



WEST SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

2016





Fire Administration
(916) 617-4600

Website:
www.cityofwestsacramento.org/fire

Fire Chief
John Heilmann

Deputy Chief
Rebecca Ramirez

City Manager
Martin Tuttle

City Council
Christopher L. Cabaldon, Mayor
Beverly A. Sandeen, Mayor Pro Tem
Mark F. Johannessen
Christopher T. Ledesma
William G. Kristoff (retired 2016)
Quirina Orozco (elected 2016)

Fast Facts

Population	52,721
Housing Units	18,681
Households	17,571
Land, area	21.43 sq. mi. ²



A Message from the Chief

I have just completed my first year and a half at the helm of the West Sacramento Fire Department as your Fire Chief and I am excited to announce that this year the department was able to achieve an ISO rating of “Class 1,” the highest available and which denotes superior fire protection. I am proud of the department’s accomplishments and it is with honor that I present this first annual report to the public, city staff, and elected officials in order to maintain the transparency of the organization and provide a better understanding of our operations.



It has been a challenging year that has tested our personnel and resources. As always, our personnel and resources were up to the test. We experienced an extensive wildfire season, an increase in call volume, and the addition of several new apparatus which included a new Office of Emergency Services wildland fire engine. The department also hired new firefighters, coordinated and implemented the Youth Fire Academy, and completed several other projects and changes which are included in this document. These accomplishments are a testament to the work ethic, commitment to the citizens, and support provided by the men and women of the West Sacramento Fire Department.

This report will cover areas such as the history of the department, operations, departmental statistics, community risk reduction, and other programs and services we provide for the community. Future editions will be more condensed and will focus on the current statistical information for that year.

This report was prepared by all staff personnel and will provide a clear picture into the workings of your fire department. Transparency and full service emergency response are what this department prides itself on and we hope to carry that institutional tradition into the future.

I am very proud to be a member of this fine organization and look forward to leading it into the future. If you are interested in additional information, please don't hesitate to visit us at Station 45. We are here to serve you.

Sincerely,

John H. Heilmann
Fire Chief

Historical Overview

Organized fire fighting began in West Sacramento long before the city's incorporation. The township of Washington (Broderick) was laid out on February 22, 1850 and was the first organized community in the West Sacramento area. At that time the population was small and the need for an organized fire department was not necessary. As Washington's population and commerce grew, so did the size and frequency of the fires. In the 1890s a series of fires swept through the community with devastating results. On August 5, 1896 the town narrowly escaped total destruction by fire. The fire started in the two-story residence of John Churchill and spread rapidly, five residences and two large barns were destroyed. A strong wind was blowing and at one time a dozen residences were ignited by flying embers. Washington did not have an organized fire department and had it not been for the prompt assistance rendered by the fire crews of the Southern Pacific Railroad, the entire town would have been consumed. On August 7, 1896 a mass meeting of the citizens of Washington was held at the town hall to devise ways and means toward purchasing fire equipment and forming an organized fire brigade. From that meeting the first organized fire department was founded. Records from 1898 show that the town of Washington had a volunteer fire department with a fire chief and 33 members. Apparatus listed for the department at that time consisted of two hand hose carts with 350 ft. of 2 1/2 in. cotton jacket rubber lined hose on each, one 50 gallon hand chemical cart, and one hand hook & ladder cart. All of the apparatus was located at the town hall.





Later, as the population extended towards the town of Bryte, the need for additional fire protection was evident. In 1917, Bryte was added to the list as another volunteer fire department. Both Washington and Bryte were divided into fire districts. Hand drawn carts and leather buckets slowly gave way to motorized fire apparatus with gasoline engines. In 1933 the community of West Sacramento built its first volunteer fire engine. This was done without any direct district costs. Also, in 1933, the citizens realized they needed more fire protection. The West Sacramento Land Company and the volunteer Fire Department raised funds to purchase a second hand 1926 Federal truck with a Dodge Brothers motor. It had a 300 gallon per minute pump, with a 150 gallon water tank. It carried a few hundred feet of 1 1/2 inch hose and some nozzles. This fire engine became known as Old Mary and is proudly displayed in the Burgers and Brew restaurant. The Westgate (West Sacramento) Fire District was the next fire district formed in 1939. All three districts co-existed until 1979 when they merged into the East Yolo Fire Protection District. In 1987 the three districts incorporated, becoming the 444th city in California and the West Sacramento Fire Department was finally formed.

Today the West Sacramento Fire Department employees 54 full-time firefighters, has five fire stations located throughout the city, and is dedicated to protecting life, property, and the environment from fire, medical, hazardous materials, and other natural or man-made disasters through aggressive prevention, training, public education, and emergency response.

Administration

Highlights / Achievements



PulsePoint

PulsePoint is a free life-saving mobile application which empowers CPR-trained citizens and off-duty professionals to provide critical assistance immediately following cardiac arrest. The department worked collaboratively with Yolo Emergency Communications Agency (YECA) and Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency (YEMSA) to plan, configure, and implement the program county-wide at no cost to the citizens. The application went live on June 1, 2016.

ISO 1 Rating

Insurance Services Office (ISO) five-year audit awarded a new and upgraded rating of “Class 1” and “1A” for the City of West Sacramento. This is the highest rating ISO offers and denotes superior fire protection. Of the nearly 50,000 rated cities across the nation, less than one-half of 1% of cities receive a “Class 1” rating.

New Apparatus

The fire department worked cooperatively with the Finance department to acquire three new fire apparatus, a Type I Fire Engine, a Type III Brush fire Engine, and a Water Tender, that were all put into service in 2016.

Assistance for Firefighting Grant (AFG)

A consortium of regional fire agencies led by the West Sacramento Fire Department was awarded a \$1.1 million grant through FEMA’s Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) program. Partner agencies in this effort include the cities of West Sacramento, Davis and Woodland, along with the fire protection districts of Madison, Yolo, Zamora, Esparto, Knight’s Landing, West Plainfield, and Elkhorn, and the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. Grant funds were used to purchase Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), air compressors, and related equipment that will improve interoperability and firefighter safety throughout the region.



Personnel

The West Sacramento Fire Department is an “All Hazard” response agency committed to excellent delivery of fire services and outstanding customer service. Our greatest asset is our people. The West Sacramento Fire department has a current force of 65 dedicated and professional full-time firefighters, chief officers and support staff. Firefighters work 48-hour tours of duty. There are three work groups called “shifts.” Our line crews are divided into three shifts of 17 firefighting personnel, including a Battalion Chief, who are on duty every day to respond to all structure fires and other major emergencies, providing Incident Command and Scene Management. Effective mid-2017, a reorganization will be implemented in order to provide succession planning in the department. This program will provide opportunities for Fire Captains to be Acting Battalion Chiefs for a term, as well as opportunities for Battalion Chiefs to be Acting Deputy Chiefs. This program will encourage professional development, provide exposure to the various responsibilities of each position, and prepare the department for the future.

