were prompt, professional, and so kind. They should be commended for having had the skills, training, and patience that are needed in this type of profession."

ETYDE

- Nancy Howes

# 2014 Training Report

"The essence of training is to allow error without consequence."

- Orson Scott Card, Ender's Game

In our continued effort to remain prepared and fulfill State and Federal requirements, training continues to be an integral part of our daily activities. As in years past, a comprehensive training program was developed by the members of the Bloomfield Township Training Committee for 2014. These Lieutenants and firefighters are tasked with developing the training topics and schedule as well as assigning instructors for key topics during the year. I must say, I am very proud of what they delivered!



Mike Morin Asst. Fire Chief 28.2 Years of Service

The 2014 training year commenced with a formalized training on Railroad Emergency Response. A representative from CN Railway covered topics such as preparedness, derailment, dangerous goods and hazardous material transportation. This also included a review of the railways that pass through Bloomfield Township for a greater awareness of access points and needed resources. The training covered not only firefighter safety, but also the safety of the community when handling all railway emergencies.

The department moved the training underground with a review of the Sun Pipe Line, a high pressure line that delivers many different products throughout the state and passes through Bloomfield Township. When the Fire Marshal released his Emergency Management exercise that involved a gas pipeline rupture, the department demonstrated their knowledge in this simulation activity. In the month of April, DTE Energy was brought in for a review of the electrical distribution system and its potential hazards. We also incorporated tree rescue training for victims clearing storm damage, utilizing ropes and pulley systems to move injured victims from the tree.

The month of May brought in Roadway training, starting with Roadway Tanker Emergencies; this class taught the proper use of firefighting foam and its extinguishing properties on flammable/ combustible liquid fires. The lesson plan included a guided tour of a tanker truck brought in by Corrigan Oil Company that travels on the roads of Bloomfield Township daily. The teams received hands on training to review the safety features and shut off valves of the truck to develop emergency response processes for potential future experiences or exposures. Roadway response training was completed with a class that involved large vehicle accident stabilization and extrication.

Our training continued underground in June, with Confined Space training. Our Technical Rescue Team gave instruction to the department on rescuing victims from a confined space, including the underground vaults our water department enters daily checking sewage lift pumps and water distribution valves. Other training the department participated in the last year included fire operations, EMS, water rescue, and Hazardous Materials.

Bloomfield Township Fire Department logged over 12,089 hours of training over the course of the year. The Training Committee prides itself with providing a wealth of knowledge and resources to the firefighter/Paramedics to prepare them for any situation they may encounter to provide the best outcomes for the Bloomfield Township community.



## 2014 Fire Marshal Report

It has been a productive and challenging year for the Fire Prevention Division as the division moved forward to meet the demands of the community.

The Fire Prevention Division has been facilitating a grant for a smoke detector project for the past two years. This project installed wireless interconnected smoke detectors in all of our multiple family residential properties within the Township who chose to participate. I am happy to report this grant was successfully completed in 2014. The Fire Prevention Division, in cooperation with the Brighton Area Fire



Mike McCully Fire Marshal 27.9 Years of Service

Department, also installed smoke detectors in several homes of residents that are hearing impaired. These detectors alert the occupants with a device that vibrates underneath them in bed and illuminates a warning display to alert them of the danger.

The Fire Department also participated in the annual Bloomfield Township Public Open House. This event coincides with National Fire Prevention Week and provides residents an opportunity to see the services that are available to them through Bloomfield Township. The Fire Department's participation in this event included a live fire show, visit from the William Beaumont Medical Helicopter, fire safety games for the children and many other exhibits that promote safety in the home.

The Fire Prevention Division also educated business owners and the public with fire safety inspections and commercial plan reviews. In 2014, the Bloomfield Township Fire Prevention Division conducted 1189 fire safety inspections in commercial buildings within the Township. The Fire Prevention Division also conducted 13 fire safety inspections for residents that request this service.

