Oak Harbor Fire Department
Directory

Headquarters ...........................................................................................................(360) 279-4700

Administrative Staff
Fire Chief Mark Soptich .................................................................................. 279-4701
Battalion Chief Ray Merrill .............................................................................. 279-4702
Administrative Assistant Romy Velasquez .............................................. 279-4703
Office Assistant Angela Braunstein ....................................................... 279-4704

Training Division
Lieutenant Craig Anderson ............................................................................. 279-4706

Maintenance Division
Lieutenant Mike Engle .................................................................................. 279-4708

Suppression Division
Lieutenant Corky Bridgeford, A Shift .......................................................... 279-4707
Lieutenant Mike Buxton, B Shift ................................................................. 279-4707

Cover photo: 2009 OHFD Group
Photo by C. Soptich, June 2009.
Organizational Overview

Oak Harbor Fire Department (OHFD) provides emergency services to the City of Oak Harbor, an area of 9.48 square miles, with a population of 23,360 (significantly higher during business hours). OHFD operates on an annual budget of approximately $1.9 million, and protects the $1.9 billion in property value.

The Department operates from one fire station staffed by 48 employees (12 full-time and 36 paid-on-call) and responds to roughly 1,300 incidents each year ranging from house fires and heart attacks to vehicle accidents and hazardous conditions. OHFD proudly carries an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of 4 which enables residents and businesses to enjoy low property insurance premiums.

All Oak Harbor firefighters and fire officers are certified to at least IFSAC Firefighter I. OHFD operates a fire training center adjacent to Fire Station #81, from which the Island County Fire Recruit Academy operates. OHFD firefighters are well trained and dedicated to provide the best possible emergency services to the Oak Harbor community.

Special Points of Interest:

- 1,339 Incident Responses (13% more than 2008)
- Overall average response time: 4 minutes, 26 seconds.
- 1,039 Annual Fire & Life Safety Inspections (98%)
- Fire Loss down 27% from 2008
- Annual testing on 29 apparatus*, 13,000+ feet of hose, 386 feet of ladders, and 45 sets of PPEs and SCBA masks

* includes all engines, trucks, vehicles, generators and trailers
MAYOR
Jim Slowik

MAYOR PRO TEM
Danny Paggao

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Rick Almberg
James M. Campbell
Scott Dudley
Beth Munns
Jim Palmer
Robert (Bob) Severns

City of Oak Harbor Vision Statement
Oak Harbor… Whidbey Island’s Premier Waterfront Community

City Mission Statement
The staff of the City of Oak Harbor is committed to delivering the highest possible level of service to its citizens, improving economic opportunity, quality of life and fostering community partnerships

City Goals
Goal 1: Promote a healthy and growing business community
Goal 2: Improve the appearance and livability of the community
Goal 3: Encourage a safe community
Goal 4: Build and enhance community partnerships
Goal 5: Deliver superior quality service to our customers
Goal 6: Protect and enhance capital investment in the City
Goal 7: Promote a healthy work environment and employee excellence
Goal 8: Annual review of the City’s overall performance
The **VISION** of your Oak Harbor Fire Department is:

to continue to be recognized as consistently providing quality services in an efficient manner to our growing community.

Our **MISSION STATEMENT** is:

to provide professional and cost effective services by maintaining highly trained and highly motivated career and paid-on-call staff, combined with sufficient apparatus, equipment and facilities.

Our **OBJECTIVES**:

- To respond to fire, rescue, medical and hazardous incidents on land or water;
- To conduct fire and life safety inspections of existing businesses, multi-family dwellings, and public assembly facilities;
- To review plans and conduct on-site inspections of new developments and buildings to ensure fire and life safety code compliance;
- To provide public education in the areas of fire prevention, CPR, first aid, life safety, accident prevention, and disaster planning preparedness;
- To provide disaster equipment such as generators, lighting, mobile command units, and multiple casualty units during natural and manmade disasters;
- To provide training and technical support to fire and city personnel;
- To provide classroom facilities and assist with the instruction of the Juvenile Fire-Setter Intervention Program;
- To provide career opportunities with a Firefighter Pilot Program for high school students;
- To provide training facilities and assist at the Island County Recruit Academy;
- To conduct investigations of all fires to determine their cause and origin;
- To maintain the mutual aid agreement with all emergency service providers on Whidbey Island;
- To maintain and operate an Emergency Operations Center for the city;
- To conduct and participate in county-wide training at the department’s training facility;
- To provide a back-up facility for I-COM E911, Island County Emergency Dispatch Center; and
- To provide meeting facilities for non-profit organizations.
Message from the Chief…

Reflecting back on 2009, I am reminded about an event that occurred over 80 years ago. On April 29, 1929, the Oak Harbor Fire Department was created. Twenty-two Oak Harbor citizens met to discuss the formation of a fire department. They elected Ben Koetje as Fire Chief and Bert Zylstra as Assistant Chief. It was also decided drills would be held at the Judson Garage.

Then as now, tasks were accomplished, training conducted, and fires extinguished because of the dedication and determination of a small group of individuals. This diverse group pulled together for a common goal; to make their community a safer place to live.

Yes, there are several members who currently make their livelihood as career firefighters. And yes, the remaining members supplement their income as paid on call firefighters. Just as our forefathers, the men and women of today’s Oak Harbor Fire Department have the same dedication, determination and passion serving the city and island community as emergency responders. Our personnel are our greatest asset. This is what makes the department what it is today. I appreciate each and every one of these fine men and women and I am grateful and proud to serve with them.

To know several goals were met, projects completed and incident responses made without serious injury or death to civilians or personnel is a great accomplishment.

We achieved three of our four major goals identified in our 2008 annual report:

Emergency preparedness improvements were made with the purchase of communications equipment, computer hardware, and a multi-agency full scale exercise the department helped prepare and participated in. Homeland Security Grants were the major funding source for these improvements. Emergency preparedness is an ongoing process. Additional improvements are planned in 2010.

In December, city council approved a proposal to reorganize the fire department. Working through the process will provide a program that should serve the public and the department well into the future.

The Crime Scene Fire Investigation Unit was placed into service. The police and fire departments joined together to create a trailer that can be taken to a crime or fire scene to assist with the investigation process.

We were not successful with the replacement of our rescue unit which was taken out of service in 2008. This will be a high priority for 2010.

(continued on page 40)
Oak Harbor Fire Department
Service Area

2009 Statistics

General
Area Served in Square Miles........... 9.48
Miles of city streets.................. 68.42
Population (as of 4/2009*)........... 23,360
Assessed Valuation........ $1,897,999,833
Fire Control Appropriation .... $1,857,553
Fire Control Expended.......... $1,782,750
Engine Bond 230 App.............. $178,930
Engine Bond 230 Exp.............. $164,019
Emergency Service App........... $12,270
Emergency Service Exp** ........ $16,082
Department Revenue .......... $61,561

**includes $12,373 expenditures,
Grant: State Homeland Security Program

Personnel
UNIFORMED FULL TIME ............ 10
Number of Shifts................... 2
Full Time FFs per Day Shift...... 3
Full Time FFs per Night Shift.... 0
Average Hours Per Week......... 43
UNIFORMED PAID-ON-CALL........ 36
Number of Shifts................... 2
POC Firefighters per Day Shift... 1
POC Firefighters per Night Shift.. 4
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT........ 2

Emergency Incident Responses
Fire Insurance Rating............ 4
Incident Responses (all)......... 1,339
Fire—(7%).......................... 100
Medical—(51%)..................... 665
Fire Loss.......................... $343,750
Injuries............................ 1
Fire Service, Full Time.......... 0
Fire Service, POC.............. (minor) 1
Casualties, Civilian............. 0

Oak Harbor Fire Department is a combination department, which means that part of the personnel are full-time, career firefighters and some are Paid-On-Call (POC) firefighters. Career and POC firefighters work together to provide continuous coverage to the City of Oak Harbor 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Command 800:** 24 hours a day. Chief Officers alternate Command 800 duty on a weekly basis.