The department has three divisions which provide a wide array of services to the community. These divisions are Fire Administration, Emergency Operations, and Community Risk Reduction. Together we are responsible for structure fire, wildland fire, technical rescue, hazardous material, and emergency medical aid responses as well as public education, fire prevention, community preparedness and disaster response. Our goal is twofold: reduce the community risk through education, planning, and preparedness, and to safely, efficiently, and effectively mitigate all incidents.



(Fire Administration's Chief Officers (left to right): Fire Marshal Bryan Jonson, Deputy Chief Rebecca Ramirez, Chief John Heilmann, Battalion Chief Scott Pfeifer, Battalion Chief John Muir, Battalion Chief Steve Binns.)

Fire Stations

The West Sacramento Fire Department has the mission of protecting life, environment, and property within the City of West Sacramento. To effectively complete this mission, the Department has five fire stations strategically located throughout the City. The five fire stations are staffed and operated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Station 41

West Sacramento Fire Station 41 is located at 132 15th Street and is our oldest fire station built originally in 1938. Station 41 underwent a major renovation in 2006 and is staffed daily with three personnel. Apparatus at this station include a Type I Fire Engine, a Water Tender, and a Fire/Rescue Boat. Station 41 serves the area in the center-most section of the city often referred to as Old West Sacramento. It also serves Raley Field, home of the River Cats, and the Bridge district.



Station 42

West Sacramento Fire Station 42 is located at 3585 Jefferson Blvd. The station is staffed with three personnel daily. Apparatus at this station include a Type I fire engine and a Type III Brush Unit. This station serves the southern-most part of the City as well as some unincorporated area.

Station 43

West Sacramento Fire Station 43 is located at 1561 Harbor Blvd. and is staffed with three personnel daily. Apparatus at this station include a Type I Fire Engine, Type IV Brush Unit, Rescue Trailer, and a Port Rescue Boat docked at the adjacent Port of West Sacramento. This station serves the western-most / industrial section of the City.





Station 44

West Sacramento Fire Station 44 is located at 905 Fremont Boulevard and is staffed with three personnel daily.

Apparatus at this station include a Type I Fire Engine and a Type III Brush Unit. Station 44 serves the Northern areas of the city often referred to as Broderick and Bryte, as well as the shopping district located to the northwest and the Riverwalk located to the northeast.



Station 45

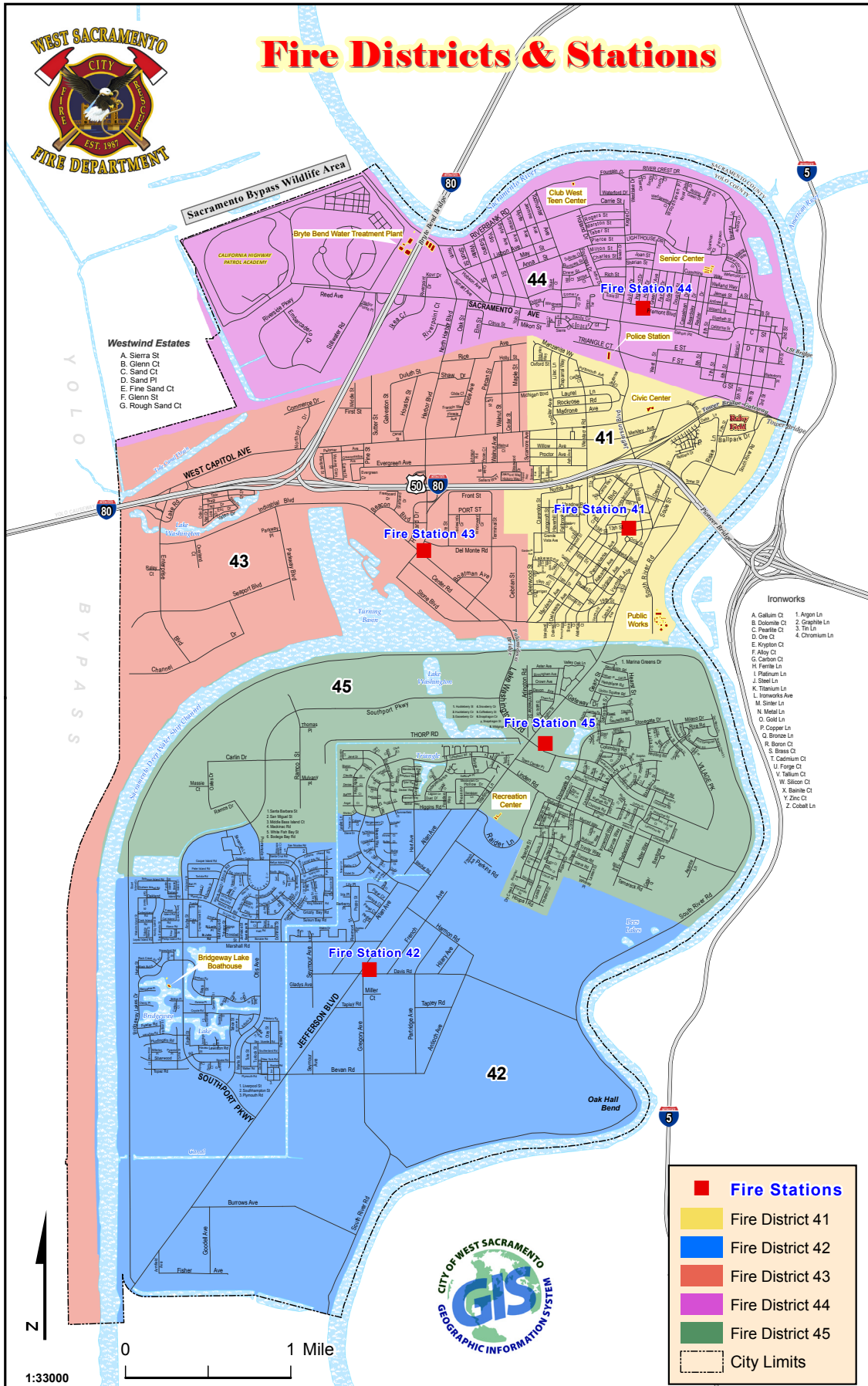
West Sacramento Fire Station 45, built in 2006, is located at 2040 Lake Washington Blvd. and is our newest fire station. It is staffed with five fire personnel daily. Apparatus at this station include a Tiller Truck, a Battalion Chief Command SUV an OES Type III Brush Unit and a Rescue Boat. It is also home to our Fire Administration which operates during normal business hours on weekdays and is staffed with executive and support staff.