The Fire Marshal is responsible for the investigation of all structure fires, suspicious fires and fires resulting in injury and/or death. These investigations are done for the purpose of preventing future fires by identifying common risk factors. In 2014, the Fire Prevention Division conducted 17 cause and origin investigations. This compares to 16 in 2013. There was 1 fire determined to be maliciously and deliberately set in 2014. Property damage for all fire incidents in 2014 totaled \$391,762 while the potential loss to property involved in a fire was \$9,353,357.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted, Michael J. McCully Fire Marshal



" Besides brave, all of the fire personnel were very professional and considerate of us and our home during this event. Our family thanks all of you for your efforts and professionalism during this incident. "

- Rijnovean family

# **2014 Inspections & Plan Reviews**

Type of Inspection	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Annual	355	94	57
Change of Occupancy	29	21	16
Complaints	51	26	17
Final Building	55	53	59
Fire Alarm Acceptance	20	19	22
Fire Suppression Acceptance	43	41	51
Fire Works Site Inspections	2	0	13
Hood Suppression Acceptance	7	7	7
Knox Box Inspections	28	52	19
Hazardous Materials	0	1	0
Other	30	71	0
Pre-Construction Inspections	8	2	5
Reinspections	577	392	221
Site Inspections	16	32	12
Special Event Inspections	2	6	1
Total	1223	817	500
Total <u>Plan Reviews</u>	1223 <u>2014</u>	817 <u>2013</u>	500 <u>2012</u>
<u>Plan Reviews</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy	<u>2014</u> 0	<u>2013</u> 1	<u>2012</u> 1
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review	<u>2014</u> 0 15	<u>2013</u> 1 26	<u>2012</u> 1 39
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review Fire Suppression Plan Review	<u>2014</u> 0 15 24	<u>2013</u> 1 26 18	<u>2012</u> 1 39 26
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review Fire Suppression Plan Review Fire Works	<u>2014</u> 0 15 24 1	<u>2013</u> 1 26 18 0	<u>2012</u> 1 39 26 0
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review Fire Suppression Plan Review Fire Works Hood System Plan Review	<u>2014</u> 0 15 24 1 4	<u>2013</u> 1 26 18 0 7	2012 1 39 26 0 7
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review Fire Suppression Plan Review Fire Works Hood System Plan Review Liquor License Reviews	2014 0 15 24 1 4 3	<u>2013</u> 1 26 18 0 7 0	2012 1 39 26 0 7 0
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review Fire Suppression Plan Review Fire Works Hood System Plan Review Liquor License Reviews Outdoor Dining	2014 0 15 24 1 4 3 4	2013 1 26 18 0 7 0 4	2012 1 39 26 0 7 0 0
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review Fire Suppression Plan Review Fire Works Hood System Plan Review Liquor License Reviews Outdoor Dining Plan Alteration	2014 0 15 24 1 4 3 4 103	2013 1 26 18 0 7 0 4 110	2012 1 39 26 0 7 0 0 0 114
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review Fire Suppression Plan Review Fire Works Hood System Plan Review Liquor License Reviews Outdoor Dining Plan Alteration New Construction Plan Review	2014 0 15 24 1 4 3 4 103 16	2013 1 26 18 0 7 0 4 110 24	2012 1 39 26 0 7 0 0 114 14
<u>Plan Reviews</u> Change of Occupancy Fire Alarm Plan Review Fire Suppression Plan Review Fire Works Hood System Plan Review Liquor License Reviews Outdoor Dining Plan Alteration New Construction Plan Review Seasonal Sales	2014 0 15 24 1 4 3 4 103 16 3	2013 1 26 18 0 7 0 4 110 24 2	2012 1 39 26 0 7 0 0 114 14 14 4



## 2014 Hydrant Report

Bloomfield Township currently has approximately 2800 fire hydrants located within the Township borders. These hydrants are valuable assets to the fire department in extinguishing fires. Accessing these hydrants quickly is paramount to life safety and property conservation. Fire hydrants also need to be maintained in good working order and clear of any debris in or around them.

Bloomfield Township fire hydrants are currently maintained through a collaborative effort between the Bloomfield Township Fire Department (BTFD) and the Bloomfield Township Water Department. The hydrants are checked throughout the year by



**Dennis Fecteau** Operations Officer 28.3 Years of Service

the BTFD Fire Service Technicians. These Technicians are pursuing a career in the fire service and this program allows them to experience the daily operations of a fire department. If a problem is found with any hydrant regarding a water flow issue, it is then reported to the Bloomfield Township Water Department.

The fire hydrant program consists of:

Winter:

- Checking hydrants for standing or frozen water inside, and pumping out if required.
- Shoveling out hydrants that have been covered by snow.

Fall:

• Operating approximately one quarter of hydrants in the Township to make sure they are in good working order.