**A/B Shift:** Twelve-hour shifts Tuesday through Sunday, 0700-1900 hours (14 hour shifts on Mondays—0700-2100). Shifts work a rotating schedule: four consecutive days on shift and four consecutive days off. One full time lieutenant, two full time firefighters, and one POC firefighter are on duty per shift.

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**Organizational Chart**
The Oak Harbor Fire Department organizational chart is intentionally designed with the citizens of Oak Harbor, our customer, in the center. The Oak Harbor community is at our core and all that our organization does and strives to do is for their benefit. Department personnel work together, like eight spokes of a wheel, each position has specific duties and responsibilities. Encircling the entire department is the City of Oak Harbor administration (the Mayor, City Council and the City Administrator).

**FIRE ADMINISTRATION**  
Mark Soptich, Fire Chief  
Command 8  
Director of Emergency Operations  
Internal/External Communications  
Administration, Support Services, Paid-On-Call Firefighters, Career Incentive Program, D Shift, High School Program

**CODE**  
Ray Merrill, Battalion Chief  
Command 8  
Code Enforcement  
Plan Review  
Investigations  
A/B Shifts  
Pre-Fire Plans  
Safety Committee Chair

**SUPPRESSION FIREFIGHTERS**  
C. Bridgeford, Lieutenant, A Shift  
M. Buxton, Lieutenant, B Shift  
Occupancy Inspections  
Emergency Responses  
Training  
Annual Testing: Apparatus, Pumpers, Hoses, and Hydrants

**SUPPRESSION POCFFS**  
D Shift, Career Incentive Program, and High School Program  
Emergency Response  
Training

**ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**  
R. Velasquez, Administrative Assistant  
A. Braunstein, Office Assistant  
Personnel  
Payroll  
Accounts Payable/Receiveable  
Policy Review Committee  
Paid-On-Call Interview Board  
Uniforms  
Supplies  
Reception

**TRAINING**  
SUPPORT SERVICES  
C. Anderson, Lieutenant  
Training Committee Chair  
Internal and External Training  
Fire Prevention  
Public Education  
Audio Visual  
Health and Fitness  
Emergency Response

**MAINTENANCE**  
SUPPORT SERVICES  
M. Engle, Lieutenant  
Station 81 Facility Maintenance  
Apparatus Maintenance  
Protective Gear  
Radios and Pagers  
Annual Testing: Apparatus, Pumpers, Hoses, Hydrants  
Emergency Response

Paid-On-Call Firefighters (POCFFs) are equipped with pagers and respond from home or work when additional manpower is required. POCFFs work 10 or 12 hour D shifts (not to exceed 53 hours per week).

**POC D Shift DAY:**  
Twelve-hour shifts, 7 days a week, 0700-1900 hours. One POC firefighter on DAY shift completes a four-member crew for A/B Shift.

**POC D-Shift NIGHT:**  
Twelve-hour shifts, 6 nights per week, 1900-0700 hours (2100-0700, 10 hours on Mondays). Four POC firefighters on NIGHT shift perform various duties and respond to emergency incidents. Personnel occupy sleeping quarters at station 81 while on shift.
### Revenue

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<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<td>Donations and Contributions</td>
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<td>Prehospital Medical Alarms</td>
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<td>Restitution: Hughes</td>
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<td>Fire Facility Rental: Station 81</td>
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<td>Island County Recruit Training</td>
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<td>ICOM Back-Up Dispatch Center</td>
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<td>Fire Protection Services: Permit Fees</td>
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**Total 2009 Revenue**: $61,561.00

### Grants

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<th>Break Down</th>
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<td>$12,373.00</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>WA DOH PreHospital Participation Grant</td>
<td>001.00.334.040.9000**</td>
<td>$1,726.00</td>
<td>$1,726.00</td>
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**Effective 2010**: 001.00.334.004.9000

**Total 2009 Grants**: $21,867.00
Fighting Fire with Technology

In 2009, OHFD purchased a wireless, helmet-mounted camera for less than $200 that will be utilized in the production of training videos. The camera is small, about the size of a small flashlight, waterproof, heat resistant (to 912°F) and can record up to 2 hours of data. It also records sound and is equipped with LED lighting. The Training division is excited to have this useful tool to follow firefighters through both training and real emergency situations.

www.oakharbor.org

The internet continues to be important to Oak Harbor Fire Department. To the community, our website is a valuable resource for fire safety and emergency preparedness. Within the department, internet is utilized to communicate and train firefighters through online OHFD training videos, department email and schedules.

In 2009, OHFD shut down its independent website and committed fully to the City’s website. A City website re-design has been in the works for several years and is currently in the testing and data entry stages. A public launch is expected in early 2010.

“We would like to express our appreciate for the great CPR/First Aid Class. Everyone came away with an “I can do that” attitude. Thank you for your most generous gesture.

- F. Fleming, Senior Services of Island County, September 2009
Emergency Incident Response—1,339 calls

This graph represents the various incident types responded to in 2009. Each type category is broken down in greater detail in the list below.

**Fire**
- Residential Structure ...................... 14
- Building (non residential) .......... 10
- Cooking Fire .................................. 17
- Chimney Fire ................................. 4
- Grass/Brush Fire ......................... 14
- Vehicle ........................................... 8
- Other ............................................. 33

**Rupture/Explosion** ............... 2

**EMS/Rescue** .................. 665
- Assist EMS Crew ......................... 470
- Motor Vehicle Accident .......... 112
- EMS Call (not MVA) ................... 53
- Other ........................................... 30

**Hazardous Condition** ............ 72
- Gasoline or Oil spill ................. 21
- Natural Gas Leak ......................... 10
- Electrical Problem ....................... 3
- Other ........................................... 38

**Service Call** .................. 143
- Water Problem/leak ..................... 29
- Public Service ............................... 20
- Unauthorized burning ................ 12
- Other ........................................... 82

**False alarm (No Fire)** ............ 193
- Sys. Activation, Malfunction .......... 76
- Sys. Activation, Unintentional .... 99
- System Activation, Malicious ...... 13
- Other ........................................... 5

**Severe Weather** ................ 2

**Other** ........................................ 55
- No Response/Dispatch Error ....... 30
- Citizen Complaint ....................... 25

**Good Intent** .................. 107
- Dispatched & cancelled ............... 64
- Smoke Scare ................................. 13
- No Incident Found on arrival ....... 13
- Other ........................................... 17
## OHFD INCIDENT TYPE COUNT
### 3-YEAR REVIEW | 2007—2009

### By Call Type

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<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rupture/Explosion</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMS/Rescue</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>612</td>
<td>698</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hazardous Condition</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service Call</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Intent Calls</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>115</td>
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<td>False Alarms / False Calls</td>
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<td>193</td>
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<tr>
<td>Severe Weather / Natural Disaster</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>38</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1339</strong></td>
<td><strong>1183</strong></td>
<td><strong>1392</strong></td>
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### Percentage of all calls

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<tr>
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<th>%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rupture/Explosion</td>
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<td>51</td>
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<td>Hazardous Condition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Intent Calls</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>False Alarms / False Calls</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Severe Weather / Natural Disaster</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>&gt;1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
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Ron Hancock
Captain
Paid On Call
36 years of service

Bob Wallin
Captain
Paid On Call
23 years of service

{ 1929 to 2009 } Celebrating 80 Years of Service — 13
INCIDENT RESPONSE AT A GLANCE

