

**REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR**

The Wellesley Fire Rescue Department as a public safety organization is charged with the responsibility of protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Wellesley. To accomplish this the department utilizes the services of thirty-six Firefighters, twelve Lieutenants, four shift Captains and one Captain Fire Inspector working days only. The Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, mechanic and secretary make up the rest of the department.

The department operates out of two stations, one at Central Street and Weston Road (Station # 1) and one on Worcester Street in Wellesley Hills (Station # 2). Front line apparatus consists of three pumping engines and one tower ladder unit. There are vehicles such as the Emergency Response Vehicle for hazardous materials and special operations, two boats for water and ice rescues, and in reserve is one spare ladder truck and one spare pumper.

**Emergency Medical Service**

Emergency Medical Services under the direction of the Fire Chief are provided by Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technicians for the twelfth year. American Medical Response Paramedics together with the fire department's forty-three Emergency Medical Technicians, operating from Fire Department Headquarters located on Route 9, provide advanced medical care and emergency transport.

All engines, ladders and command vehicles are equipped with defibrillators, epi-pens and the department maintains a license to purchase and carry drugs on board the apparatus. The fire command vehicle has maintained a state license to operate as an ambulance in the event of a disaster.

Each member's emergency medical certifications are kept current as required by law. As in the past, the Fire Department is looking forward to continued success in providing the highest quality medical services to our community.

The Emergency Medical Coordinator Dana Gerrans assisted several departments and organizations in establishing automatic external defibrillator programs. Fire personnel provided training to personnel in both the public and private sector to accomplish the spread of this life saving technology. The Department is continuing to provide CPR/ Defibrillator certification to other town employees and to the general public.

**Wellesley Emergency Management**

The Wellesley Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan is a program for planning and responding to potential emergency or disaster situations. It assigns responsibilities and functions, which will provide for the safety and welfare of our citizens against the threat of natural disasters, hazardous material incidents and national security emergencies.

Under the direction of the Fire Chief / Emergency Management Director, a Local Emergency Planning Committee has attained Provisional Certification from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

The purpose of this committee is to make recommendations to the Emergency Management Director in the coordination of the town's emergency response by planning and operating

exercises to test the plans. The LEPC is currently working toward full Certification to ensure the greatest coordination among first responders during an emergency. This committee has representation from Fire, Police, Health, Public Works, Selectman's Office, School Departments, American Medical Response, Wellesley College, Babson College, and Citizens.

**Training/Equipment**

All fire/rescue personnel participate in daily drills, which consist of all phases of fire fighting, rescue operations and emergency medical training. In addition to these daily drills, members are assigned or volunteer to attend various courses and seminars held at other fire departments, at the State Fire Academy in Stow, Ma. and the National Fire Academy in Maryland. Eight Firefighters completed Rescue Diver Training. Three members of the department attended the National Fire Academy in 2005. Deputy Chief DeLorie completed a four- year Executive Fire Officer Training Program at the National Fire Academy.

Hazardous Materials has always been handled by the fire department, but now the department has been preparing our personnel for more complex incidents. Captain James Dennehy serves on the State Hazardous Material Response Team. The department has conducted emergency response to radiological emergencies. The department conducted extensive training to increase the safety of our personnel and the general public. The firefighters completed 162 training certificates over the past year in three programs from the National Fire Academy's Emergency Management Institute.

**Fire Prevention**

All business are inspected twice yearly by in-service engine and ladder companies. This is not only a good fire prevention tool but aids in keeping firefighters assigned to first due apparatus abreast of changes in occupancies and construction. The Captain Fire Inspector David Marchetti coordinates all inspectional services related to fire prevention and inspection.

*The following inspections and permits were issued in accordance with Chapter 148 of the Massachusetts General Laws:*

Smoke Detector Inspections	565
Blasting Permits	6
Fuel Oil Tank Removal Permits	56
Fuel Oil Tank Installation	36
Welding Permits	21
Liquid Propane Permits	30
Fireworks Permits	3
Sprinkler Installation Permits	48
Oil Burner Permits	54
Fire Alarm Installation	49
Commercial Property Inspections	2000+ approximately
Nursing Home Inspections	Quarterly
Schools, Churches Inspections	Quarterly
College Dormitory Inspections	Twice during school year

### Public Educational Programs

Public education programs are conducted under the direction of Lt. Paul Delaney. The 4th year of our Teen Rescuer Program for local teenagers was very successful.. The Teen Rescuer program covers fire department operations and topics such as first aid, CPR and general safety during one week in the summer.

The department for the 10<sup>th</sup> year participated in the Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) program. This state grant program enables the Fire Prevention Officer to develop and implement fire safety programs. The Wellesley Fire Department received a state grant to support fire education for school age children. The educational programs reached 2845 children in our local public and private schools during Fire Prevention week, New Comers Club and numerous visits to the firehouse. The High School Senior Class was provided with a presentation on recent college fires that resulted in fatalities and how to stay safe in the dorm environment. A teenage alcohol awareness program in partnership with American Medical Response and Wellesley Police Department was conducted for the Sophomore Class.

### Calls For Service

During the period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, Wellesley Fire Rescue Department responded to 4019 calls for service.

<u>Fires/ Explosion and Releases</u>		<u>Emergency Medical/Rescue</u>	
Structure Fires	16	Emergency Medical	1490
Interior Content Fires	121	Elevator Rescue	6
Smoke detector alarms	94	Motor Vehicle Accidents	320
Outside Fire Man-Made Materials	12	Lock out/lock in	169
Vehicles Fires	9	Water Rescue/ Search	1
Power line down	31		
Carbon Monoxide	56		
Electrical Conditions	51		
Hazardous Material Release	93		
Alarm activation/ non specific	418	<u>Service Calls</u>	
Sprinkler Activation	10	Water/steam problems	67
		Miscellaneous	349
		System Malfunction	258
		Malicious False	24
		911 Hang-ups	214

### Mutual Aid

To: Newton, Needham, Natick and Weston - 210

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I would like to thank the Board of Fire Engineers, the personnel of the Fire Department and the other town departments for their cooperation and support during this past year. Lastly, I wish to express our appreciation to the citizens of Wellesley for the concern, understanding and support of our mission.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kevin K. Rooney  
Fire Chief