

WATERTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Report / **June 2026**

Compassion, Dedication,
Integrity, Accountability,
Trust



Greetings!

Regional discussions surrounding the long-term sustainability of Emergency Medical Services continue to gain momentum. In Jefferson County, the EMS Working Group is developing recommendations focused on improving workforce capacity to meet increasing service demands. A primary area of discussion is a potential county EMS levy that would provide dedicated funding to strengthen local staffing and long-term sustainability. Current work includes evaluating recommended funding levels, developing a fair distribution methodology among EMS providers, and establishing accountability for the use of funds. County leadership has also begun educational efforts with County Board supervisors as this work moves toward potential consideration in the 2027 budget process.

Similar conversations are emerging in Dodge County, where the County Executive Committee recently discussed a sustainable EMS initiative and a collaborative approach to system challenges. While the two counties are at different stages and no funding outcomes should be assumed, this work is important for Watertown. Our Fire Department provides EMS across a 145-square-mile response area spanning both counties and regularly supports neighboring communities when systems are strained or unavailable. The Department will continue participating in and monitoring these efforts to advocate for reliable EMS access while ensuring the role and impact of regional providers such as Watertown are recognized.

These regional discussions also reinforce the importance of the City's own staffing plan. Watertown funds nine personnel per shift, but our policy minimum, the number we must have on duty, is seven. Adding two positions per shift would bring assigned staffing to eleven, allowing us to regularly staff with nine, enabling the department to more consistently staff a second ambulance while maintaining fire response capability. This improves our ability to manage simultaneous emergencies, reduces reliance on recalling off-duty personnel for routine demand, strengthens fire response reliability, and helps keep emergency resources available within our community when calls overlap. Sustainable EMS will require shared responsibility, with Watertown strengthening its own response capacity while continuing to engage in broader county-level solutions.