### Spring/Summer:

- Clearing out any brush or debris that may interfere with a hydrants visibility or operation.
- Painting hydrants to help with visibility.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Service Technicians Summary of Activity is as follows:

2014 Checked:	2,426 fire hydrants
2014 Operated/Flushed:	903 fire hydrants
2014 Painted:	121 fire hydrants

The Bloomfield Township Fire Service Technicians will continue to perform routine maintenance and checks on all Township fire hydrants. Please assist in this operation by maintaining a clear area around any fire hydrants near your home of vegetation & snow and reporting any ongoing issues to the BTFD.

Respectfully submitted, Dennis Fecteau Operations Officer

" I want to thank your extremely efficient EMS for helping people with severe health problems and actually saving their lives, including mine. They were very knowledgeable & confident, fast & well organized, and at the same time cheerful, in other words real professionals."

Ausa

imir Kovi

### 2014 Emergency Medical Services Report

Bloomfield Township Fire Department (BTFD), has always strived to be on the cutting edge of new ideas and concepts in the delivery of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). In the mid 1970's, the BTFD was one of the first fire departments in the State of Michigan to have firefighter's trained to the level of Paramedic. In 2010, the BTFD began transporting our patients with equipment and apparatus already used in the department. And in 2013, all of our firefighters achieved the level of Paramedic.

The Affordable Health Care Act impacted how insurance pays for emergency medical treatment and transport in 2014. To stay on top



Capt. Chris Whitehead EMS Coordinator 27.4 Years of Service

of these changes, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital has teamed up with the BTFD to develop a program to bring the right care, at the right time, to the right place. This care concept is practiced in other states with much success and is commonly called Paramedicine. This delivery model responds to patients that have been released from the hospital and follows up with their care and makes sure their home is set up for their recovery from a hospital procedure. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital and BTFD is currently awaiting approval from the State of Michigan for this program. Once implemented, the BTFD will become the first fire department in the State of Michigan to deliver this standard of care.

In 2014, another of our paramedics achieved the level of EMS Instructor Coordinator (I/C) level for BTFD. Adding one more Paramedic Instructor Coordinator brings our number of I/C's to 5. These Instructor Coordinators develop lesson plans, apply to the state and county for class and training approval, secure instructors, and deliver continuing education to our personnel and other area Firefighter/Paramedics, allowing them to maintain their Paramedic license.

This year BTFD received several new pieces of equipment to aid in our delivery of life saving techniques. We received through a grant, 4 battery operated devices that compress the chest during CPR, giving our patient consistent and quality compressions during cardiac arrest. Using this machine also allows our personnel to be seat belted in the back of a rescue during transport. We also received new airway devices that ensure a patent airway each time they are used. Through technology and advanced training, we are giving our citizens and visitors a higher level of care during a medical emergency.

Some highlights of 2014 include a 39 year old male that collapsed during a hockey game from a heart attack, he was revived by the BTFD, and is back to leading a normal life with no deficits. Our Firefighter/Paramedics also delivered a beautiful, healthy baby girl this past fall.

The BTFD's EMS division will continue to look at new equipment, technology and ideas to keep up with the ever-changing needs of Bloomfield Township and its residents.

Respectfully submitted, Chris Whitehead Captain/EMS Coordinator



# 2014 Bloomfield Village Fire Chief Report

The Bloomfield Village Fire Department (BVFD) provides supportive fire services for the Bloomfield Village Association as a volunteer organization to village residents. The BVFD is staffed by 17 volunteer firefighters, and a full time/paid Deputy Fire Chief. Our department operates one (1) fire engine and one (1) four-wheel drive emergency vehicle. The Bloomfield Village Fire Station is located at 3595 Bradway Boulevard.

The Bloomfield Village Fire Fund budget is authorized by a special assessment district. These monies are billed by Bloomfield Township in the winter tax statement to all properties in the Birmingham School District No. 34. These funds are tax deductible for those residents, which include the Bloomfield Village Association members comprised of 988 parcels of land.

The BVFD supports and assists the Bloomfield Township Fire Department (BTFD). During 2014, the BVFD responded to 67 runs within the association including two working house fires. In addition, 2014's severe weather caused several downed power lines throughout the area. Our volunteers assisted the BTFD in securing areas in the Village impacted by the downed live wires that presented a danger to



**Jeff Kern** Village Fire Chief



**Ted Gauthier** Deputy Fire Chief

local homeowners. We follow the policies and procedures of the BTFD and coordinate our training efforts so we can best assist the Township. Our volunteer firefighters meet on a regular basis to train and keep current with the State qualification requirements. These requirements include our annual CPR and Emergency Vehicle Operation Certifications.