Total Incident Response: 1339 calls
Number of Fire Calls: 100 (7%)
Number of EMS Calls: 665 (51%)
Busiest Month: July (144 calls)
Busiest Day of the Week: Thursday (228 calls)
Busiest Hour of the Day: 5pm-6pm (103 calls)
Slowest Month: February (82 calls)
Slowest Day of the Week: Sunday (169 calls)
Slowest Hour of the Day: 2am –3am (11 calls)
Average calls per week: 26
Ten Year Trend: 27% Increase 1052 calls 10 years ago

2009 Incident Count per Hour of Day

2009 Incident Count by Day of Week: 1339 total
2009 Incident Count by Month: Total 1339

January: 98
February: 82
March: 111
April: 121
May: 112
June: 114
July: 144
August: 113
September: 120
October: 106
November: 125
December: 93

Ten Year Incident Count Trend

2000: 1052
2001: 1079
2002: 1164
2003: 1070
2004: 1075
2005: 1356
2006: 1502
2007: 1392
2008: 1183
2009: 1339

City of Oak Harbor Population 5-Year Review

2005: 21,720
2006: 22,290
2007: 22,690
2008: 22,980
2009: 23,360

{ 1929 to 2009 } Celebrating 80 Years of Service — 15
Photos of a sinking vessel towed into Oak Harbor Marina. OHFD responded with oil spill containment equipment. Photos by OHFD members, September 2009.


Sidebar at left (top to bottom): Motor vehicle accident, November 2009, Vehicle fire (photo © WNT, 2009), Landslide into house, Mutual Aid to South Whidbey Fire & Rescue (photo by M. Sopich, April 2009), and car into business (photo © WNT, 2009).
The overall average response time for Oak Harbor Fire Department in 2009 (dispatch time not included): **4:26.**

In emergency situations, the difference between life and death can largely depend on response time—the time it takes first responders to arrive on scene. To the person reporting an emergency, and to those needing assistance, five minutes can feel like an eternity.

With the City’s population rising, the fire department is constantly looking for ways to improve its response time. It takes, on average, one and a half minutes (90 seconds) for the Island County 911 dispatch center, ICOM, to answer an emergency call and dispatch the appropriate agency, apparatus and personnel. The remaining time is consumed by personnel getting into their gear, into apparatus and driving to the scene. Variables such as location, weather, traffic volume, and other drivers play a large part in response. Technology is helping shorten response time by pin-pointing addresses and relaying information needed to apparatus computers and maps.

"Thank you for all you do in the community. We truly appreciate the help and support you provide us."

- Home Place, September 2009
Fire Prevention Division

Fire Code Enforcement
The International Family of Codes, adopted by the State of Washington and the City of Oak Harbor, including the Building, Fire, Mechanical, Electrical, and Residential Building Codes, to name a few of the entire family of codes, is the basis for the design and safety features of a building. Due to major fire and life safety incidents, such as the MGM Grand Fire of 1980 (84 lives lost), Happy Land Social Club fire of 1997 (87 lives lost), the Station Nightclub fire of 2003 (100 lives lost), and to underscore the hundreds of lives lost in single and multi-family homes annually, new or improved fire and life safety requirements have been adopted.

During the design phase an occupancy group classification (or the specific use) of the building is determined and the appropriate life safety requirements are applied. The specific use of the building will dictate the level of fire and life safety protection required.

The ultimate goal is to ensure the safest and most hazard free building possible. The Building Code addresses the basic or minimum building requirements and the types of materials which can be utilized in constructing buildings. The Building Code also establishes means of egress, travel distances to exits, building lighting, size of doors, hallways and exit and emergency lighting.

The greater the life-hazard, the more safety equipment or more restrictive design of the building is required. The safety items may include fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler systems, fire evacuation systems, the protection of the hood and duct cooking areas, or a combination of all of these items. Where the chance of loss of life is high, such as apartment or condominium complexes, assembly areas (meeting rooms, churches, schools, restaurants) and elderly care facilities the greater the need for life safety equipment.

The size, both in total square footage and over-all height of the building, will also play an important role in determining the minimum required safety equipment. The International Fire Code, as adopted by the City, is the basis for all fire and life safety items enforced by the Fire Department. Additionally the Oak Harbor Municipal Code has a section that provides more restrictive requirements than the International Fire Code. The more restrictive elements include fire alarm systems for most commercial occupancies, water flow requirements, and the remodeling of existing buildings.

The building owner or the tenant is responsible for the on-going safety, upkeep and code compliance requirements for their respective buildings. Some examples of lawful conduct include:
- Not exceeding the maximum occupant load of the building. This occupant load is determined by the total square footage and the proposed building use.
- Maintaining fire exits and all required exit lights and illumination.
- Maintaining all portable fire extinguishers.
- Completing annual confidence testing and certification of fire alarm and fire sprinkler systems.
- Completing semi-annual hood and duct fire suppression system confidence testing.
- Proper storage of flammable and combustible materials.
- And, if required, conducting annual fire drills and on-going staff training.
In 2009 the fire department conducted 1,039 Annual Fire and Life Safety Inspections. That equates to a 98% annual inspection ratio to total number of commercial occupancies within the City (including new occupancy inspections). Department personnel conducted 27 new occupancy inspections and 121 re-inspections of the annual Fire and Life Safety Inspection.

The goal of the Annual Fire and Life Safety Inspection is to provide a safe environment for the residents, the occupants, the employees and the businesses inspected. The most common violations were:

1. Non-working exit lights or exit signs.
2. The improper use of extension cords.
3. Fire extinguishers in need of annual servicing.
4. Fire alarm or sprinkler system past due for service.

“Thank you so much for the use of your potable water tank. The cups of water at the festival were a big hit. We gave out over 400 cups each day. Your generosity helped make many people comfortable and safe! Thank you again!

T. Gavin, on behalf of the Coupeville Arts Festival., August 2009


**Fire Investigation**

When a fire occurs, the Fire Marshal investigates the fire to determine the origin, cause, and other factors that may have contributed to the ignition and growth of a fire.

Each fire is examined to determine if the fire was intentional or accidental. This provides a basis of fact, which can be used in an after-fire legal process (if needed) and to help prevent a similar fire from happening again. Information gathered is used in fire prevention education and reported to national fire prevention databases. The fire investigator is also tasked with determining the monetary value of the damage or property loss.

When investigating a fire, the investigator observes and documents the scene with photographs and/or video, collects evidence and talks with witnesses and firefighters. He is also responsible for securing the scene until the investigation is complete and determining when the property can be returned to the property owner and/or occupied.

**Crime Scene & Fire Investigation Trailer**

Oak Harbor Fire Department operates a Crime Scene and Fire Investigation Trailer with Oak Harbor Police Department. This special operations trailer assists both agencies in their investigation processes by providing an convenient, on-site lab equipped with equipment necessary to the investigation.

Oak Harbor Fire investigators examine all fires within the City and sometimes assist neighboring agencies with their fire investigations; but focuses on fires involving injury or death, a high dollar loss, cluster fires and any fire were the cause is not immediately apparent.
2009 City of Oak Harbor Fire Experience and Loss, by Month

**January**

**February**
NE 5th Ave. House fire, started in garage. Failure of equipment or heat source, arching. Fire Loss $250,000.

**March**
NE Goldie St. Residential Structure fire. Caused by smoking materials. Fire loss $11,000.

**April**
State Route 20. Dumpster Fire. Fire loss $1,000.

**May**
SW McCrohan St. Fire in laundry room electrical outlet in an attached garage. Fire loss $100.

**June**
E Whidbey & NE Regatta Dr. Vehicle fire. Fire loss $500.
NW Falls Creek Lp. House fire in crawl space. Caused by smoking materials placed too close to crawl space vents. Fire loss $20,000.

SW Harrier Cir. Fence/deck fire. Cause undetermined after investigation. Fire loss $1,000.

