

# Monthly Performance Report

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## Fire Sprinkler System Extinguishes Fire

### Results in Warren County Haz-Mat Response

In the early morning hours of July 23, 2005 a fire broke out at 401 Industrial Drive. The fire was later determined to originate in a large roll-back dumpster used to collect non-hazardous chemical waste. The fire, surrounded by various combustible materials, accelerated with the burning of several plastic items, causing intense heat and increasing the difficulty of extinguishment.

Fire sprinklers are not designed to extinguish a fire, although they occasionally do just that. The intended purpose of a fire sprinkler system is to keep a fire from growing, so that the responding fire department can extinguish the fire. A vast majority of fire suppression systems are monitored by an alarm company, but are not required to do so. Electronic devices sense water movement in the sprinkler system, which generates a fire department response to investigate a fire alarm activation.

On this morning, and at this company, that notification did not happen. The sprinkler system functioned perfectly, in fact the sprinkler system was eventually able to completely extinguish the fire saving the building from certain destruction. Unfortunately, the problems at this



facility grew in complexity as a result of the fire department being unaware of the situation.

Most of the time a fire sprinkler system activates, one or two sprinkler heads are able to control the fire until the fire department arrives or the sprinkler system outright extinguish it. Because of the abundant amount of oxygen available throughout the warehouse, and the readily available fuel supply of plastic materials, and finally, the uninhibited chemical reaction, this was a big fire. We know that because after the incident, we were able to determine that 10 sprinkler heads activated during this fire.

How much water? Each sprinkler head flows 26 gallons per minute (GPM) each. That calculates to 2,600 Gallons of water flowing into this building per hour once the fire was extinguished. Why? Because a fire alarm system was not present to notify anyone that the sprinkler system had activated.

So how did we eventually find out about all this? A delivery driver pulled through the parking lot of the business and saw a large amount of water flowing from many sides of the building, realized that something was not right and called the fire department to investigate. The initial alarm for an unknown type of problem was dispatched at 09:41 on Saturday morning. *Continued Pg 4.*

## Donations Used to Keep Kids Safe!

For the past several years, parents have been coming to Firefighters Nancy Coppock and Kyle Lovelace, in addition to a handful of other emergency service professionals, to learn how to safely install and secure car safety seats for little ones. Now, thanks to the efforts of Firefighter Coppock and several local community members, the fire department

will be able to supply new car seats at no cost to those in need. The American Legion, Sheara Insurance, Central Insurance, Barton Insurance and another anonymous donor, provided the necessary funds to purchase several new seats.

When the manufacturer learned of Firefighter Coppock's endeavors, they provided the seats at a 50% dis-



count, doubling the impact of the donations! As a result, 18 convertible and 12 high back booster seats have been purchased.

Car seats are now available and will be provided to individuals who are able to demonstrate financial need. **Thank you all!**

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# Daily Activity Log: July 2005

## Understanding This Info

**DAILY ACTIVITY LOG**– The primary purpose of staffing a fire department is to expedite the response of personnel and equipment to the emergency scene when needed. When not on emergency details, our staff works diligently providing services in a variety of ways. Each task is categorized as administrative, operations, training, inspection and public education. Examples of assignments that are completed in each of these categories have been listed, along with the total number of hours worked in that category by on-duty staff.

**ACTIONS TAKEN BY CFDF**– This categorized list describes the disposition of our emergency calls for service year to date.

**TOTAL FIRE LOSS**– This list contains the number of fires, with loss, allowing for the tabulation of an estimated property saved vs. property loss.