We continue to enjoy an excellent working relationship with the BTFD. In 2014 the BTFD provided radio training and coordinated ride-along programs for Village volunteer firefighters to help our departments work better together. We look forward to additional training activities with the BTFD in 2015. I also would like to thank Fire Chief Dave Piche' and the professionals of BTFD for their assistance and leadership.

The Bloomfield Village Fire Department is committed to provide excellent public service for our association. We encourage our association members to contact us with questions regarding fire safety or suggestions to help us better serve the community.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey Kern Bloomfield Village Fire Chief "Your prompt response and efficient attention to my need adds to my reasons to be grateful for living in Bloomfield Township."



### **2014 Emergency Management Division Report**

In 2014, emergency preparedness continued to be a priority. With the unusual and severe changes in our weather patterns, along with increased incidents of domestic terrorism, Bloomfield Township is prepared to handle any major events that occur within our borders.

The 2014 Emergency Operations Center exercise was conducted on June 10, 2014. The scenario was a train accident with a hazardous materials spill. This scenario was designed to exercise multiple divisions of the Township and their ability to provide support and resources to personnel in the field during the response phase of a large scale incident and included participation from CNN railroad, American Red Cross, Salvation Army and Michigan State Police.



Mike McCully Fire Marshal 27.9 Years of Service

In December 2012, the State of Michigan Emergency Management Homeland Security Division changed the software program that local governments use to communicate with the State emergency operations center from E-Team to Michigan Critical Incident Management System (MICIMS). The new software has proven to be more user friendly and will reduce communication issues between the State and Local governments. Training for the new software has been on going since 2013. Bloomfield Township now has 25 employees trained and authorized to use the new system.

On August 11, 2014, southern Oakland County was hit by severe thunderstorms that caused major flooding. This was severe enough that President Obama declared a federal disaster for Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties. This action freed up federal support and funds to help with the cleanup and restoration of uninsured properties throughout the region. These storms affected some residents in the south end of our Township with some minor flooding. However, most of the Township was unaffected by this incident.

As we look forward to 2015, Emergency Management continues to be one of the most important services that Bloomfield Township provides to its residents. With the uncertainty of an ever changing world, Bloomfield Township is prepared to mitigate any disaster that may come our way.

Respectfully submitted, Michael J. McCully Fire Marshal



- Allana

## 2014 HAZMAT Report

A hazardous material is defined as any item or agent (biological, chemical, physical) which has the potential to cause harm to humans, animals, or the environment, either by itself or through interaction with other factors. With Ebola being viewed as a possible threat to the public, as well as public health officials, first responders, etc. we have begun to prepare for a new hazard not normally seen in this area of the world. With the technical training and equipment that our HazMat Team possesses, we have been approached as a possible first step in getting these patients to areas where they can receive the care they need. The OAKWAY HazMat Team has been approached by



William Fritz Lieutenant/Paramedic 21.2 Years of Service

Oakland County as possible first responders to anyone believed to be infected with Ebola. With our extensive background in personal protective equipment and hazardous situations, we have trained on and drawn up plans to quickly and efficiently move these patients from their homes to an appropriate facility in the safest means possible. Should an incident occur you can be assured that HazMat Team members will be on hand to help with the situation in some way or another.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department responded to 55 Hazardous Materials calls in 2014. Most of these calls were handled by our regular firefighting crews. (These calls were mostly made up of carbon monoxide incidents, natural gas leaks, and fuel spills). However, some of these calls required a more technical response. This is where the Bloomfield Township Fire Department Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Team can be used to bring in that level of expertise needed to mitigate the incident.

All of our team members are Hazardous Material Technicians (HazMat Techs) and have many hours of specialized training above and beyond our normal firefighters. We currently have 9 members that make up our team. We also utilize special equipment that is carried on our Special Operation and Rescue (SOAR) truck. These HazMat Techs bring experience and technical knowledge to these difficult incidents. Our Bloomfield Team members also train with and are a part of the OAKWAY Hazardous Materials Team. The OAKWAY Team is composed of HazMat Technicians from seven other departments as well as communal equipment. This equipment is more specialized and used in large or complicated incidents. It is housed on two special hazardous materials trucks that surrounding fire departments house and maintain. These trucks rotate throughout the different departments and are staffed by each department HazMat Techs. The Bloomfield HazMat Techs train regularly in-house as well as quarterly trainings with the other OAKWAY teams. There is also a yearly large scale practical scenario training that takes place with all members. Many of our members also have participated in county, state and federal trainings and classes.