**July**
State Route 20. Vehicle fire, distributer problem. Fire loss $1,000.

**August**

**September**
SW Putnam Dr. Vehicle fire, parked next to garage. Arching ignited engine. Fire loss $4,500.

**October**
NW Almond Lp. Kitchen fire. Oil fire on stove. Fire loss $1,000.
NE Barron Dr. Apartment kitchen fire. Box on stove ignited. Fire loss $1,000.
S. Oak Harbor St. Kitchen fire. Unattended cooking, oil fire. Fire loss $9,000.

**November**
No reportable fires.

**December**

Total Fire Loss $343,750.00

“...I was simply astonished by how wonderful this team of firefighters reacted and went above and beyond my call of help. I would like you all to know that I sincerely appreciated all your help... You truly made an unfortunate incident a very memorable one that showed the kindness and dedication you all have for our community. Job well done!!!”

- J. Franssen, April 2009
Public Education


Public Education Five Year Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>All Citizens</th>
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<td>2005</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Count of Oak Harbor citizens educated in fire safety in 2009

- Students (2-18 yrs): 3,278
- Adults: 1,715

Total: 4,993
Station 81 Tour

Fire station tours are an excellent opportunity for public fire education and public relations for Oak Harbor Fire Department. Firefighters are engaged in the business of saving lives, whether it involves a response to a fire after it has occurred or, more importantly, before it happens. The simple truth is that we are far more likely to save a child’s life through fire safety education — providing him with knowledge to prevent a fire or the proper action to take during a fire — than by the actual rescue of a child during a fire incident. A station tour is a great opportunity to teach important life safety skills to visitors and for adults and children to learn that firefighters do so much more

“The simple truth is that we are far more likely to save a child’s life through fire safety education — providing him with knowledge to prevent a fire or the proper action to take during a fire — than by the actual rescue of a child during a fire incident.”
FIRE SAFETY / STATION TOUR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Age/Students</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 4th</td>
<td>His Kids Pre-School</td>
<td>16 (3-4 Y/O)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>at NW 2nd</td>
<td>09:45-11:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4th</td>
<td>His Kids Pre-School</td>
<td>16 (3-4 Y/O)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>at NW 2nd</td>
<td>13:15-14:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 5th</td>
<td>His Kids Pre-School</td>
<td>16 (3-4 Y/O)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>at NW 2nd</td>
<td>09:45-11:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 24th</td>
<td>Oak Harbor Elem. Special Needs</td>
<td>18 (3-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>10:00-11:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 24th</td>
<td>Oak Harbor Elem. Special Needs</td>
<td>30 (3-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>14:00-15:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 29th</td>
<td>Wolf Den – Cub Scouts</td>
<td>10 (8 Y/O)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 2nd</td>
<td>Birthday Group</td>
<td>15 (3-5 Y/O)</td>
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<td>Station 81</td>
<td>13:00-14:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2nd</td>
<td>Day Care</td>
<td>12 (5-12 Y/O)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>09:30-10:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 5th</td>
<td>Their Place Child Care Center</td>
<td>25 (3-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>SW 6th</td>
<td>10:00-11:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 12th</td>
<td>Their Place Child Care Center</td>
<td>30 (6-12 Y/O)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>13:00-15:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 13th</td>
<td>Sno-Isle Library, Oak Harbor Branch</td>
<td>45 (2-8 Y/O)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>at Library</td>
<td>10:00-11:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 26th</td>
<td>Their Place Child Care Center</td>
<td>30 (6-12 Y/O)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>13:00-14:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 24th</td>
<td>Cub Scouts</td>
<td>21 (6-8 Y/O)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 1st</td>
<td>Little Lambs Pre-School</td>
<td>16 (3 Y/O)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>09:30-10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 1st</td>
<td>Little Lambs Pre-School</td>
<td>16 (3 Y/O)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>13:30-14:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 2nd</td>
<td>Little Lambs Pre-School</td>
<td>18 (4-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>09:30-10:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 2nd</td>
<td>Little Lambs Pre-School</td>
<td>18 (4-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>13:30-14:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 3rd</td>
<td>Moving &amp; Grooving</td>
<td>12 (3 Y/O)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>at M&amp;G</td>
<td>09:15-10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 4th</td>
<td>Moving &amp; Grooving</td>
<td>14 (4-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>12:45-14:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 14th</td>
<td>Doodle Bug Academy</td>
<td>20 (3-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>09:30-10:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14th</td>
<td>Doodle Bug Academy</td>
<td>20 (4-6 Y/O)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>13:00-14:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 20th</td>
<td>Daisy Troop / Girl Scouts</td>
<td>20 (5-12 Y/O)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>18:30-19:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 23rd</td>
<td>Broadview Elementary</td>
<td>54 (8-9 Y/O)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>09:20-11:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 28th</td>
<td>Little Britches Pre-School</td>
<td>15 (2-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>09:15-10:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 28th</td>
<td>Little Britches Pre-School</td>
<td>15 (2-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>12:45-14:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 29th</td>
<td>North Whidbey Head Start</td>
<td>18 (3-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>at OHS1</td>
<td>10:00-11:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 29th</td>
<td>North Whidbey Head Start</td>
<td>30 (3-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>at OHS1</td>
<td>14:15-15:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 17th</td>
<td>Scout Troop 4061</td>
<td>12 (8-10 Y/O)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>18:00-19:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 18th</td>
<td>Home Connection Kindergarten</td>
<td>10 (5-6 Y/O)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>at OHS1</td>
<td>10:45-11:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 20th</td>
<td>Little Eagles Pre-School (OHCS)</td>
<td>24 (4-5 Y/O)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>10:30-11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 9th</td>
<td>Oak Harbor Christian School</td>
<td>35 (5-6 Y/O)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Station 81</td>
<td>10:00-11:30</td>
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</table>

FIRE SAFETY PRESENTATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Age/Students</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 4th</td>
<td>National Night Out</td>
<td>500 (2-16 Y/O)</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>City Beach</td>
<td>13:00-20:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 27th</td>
<td>VAQ-132 Safety Stand Down</td>
<td>250</td>
<td></td>
<td>at Sky Warrior Theater</td>
<td>13:45-15:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 30th</td>
<td>St. Augustine Church Family Fest</td>
<td>45 (2-16 Y/O)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>at SAC</td>
<td>10:30-12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 26th</td>
<td>Wal-Mart Safety Fair</td>
<td>50 (2-16 Y/O)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>at Wal-Mart</td>
<td>11:00-13:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 3rd</td>
<td>Home Depot Safety Fair</td>
<td>45 (2-16 Y/O)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>at Home Depot</td>
<td>09:00-12:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 7th</td>
<td>Harbor Tower Residents</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>at Harbor Towers</td>
<td>14:30-15:30</td>
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</table>

FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Age/Students</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 30th</td>
<td>OHHS Work Based Learning</td>
<td>17 (15-21 Y/O)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>at OHHS</td>
<td>12:15-14:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7th</td>
<td>OHHS Work Based Learning</td>
<td>17 (15-21 Y/O)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>at OHHS</td>
<td>12:15-14:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14th</td>
<td>OHHS Work Based Learning</td>
<td>12 (15-21 Y/O)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>at OHHS</td>
<td>12:15-14:15</td>
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<td>May 21st</td>
<td>OHHS Work Based Learning</td>
<td>12 (15-21 Y/O)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>at OHHS</td>
<td>12:15-14:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 11th</td>
<td>OHHS Work Based Learning</td>
<td>14 (15-21 Y/O)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>at OHHS</td>
<td>12:15-14:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13th</td>
<td>OHHS Work Based Learning</td>
<td>10 (15-21 Y/O)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>at OHHS</td>
<td>12:30-13:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 10th</td>
<td>Coast Guard Auxiliary</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
<td>OH Yacht Club</td>
<td>12:30-14:30</td>
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</table>
SPECIAL EVENTS 23.5 hours