Training Tower

The 5-story Training Tower includes a Class A burn room to allow interior firefighting operations, and a number of props to provide ventilation, search and technical rescue training. The Training Tower provides the host location for training firefighters from throughout Yolo County and Northern California. The Fire Department works cooperatively with the Police Department, regional SWAT, and Bomb Squad EOD Units to provide a location to enhance all first-responder capabilities.



Fire Station Locations in Your Community

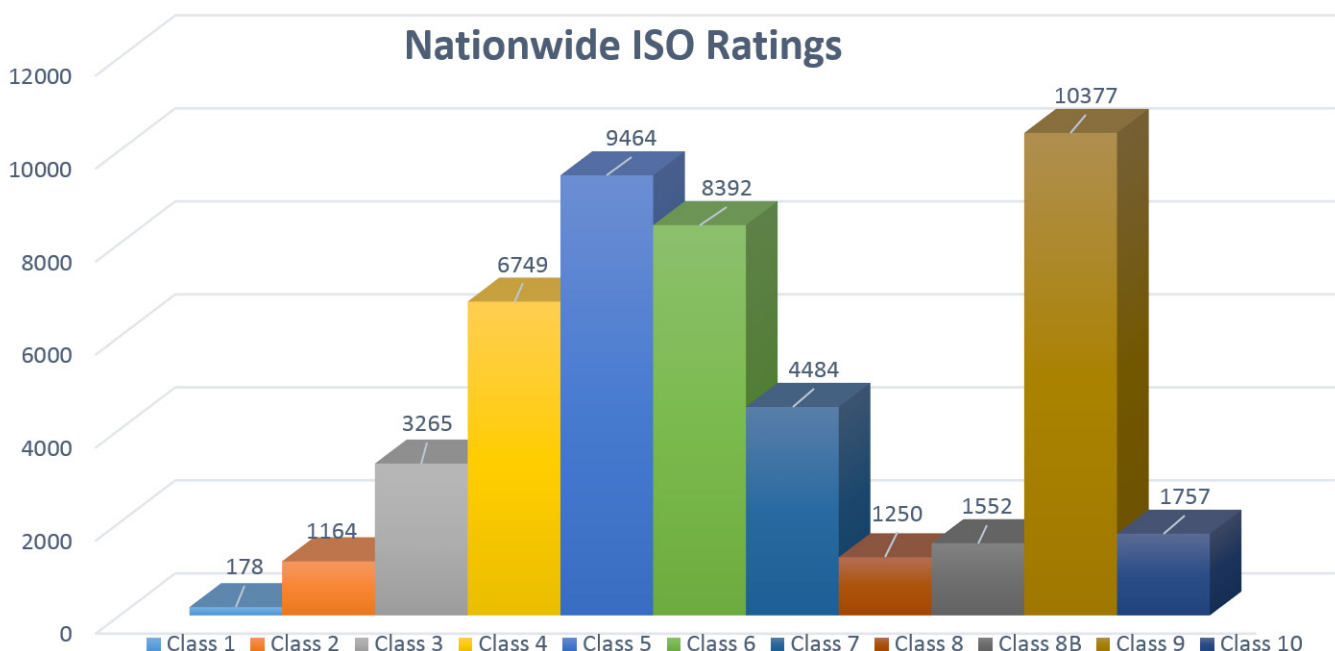


ISO - Class 1

ISO stands for Insurance Services Office. This is a group of trained, professional evaluators that evaluate municipal fire protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. Points for everything from training, water supply systems, emergency dispatch capabilities, apparatus, call volume, response times and more are thoroughly assessed and rated. The audits which determine the ratings occur every five years.



ISO analyzes the relevant data using the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). The purpose of ISO is to give insurance companies a uniform system on which to base their insurance premiums. By classifying a community's ability to suppress fires, ISO also helps the community evaluate their public fire protection services. The final rating ranges from Class 1 (superior fire protection) to 10 (minimal fire protection). Historically, very few cities receive the coveted "Class 1" rating. Of the nearly 50,000 rated cities across the United States, less than one half of 1% of cities receive a "Class 1" rating. During its 2016 audit, the City of West Sacramento received a "Class 1" rating. A "Class 1A" was also awarded to the rural area, which is the highest rural rating available. As insurance companies typically utilize the classification to assist in determining premiums, the new classification has the potential for financial savings for homeowners and business owners alike.



Fire Operations

Training & Safety

The ongoing training of fire fighters is the cornerstone of fire protection and service to the community. The West Sacramento Fire Department, in partnership with the other professional fire departments in Yolo County, has developed a regional training and safety program that has been widely recognized as a model for programs delivering training and education. The West Valley Regional Fire Training Consortium (WVRFTC) was founded in 2012 as a partnership between regional fire and emergency service agencies in order to supplement individual training and ensure the continued delivery of high-quality, realistic, and relevant training based on the principle of common standards.

The West Sacramento Fire Department, in cooperation with the Port of West Sacramento, received a grant from FEMA and Homeland Security to fund a training tower to serve as an all-risk public safety training facility. This cutting edge, multi-story Marine Vessel Training & Exercise Tower was completed in 2013 and boasts a comprehensive design to replicate a wide array of training exercises programmed into the structure. This resource serves firefighting, EMS and law enforcement tactical training needs for the City and Port of West Sacramento, and remains a valuable asset for regional training and exercise use by auto-aid and mutual-aid public safety partners throughout Yolo and Sacramento Counties.

In order to render the most functional state-of-the-art site for training for the City, Port, and other high value facilities in the county and region; the Tower boasts a “live-fire training burn room” allowing practical experience in modern procedures for shipboard and structural firefighting under actual conditions which cannot be simulated. For this component, the initial purchase of the “Burn Room” was funded through the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation’s Community Fund in the amount of \$30,000 in order to enhance this new, regional training facility at the Port of West Sacramento.

Employing a shared-service model, the WVRFTC provides high-caliber training and cultivates interoperability throughout Yolo County. The regional training and safety program enhances operational efficiency, and elevates the level of service provided within each community. The cooperative administration of training development allows for a reduced burden on individual Departments when fulfilling mandated training and records management.