### Inspections

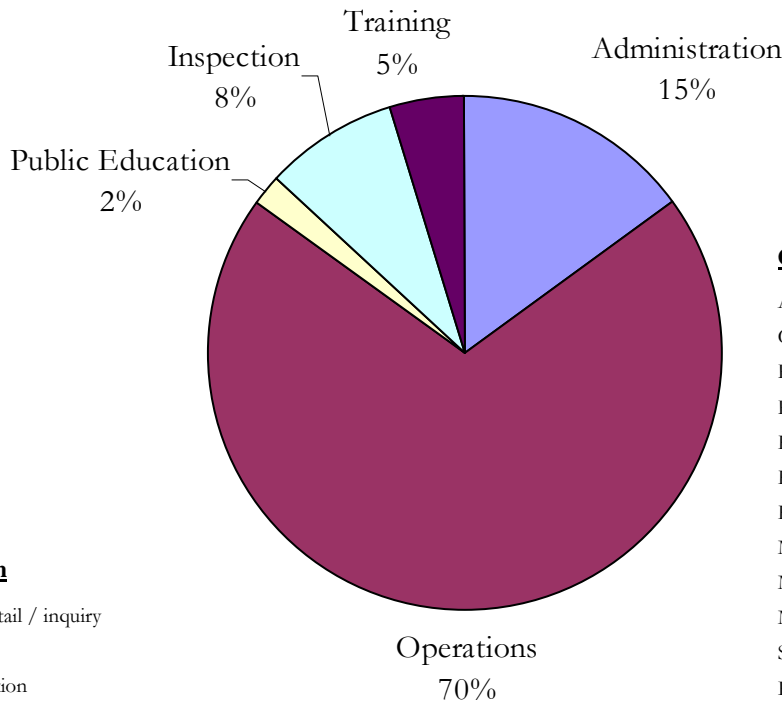
Fire alarm test / drill	
Fire inspection / re-inspection	
Fire pump testing	
Follow-up	
Hood suppression test	
Hydrostatic test	
Pre-incident analysis	
Plans review	
Public Education	
Smoke / Co detector install	
Sprinkler test	
<b>Inspection Total</b>	<b>132.78</b>

### Training

Physical fitness training	Shift drill	
Mobile fire simulator	Special training	
Lesson plan development	Video training	
Monthly training	<b>Training Total</b>	<b>76.23</b>

### Administrative

Administrative work	
Data entry inspection / re-inspection	
Data entry pre-incident analysis	
Data entry training records	
Data entry user fee	
Frms / Cad update and maintenance	
Meeting	
Payroll	
Recruitment Cpat	
Reports / Paperwork	
Research	
Scheduling	
<b>Admin Total</b>	<b>240.95</b>



### Public Education

Customer service detail / inquiry	
Parade detail	
Risk watch presentation	
Risk watch development	
<b>Public Education Total</b>	<b>31.93</b>

### Operations

Area of Responsibility Assignment	
Car seat install / inspection	
Fire investigation	
Fire incident response	
House duties	
Hose testing	
Hydrant flushing / follow up	
Maintenance equipment	
Maintenance building	
Maintenance vehicle	
Shift meeting	
Equipment status in / out of service	
Truck checks	
<b>Operations Total</b>	<b>1117.46</b>

## Actions Taken By City of Franklin, Division of Fire

	Investigate, Enforcement	Fill-in, Standby	Restore Systems, Services	Extinguish and Control	Provide Assistance	Identify and Confine Hazardous Condition	Rescue	Search and Rescue	Others	Total
January	121	41	23	4	3	6	3	2	1	204
February	44	12	0	5	3	3	0	0	0	67
March	49	24	0	3	2	1	1	0	0	80
April	58	26	0	1	4	2	1	0	0	92
May	30	20	0	5	4	3	2	1	0	65
June	55	26	0	3	9	2	0	2	0	97
July	48	27	1	6	3	4	1	0	0	90
	405	176	24	27	28	21	8	5	1	695

## Total Fire Loss by Month

	Count of Fires With	Total Loss	Total Value	Property Saved From Fire	Property Lost To Fire
January	2	\$ 7,500	\$ 2,100,000		
February	5	\$ 34,700	\$ 34,700		
March	7	\$ 800	\$ 4,700	96.17%	
April	12	\$ 82,100	\$ 346,600		
May	16	\$ 34,000	\$ 348,000		
June	2	\$ 8,000	\$ 137,000		
July	5	\$ 40,050	\$ 2,442,800		3.83%
	49	\$ 207,150	\$ 5,413,800		

## Emerald Edge Summer Safety Program

Summer usually offers Kyle Lovelace the opportunity to take a break from the Risk Watch Curriculum that he routinely presents to each of the elementary students in the Franklin Public School System each school year. Not so this July as he worked with Melinda McClain and Stacy Ashley of Emerald Edge Apartments. These people worked together to present a summer safety program to residents of the apartment complex, concentrating on the unique hazards present in the residents own apartment complex.