Jan. 21st Lunch with a Firefighter ........................................... 350 Students (5-11 Y/O) 30 Adults .................................. Broadview Elementary .......... 1130-1245
Feb. 18th Lunch with a Firefighter ........................................... 350 Students (5-11 Y/O) 25 Adults ................................... Crescent Harbor Ele. .......... 1115-1245
March 17th St. Patrick’s Day Parade ......................................... (Wally) ........................................... Pioneer Way ......................... 1515-1615
March 18th Lunch with a Firefighter ........................................... 350 Students (5-11 Y/O) 25 Adults ................................... Hillcrest Elementary .......... 1130-1245
April 15th Lunch with a Firefighter ........................................... 350 Students (5-11 Y/O) 25 Adults ................................... Olympic View Ele. .......... 1115-1230
May 1st Day with a Firefighter .............................................. 1 Adult ........................................... at OHFD .................................. 0900-1700
May 20th Lunch with a Firefighter ........................................... 400 Students (5-11 Y/O) 25 Adults .............................. Olympic View Ele. .......... 1115-1230
Aug. 8th Fidalgo Block Party .............................................. 50 Children (2-16 Y/O) 25 Adults ............................... Fidalgo Ave .......................... 1315-1515
Aug. 29th Annual Soap Box Derby ........................................... 25 Children (2-16 Y/O) 15 Adults ............................... Barrington Ave .......................... 0930-1230
Sept. 23rd OHHS Cheerleaders Home Coming Game Ball .......................... OHHS Stadium .................. 1815-1915
Dec. 12th Down Town Merchants Santa Delivery (Wally) ................................................................. Old Town Mall ................. 1430-1530
Dec. 19th Down Town Merchants Santa Delivery (Wally) ................................................................. Old Town Mall ................. 1430-1530

FIRST AID / CPR / AED TRAINING / BBP 41 hours

May 11th Oak Harbor City Hall .............................................. 9 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 0700-1100
May 11th Oak Harbor City Hall .............................................. 12 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 1330-1630
May 13th Oak Harbor Public Works ........................................... 22 Adults .................................. City Shops ............................. 1330-1500
May 18th Oak Harbor City Hall .............................................. 12 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 0800-1200
May 18th Oak Harbor City Hall .............................................. 12 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 1300-1700
May 20th Oak Harbor Public Works ........................................... 27 Adults .................................. City Shops ............................. 0930-1100
May 27th Home Connection School ........................................... 10 Students (8-13 Y/O) 1 Adult ....................... OHSD Office .......................... 1200-1300
May 27th Home Connection School ........................................... 10 Students (10-13 Y/O) 1 Adult ....................... OHSD Office .......................... 1300-1400
May 28th Oak Harbor Police Department ................................... 8 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 0900-1200
May 28th Oak Harbor Police Department ................................... 8 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 1400-1700
June 2nd Oak Harbor Police Department ................................... 10 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 0900-1200
June 2nd Oak Harbor Police Department ................................... 2 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 1400-1700
July 9th Pioneer Tree Service .............................................. 12 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 1900-2200
Sept. 17th Senior Services of Island County ................................... 25 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 0900-1130
Sept. 17th Senior Services of Island County ................................... 20 Adults .................................. Station 81 .......................... 1300-1530

OTHER 5.5 hours

Holiday Fire Safety
Nov. 23rd VAQ 129 Safety Stand down ........................................... 450 Adults .................................. Sky Warrior Theater ........ 1030-1145
Dec. 2nd Oak Harbor Public Works ........................................... 12 Adults .................................. City Shops ......................... 1130-1215
Dec. 3rd Oak Harbor City Hall .............................................. 5 Adults .................................. City Hall ............................. 1145-1245
Stryker Stair Chair
Jan. 13th Skagit Valley College ........................................... 5 Adults .................................. at SVC ................................. 1230-1330
Disaster Triage
Sept. 16th Whidbey General Hospital Emergency Room ........................................... 20 Adults .................................. at WGH ................................. 1600-1730

Total Number of Citizens Educated in 2009: 4,993
[3,278 Students (ages 2-18) and 1,715 Adults]

144 Total Hours

{ 1929 to 2009 } Celebrating 80 Years of Service — 25
Training Division

Oak Harbor Fire Department’s Training division is under the direction of Lieutenant Craig Anderson. The primary responsibility of the division is to provide training to all career and paid-on-call firefighters.

Not only is the Training Division responsible for preparing each firefighter for any emergency situation they may encounter; it is essential that the Division keeps current and accurate records showing that mandatory requirements of Labor and Industries, WAC regulations, Washington State and Island County Departments of Health, and other regulatory agencies are being met.

The Training Division provides orientation and initial training to new career and paid-on-call firefighters. In 2009 OHFD hired one career firefighter and three entry-level paid-on-call firefighters. The Training Division follows their training and testing after the five month academy (for entry-level) and ensures that each firefighter is familiar with Department policies, procedures, and equipment.

In 2009, Oak Harbor Fire Department personnel collectively spent over 5,175 hours training. The department presented and/or sponsored over 1,833 hours of training courses, classes and learning opportunities.

It is vital that OHFD coordinate and work well with neighboring agencies. There are at least eight separate emergency services agencies operating on north Whidbey Island. In an effort to gain consistency in policies and procedures, the Training Division is actively affiliated with these agencies, and the relationships bring new ideas, updates to regulatory mandates and other joint training opportunities.

The training officers from OHFD and NAS-WI Federal Fire Department have established weekly, joint-training sessions and firefighters from both departments have benefitted greatly.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<td>FEB</td>
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<td>AUG</td>
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<td>153</td>
<td>177</td>
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<td>NOV</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>94</td>
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<td>DEC</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>62</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1833</strong></td>
<td><strong>2111</strong></td>
<td><strong>2125</strong></td>
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</table>
Collectively, Oak Harbor Fire Department personnel spent 5,175 hours training in 2009. The department presented and/or sponsored over 1,833 hours of training courses, classes and learning opportunities. The chart at left (top) details the major areas of training and hours spent in each area.
“My thanks to you for so generously donating the ride-along day. I completely enjoyed every aspect of the day. Lt. Mike Buxton and his crew very patiently explained many things regarding the OH emergency response protocol and how things work at Station 81.

I learned a lot.

Very obviously, Station 81 personnel create goodwill in the community while making it a safer place to live, and one instantly has confidence in these well-trained people!

Thanks again.”

- C. Wagner, May 2009

## Certifications

The following OHFD members received certification (or re-certifications) in 2009:

### Graduated from IFSAC Accredited Island Recruit Academy:
- Brandon Bahr
- Conor Ching
- Ed Hooper

### IFSAC Hazardous Materials Operations Level Certification:
- Brandon Bahr
- Conor Ching
- Ed Hooper

### IFSAC Firefighter 1 Certification:
- Brandon Bahr
- Conor Ching
- Ed Hooper

### Emergency Medical Technician Certification:
- Ryan Lange
- Steven Peck

### Emergency Medical Technician Re-Certification:
- Corky Bridgeford
- Andrew Carroll
- Tom Cross
- Rich Cuevas
- Dean Faris
- Chris Garden
- Jeremy Goodin
- Ron Hancock
- Jeff Heiserman
- Paul Schroer
- Pedro Velasquez

### Medical First Responder Re-Certification:
- Dennis Wright

### Fire Inspector 1 Re-Certification:
- Don Baer

### Fire Inspector 2 Re-Certification:
- Ray Merrill
These graphs reflect the number of years served by firefighters with Oak Harbor Fire Department*. Included are 10 career / full-time firefighters (upper graph) and 36 paid-on-call firefighters (lower graph).

* may not reflect total firefighting experience (such as years served with other agencies). Administrative assistants’ years of service not included.