Monthly Training Calendar

The West Valley Regional Fire Training Consortium develops and publishes to all agencies a consolidated monthly training calendar which includes Standard Engine & Truck Company Evolutions; Dynamic Fire Simulations & Tactical/Strategic Objectives; Mandated Training (OSHA / NFPA Compliancy); and Professional Development.





Multi-Agency Training

In addition to the fundamental monthly training plans, the Consortium provides multi-company drills (MCDs) that allow for resource integration and develop cohesive operations at the direction of the Yolo County Operations Chiefs. Through the Consortium model, all agencies participate in the drill, with “move-and-cover” units scheduled to backfill throughout the region, with no overtime cost generated, in order to maintain critical resource response capabilities in all jurisdictions.

Leadership & Professional Development

Fire Service Leaders, recognized as National subject matter experts, provide a variety of courses and topics focused on career development for employees. In 2015, this class roster was expanded to provide West Sacramento Fire Department personnel opportunities to attend Incident Command and Management; Fire Officer Development Training; Wildland Overhead & Incident Command Training; Modern Fire Behavior; Fire Investigation Training; and Special Operations & Technical Rescue.

West Sacramento Fire Training Hours

<u>Training Discipline</u>	<u>Hours</u>
EMS	833
Fire Suppression	2,112
Haz Mat	478
Technical Rescue	462
Other	5,178
Total	9,063

Fire Apparatus

In order to meet the evolving needs of our community, the West Sacramento Fire Department operates and maintains a variety of apparatus:

- (1) Battalion Chief Command vehicle
- (4) Type I Engines
- (1) 100' Aerial Ladder Truck

Additionally, on duty crews cross-staff the following apparatus as needed:

- (3) Type III Engines
- (1) Water Tender – 2000 gallons
- (3) Fire/Rescue Boats
- (1) Confined Space/Technical Rescue Trailer

Battalion Chief Command Vehicle

The on duty Battalion Chief is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day fire department operations and is typically dispatched to take command of an incident that requires more than one Fire Department Apparatus to respond. This vehicle is equipped with communication equipment and resources needed to manage large scale emergency incidents.



Type 1 Pumper / Engine

The fire engine is the workhorse of the fire service. It is an extremely versatile piece of equipment that enables the fire department to accomplish its mission on a daily basis. It has a 1500 gpm fire pump, carries 500 gallons of water, 2600 feet of hose, ground ladders, and EMS equipment.

100' Aerial Ladder Tiller Truck

The Ladder Truck is a specialized piece of apparatus that facilitates rescue and ventilation operations to elevated locations including multistory structures. The Aerial also provides an elevated water way for large scale incidents. Equipment carried on T45 include: 228' of ground ladders, 100' aerial ladder, Jaws of life, air bags, chainsaws, rotary saws, salvage and overhaul equipment, Hazardous Materials equipment, technical rope rescue equipment and lighting.





Type III Engine

Type III Engines are smaller than Type I's and are primarily used for vegetation fires that are commonly found along the rivers and unincorporated areas of West Sacramento. With 4 x 4 capabilities and elevated ground clearance, Type III's can easily gain access to areas inaccessible by Type I Engines. These engines have a 500 gpm pump, carry 500 gallons of water, 2200' of hose and have the ability to pump and roll.



Type III OES 8435

In 2015 the WSPD took delivery of OES 8435, which was purchased by the State of California but is staffed by the West Sacramento Firefighters. The Office of Emergency Services has strategically placed these resources throughout California. They are most often used on large scale wildland fires, however they can also respond to earthquakes and other natural or man-made disasters anywhere in California. All maintenance and personnel costs incurred by the use of the apparatus are reconciled by the State of California.

Fire/Rescue Boats

Boat 41 (pictured) responds to local waterways in and around the Sacramento Area. It's equipped with a 400 gpm fire pump, master stream device, fire hose, and water rescue equipment. Boat 43 is docked at the Port of West Sacramento. Its primary responsibility is protecting the vessels and docks located at the Port of West Sacramento. It also is equipped with a fire pump, and master stream device. Boat 43 is jointly operated with WSPD. Boat 45 is an inflatable rescue boat designed to access smaller bodies of water located throughout our city.



New Apparatus Received

The West Sacramento Fire Department took delivery of three new pieces of equipment in the fall of 2015. On-duty crews spent the next several months outfitting the new apparatus with equipment needed to respond to emergency incidents. In the spring of 2016, the following pieces of equipment were put into service:



Water Tender 41

This is a 2000 gallon water tender, located at Station 41. It is designed to be used as a mobile water supply in areas of the city that are not equipped with fire hydrants. This replaced a Water Tender that had previously served the City of West Sacramento for 20 years.

Engine 41

This is a Type I pumper, located at Station 41. This replaced another Type I Engine that had previously served the City of West Sacramento for 22 years.

Brush 42

This is a Type III pumper, located at Station 42. This replaced another Type III Engine that had previously served the City of West Sacramento for 21 years.

WSFD personnel assigned to communications are responsible for the areas of information technology that support and contribute to the delivery of emergency services through radio, computer, telephone, and other electronic media. These areas of control include:

- Fire Station Alerting
- Radio Communications Equipment
- Emergency Vehicle MDC (Mobile Data Computers)
- Liaison to the Fire-Rescue 911 Dispatch Center
- Department's Records Management System
- Department's Computer Staffing System (TeleStaff)
- Liaison to SRRCS (Sacramento Regional Radio Communications System)
- Training and Quality Assurance of Radio Communications
- Fire Station Telephone Maintenance and Repairs
- Geographic Information Systems
- Dispatch Printing Systems

This group works together with the Sacramento Fire Department, West Sacramento Police Department, West Sacramento Information Technology Division, West Sacramento Geographic Information System Division, and other City and County government agencies, along with outside vendors to meet the needs of the Fire Department.

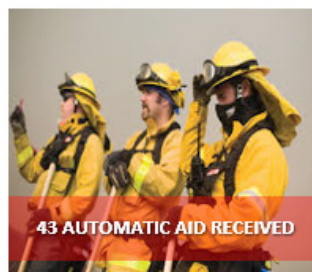
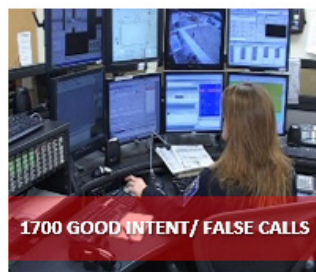
They have been involved in several major ongoing projects which include:

- Installation and updates new computer aided dispatch software at the dispatch center
- Replacing the dispatch centers dispatch consoles, systems, and equipment
- Upgrading station alerting systems
- Upgrading mapping and infrastructure changes for emergency vehicles mobile data computers, and working with Sacramento Regional Radio Communications System on a region wide radio upgrade project to migrate our 800 MHz analog radio system to 800 MHz P-25 digital radio system
- Upgraded the fire department's telephone system to voice over IP

Significant progress has been made as these projects continue to develop. Staff will continue to grow and meet the evolving technological needs in the fire service. We will strive to provide the necessary incident safety for our firefighters and the citizens in our community.