Respectfully submitted, William Fritz Lieutenant/Paramedic / Haz-Mat Coordinator



## 2014 Technical Rescue Report

The Bloomfield Township Technical Rescue Team is made up of firefighters and officers who have received specialized training in the following areas of rescue: High Angle or Rope, Confined Space, Trench Collapse, Structural Collapse and Machine Entrapment. Actual technical rescues are not common, but when they occur they require the use of special equipment, techniques and knowledge. To maintain their proficiency, Technical Rescue team members must train annually in situations recreating these types of incidents. Due to this higher level of training, not all members of the department are trained to the top levels for technical rescues but all members have received some level of training. When an actual incident does occur, Bloomfield Township's rescue team members join with members from our mutual aid group, OAKWAY, to form a larger team and work together to handle the event.



Ronald Nancarrow Captain/Paramedic 31.6 Years of Service

In 2014, members of the Technical Rescue team participated in five trainings with the other OAKWAY Fire Departments: Bloomfield Township, Royal Oak, Birmingham, Ferndale, Madison Heights, Southfield, West Bloomfield, and Waterford Regional. These trainings combined functioning at simulated rescues along with learning updated techniques and the use of new equipment.

Many of the team members also utilized their skills at the state level as part of the State Technical Rescue Team, Michigan Task Force-1 or MITF-1. This team is made up of 140 individuals from across Michigan, including engineers, doctors, search specialists and firefighters. MITF-1 is trained and equipped to respond to large scale disasters caused by nature or man, such as a terrorist attack, anywhere within Michigan or the mid-west if requested. The team can respond to perform rescue work for up to a week wherever it is deployed. Part of the equipment for this team includes everything needed for the team to be self-sustained while in operation. These members participated in trainings in the areas of structural collapse and wide area search. Additional training was received in the areas of Swift Water/Flood condition rescue and using heavy equipment during a rescue.

In October, one of these uncommon incidents occurred when a worker was trapped in a trench collapse in Grosse Pointe Woods. This community did not have any individuals trained for this event and sent out a call to area police dispatch centers for help. Bloomfield quickly sent members of our Technical Rescue Team as did other area fire departments. One of our team members was assigned a leadership role and as other trained individuals arrived, a safe attempt was begun to reach the victim. Our efforts went from rescue to recovery after a long and dangerous attempt to reach the victim buried 16 feet below grade. Prior to arrival of trained team members, an officer from Grosse Pointe Woods Public Safety Department was injured in an unsafe attempt to rescue the worker. This event showed the need for having properly trained and equipped Team Members ready to respond, as the Bloomfield Township Fire Department does for a Technical Rescue.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Nancarrow Captain/Paramedic / Technical Rescue Coordinator " I hope the citizens of Bloomfield Township realize what a treasure our public servants are."

Patricia Miotke

### **2014 Customer Service Report**

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department (B.T.F.D.) strives for great customer service. We continue to look for ways to improve our service and exceed our customer's expectations. Our goal is to make every situation a positive experience for the people we serve, even if that situation may arise through an unfortunate circumstance.

Over the past year we have implemented a few programs to enhance our citizen's awareness of the services we provide here in the Fire Department. Our information is provided in an updated tri-fold



Alex Mimikos Captain/Paramedic 34.7 Years of Service

pamphlet which can be found on line at www.Bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/firedepartment, at any fire station, from any fire apparatus while on the road or left with our customers when we visit their homes. Our personnel are always open to interact with the public while out in our community and we welcome any citizen to approach our personnel and engage in a conversation for any reason at all. We encourage everyone within our community to seek out and gather the information of the complete line of services provided by B.T.F.D. We will soon have a packet that will provide our senior population with information on services that we can provide exclusively for them.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department has been on the forefront of the fire service within Oakland County since the early 1970's. We provide aggressive fire attack and paramedic level emergency medical response. However, we are much more than just a Fire and EMS service. We can assist you in developing an emergency plan for your home, help with smoke detector installation and problems that might arise from them, as well as speak to your groups and associations on informative facts about services we provide here in Bloomfield Township. Our fire department personnel will visit homeowner association parties, parades and functions for a close up and personal experience with our Firefighter/Paramedics and Officers.