Firefighter Lovelace provided instruction to the twelve children in attendance who ranged in age from six to fourteen years while the Emerald Edge Manage-

ment team prepared the participants lunch, donating all the materials needed.



Instruction centered on Water Safety, Falls Prevention, and Bike and Pedestrian Safety, using hazards found around the community's swimming pool, a 25' tall retaining wall and covering the vari-

ous hazards of riding bikes in a busy and often crowded parking lot.

At the conclusion of the classroom presentation, all of the participants took a short field trip, and were tested as they safely made their way through the parking lot and identified various hazards found throughout the complex.

Emerald Edge provided a grab-bag of goodies for all the participants for taking part in the pilot program.

Based on the success of this program, it is the goal to expand the program to other rental communities within our jurisdiction. The goal, as with all public education programs, is to change behaviors that lead to injury or death of our community members.

## Observant Crews, Turn To Environmental Protection



**Continued From Pg 1** Upon arrival, the shift battalion Joshua “Chad” Reed immediately recognized something was not right. The water flowing from the building was green, and there was a lot of water present. Crews put on their gear, approached the building’s Knox Box (a safe affixed to a building containing that properties keys and other emergency items exclusively for fire department and emergency use) to gain access to the facility. Upon entry into the structure, a strong chemical odor with a haze throughout the structure was found.

The Warren County Hazardous Materials Team was notified and began a response. Realizing additional resources and support was needed, Battalion Reed made notification to senior department members to provide additional support for what had quickly turned into a hazardous materials response, requiring large amounts of equipment and personnel.

The first task was to locate and notify a representative for the plant, a challenging, but vital task on a Saturday morning in the middle of summer. While those efforts were on-going, on-scene crews began to assess the impact of the incident and determine the scope of the situation. Crews immediately identified that the run-off of this still unidentified

liquid had reached a drainage ditch, and was running freely into the storm sewer system. Engineer Jim Riseborough, assisted by Firefighter Kyle Lovelace and Lt. Jim Root, who were initially assisted by JEMS duty supervisor Kevin Grathwald, quickly set to work digging and building dams, and placing booms to limit the flow of the material into the storm system. As seen in the pictures above, this was no easy task, especially considering the extremely high heat and humidity of the day.

Meanwhile, company representatives had been reached and were responding to the scene. Initial information was obtained via the phone, and with the arrival of the Haz-Mat team, entry was made to locate the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) to confirm the chemical materials and their properties located within the plant.

Franklin Public Works was notified and requested to respond, Ohio Environmental Protection (EPA) representatives were requested to respond in addition to mutual aid fire companies of Franklin Township (Hunter), Carlisle and Clearcreek Fire District staff members to assist us in our response. In any incident of this type and magnitude, the press also arrived in force.

Working with company representatives was a pleasure. Due to the type of business this plant deals with, a virtual army of vacuum trucks (standard to full semi trailers) were immediately dispatched and began collecting the contaminated run-off from the sprinkler system.

Fire and Hazardous Material crews, working together, were able to determine that the fire was completely out, and that the chemicals involved did not pose a significant threat to the emergency responders or the environment. Responders worked to remove the smoke from the structure, and render the atmosphere safe so that fire investigators could begin their investigation. The fire was determined to be the result of chemicals mixing in the open-top dumpster stored in the building, the third such fire striking this company according to EPA officials. The fire resulted in an estimated damage loss of \$30,000 to the property and contents.

Several things went right during this incident. The sprinkler system was able to extinguish the fire, limiting its impact, an alert crew recognized the hazards facing them and took appropriate and measured actions to mitigate the situation, and teamwork between several agencies was able to overcome a significant and rapidly escalating situation.

