



Faribault Fire Department

Hot Spots

Welcome to Hot Spots, the Faribault Fire Department newsletter. Hot Spots features information about the Fire Department's operations, training, response, safety tips, emergency management, and other points of interest.

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Suppression

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Cody Paschke
Richard Rein
Cody Roushar
Jonathon Sheridan
Matthew Shuda
Mitchell Wolff

Faribault Fire Department
122 2nd Street NW
Faribault MN 55021
507-334-8773
www.faribault.org

A NOTE FROM THE CHIEF

Warmer weather will prevail, I hope! Along with it comes outdoor activities that we have not participated in for a few months. Remember that we all need to have fun but we cannot sacrifice safety to have fun. Severe weather will be upon us soon and we all need to be prepared. Have a plan and practice it with your family. Think about what you will do if you are not at home, school or work when severe weather strikes. As the wise Ben Franklin said, "Failing to prepare is preparing to fail". Enjoy all that Minnesota has to offer, but be safe!!

FLEET FACTS — 2120

2120 - medical/grass fire apparatus. It was built in 2006 by Heiman Fire in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and consists of a Ford F-350 4 x 4 Chassis and Heiman built box.

2120 features the following:

- 6.0 Liter Powerstroke Diesel Engine
- 24 HP Honda V-Twin Pump Engine
- 120 GPM Pump
- 250 Gallon On-Board Poly Water Tank
- LED Emergency Lighting
- Electric Reel w/150' of 3/4" Booster Line
- On-Board Scotty Foam System

2120 handles the majority of our medical calls and is usually the first apparatus out the door for any grass fire. It carries medical equipment, a gas monitor, a chainsaw, a backpack blower, a float pump (will pump out of a body of water), a piercing nozzle, and a variety of hand tools. 2120 responds to the highest call volume of any of our apparatus and since going into service in the fall of 2006, it has responded to approximately 7,000 calls! Make sure to wave if the lights aren't on and feel free to stop by the station if you would like a closer look.



INCIDENT INSIGHT



(Photo by Brad Phenow/Daily News)

On April 14, the Fire Department responded to 419 8th Street NW for a structure fire with flames showing through the roof. Upon arrival, heavy smoke was exiting from the eaves all around the home. The fire, which was found at the corner of the home, had started outside the home and burned up the siding and into the attic space. The owner was home and unaware of the fire. A passerby stopped, notified the owner to get out of the home, and assisted in getting some pets out. He also called 911 to report the fire.

Firefighters cut holes in the roof to access the fire in the attic space. The majority of the fire was limited to the attic space, a bedroom, and bathroom at the corner of the home. Owatonna provided mutual aid with one pumper and six firefighters to assist with manpower. The fire was extinguished and no one was injured during the fire. The cause of the fire was undetermined.

TRAINING

The Fire Department is scheduled to train 24 times a year.

Training is held every 2nd Thursday and usually the 3rd Thursday of each month.

The Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) refresher classes are scheduled every other year. The EMTs meet six times and EMRs meet four times every year.

Training subject matter

varies. Areas of training include extrication, ice rescue, driver's training, wild land fires, ropes, trench & confined space rescue, fire suppression, grain bin rescue, and search & rescue.

Faribault Fire Department members lead, instruct, and evaluate each other on many of the areas of training. On occasion, the Austin and/or Mankato Technical College will conduct the training. Firefighters also participate in sectional schools in Austin or in Mankato.

OUTDOOR SAFETY/MOWING TIPS

Spring is here! And so is yard cleanup, raking, and spending time outdoors. Be safe and keep the following tips in mind:

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Be aware of the terrain you are working on.
- Dress properly for the task at hand.
- Don't use lawn mowers for debris removal or yard leveling.
- Check areas before mowing. Objects become projectiles and cause injury or damage.
- Turn off your mower and remove keys for maintenance work. People are injured every year while clearing obstructions and working on their lawn mower.



Safety is often stressed at work, but at home there is no one "hounding" you to be safe.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Severe Weather is looming and you need to be prepared for it! The biggest issue that we have is being warned about severe weather that is approaching. We can't stop severe weather but we can be prepared to keep ourselves and loved ones safe. There are many ways to get notifications of severe weather. There are "Apps" for our devices, you can listen to local radio stations, you can watch the weather on-line or on TV, and you can sign-up for the Ever-bridge Notification System. This system is free and if signed up, you will receive emergency notifications on your cell phone, home phone and/or email. Go to the City of Faribault website or the Faribault Fire Station to get signed up. Another great option is a NOAA weather radio. These can be purchased and programmed to notify you of approaching severe weather in your area. Have a plan and practice it. Even if it means just talking through it. It is important that everyone knows what to do when severe weather approaches.

MONTHLY FIRE SAFETY TIP

It has been and continues to be a dry spring. Recreational fires are peaceful and enjoyable but can become stressful if not handled with care.



Recreation fires must not exceed 3' in diameter and 3' tall (flame height). They must be 15' away from structures. Clear away all combustibles and have a hose and other tools readily available if the fire escapes its original confined area.