Chief Tanya Reynen



Operational Statistics

Incident Count Statistics

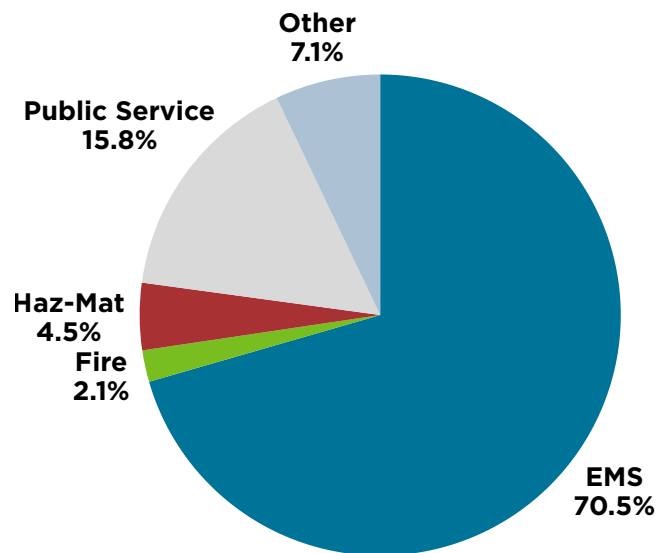
June 2026 Calls: 268

EMS	Fire	Haz-Mat	Public Service	Other
187	9	17	29	26

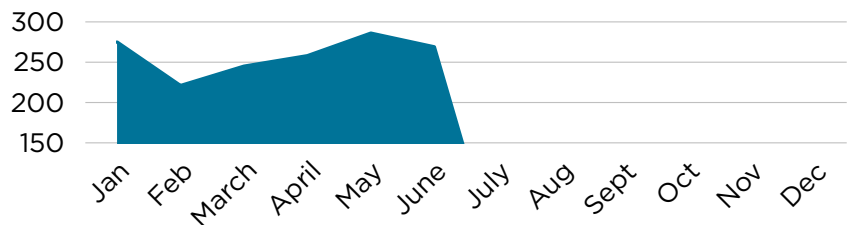
June Incidents by Year

2023	2024	2025	2026
258	258	287	268

Incident Percentages Year to Date

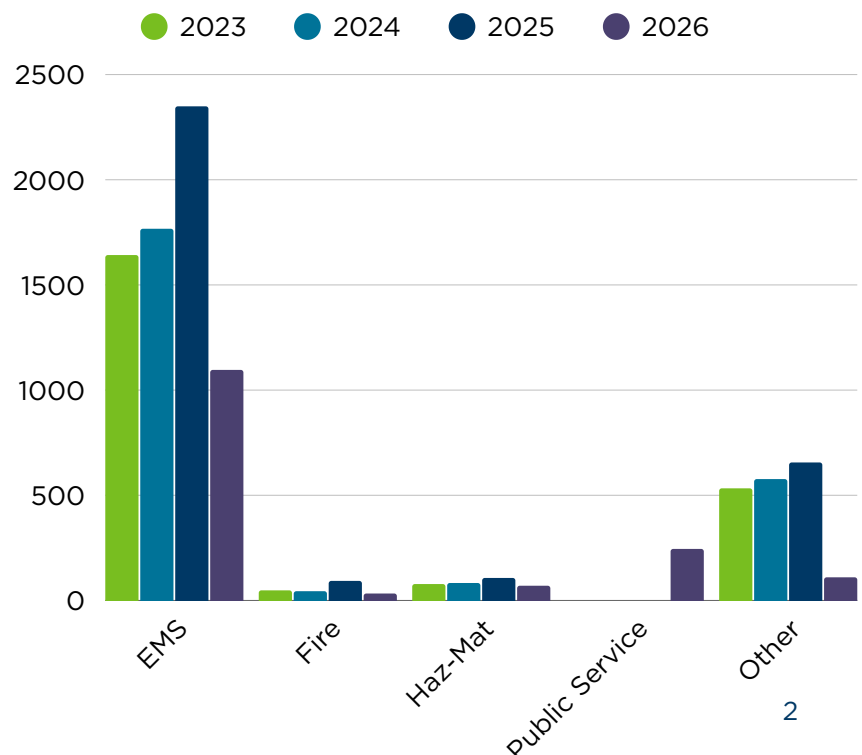


Incident count by Month



**2026
Year-to-Date
Incident Count:
1552**

Year-to-Date Incidents by year and type

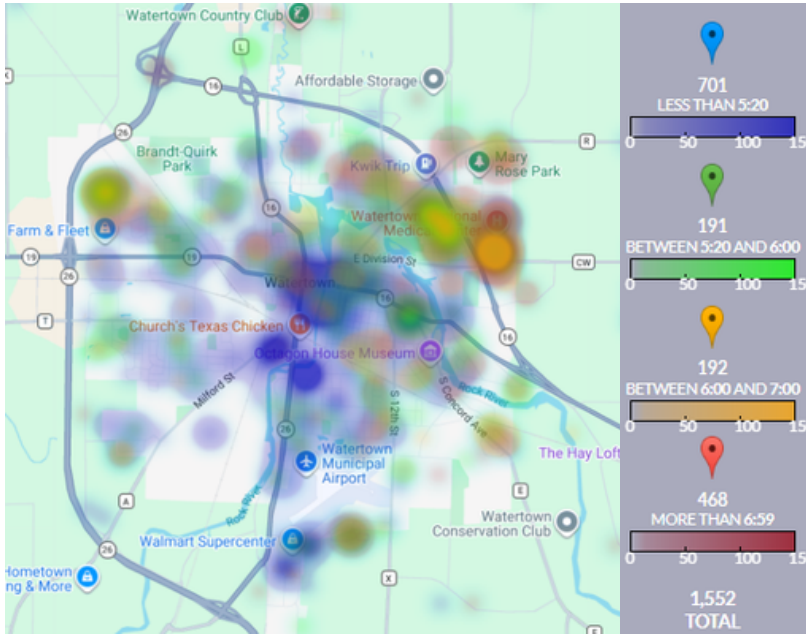


Public Service
The category Public Service is for incidents such as Lift Assist, CO and Smoke Detector alarm malfunctions

