



# Maple Plain Fire Department

## Fire Chief's Report

2025 Year End Report

Maple Plain Fire Department – Chief Rick Denneson

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### **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 2025 – report #857 & #553**

In 2025, we responded to a total of 366 calls for service. That is down slightly from 370 in 2024 (which was our highest in the history of the department) and up from 347 calls in 2023.

- 260 EMS & Rescue calls
- 25 Fire calls
- 22 Vehicle crashes or extrication
- 2 Water related incidents
- 23 Alarm calls
- 15 Good intent calls – controlled burn / cancelled calls
- 19 Hazardous type calls – gas leak, power line issue, carbon monoxide or other hazard

### **Where these calls are occurring – report #384**

Independence – 129 calls

Maple Plain – 213 calls

Three Rivers Parks – 5

Medina – 1 call

Mutual Aid Given – 18 Calls to assist under mutual aid

### **Membership**

In 2025, we hired 1 new member – Josh Liska who has been a great addition to our team.

Kevin Kolkind retired in April with 10 years of service on and Scott Hartmann retired on December 31<sup>st</sup> with over 23 years of service to MPFD. We ended the year with 20 members on our department and an average employment longevity of 17.2 years.

The average call response percentage (how often do members turn out for calls) was 38%.

A total of 6504.4 hours were put in by the fire department members for administrative, training, calls and public relations events in 2025.

### **Community Events**

In 2025, we participated in several community events. Here are a few that we participated in:

Night to Unite	Polo Classic	View Santa
Party in the Park	MPFD Open House	FF swearing in ceremony
Trunk or Treat	Tour De Tonka	Battle of the Badges
Kwik Trip groundbreaking and ribbon cutting		Orono Schools Fire Prevention
Parades – Delano 4 <sup>th</sup> and Long Lake Corn Days		Funeral for juvenile car crash victim

## **Equipment**

This year was the first winter and then first grass fire season that our new Polaris side by side was in service for use. It was a busy spring grass fire season, and the unit saw a lot of work – both at home and assisting other neighboring departments.

We purchased a used 2015 Tahoe from the Minnetonka Fire Department. This replaced the old Tahoe that we acquired several years ago from WHPS.

Our building got a fresh makeover on the outside with a paint job at the end of the summer. It turned out beautiful and really stands out as a fire station now. It also got new lighting inside.

## **Training**

Our training did not let up in 2025. We did some level of training every Monday night (except for holidays). We had several vendors come in and give us specialized training such as electric vehicle fires, confined space rescue and hazardous materials operations. We also did some back to the basics of fire fighting with drafting from multiple drop tanks, water shuttle operations, and interior room and contents fires.

Several members did training outside the fire department to further their education and expertise with classes such as Fire Apparatus Operator (FAO) certification, Blue Card Incident Command Training, and first aid.

We had members attend educational conferences in Alexandria and Duluth to experience leadership courses.

## **West Suburban Fire District Consolidation**

Work throughout the year continued towards a consolidation of the Maple Plain Fire Department with the West Suburban Fire District. The goal was to consolidate by the end of the year. The fire departments put together transition teams to work on operational and administrative elements between the fire departments while the city administrators worked with city legal and the WSFD Chief on the legal contractual agreement. On December 16<sup>th</sup> at a joint council meeting, both cities signed agreements with WSFD, and the consolidation became effective January 1<sup>st</sup> 2026.

With this consolidation, comes the end of an era, the end of the Maple Plain Fire Department. The members that came before us built this fire department on a foundation of pride and service to our community. The current members will continue to carry that pride and service as we join a team that has the same values. The name may change but function of our neighborhood station will remain – to serve the people.

Thank you to the city council, the businesses and the citizens for supporting the fire fighters and our mission as we have served to the best of our ability, to be there for our neighbors in their time of need and to make our community a better place to live and work.