

Maple Plain Fire Department

Fire Chief's Report

1st quarter 2025 & March Monthly Maple Plain Fire Department – Chief Rick Denneson

Calls Year to Date March 31st - report #857 & #553

In the first quarter of 2025, we responded to 115 calls for service. That is up 22 calls from the same time last year.

- 92 EMS & Rescue calls
- 6 Alarm calls
- 12 Fire calls including mutual aid to our neighboring departments
- 3 Good intent or service calls Smoke in the area, burn permit, gas purge
- 2 Hazardous calls no fire Gas leak, gas spill, wire down

Where these calls are occurring – report #384

Independence – 30 calls for service Maple Plain – 75 calls for service Three Rivers Parks – 1 call Mutual Aid Given – 7 calls for service Mutual Aid Received – 2 calls

Calls for March 2025 - report #857 & #553

In March of 2025, we responded to 37 calls for service.

- 30 EMS & Rescue calls
- 0 Alarm calls
- 6 Fire calls including mutual aid to our neighboring departments
- 1 Good intent or service calls Smoke in the area, burn permit, gas purge
- 0 Hazardous calls no fire Gas leak, gas spill, wire down

Where these calls are occurring – report #384

Independence – 6 calls for service Maple Plain – 26 calls for service Three Rivers Parks – 0 calls Mutual Aid Given – 5 calls for service Mutual Aid Received – 0 calls

Training Update

In our first quarter of the year, our training involved our new UTV grass / rescue rig. We did familiarization training and some operation training. We have put this training to good use already this spring with multiple deployments of the grass rig for grass fires.

Other training have been things inside the station during the cold winter months. Our annual first aid refresher, rope rescue scenarios, fire fighter rescue, scene size up.

Equipment Update

I am still waiting on the Tahoe from Minnetonka Fire Department. There has been a delay in getting the equipment for their new vehicle that is taking the place of the one we are buying from them. Once that is in place, they can start the transition to build up their new truck. I have been in contact with the outfitter and he will work in our old Tahoe to be decommissioned and equipment moved over to the car we are getting from Minnetonka.

Our equipment maintenance provider, EAM came out the end of January and performed our annual vehicle maintenance inspections. This revealed some issues of repair. Most of which have been completed by this time.

Personnel

We currently have 20 fire fighters on the department. We have 2 applicants that are in the final stretch of the hiring process and hopefully will be completed by the end of the month. We have 2 other individuals that are interested in joining the fire department. They currently are on other fire departments, so they would come with experience and training. One has an application already and I am getting an application to the 2nd one.

Merger / Taxing District

Nothing progressed in the first quarter of the year with the merger until the last part of March / first week of April.

Significant Events

Tractor Fire – 1915 Copeland Road – Independence

On 3-29-2025 we were called to a tractor on fire at this address. The tractor was about 10 feet away from a barn that was full of hay. Luckily it was raining fairly heavy and the rain helped to protect the barn from catching fire. Our first officers on the scene used a fire extinguisher to knock down the flames and reduce the chance of the fire spreading. The engine arrived and finished extinguishing the fire. It is unknown why the fire started.

Barn Fire – 385 CO 110 - Independence

On 2-28-2025, we were dispatched to a barn fire at this address in Independence. It was a day time call and we were able to get a truck out the door quickly and arrive on the scene. This crew did an awesome job of knocking down the fire and preventing a total loss of the structure. We were assisted by several neighboring departments at the scene.

Fatal Vehicle Crash – CO 6 / CO 110 – Independence

On 2-26-2025, we were called to a multiple vehicle crash at this intersection. At the scene, there were multiple victims requiring a total of 4 ambulances to the scene. Fire fighters rode to the hospital with the ambulance crews with the 2 most critical patients. Sadly one of the patients, a child, did not survive and died at the hospital. We assisted at the crash scene with the crash and also afterwards with traffic control while the scene was investigated. A critical incident debriefing was held a day after the crash for all the personnel that were involved directly at the scene.