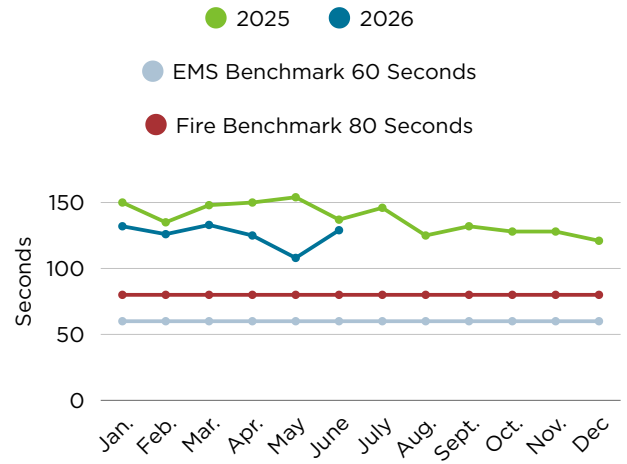
Other
Consists of Standby, Canceled calls, smoke in area, no patient found, controlled burn etc.

Operational Statistics

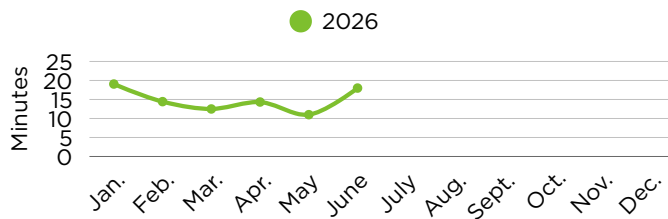
Year-to-Date Response Time Heat Map



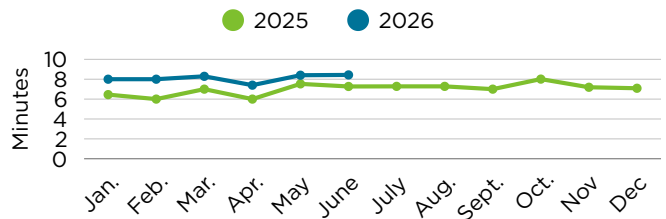
90th Percentile ALL ZONE TURNOUT TIME (Alarm>EnRoute)



90th Percentile TOWNSHIPS RESPONSE TIME (Alarm>First Unit Arrival)



90th Percentile CITY ZONE RESPONSE TIME (Alarm>First Unit Arrival)



Simultaneous Calls by Month- Year to Year

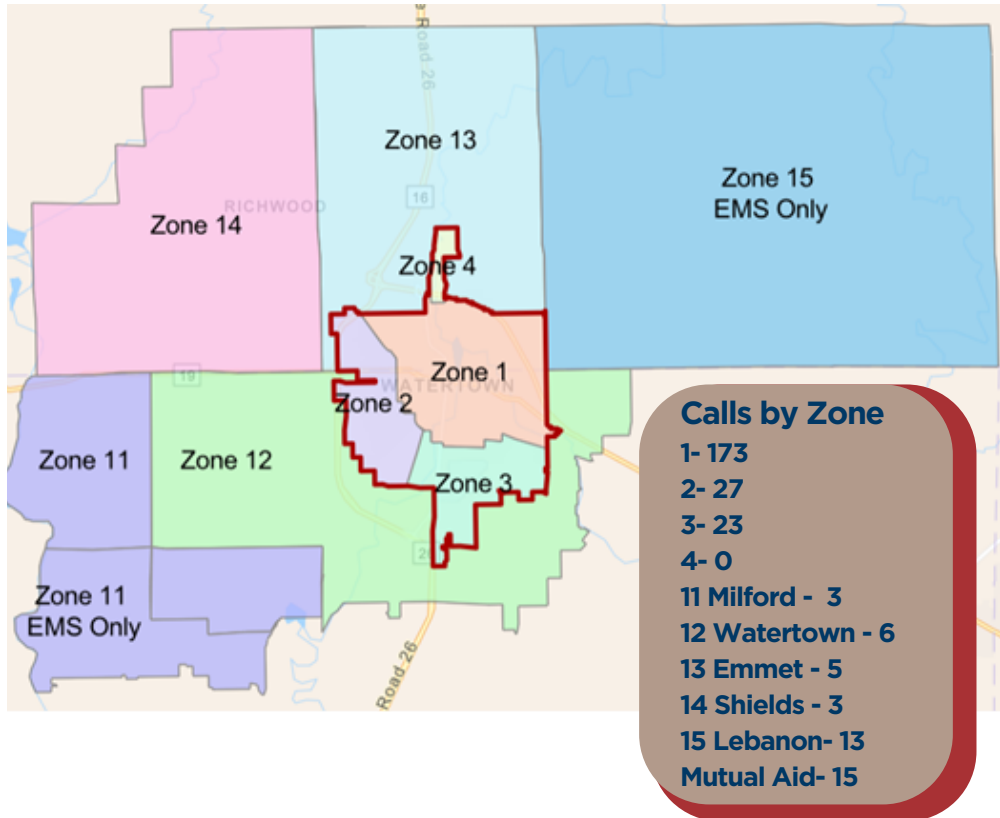
This means that the crew is out on more than one call at the same time.