Working with our loss prevention bureau, company officials now understand the importance of having a functioning and monitored alarm system and have agreed to install this to prevent a repeat occurrence in the future. This incident simply reinforces, you never know what you will find! Great Job Everyone!



## Firefighter's Recycling Program Gains Steam

Although the recycling program is still in an infancy stage, the results have been impressive. Through July, the City of Franklin has recycled 240 lbs. of paper products. The recycling program is being administered through Midlin's



and has produced a \$7.20 profit, which will be put toward purchasing miscellaneous kitchen food items (salt,

pepper etc) for all department members. The program has gained in popularity so much that the rolling storage bins used to gather the materials prior to being taken for processing are routinely overflowing. What a great problem to have!

## Civil Service Commission Extends Eligibility List

At the July 14, 2005 Civil Service Commission meeting, Chief Westendorf was presented the opportunity to address various questions related to the fire department, and its anticipated needs in the coming years.

Civil Service members were considering extending the current eligibility list compiled last year by an additional 12-months. Chief Westendorf favored that idea as no appointments from the list had been made, and it is felt that we

have a strong list containing several promising candidates. Individuals who successfully passed the Civil Service Test in 2004 will receive a letter advising them that their ranking will remain active through October 2006.

## Hunter Education Program Returns to the City of Franklin



A popular public education program has returned to the City of Franklin Division of Fire this year.

Completion of a hunter education course is required

for all first-time hunting license buyers in Ohio (ORC 1533.10). The hunter education course covers topics such as firearms, ammunition, gun handling, archery, hunter responsibilities, outdoor safety, wildlife management and con-

servation, and other related information. This course is beneficial for everyone, even if hunting is not your goal. Forty-nine states and all of the Canadian Provinces require hunter education, but because of a mutual agreement, Ohio's hunter education course is accepted all across North America. This is important for Ohio residents wishing to hunt out of state.

Classes are held on weekends beginning at 1:00 p.m. and end at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and begin again on Sundays and 1:00 p.m. through 6:00 p.m. Call 1-800-WILDLIFE to register or go to

[www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife) to register.

Courses will be held on:

- September 10 & 11
- October 8 & 9
- November 12 & 13
- December 14 & 15
- January 14 & 15, 2006

This is just another example of what a great addition the Wilburn DePew Community Room has been to are region. We regularly receive compliments for providing this program.

## Fitness For Duty Enters Round 2

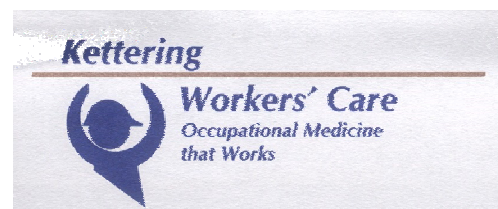
The City of Franklin Professional Firefighters, IAFF Local 3742 collective bargaining agreement provides the creation of a fitness for duty exam to be administered at the end of the agreement in 2006.

A committee of two representative from the Local in addition to the Fire Chief and Assistant City Manager have been working jointly with Kettering Workers Care since early 2004. The result is a test that will independently and objectively verify that the firefighters protecting our community are physically able to do so, without jeopardizing their own health from the resulting stress and

demands placed upon them while answering the call for help placed by the community.

The program evaluates several areas and includes an overall wellness evaluation, a stress test, blood-work, a pulmonary function test, audio, titmus, fat calipers, chest x-ray (as needed) to determine overall health. The strength and flexibility evaluation includes Grip strength, Standing Balance, Treadmill Fitness, Hamstring Flexibility, Sit-up Endurance, Overhead Press, Leg Press, Chest Press, 9-Hole Peg Test, Cable Column Push and Pull.