### CAREER / FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTERS

**Years of Service w/OHFD**

- **More than 20 years**
  - 2 members
  - 20%
- **5-9 years**
  - 2 members
  - 20%
- **10-15 years**
  - 3 members
  - 30%
- **16-19 years**
  - 1 member
  - 10%
- **Less than 5 years**
  - 2 members
  - 20%
- **More than 20 years**
  - 7 members
  - 19%
- **Less than 5 years**
  - 19 members
  - 52%
- **10-15 years**
  - 2 members
  - 6%
- **16-19 years**
  - 2 members
  - 6%
- **5-9 years**
  - 6 members
  - 17%

### PAID-ON-CALL (POC) FIREFIGHTERS

**Years of Service w/OHFD**

- **More than 20 years**
  - 7 members
  - 19%
- **10-15 years**
  - 2 members
  - 6%
- **16-19 years**
  - 2 members
  - 6%
- **5-9 years**
  - 6 members
  - 17%
- **Less than 5 years**
  - 19 members
  - 52%

---

Photos of bus vs. vehicle involving rollover. Multi-agency training drill. February 2009. Photos by OHFD.

{ 1929 to 2009 } Celebrating 80 Years of Service — 29
Facilities & Fleet Maintenance Division

The Maintenance Division is responsible for all aspects of repair, maintenance and testing of Oak Harbor Fire Department properties, including facilities, vehicles, and equipment. These tasks require coordination in scheduling and many hours of data entry and documentation.

The standards put forth by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) are guidelines that dictate how nearly every aspect of the fire service is to operate. OHFD strives to follow these standards to provide the safest equipment, apparatus, training and operating methods for personnel and the community. The maintenance division’s share of that goal includes annual testing and preventive maintenance on equipment, ladders, hose, pumps, personal protective equipment (PPE) and SCBAs.

The following items were tested in 2009:

- **Fire Hose**
  - 1.75” attack hose—75 pieces at 50 ft each. This includes the Marina hose.
  - 2.5” attack hose: 105 pieces of 50 ft each.
  - 5” supply hose: 67 pieces

- **Ground Ladders**
  - Extension ladders: 2 at 35’, 5 at 30’,
  - Roof ladders: 5 at 14’, 1 at 16’, 1 at 20’
  - Captains ladders: 6 at 10’

- **Fire Engine Pump Testing:**
  - 5 engines (includes E815, surplus 1998 E-one, currently for sale).

The Following apparatus are scheduled for annual preventive maintenance at City shops and maintained regularly at the Fire Department through daily apparatus checks and inspections:

- **4 Fire engines**
- **1 Aerial Ladder truck**: received major structural repair to stabilization system. Annual third party inspection and testing.
- **2 Command Chevy Tahoe SUVs**
- **1 Training van**
- **1 Fire Marshal van**
- **1 utility Chevy pickup**
- **1 air trailer** for filling breathing air bottles
- **1 Fire Investigation Trailer**
- **1 Technical Rescue Trailer**
- **1 Spill Containment/Hazmat Trailer**
- **2 Special Operations Trailers for Mass Casualty Incidents**
- **1 utility trailer**
- **1 Forklift**
- **2 30KW diesel generators**
- **1 60KW diesel generator**
- **1 5kw diesel generator**
- **2 diesel tractor trucks**
- **1 diesel flatbed truck**
- **1 40’ flatbed trailer**
- **1 400 gallon potable water trailer**
- **1 light unit trailer**
Fire fighting equipment and personal protective gear:

- 30 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) receive annual flow testing and as needed repairs.
- 45 sets of assigned PPE receive semi-annual inspection and as needed cleaning and repairs (repair/cleaning by qualified contractors).
- Approximately 45 SCBA masks are fit tested to assigned personnel annually as per NFPA requirements.
- Boots, gloves, helmets, flash hoods are all replaced as needed.
- Equipment such as flashlights, hand tools... axes, shovels, Halligan bars, EK-hooks, pike poles are cleaned and repaired as needed.
- Portable, mobile and base radios receive annual preventive maintenance from Day Wireless and any additional needed repairs.
- Fire fighting nozzles, appliances and large GPM nozzles are inspected regularly and repaired as needed.
- Approximately 55 fire pagers are programmed and repaired as needed.
- All medical equipment is checked daily and replaced as necessary to include Oxygen, Pharmaceuticals, suction units and AED’s.
- Each emergency response unit is equipped with laptop computers (7) for address, prefire planning, hazmat reference, and dispatch information. Each computer requires updates and repairs as necessary.
- Air monitoring equipment receives calibration and repairs as needed.
- 5 Thermal Imaging Cameras are maintained in ready status.
- Technical rescue equipment (ropes, stokes baskets, and hardware) are inspected and maintained.
- Various power tools including corded and cordless are inspected regularly.
- Hazmat absorbent materials
- Salvage tarp repairs

Gas powered equipment is essential to our mission and is inspected and annual serviced which include:
- 10 Stihl chain saws
- 4 positive pressure fans
- 4 electric fans
- 4 Stihl circular saws
- 6 portable Honda gas generators
- 2 power heads for Jaws
- Air powered extrication tools.

Buildings and equipment within:

- Hush breathing air compressor requires annual filter changes, quarterly air samples and necessary repairs.
- Sprinkler confidence tests
- Alarm confidence tests
- HVAC quarterly maintenance
- Irrigation maintenance
- Annual truck bay door preventive maintenance
- Required annual fire extinguisher preventive maintenance
- Annual calibration of test gauges
- Load testing on back up generator, and high wattage generators trailers
- Monthly generator checks on station 81 and ICOM.
- Inventory and purchase of medical supplies
- Relocate fire fighting foam semi annually

Building maintenance ranges from changing light bulbs, L&I hot water tank inspections, painting, cleaning gutters, grounds maintenance to shower door repairs.

---

**Maintenance at a glance FY2009:**

**Annual Inspection and Testing on—**
- 29 different apparatus / vehicles
- 30 small engine tools
- 386 feet of ladders
- 13,000+ feet of Hose
- 5 engine pumps
- 30 SCBA flow test
- 45 sets of personal protection equipment (PPEs, aka Bunker Gear) - semi-annual
- 45 SCBA masks, fit to assigned personnel

**Purchases—**
- 6 sets of bunker gear
- 1200 feet of 2.5 inch fire hose
- 600 feet of 1.75” fire hose
- New dish washer
- Major repairs to HVAC compressor
- 9 new fire pagers
- Boots and gloves
- Various small items for Station 81
2009 OHFD APPARATUS RESPONSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Incident Count</th>
<th>Percentage of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>53.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>801</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E81</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>30.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E812</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>26.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E813</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>9.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E814</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>4.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AID81</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>27.78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>L81</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>S81</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U81</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STBY1</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>40.18%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*STBY1 represents Station 81—FFs on stand-by. It is used for incidents in which POC Firefighters report to Station 81 in response to an incident page; but do not respond to the incident scene. The firefighters remain at the station, ready to respond if additional apparatus are required on the scene, at another, concurrent incident or until the on-duty crew is cleared from the incident and manpower is released.

**Apparatus**

**Command 8:** Two 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe SUVs. Driven by Command 8, usually first on scene and carries supplies necessary for incident command as well as medical supplies, thermal imaging and photographic equipment.

**Four Engines:** Two 2007 E-Ones (E81 & E812) and two 1998 Seagraves (E813 & E814) each equipped with 1500 gallon per minute pumps, hose, ladders, fans, tarps, air bottles, tools and enough medical and other equipment to operate alone for a limited period of time. OHFD also has one surplus 1989 E-One engine that is for sale.

NFPA 1911 requires an annual pump test on each fire engine that responds as a pumper. The test averages three hours. If the pump fails it must be repaired and retested. All of our engines passed with no problems in 2008.