	2024		2025		2026	
January	52	19%	79	28%	51	25%
February	39	18%	63	28%	26	16%
March	52	22%	93	32%	44	23%
April	31	14%	74	28%	49	19%
May	47	20%	103	34%	65	23%
June	68	27%	78	27%	68	25%

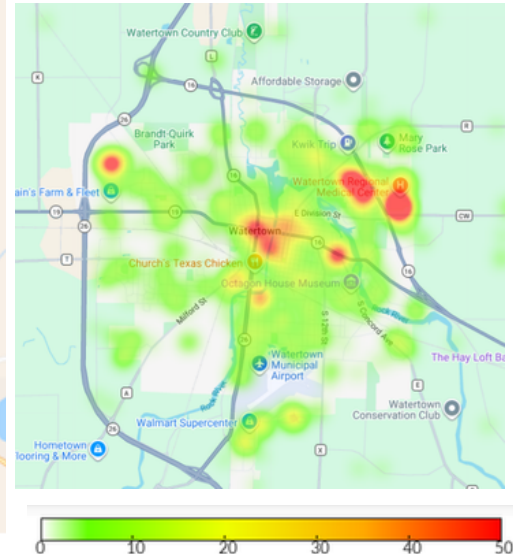
	2024		2025		2026	
July	57	24%	87	30%		
August	50	22%	60	24%		
September	66	25%	89	33%		
October	57	22%	70	25%		
November	64	28%	57	24%		
December	58	28%	80	29%		