The exam will encompass a series of

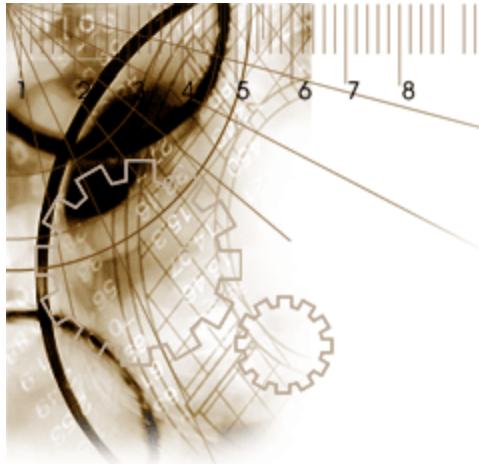


three practice tests that will be used to determine a baseline. Management and labor will then work together to determine an acceptable fitness levels.

The initial test and results have already been reviewed, and with the second round of testing is now complete. Comparative data now exists to begin assessing the departments overall progress. Union Leaders and Management are encouraged by the joint participation and dedication to personal success.



# Safety Occupancy Permit System to Begin in August



The Loss Prevention Bureau of the City of Franklin, Division of Fire is responsible to perform all life safety inspections once a building has been issued a Certificate of Occupancy by the Franklin Building Department. As the ownership of commercial, and industrial buildings change over the years, the use of those buildings also often changes. As the change of occupancy occurs, the use or purpose of a premise may also change, sometimes resulting in increased safety system requirements for the new use. When this occurred, business owners and/or occupants are placed in a position of playing catch-up to bring their buildings up to applicable Fire and Building Codes after the business has relocated and already begun operation. This presents some unique customer service challenges.

## Performance Indicators

	2005 July	YTD
<b>Loss Prevention</b>		
Initial Inspections	50	384
Re-Inspects	24	214
Pre-Incident Analysis	0	57
Alarm Tests	1	15
Knox Boxes Installed	4	15
Smoke Detectors Distributed	15	85
Carbon Monoxide Detectors Distributed	3	51
Vial of Life Distributed	0	34
Car Seats Installed	0	13
<b>Public Education Participants</b>		
General	12	372
Pre-School	0	87
Risk Watch	0	1905
Elderly	0	99
Smoke Trailer	0	0
Fire Extinguisher	0	124
<b>Training</b>		
Classes	19	160
Participants	74	741
Total Hours	150	1967.7

In addition to sharing our organizational benchmarks, we also track several performance indicators that are used to monitor various aspects of our service delivery. Over time, this data will be compared to historical accomplishments.

The City of Franklin has now adopted Ordinance 2005-21, creating the Safety Occupancy permit. This document is issued to structures after a life safety inspection is completed comparing the previous building use classification to necessary code requirements for the proposed new use of the building. While not designed to certify a structure free of all safety hazards, as this would be impossible, it does provide the business owner to begin operating their new business with a previously established working relationship with Fire and Building Department Officials.



Owners of structures located within the City of Franklin who are currently operating their business will be issued a Safety Occupancy Permit at no charge following a brief inspection. Future businesses planning on locating in the City of Franklin, are required to approach the City of Franklin, Division of Fire and make application for the permit for all new, transferred, vacant (30 days or greater), abandoned and/or modified use of commercial or industrial properties described within the ordinance, no less than ten days, but no more than ninety days, before occupying the structure. Once the nominal \$85 inspection and research fee has been paid, the permit



will be issued following the determination that there are no violations of any applicable section of the adopted fire code or ordinance in the interior or exterior of the property. This permit does not deem a release or waiver by the City of any requirement for compliance with all applicable section of the code, nor does it constitute a guarantee that no code violations exist. It is designed to promote a cooperative and positive experience with company representatives, contractors and other professionals responsible for the safe and efficient relocation or establishment of a new business.

To ensure a smooth working relationship, a single point of contact will be assigned to each company representative who choose to relocate or start a new business in the City of Franklin. Our goal is to proactively protect your investment in this community, while reducing the chance of injury or loss while operating in our community. Should any problem occur, the Fire Chief is available to assist you upon request.

The City of Franklin, Division of Fire is committed to providing unparalleled customer service, as we want to partner with you in making your business a success. We continually strive for excellence, looking for new and innovative ways to increase safety for your employees, your customers and our residents. Should you have any questions concerning this ordinance, or the ability to conform to applicable standards, we will be happy to assist you. Simply call our office at 937-746-4542 for assistance. Thank you.