**Ladder 81** is a 1992 Seagraves aerial and carries volumes of equipment ranging from mass casualty medical supplies to ladders, ventilation fans, saws, lighting, salvage and rescue gear. The truck has a 100-foot aerial ladder and is useful in reaching rooftops with limited access. It is required by NFPA 1914 to be inspected annually. The inspection takes an average of five hours and is conducted by third party inspectors who send a field inspector to complete the testing. Some repairs to the water piping and turntable were required and completed in 2008.

**Aid Unit:** The aid unit was decommissioned in 2008 due to brake failures that could not be repaired, it has been replaced by S81.

**Support Vehicle:** Support 81 is a 1986 Chevrolet one ton equipped with a generator, lights and water vacuums. In addition to support functions, S81 responses to medical aid calls and pulls special ops trailers when required.
**Spec Ops Trailers:** These are trailers designed and ready to respond to specific circumstances.

- **Spill Containment** trailer, equipped for hazardous material response both in the sound and on the ground.
- **Confined Space Rescue** trailer, equipped for rescue from tight quarters or precarious perches where rope rescue is necessary.
- **Air/Rehab** trailer houses an air compressor to refill SCBA bottles and equipment to rehab working firefighters.
- **Mass Casualty Incident** trailer (OHFD has two) contains supplies and equipment for assisting in large scale incidents.
- **Crime Scene and Fire Investigation** trailer, new in 2009 this trailer is a shared trailer with Oak Harbor Police Department and is a mobile unit to assist in fire and crime scene investigation.

**Support and Disaster Vehicles:** fire marshal van, training officer van, utility 81 (pick-up), utility trailer, two tractor trucks, 40’ flatbed trailer, diesel flatbed truck, fork lift, bus, four mobile generators, 400gal potable water trailer, and a light unit ready for response. Generators supply power to City Hall and OH Senior Center when needed.

Annual preventive maintenance and repair work is done on each vehicle and piece of disaster equipment. Much of the minor repairs are done here at OHFD while the annual servicing and major repair work is scheduled at City Shops. NFPA 1915 and 1071 stipulate accurate record keeping and high quality assurance when emergency vehicles need repair.
### Station 81 Facility Usage 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CITY OF OAK HARBOR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First Aid / CPR Training</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Events</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>46.5</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Civil Service Meetings</td>
<td>39.0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Testing</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interviews</td>
<td>27.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>86.0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH Police Department</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>21.0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH Fire Department</td>
<td>Weekly Training Drills</td>
<td>252.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Events</td>
<td>16.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First Aid / CPR Training</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public Education Events</td>
<td>21.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quality Management Meeting</td>
<td>19.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>37.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Island County Recruit Academy</td>
<td>153.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recruit Training</td>
<td>21.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oak Harbor Fire Fighters Association</td>
<td>75.0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>608.5</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>CITY OF OAK HARBOR TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>762 HOURS</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"You’re terrific! Thank you for your support of our annual Challenge Series Race. The presence of the Fire Truck contributed to the fun and excitement of our racers.

- The Sunshine Rotary Club, October 2009
“Last Sunday you “stuck-your-neck-out” and assisted in changing the battery in my smoke alarm. Your help was very appreciated. Thank You.

- D. Longland, June 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harbor Pride Group</td>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>13.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whidbey Is. Marathon Committee</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oak Harbor School District</td>
<td>Technology Meetings</td>
<td>23.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Island County Sheriffs Office</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Island County DEM</td>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Whidbey Fire &amp; Rescue</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Whidbey Fire &amp; Rescue</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Whidbey Fire &amp; Rescue</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>34.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAS-WI Fire Department</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>35.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAVY EOD Unit</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>122.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMMUNITY TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>239.5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| GRAND TOTAL (CITY & COMMUNITY)     |                  | **1001.5 HOURS** |
Emergency Management & Preparedness

How you can prepare for disasters
Some of the things you can do to prepare for the unexpected, are the same for both natural and man-made emergencies. With a little planning and common sense, you can be better prepared for the unexpected. Here are some of the things you can do to become better prepared for a disaster.

Emergency Checklist:
Find out which disasters could occur in your area.
- Ask how to prepare for each disaster.
- Ask how you would be warned of an emergency.
- Learn your community's evacuation routes.
- Ask about special assistance for elderly or disabled persons.
- Ask your workplace about emergency plans.
- Learn about emergency plans for your children's school or day care center.

Create an Emergency Plan
Meet with household members. Discuss with children the dangers of fire, severe weather, earthquakes, and other emergencies.
- Discuss how to respond to each disaster that could occur.
- Discuss what to do about power outages and personal injuries.
- Draw a floor plan of your home. Mark two escape routes from each room.
- Learn how to turn off the water, gas, and electricity at main switches.
- Post emergency telephone numbers near telephones.
- Teach children how and when to call 911.
- Instruct household members to turn on the radio for emergency information.
- Pick one out-of-state and one local friend or relative for family members to call if separated by disaster (it is often easier to call out-of-state than within the affected area).
- Teach children how to make long distance telephone calls.
- Pick two meeting places.
  - A place near your home in case of a fire.
  - A place outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home after a disaster.
- Take a Basic First Aid and CPR Class
- Keep family records in a water-and fire-proof container.

Prepare a Disaster Supplies Kit
Assemble supplies you might need in an evacuation. Store them in an easy-to-carry container, such as a backpack or duffle bag. Include:
- A supply of water (one gallon per person per day). Store water in sealed, unbreakable containers. Identify the storage date and replace every six months.
- A supply of non-perishable packaged or canned food and a non-electric can opener.
- A change of clothing, rain gear, and sturdy shoes.
- Blankets or sleeping bags.
- A battery-powered radio, flashlight, and plenty of extra batteries.
- Credit cards and cash.
- An extra set of car keys.
- A list of family physicians.
- A list of important family information; the style and serial number of medical devices, such as pacemakers.
- Special items for infants, elderly, or disabled family members.
Celebrating 80 Years of Service  |  1929—2009

City of Oak Harbor
Fire Chiefs 1929 to present

Ben Koetje 1929—1934 and 1937-1944
Bill O’Shaugnessy 1935
Mel Neil 1936
Frank Judson 1945—1948
Walt Koetje 1948—1958
Chuck Bos 1959—1966
John J. Ronhaar 1966—1978
Chris Ernst and Norm Dyer Interim Chiefs 1978
Jay Gunsauls 1978—1985
Kent DeWitt 1985—1988
Mark Soptich 1989—Present

{ 1929 to 2009 } Celebrating 80 Years of Service — 37
Year In Review

January
- INCIDENT RESPONSE: 98
- TRAINING HOURS: 170
- ICOM BACKUP DISPATCH CTR AGREEMENT with OHFD renewed
- FOUR (4) PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTERS (POCFFs) hired: B.Bahr, C.Blyther, C.Ching, and E.Hooper
- EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) course (5-month) began for POCFF R. Lange
- ISLAND CO RECRUIT ACADEMY, 5-months; began for 3 POCFFs: B.Bahr, C.Ching, and E.Hooper
- OHFD SAFETY COMMITTEE BC Merrill, FF Cuevas, POCFF Schroer, FF Baer, POCFF Heiserman
- DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY: Base Radios installed in City of Oak Harbor's Emergency Operating Center
- YEARS OF SERVICE
  POCFF R.Rodgers - 34 yrs
  Adm Asst R.Velasquez - 19 yrs
  POCFF J.Day, R.Gonzales - 2yrs
  POCFF J.Lebaron - 3 yrs
  POCFFs C.Avance, J.Oleson - 2yr

February
- INCIDENT RESPONSE: 151
- TRAINING HOURS: 151
- LUNCH WITH A FIREFIGHTER, monthly through May, public education / mentoring program at OHSD elementary schools
- YEARS OF SERVICE
  Lt E.Bridgeford - 13 yrs
  POCFF, D.Martin - 7 yrs
  Office Asst A.Braunstein - 4 yrs
  POCFFs S.Carroll and J.Heiserman, - 4 yrs