Operational Statistics

Calls per Zone This Month



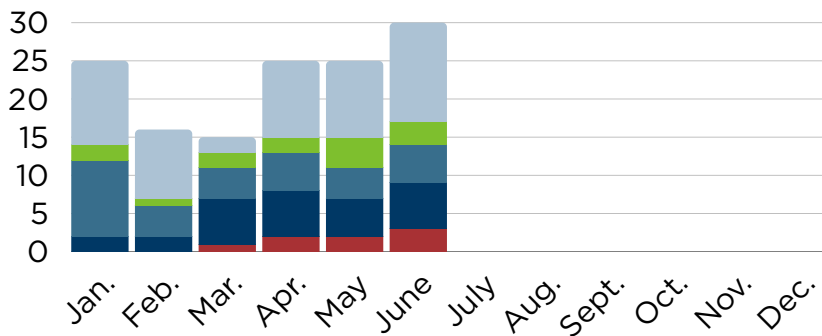
Year-to-Date Call Volume Heat Map



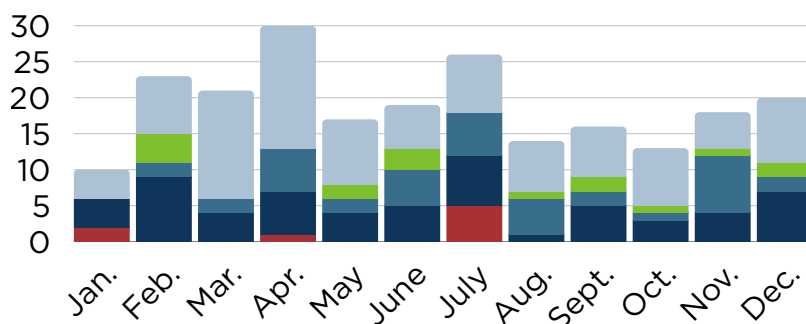
Calls per Township

● Milford 11 ● Watertown 12 ● Emmet 13 ● Shields 14 ● Lebanon 15

2026



2025



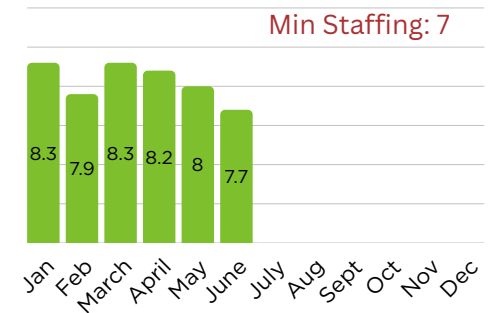
Operational Statistics

Department Staffing Overview

The department policy minimum staffing is 7 personnel per shift. That gets an engine, an ambulance, and a command vehicle out the door. At 7, everybody has a job and there is nobody left over. If a second call comes in, we have to pull someone off one of those units to cover it.

There are 9 personnel assigned to each shift so we can absorb vacation, sick time, and FMLA and still hit our minimum. When all 9 are working, we can put more apparatus in service. Most of our units, ambulances included, take at least two people to operate. At 9, we can run the ambulance, the tender, and the brush truck or boat, and we can get the ladder out, though not with a full crew.

Average Daily Staffing Level



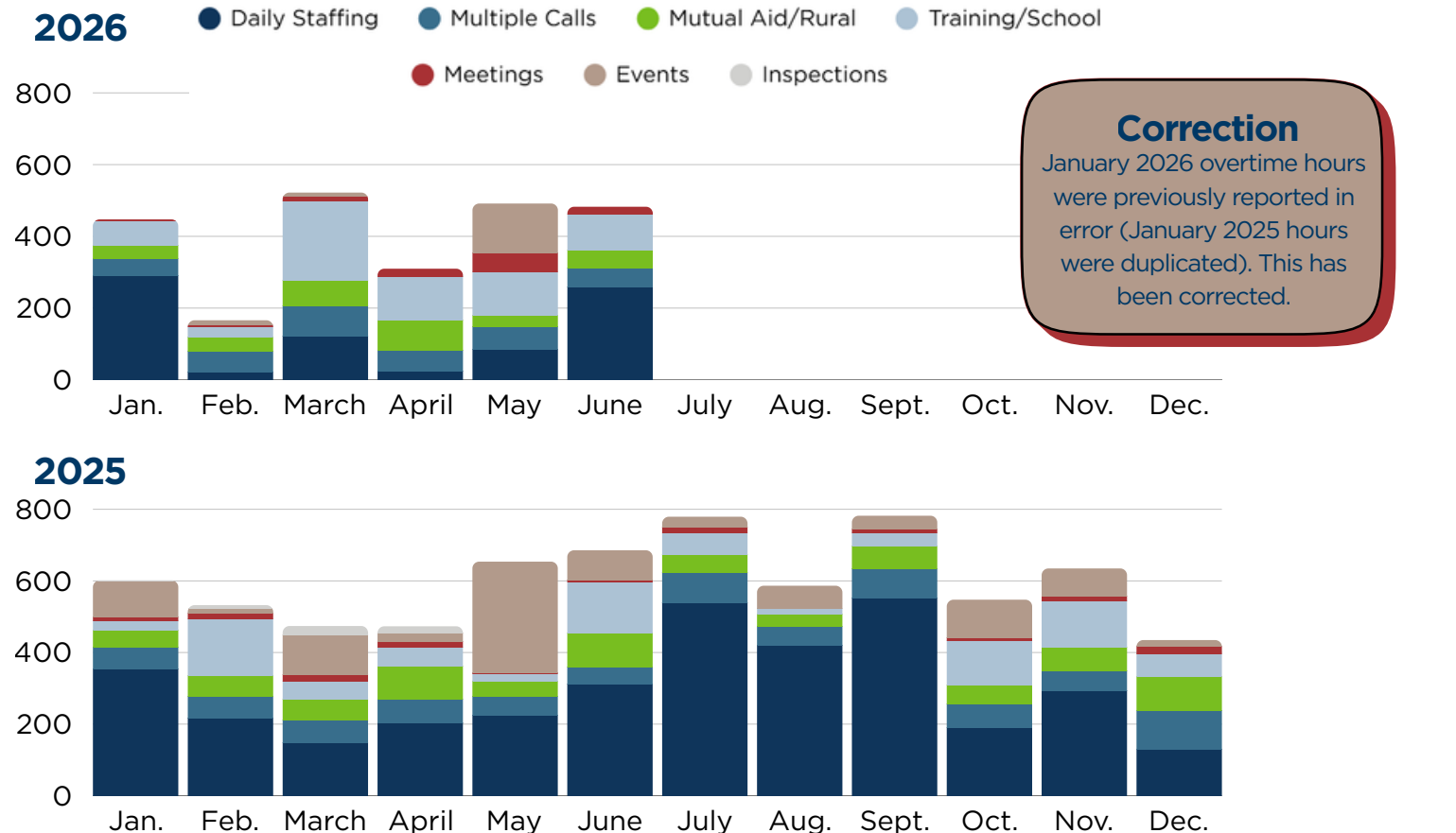
Engine Crew
4
 Firefighters required to safely staff and operate the engine on a response
 