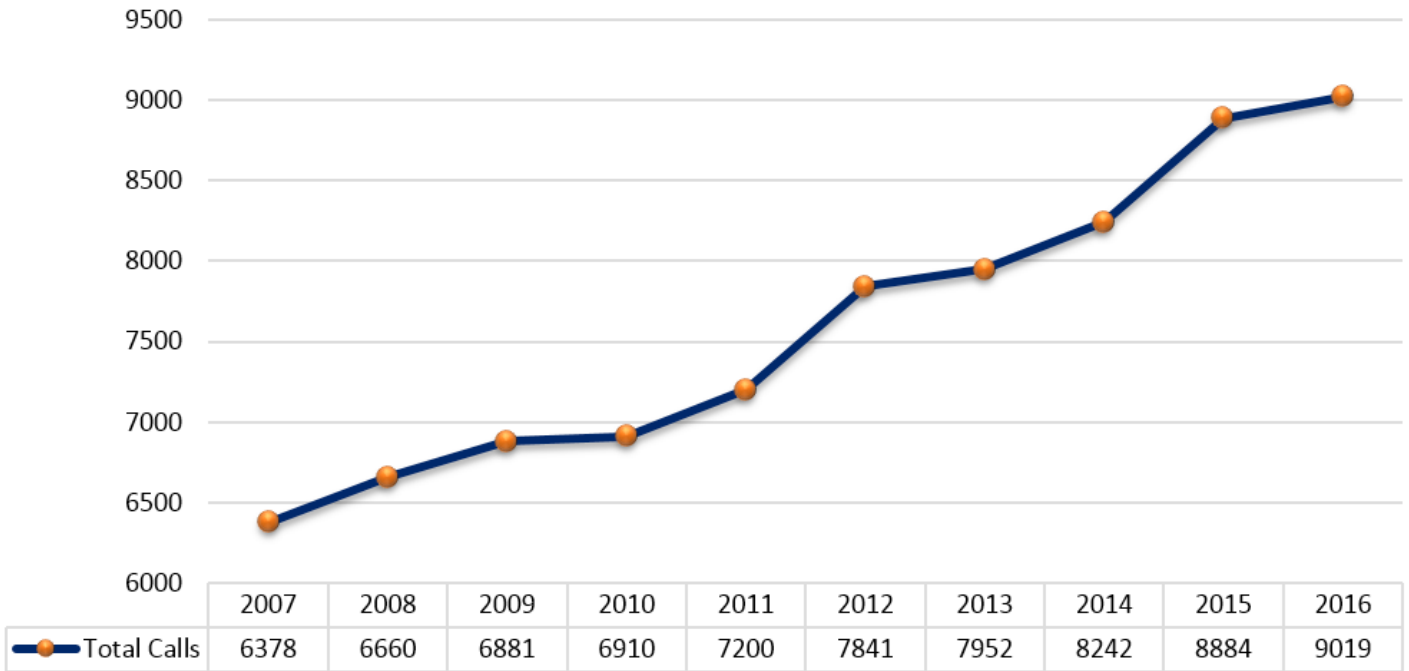
Emergency Response

Today, the Fire Department responds to a wide array of calls for service. These services constitute an “all risk” approach to community service and include: medical emergencies, technical rescue, hazardous materials incidents, and of course, fire responses. The following graphic displays the wide variety of calls for service to which the department responded in 2016.



The City of West Sacramento has witnessed dramatic growth and change since incorporation as a City in 1987. To match that growth and change, the Fire Department has continued to develop and evolve to provide effective and efficient emergency response services to the citizens. The following chart displays the growth in call volume for the past decade.

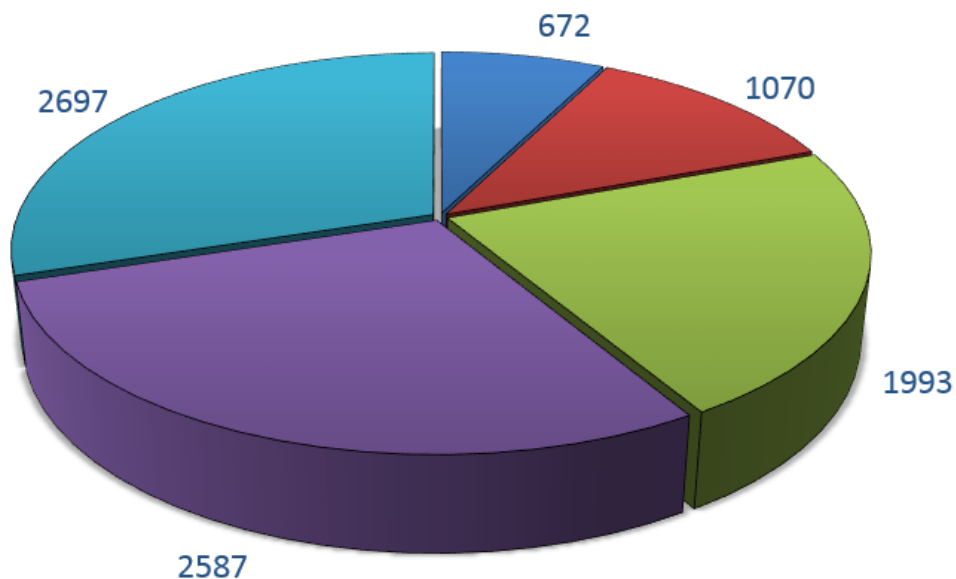
WSFD Response Totals 2007-2016



As the City of West Sacramento continues to develop, and the population continues to grow, it is likely that the Fire Department will continue to see an increased need for emergency response services throughout the community.

The West Sacramento Fire Department responded to a total of 9,019 calls for emergency service in 2016. The associated graphics display how these responses are categorized by fire station location often referred to as a “first due” response area or district.