We here in the Fire Department want you to know, "When in Doubt, Call us Out". We will come to you and investigate a solution to your problem to help solve your issue. We have a vast wealth of knowledge and experience second-to-none. We are here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year.

Respectfully submitted, Alex Mimikos Captain/Paramedic



" We can not express our gratitude and appreciation enough for your service. What was probably the scariest moment of our life, you all helped make us feel safe and taken care of... "

- Hitchcock family

## 2014 Charities Report

This past year, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department Charities generated over \$20,000.00 in donations through our various fundraising activities. Once again, the highlight of our fundraising was the 28th annual Golf Outing. For the second year in a row, the event was held at the prestigious Birmingham Country Club located here in Bloomfield Township. A combination of a great location, great weather and great friends proved to be the formula for a hugely successful outing. Many thanks go out to our Chairperson, Captain Alex Mimikos, for his hard work and dedication to this event.



Mike Cummings Captain/Paramedic 34.3 Years of Service

Co-chairs, Lieutenant Bill Fritz and Firefighter Ed Lietz, led the way for another of our main fundraisers; The Bloomfield Classic Car Show. This event, in partnership with the Bloomfield Township Police Benevolent Association and the Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club, is held in conjunction with the events of the Woodward Dream Cruise. Every year the Classic Car Show is growing in popularity and is a fun event for the whole family to enjoy classic cars, classic foods and classic music. The B.T.F.D. Charities works very hard in our fundraising efforts in order to be able to provide donations to organizations, families and individuals in need.

Some of the donations made in 2014 include:

- Bloomfield Youth Guidance Scholarship
- Children's Holiday Wish Program
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- University of Michigan Trauma Burn Center
- "Dinners with the Firefighters"
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
- The Pat Nagle Fund Birmingham Fire Department
- Oakland Community College The Clyde Harnack Scholarship
- Many individual donations

The Bloomfield Township Firefighters Charities would not be the success that it is today without the time and sacrifices from our firefighters, their families and friends. With their continued support, we look forward to another charitable year in 2015.

Respectfully submitted, Mike Cummings Captain/Paramedic / Charities President





### FAQ's

### How do I get a copy of a Fire or Medical report?

Call the Fire Department at 248-433-7745, during our regular business hours of 7:00AM-5:30PM Monday thru Thursday, for proper procedures to obtain a report.

### Who do I call to learn CPR?

You can call 248-433-7745 and ask for the EMS Coordinator.

### What is a "Knox Box" & where can I obtain one?

A Knox Box is a secured locked box that is placed on the front of a building/house and contains keys to the building or residence. The fire department keeps a key that opens the Knox Box locked and secured on their vehicles. This allows the fire department easy access to a home or business even when the building may be secured, i.e. after hours or when occupants have limited mobility. Information to purchase a "Knox Box" can be obtained by calling the Bloomfield Township Fire Department at 248-433-7745.

### If my Carbon Monoxide detector activates, what should I do?

Carbon Monoxide (ALSO KNOWN AS THE SILENT KILLER) is a colorless/odorless gas that is created by the incomplete combustion of carbon based fuels. It also connects to blood cells at a rate 200 times faster than oxygen. It is recommended that you install a Carbon Monoxide detector on each level of your home and if a detector activates, call 911 and leave your home. The fire department will come to your home and check the level of Carbon Monoxide (if any).

### Is it legal to burn brush or tree branches in Bloomfield Township?

No, it is not legal to have any open burning in Bloomfield Township. Only approved containers (Recreational Fire Pits) are allowed.

### What should I do with HOT fireplace ash?

DO NOT remove hot ashes from the fireplace immediately. Wait up to 2-3 days and let the ashes cool completely in the fireplace until there are no remaining hot embers before removing them. Place cool ash in a metal container and store outside away from the home and all combustibles.

"When in Doubt, Call Us Out!" That's what you need to remember, no matter what situation or problem may arise. When you don't know where to turn, turn to us, your fire department. We have knowledge and resources to help solve almost any problem you may encounter, even those situations not directly related to fire or medical emergencies. Remember, we're here to serve you, any time, any day, and in any way.



The Bloomfield Township Fire Department would like to recognize and express our gratitude to Firefighter/Paramedics Mike Pucci, Joe Chopski, Lt. John LeRoy, and Scott Collins for their diligence and creativity in helping to develop the 2014 Fire Department Annual Report.