Ambulance Crew
2
 Paramedics required to staff and provide care
 

Shift Commander
1
 Battalion Chief responsible for incident command and shift oversight
 

“Swing”
2
 Covers Vacation & Sick leave; If none, staffs Ambulance, Tender, and Ladder
 

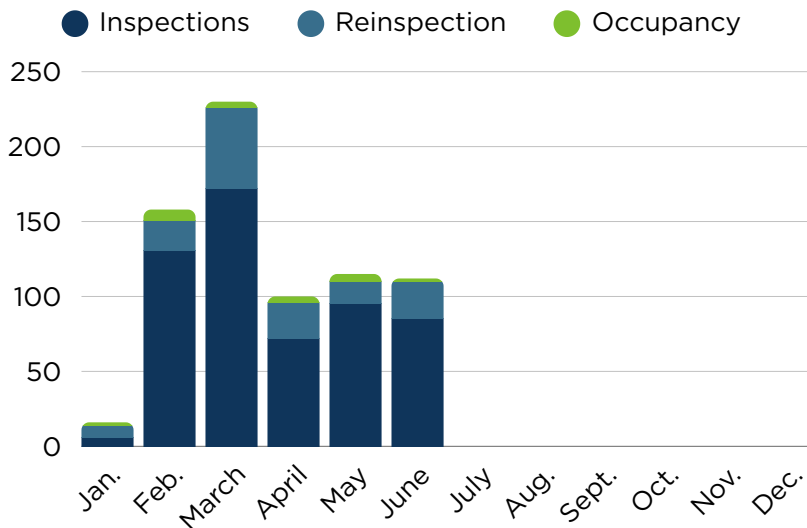
Total Monthly Overtime Hours



Fire Prevention Updates

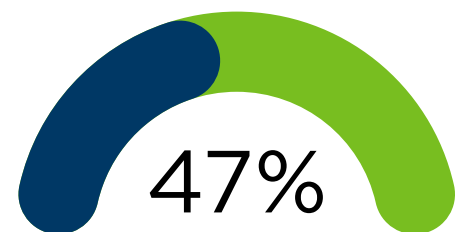
The KnoxBox system allows the Fire Department to quickly access secured buildings, gates, and other restricted areas during an emergency without unnecessary delays or property damage from forced entry. Because these master keys provide access to many properties throughout the City and State, it is equally important that they are protected through secure storage, controlled access, and strong accountability measures. KnoxConnect provides the Department with a centralized way to manage authorized access, track when secured items are accessed, and maintain an electronic audit trail. These same security measures can also be used to strengthen the protection and accountability of other high-risk items, including controlled substances carried on our ambulances. Together, these systems support faster emergency response while improving security and oversight. This system has been in place for many years, and the department has continued oversight and improvements in its security.