Responses by Fire Station/District 2016

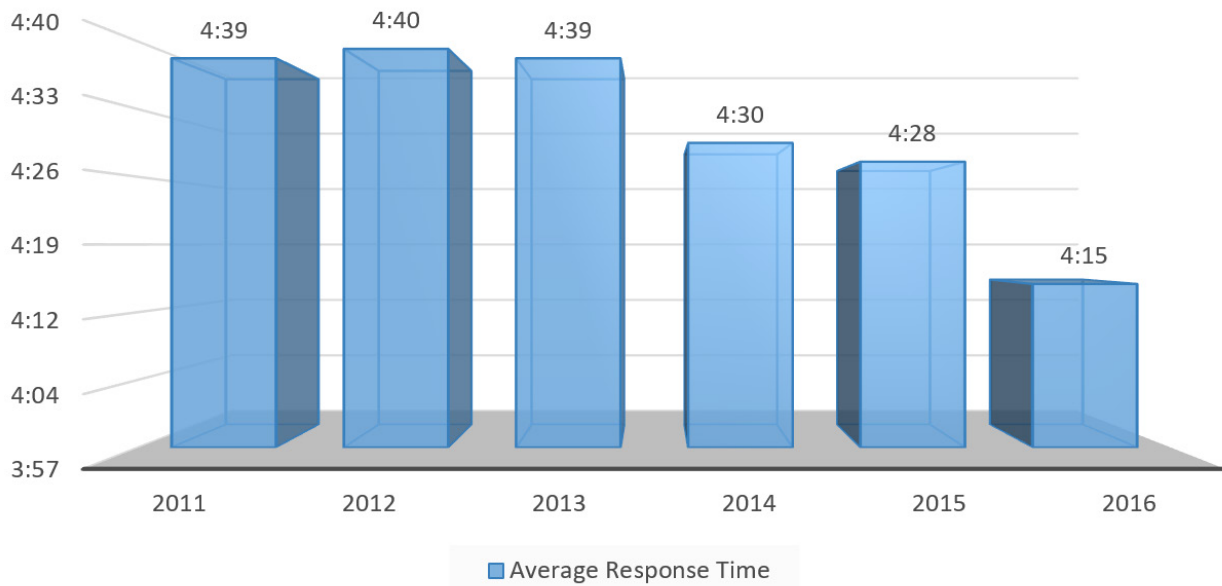


- St 42. Southport, South
- St 45. Southport
- St 43. Industrial District
- St 41. Old West Sacramento
- St 44. Broderick/Bryte

Call Response Times

The WSPD has adopted the five-minute national standard for response times as set forth by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1710. The five-minute standard is measured from the time of notification to the first unit's arrival on the scene of any emergency, and must be met 90 percent of the time. Adherence to this standard enables our crews to take immediate lifesaving actions that must occur in the first four to six minutes of a medical emergency, and in a fire emergency this rapid response not only reduces the amount of property damage but increases firefighter safety. The graph below illustrates the average response times for the past five years.

Department-Wide Average Response Time



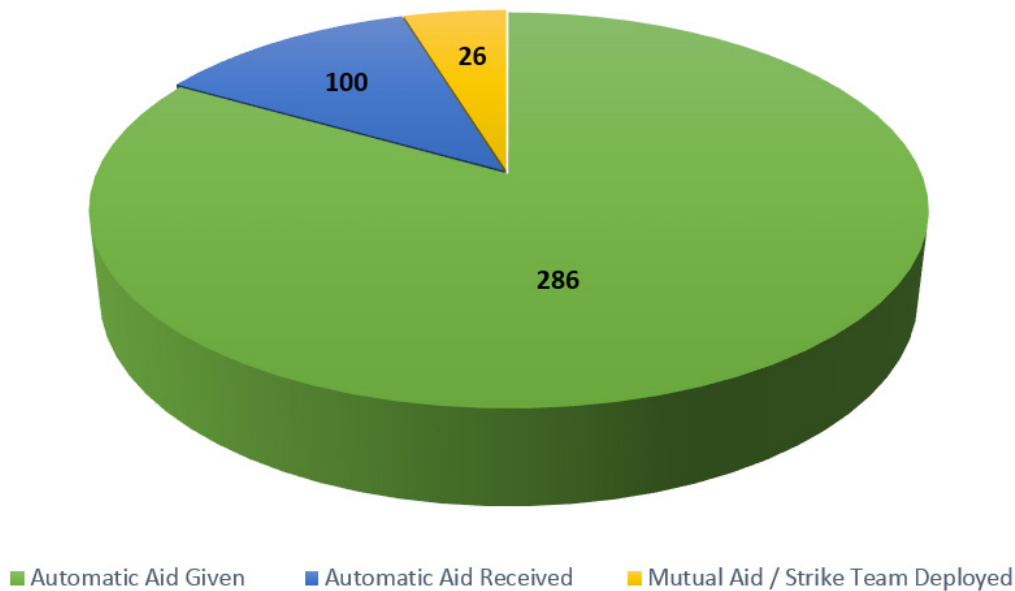
Mutual / Automatic Aid

The California Master Mutual Aid Agreement provides for systematic mobilization, organization, and operation of necessary fire and rescue resources. Resources are typically committed to incidents for two-week deployments and are commonly referred to as "Strike Teams."

A Strike Team is made up of five pieces of like-apparatus with a complement of four firefighters; specifically an officer, engineer and two firefighters on each. A Chief Officer from the County is also assigned to lead the team. Resource requests range from single personnel to fill overhead positions, to requests for Type I (Structure Firefighting) and Type III (Wildland Firefighting) apparatus. The agreement provides reimbursement for services and resources deployed in a mutual aid capacity. In 2016, the West Sacramento Fire Department deployed resources on 15 occasions in order to assist with battling devastating wildfires throughout the State of California. These large fires threatened communities, critical infrastructure, and natural resources all over the state.

In addition to the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, the WSFD maintains reciprocal mutual and automatic aid agreements which provide additional resources from neighboring fire departments who are automatically dispatched according to pre-determined resource matrix and/or whenever resources are needed. The WSFD presently provides and receives automatic aid with the following Fire Departments; Sacramento (SFD), Davis (DFD), Woodland (WFD), Dixon (DFD), Clarksburg (CFD), Elkhorn (EFD), and University of California at Davis (UCDFD). This multi-jurisdictional response benefits all participating departments and prepares all of the cities for large scale events where the need for resources may exceed the jurisdiction's ability to provide services. In contrast to Strike Team-type deployments wherein resources are committed for weeks at a time, automatic aid resource commitments are typically measured in minutes or hours. The graph below contrasts the frequency of these deployments.

Automatic and Mutual Aid 2016



FEMA Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Task Force

The FEMA Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Forces are teams of specially trained and equipped emergency response professionals that serve as a resource for disaster response at local, state, federal, and international levels. Specialties within the USAR Task Force include: collapse rescue, heavy rigging, hazardous materials, disaster medical services, communications, search, and logistics.

