



Maple Plain Fire Department

Fire Chief's Report

October 2025

Maple Plain Fire Department – Chief Rick Denneson

Vision as Fire Chief

To build an organizational structure that provides unity, compassion, necessary tools, equipment, training, and leadership for firefighters to be successful when in action.

Calls October 2025 – report #857 & #553

In October, we responded to 29 calls for service. Last year in the same month, we were at 21 calls.

- 19 EMS & Rescue calls
- 3 Vehicle crashes
- 2 Hazardous call – gas leak
- 4 Alarm Calls
- 1 Good intent calls – controlled burn / cancelled calls

Where these calls are occurring – report #384

Independence – 12 calls

Maple Plain – 16 calls

Three Rivers Parks – 1

Mutual Aid Given – 1 Calls to assist under mutual aid

Mutual Aid Received – 2 calls

Training Update

In October, we began doing combined training with the West Suburban Fire District. We changed our training night from Monday nights to Wednesday nights to align with their fire department. We attended a joint business meeting with both departments together on October 8th. On October 15th and 22nd, we did a live burn exercise, trained on LP gas emergencies, and worked with the records management system that WSFD uses.

On October 29th, we had training on elevator operations and what to do with emergency situations involving elevators. This training was graciously hosted by Haven Homes at their facility.

We did some wildland grass fire training on a separate day training.

2 of the MPFD members completed a specialized pump operator course called “Fire Apparatus Operator – FAO”. This is training that is taught by the Hennepin Technical College to certify fire fighters in the operation of pumper trucks.

Community Events

October is a busy month for community events. We had another successful open house at our fire station on Monday October 6th. We had several public safety partners at the open house with us such as West Hennepin Public Safety, North Ambulance, Wright Hennepin Electric, and Lindstrom Restoration with their fire demonstration trailer.

We did fire prevention talks at Schumann Elementary and the Discovery Center.

We attended trunk or treat events at Forkless, Veterans Park and at Baker Park.

Consolidation with West Suburban Fire District

In October we continued our transition team meetings, staying on task with the operational portion of the consolidation. Truck rebranding, uniform purchase, access to the records management and other assigned topics were continued from previous discussions.

Equipment Purchase

The MPFD was approved to purchase new auto extrication equipment. This equipment, commonly referred to as the “jaws of life” will include a spreader, cutter and spreading ram. This equipment is battery operated, making it lighter than the equipment we currently have and more portable as it is not tethered to the truck by hydraulic hoses. It will replace equipment that we have had for over 40 years.

Pay Increase

The city council approved a pay increase for fire fighters’ hourly rate. Prior to October, fire fighters were paid \$14.50 per hour for calls, training and events. Council approved a \$1.50 per hour raise bringing the rate to \$16.00 per hour for the same activities. This increase was to bring MPFD up to the same rate of pay as the WSFD for the last quarter of the year.

Calls of interest

October 30th – Injury Crash – CO 6 / Ingerson Rd

We responded to a 2 vehicle head on crash near this intersection. Luckily both drivers had minor injuries. The county road was closed for about 1 hour.

October 13th – Injury Crash – CO 90 / Pagenkopf Rd

A van versus school bus crash happened at this intersection. The bus pulled out in front of the van, causing the van to strike the school bus. Luckily only minor injuries to the van driver who was examined at the scene and released by medics. No injuries on the bus.