Inspections Completed



Inspection Progress

Total Known Inspectable Properties: 1198



Fire Marshal Calls for Service

1- Emergency Scene Assist

Plans Reviewed Year to Date

11

Fire & Safety Tip

UV Awareness

July is UV Awareness Month, a reminder that ultraviolet rays can cause skin and eye damage even on cloudy days. Protect yourself and your family by using broad-spectrum sunscreen, wearing protective clothing and sunglasses, and seeking shade during peak sun hours.

Incidents, Training & Public Relations

Training Highlights

Water Supply
Extrication
Recruit Academy
Elevated Master Streams
Tender Driving and Operations
Hose Deployment
EMS Licensure Renewal

Public Relations Highlights

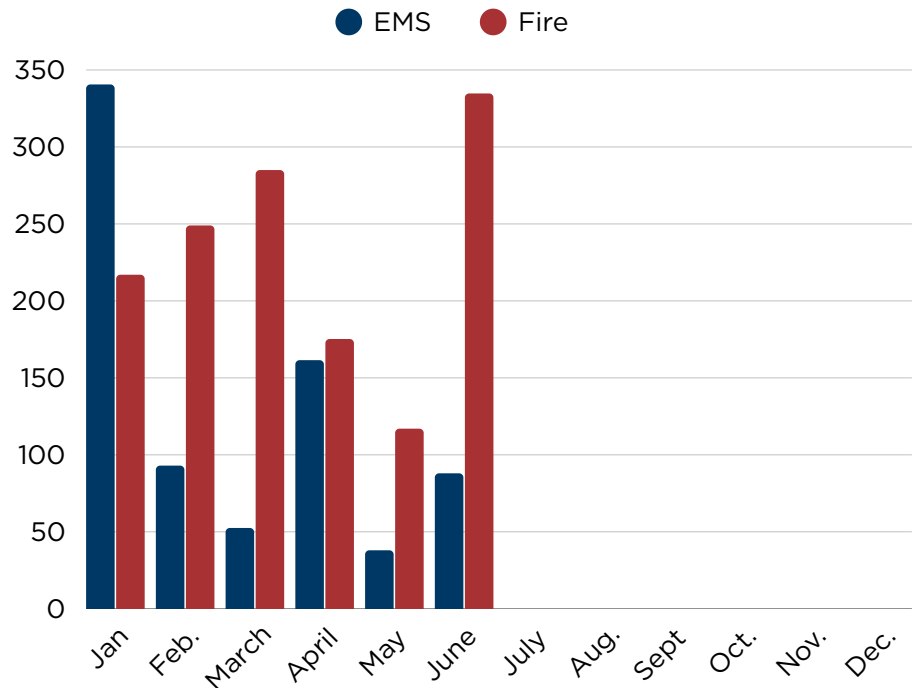
Pop-Up Splash Pad: Timothy
Johnsen Park
Paramedic Capstone Students
Police Department Bike Rodeo
Hope Church Summer Camp
MATC Fire/EMS Camp



The Watertown Fire Department remembers Richard “Rich” Nienow, a former Paid-on-Call firefighter who proudly served our department and community for over 30 years. We extend our sincere condolences to Rich’s family, friends, and all who knew him, and we are grateful for his service and dedication to Watertown.

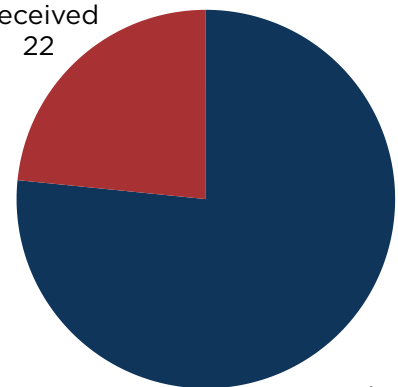


Training Hours



Mutual Aid Given/Received Year to Date

Mutual Aid
Received
22



Mutual Aid Given
72