There are only 28 FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces nationwide, 8 of which are located in the State of California. The West Sacramento Fire Department is proud to support California Task Force 7 (CA TF-7) with the participation of 6 personnel, including a Rescue Team Manager and Transportation Unit Leader.

Community Risk Reduction

The Fire Prevention Division (also known as Community Risk Reduction) is responsible for the identification and prioritization of risks followed by the coordinated application of resources to minimize the probability or occurrence and impact of unfortunate events. The Fire Department not only has a responsibility to the public to respond to emergency events, it also has a responsibility to prevent or reduce the effects of these events as a whole wherever possible. The CRRD acts as a risk reduction entity for the City providing a safer community to our citizens and businesses. Through the multiple programs managed by the CRRD, the Fire Department works diligently to manage risks presented to the community and the inherent dangers posed by them.



Hazardous Materials Program

The Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Program was created in the early 1990s in order to manage the Fire Department's responsibility to enforce the California Fire Code and manage the inherent dangers accompanying the storage, use, and dispensing of hazardous materials. Some of the services provided by the HazMat Program are consulting on how to safely store and use hazardous materials, response to hazardous materials complaints and emergencies, conducting inspections of those facilities which use, handle, or store hazardous materials, and the review of construction plans involving hazardous materials.

In 2015, HazMat Program staff conducted approximately 1,700 inspections. About 1,000 of those inspections were conducted at the 631 permitted facilities within the city. The other 700 inspections were for building finals, Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) contract inspections, hydrant inspections, and for other responsibilities within the program. As the city continues to grow and diversify, the number and complexity of inspections will inherently grow as well. In July 2016 the new triennial Fire Code became available. The Fire Department has six months to conduct a review and apply the appropriate amendments to the Code and associated Fire Department Standards.

Hydrant Inspection Program

The City of West Sacramento maintains approximately 2,700 fire hydrants within its jurisdictional boundaries. The Fire Department's inspection and maintenance program is unique to the West Sacramento Fire Department and consists of annual operational verifications to exercise the valves and other pertinent tasks, ultimately ensuring functionality. As the City has been experiencing drought-like conditions, actual flowing of the hydrants has been temporarily halted to conserve water. The exception, however, is conducting waterflows for hydraulic calculations for new construction. Without the ability to flow water, fire sprinkler systems could not be designed appropriately, potentially creating a life safety concern.

Part of the hydrant maintenance program consists of periodic painting and labeling of the hydrants. This specific task has a \$5,000 annual budget, which supports a third-party contractor. Currently the budget allows for 200 hydrants to be repainted and labeled annually. As this only provides repainting once every 13 years, the Fire Department is working with the Public Works Department to better manage the task. The intent is to improve the frequency by half.

Investigations

The Fire Department is authorized by the California Fire Code to conduct cause and origin fire investigations for every fire involving a structure. Upon extinguishment of a structure fire, the fire officer is responsible for conducting a fire investigation. If the fire is of a suspicious nature or is beyond the capacity of the fire officer, specially trained fire investigators are called to the scene to render aid or take charge of the investigation. In 2015, the Fire Department experienced 128 structure fires resulting in fire investigations.

At this time, the Fire Department has only two high-level trained fire investigators. As this low number of available investigators poses a potential problem with availability, the Fire Department hired a new Fire Inspector who is undergoing training in order to become another resource to the department for fire investigations.



Office of Emergency Services

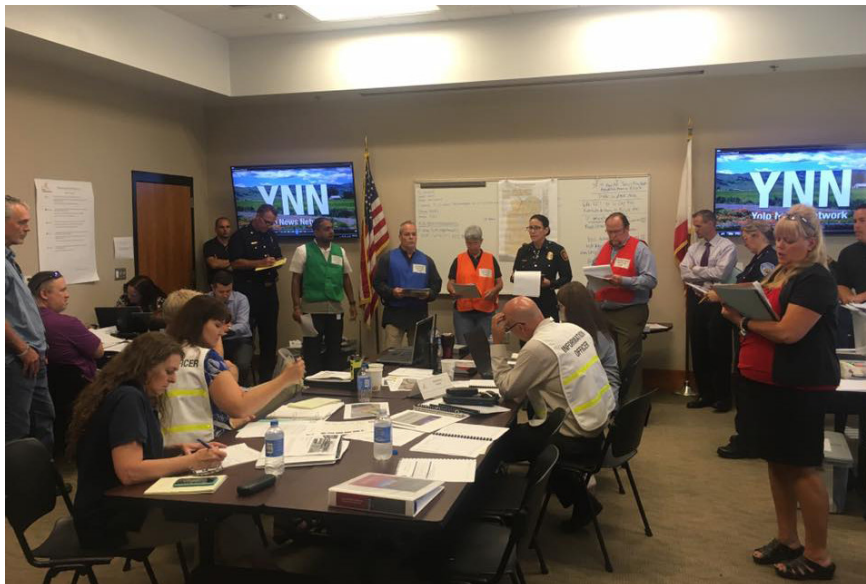
The Fire Department serves as the local Office of Emergency Services (OES) and is responsible for emergency management in the city. This office works with all City departments and other partners having emergency management responsibilities, including the Yolo County Office of Emergency Services and surrounding jurisdictions.

2015/16 proved to be a very busy and successful year in emergency management. Below is a list of some of those accomplishments:

- Completion of a draft revision of the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
- Completion of an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) technology upgrade
- Securement of a contract with Raley Field for a backup EOC location
- Increased depth in the office by hiring a part-time OES Coordinator
- Conducted quarterly EOC staff training session on topics such as finance section and operations section mini-camps, EOC notification drills, and a tabletop exercise testing the new Flood Hazard Annex

2016 has also been a rewarding challenge as we continued our emergency management efforts. Two major projects were accomplished:

- Management of the \$160,000 Phase II DWR grant for flood specific training
- Institution of a new Emergency Operation Center management tool (ArcGIS)

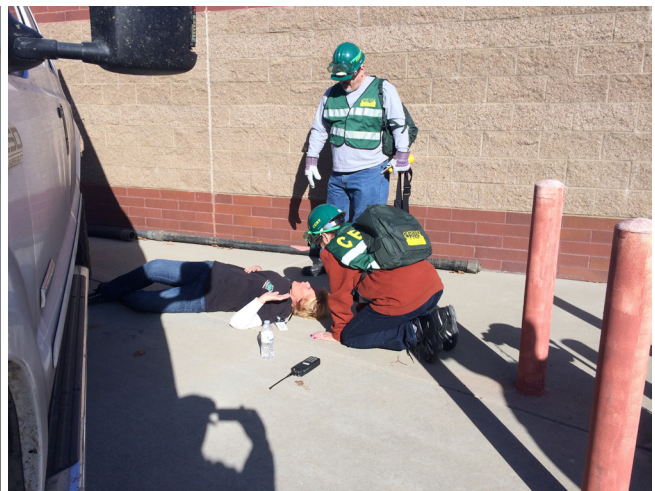


Programs & Services

CERT

In 2009, the Fire Department began sponsoring a local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) team. The CERT Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

In 2016, West Sacramento CERT Program members volunteered a total of 1,837 hours, and 19 new members attended academies, bringing the total to 276 citizens that have gone through the program since its inception.