March
- INCIDENT RESPONSE: 111
- TRAINING HOURS: 199
- CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERY NATIONAL CAMPAIGN, reminder to change smoke detector batteries
- OHFD also participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Car Wash Fundraiser for Sydney Boyer @ St81
- YEARS OF SERVICE
  POCFF D. Wright - 17 yrs
  POCFFs A.Carroll, T.Cross, P.Velasquez, R.Villaflor - 6 yrs
  POCFF S.LEMME - 5yrs
  FF Cuevas - 1 yr

April
- INCIDENT RESPONSE: 121
- TRAINING HOURS: 173
- WA STATE DEPT OF HEALTH (DOH) PREHOSPITAL PARTICIPATION GRANT 1,726 awarded OHFD to help meet DOH requirements to provide prehospital services to the public
- PUBLIC SAFETY STANDING COMMITTEE (PSSC): (1) Fire Based Basic Life Support and (2) Fire Department Re-Organization Proposal presented to committee
- 2008 OHFD ANNUAL REPORT: Condensed Version distributed to City Residents
- Assisted South Whidbey Fire & Rescue with mudslides in Clinton, WA.
- Bowling team participated in Big Brother & Big Sisters Fundraising bowling at Oak Bowl.
- In addition, OHFD participated in the Holland Happening Parade, Adopt-A-Highway cleanup of SR20 within City Limits and cleanup of Firefighter Park on Midway Blvd and Pioneer Way
- YEARS OF SERVICE
  FF S.McCalmont and POCFF J.Goodin - 9 yrs

May
- INCIDENT RESPONSE: 112
- TRAINING HOURS: 276
- EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) CERTIFICATION: POCFF R.Lange
- Citizen Ride-Along, C. Wagner, winner of Big Bros/Big Sis auction item.
- Mock DUI Presentation at Oak Harbor High School
- Department of Natural Resources representative at OHFD to inspect DNR items.
- YEARS OF SERVICE
  POCFF D. Faris - 24 yrs
  POCFF R. Mirabal - 3 yrs

June
- INCIDENT RESPONSE: 114
- TRAINING HOURS: 159
- ISLAND CO RECRUIT ACADEMY GRADUATION. FIREFIGHTER I CERTIFICATION, 3 POC FF recruits Bahr, Ching and Hooper
- ANNUAL PUMP TESTING AT OHFD TRAINING TOWER: Navy Region NW Fire & Emergency Services (NASWI), Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue, North Whidbey Fire & Rescue, and OHFD

I wanted to say THANKS SOOOOO MUCH for letting us borrow your canopy again this year. We really did appreciate it and as you know it started drizzling so it was nice to have somewhere dry to go.”

- K. Perrine, City of Oak Harbor Relay for Life Team, June 2009
OHFD also provided generators and lighting towers for Relay for Life.

**YEARS OF SERVICE:**
- POCFF J.Hornsby - 31 yrs
- FF D.Baer - 6 yrs

**July**

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE:** 144
- **TRAINING HOURS:** 117
- **POC FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT:** 5 months, began
- In addition, OHFD personnel participated in the Fourth of July Parade, crews were positioned by the fireworks display site and additional crews covered the City during July 4th festivities. OHFD personnel also overhauled, repaired and refurbished the station lawn.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**
  - Lt C.Anderon - 14 yrs

**August**

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE:** 113
- **TRAINING HOURS:** 153
- **ANNUAL PHYSICAL AGILITY REQUIREMENT** began for POC Firefighters
- **National Night Out,** children fitted for bicycle helmets, public education props provided for children, an emergency scenario played out, literature provided on Emergency Resources and an appearance by Smokey Bear.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**
  - Lt M.Engle - 12 yrs

**September**

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE:** 120
- **TRAINING HOURS:** 105
- **FULL TIME FIREFIGHTER HIRED:** E. Klaszky
- **ANNUAL PHYSICAL AGILITY REQUIREMENT** continued for POCFFs
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**
  - Lt M.Buxton - 17 yrs

**October**

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE:** 106
- **.training HOURS:** 153

**November**

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE:** 125
- **TRAINING HOURS:** 96
- **CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERY NATIONAL CAMPAIGN,** reminder to change smoke detector batteries
- **MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT (MCI) / FULL SCALE MULTI-AGENCY EXERCISE** responded to a gunman with bomb at Wells Fargo Bank on Midway Blvd. Participants included OHFD, OHPD, Navy Region NW Fire & Emergency Services, N. Whidbey Fire & Rescue, Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue and Whidbey General Hospital.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**
  - POC FF J.Roberts - 13 yrs

**December**

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE:** 93
- **TRAINING HOURS:** 81
- **ANNUAL WELLNESS REQUIREMENT** for full time suppression personnel
- **LATERAL POC FIREFIGHTER HIRED:** J. Deater
- **ENTRY LEVEL POC FIREFIGHTER HIRED:** G. Bull, J.Pauley, and G. Zylstra
- **20TH ANNUAL OHFD FAMILY PARTY AND BANQUET** held at Station 81, honored firefighters and their families
- Captain Ron Hancock retired, 36 years of service to OHFD as a POCFF.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**
  - Chief M.Soptich - 22 yrs

“A big thanks to everyone who donated to the Police and Fire Department bowling teams for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County. The competition was fierce. We had myself, Dennis Dickinson and Carl Seim on the PD team and Ray Merrill, Dean Faris, Steve McCalmont, John Hornsby, and Steve Peck on the FD team. The competition ended in a split decision. The Fire Department edged out the Police in an “averaged” bowling score, by three pins. The Police Department just edged the Fire Department in money raised, by $47.

The best part is that between us, we raised $2,064 toward mentorship in Island County. So while the hose monkeys made a great showing this year, let it be known we will crush you next year.

Thanks to everyone for your participation.”

- Lt. J. Dyer, Oak Harbor Police Department, April 2009
Looking forward to 2010

(Continued from page 6)

2010 GOALS

Purchase a rescue unit. This is a top priority as the temporary replacement unit is 24 years old and was not designed as a rescue unit.

Relocate the City’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC). It’s relocation in the fire station will enhance our abilities to better manage man-made and natural events and mitigate their impacts. The larger room will be equipped with improved communications and computer capabilities.

Implement the Department Re-Organization plan as approved by City Council in 2009.

This annual report is the product of several department members. Their contributions to this report are a reflection of accurate and thorough accounts of department activities in 2009.

We will continue to provide for the welfare of our community as we strive to meet our vision and mission statements.

Mark Septich
Captain Ron Hancock first served his country in the U.S. Navy and then his community in the fire service. He joined the fire service in 1966 with Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Fire Department; in 1973 he began his career as a volunteer firefighter with Oak Harbor Fire Department – for a combined total of 43 years in the fire service.

During his distinguished career with OHF and NASWI fire departments he acquired many qualifications, held a range of positions and participated in numerous programs and special projects. He truly is a credit to the firefighting profession and to his community. His thoughtfulness, concern and compassion for all members of the department and the citizens we serve further enhance his strong and positive representation of the profession.

After thirty-six years of paid-on-call service, Captain Hancock retired from Oak Harbor Fire Department in December 2009. We are fortunate that Ron will continue to serve OHFD as a volunteer Fire Chaplain.

Fire Chaplain

An Emergency Service Chaplain is someone to assist management, members (active and retired) and their families in crisis or other important life situations and to help build and maintain respect for the department in the community.

The Chaplain's duties include: Spiritual guidance, counseling, visitation, dedications, availability, support in emergencies, coordinate with hospitals, assist with funerals, weddings, and otherwise provide a listening ear.