

2023

TOWN OF DEWEY FIRE, RESCUE, EMS

ANNUAL REPORT

Respectfully submitted by Chief Brian Lepper

Serving our Community with Honor, Dignity, and Brotherhood

2023 Town of Dewey Fire Department Annual Report

Closed 2023 with 19 firefighters on roster [20 in 2022, 18 in 2021] – Plus 4 Auxiliary members. Zero new firefighters in 2023

31 Fire runs for 2023 [26 in 2022, 16 in 2021]

- 8 Motor vehicle crashes [6 in 2022, 4 in 2021]
- 0 Wildland (grass/brush) fires [0 in 2022, 3 in 2021]
- 10 Mutual-Aid fires [8 in 2022, 3 in 2021]
  - 9 structure (4 times Stevens Point – cancelled each time, 3 times Rosholt, 2 times Stockton)
  - 1 wildland (1 time Kronenwetter)
- 0 Structure fires [4 in 2022, 3 in 2021]
- 2 Vehicle fire [1 in 2022, 1 in 2021]
- 2 Medical assists [2 in 2022, 1 in 2021]
- 0 Smell of gas [1 in 2022, 1 in 2021]
- 1 Carbon Monoxide alarm [0 in 2022, 1 in 2021]
- 8 Other (4 false alarm, 2 debris, 2 power line)

The summer of 2023 was very dry, so dry that the DNR enacted burning permit requirements well after the normal requirement date of May 31. We were paged to 2 debris burns deemed illegal for burning during a burn ban and without a permit.

Years of Service Anniversaries: 1 @ 20 years, 2 @ 5 years

Education: 1 member completed Firefighter 2, 9 members completed Entry-level Driver/Operator, 4 completed a class on electric vehicle technologies

ISO (Insurance Services Office) Audit: In 2023 our rating stayed the same as it has for years - 7. Per the auditor, the ISO rating is used by roughly 80% of insurance companies to help determine premiums

charged for homeowner's and commercial insurance. According to the auditor, one thing we can do to improve our rating is to have more staff responding to our fires.

Two large purchases in 2023:

A 1994 used fire engine was purchased to replace our 1984 engine, serving as a fill-site engine. This is the engine that fills our water trucks. The 1984 engine was sold once the 1994 was in service. For about $2,000 and in-house volunteer labor, the benefits are: 10 years newer, diesel engine (old was gas), automatic transmission (old was standard), 250 more gallons of water and 500 gallons per minute more in pumping capacity. The mileage between the two were comparable at 13,000.

A used compressor for breathing air was also purchased. This compressor pumps up to 4,500 psi of filtered air for the air packs firefighters wear into "Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health" (IDLH) environments.

Other Events and Special Activities:

A Smokey the Bear, wildfire sign was installed at the corner of Sunset and County X, as a Girl Scout project.

Required "compliance testing of equipment" was completed in 2023.

Fundraising and donations grossed over $34,000.00 in 2023.

- 2 separate boat races on two different Saturdays in 2023
- Sweepstakes, Papa Murphy's pizza nights, private donations, etc.

This was the 2nd year of participating in the Public Safety Red Kettle Challenge, raising money for the Salvation Army.

2023 Town of Dewey EMS Annual Report

Closed 2023 with 11 members on roster [13 in 2022, 10 in 2021], 10 actively responding to calls and 5 living within the town [5 lived in the town in 2023, 4 lived in the town in 2021]. Zero new EMTs in 2023.

35 EMS calls for 2023 (40 in 2022, 30 in 2021)

8 – Motor Vehicle Crash (6 in 2022, 4 in 2021)

22 – Medical Calls (22 in 2022, 17 in 2021)
Medical – not caused by crash/outside force (more sickness / illness, etc.)

5 – Trauma (10 in 2022, 8 in 2021)
Trauma – caused by outside force (fall, severe cut, etc.) – Technically a motor vehicle crash is trauma, but we have separated them for years

- 3 of the 5 were bicycle crashes, one of which an E-bike (electric assist)

0 – Fire Stand-by / Rehab (2 -in 2022, 1 in 2021)

Average response time from time we are dispatched until we arrive on scene was 9.9 minutes, up from 8.3 minutes in 2022, (9.4 minutes in 2021 and 11.4 minutes in 2020).

Special activities in 2023 included:

- EMS coverage at Boat and Lawnmower races