Youth Fire Academy

The West Sacramento Fire Department wanted to find a way to reach out to our local youth and give them the opportunity to learn more about public safety, the fire service, and our fire department. We look for motivated individuals that work well with others, and who are fitness and team-oriented. Cadets must show honesty, integrity, and good character with an interest in serving the public.



The Youth Fire Academy provides training that consists of an introduction to all aspects of the fire service; part of the focus is placed on preparing the cadets for a mock hiring process consisting of the written, CPAT (physical agility course), and oral interview. They are exposed to the culture of the fire service, and the paramilitary organization that will be expected of them in their future fire service careers. Cadets then go through a week-long Tower training where firefighting skills are taught and practiced including pulling hose, flowing and maneuvering hoselines, throwing ladders, rope systems, knots, and proficiency with both personal protective equipment and self-contained breathing apparatus.

The Academy culminates in the cadets being assigned to a WSFD fire station, where cadets work shifts to fulfill their high school required volunteer hours while riding along with the fire department on emergency calls as well as experiencing station life.

WSFD's first Youth Fire Academy, Class 16-1, was a success. Twelve cadets graduated in April 2016, with the help of the members of the West Sacramento Fire Department, the support of the City of West Sacramento, the Washington Unified School District, and the West Sacramento Firefighter's Association. Class 16-2 culminated in July 2016, graduating 14 cadets.

S.A.V.E. Program

When first responders answer the call in a fire or disaster, the job doesn't end when the fire is out. Now, the S.A.V.E. (Supplying Aid to Victims of Emergency) program, funded by the non-profit California Fire Foundation, allows local firefighters to give on-the-spot aid to victims of fire and disaster to provide them with a helping hand during the first crucial hours after the devastating incident occurs. The pre-paid \$100 cards are provided at no cost to the department or the recipient. The West Sacramento Fire Department is one of 40 departments throughout the state of California to participate in this program.



Honor Guard

Currently, six members of the West Sacramento Fire Department voluntarily commit their time and effort serving as members of the Sacramento Area Firefighters 522 Honor Guard. The Honor Guard's mission is to honor Fire Service members, past and present, and the United States of America with the highest degree of professionalism, loyalty and dignity possible. Members of the Guard must display exceptional pride, dedication and commitment to the Fire Department and the firefighting profession. The Sacramento Area Firefighters 522 Honor Guard is made up of volunteers from Airport Fire, Cosumnes Fire, Folsom Fire, Metro Fire, Sacramento City Fire and West Sacramento Fire and consists of a total of 14 members who are involved in over 30 events a year. Some of these events include memorial services, funerals, promotional ceremonies, parades and fire academy graduations. While the Honor Guard is supported by the Fire Department, members volunteer their time to accomplish their overall mission.



Open House

Our role in our community is to not only be there during critical situations, but also to serve and educate the public as to how they can better prevent and prepare for various types of emergencies. The Annual Open House is our department's largest community event of the year. Each year, firefighters open the doors at Station 45, roll out the trucks and welcome community members to the station to learn more about their fire department. It's always a fun and informative day with your local firefighters.

In 2017, the decision was made to hold multiple open houses across town in order to increase accessibility to the public. To that end, three separate open houses will be held at Stations 41, 44 and 45. These events will invite the residents in the surrounding area to stop by, explore the apparatus and meet their local firefighters. We look forward to seeing you there!



National Night Out

National Night Out (NNO), "America's Night Out Against Crime," is a chance for neighbors to get together, meet each other and members of the community who may not live next door, but are always nearby and ready to assist. West Sacramento's National Night Out program takes place annually, on the first Tuesday in August, when West Sacramento's public safety officers come together to visit block parties and barbecues throughout the city as neighborhoods welcome members of police, fire and public safety. Each year, NNO finds all five of West Sacramento's fire stations empty for a while as the fire apparatus head out to visit neighborhoods. Firefighters display the trucks, meet residents, provide reminders about fire safety, and then pack up, turn on the lights and sirens and head off to the next neighborhood. These neighborhood outings have proved beneficial for both departments and the community at large.



Santa Run

Each year, the West Sacramento Firefighter's Association, in conjunction with the West Sacramento Fire Department, prepares for the annual "Santa Run" through West Sacramento. With the help of many off-duty firefighter "elves," Santa rides through various neighborhoods on an elaborately decorated fire truck "sleigh." Additionally, Santa has a pickup truck that follows his "sleigh," escorting members of the department and their families who walk the route to collect any canned food donations for the needy. This has been a tradition for many years and is always a community, and firefighter, favorite.



Read Across America

Every year firefighters are invited to participate in a public education program called "Read Across America" which encourages children in the community to expand their abilities through reading. Members of the fire department give a short presentation to students in the classroom about the lifelong importance of developing reading skills. Then, each member has the opportunity to read a Dr. Seuss book to the class, followed by a question and answer period about being a firefighter. While it's not as dramatic as putting out a fire or making a rescue, these activities are an aspect of the job that makes it every bit as worthwhile.

Child Safety Seat Installation

Keeping children safe and preventing injury is a priority. For this reason, the WSFD has supported members of the department in obtaining the necessary training and now has five certified Child Passenger Safety (CPS) seat installers to better serve our community. Not only is the seat installed, but education is also provided on heat related illness/death with children left in cars and other general safety topics. To request assistance installing a child safety seat, call Fire Administration at (916) 617-4600. Prior to requesting an installation, the seat/vehicle owner should check the seat for its expiration date; only unexpired seats will be installed.

Public Education

The responsibility of public education is an important duty of the Fire Department and we make educating the community in fire and life safety a top priority. By coordinating a variety of public education and training programs, the Fire Department provides a valuable service to the community. With the combination of school visits, career fairs, attending public events, and station tours, the Fire Department is able to reach out to thousands of citizens each year. For fiscal year 2015/2016, the Fire Department conducted 74 school visits and tours, 22 fire extinguisher demonstrations, and the prevention trailer was utilized at 36 events within the city and region.



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