

Neosho Fire Department 2013 Annual Report



It is the design of the department to serve the public to the best of our ability.

The mission of the department is to assist people through Prevention, Planning, Education, and Action. We pursue this mission with determination and resolve with emphases on Dedication, Compassion, and Constant Improvement.

Introduction

In 2013 we were not as busy as 2012 in regards to calls for service, down 237 calls. The mild winter, wet spring, mild summer and again a wet fall helped reduce the number of outside fires that had kept us so busy last year. The fire department budget continued to improve allowing us to continue all aspects of service that we have provided in the past. It also allowed us to purchase a new pumper truck, complete with equipment.

In 2013 the Neosho Fire Department responded to 1,864 calls for service. A break down of the call history, response by district, department training, and history of calls for service is provided later in this report.

I would like to say “Thank You” to the citizens that have continued to support the fire department. We have worked very hard at maintaining the high standards that the citizens of Neosho have come to expect. I would also like to say “Thank You” to the members of the department, their families and fellow City employees that have sacrificed their personal lives to assist residents and visitors to our community and our department.

Chief Mike Eads

Departmental facts

Fire Station 1
125 N. College St.
Neosho, Missouri 64850
Phone: 417-451-8021
Fax: 417-451-8027

Fire Station 2
501 Industrial Drive
Neosho Missouri 64850
Phone: 417-451-8030
Fax: 417-451-8047

Department e-mail: Mike Eads, meads@neoshomo.org
Mari Mallory, mmallory@neoshomo.org

Staffing-40 hour

Fire Chief
Administrative Assistant
Training Officer*(1)

Staffing-24 hr Shift

3 Battalion Chiefs
3 Captains
12 Engineers*(2)
6 Firefighters*(6)

Staffing-Paid-per-call

4 firefighters

SAFER grant is funding nine *(9) positions. (SAFER grant ended in May 2013)
Deputy Chief position was removed in 2011 and was not funded in 2013/2014 budget year.

**Fire Department Personnel Current staff
End of year 2013
(Year of Full Time Hire)**

Administrative Staffing (40 hr)

Chief Mike Eads (86)
Administrative Assistant Mari Mallory (99)
Training Officer/Firefighter Scott Maness (11)

A-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Brad Morris (92)
Capt. Adrian Hitchcock (02)
Eng. Bryan McCutcheon (01)
Eng. Beau Davis (05)
Eng. Derek Williams (05)
Eng. Dustin Wright (11)
FF Travis Bracht (11)
FF Jacob Pim (11)

B-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Jim Ledford (97)
Capt. Roy Haskett (02)
Eng. Mark Solomon (02)
Eng. Tim Duncan (02)
Eng. Ryan Bogle (05)
Eng. Kurt Williams (11)
FF Taylor Lombard (12)
FF Phillip Doke (13)

C-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Bret Smith (91)
Capt. Kyle Rogers (03)
Eng. Al Cervantes (95)
Eng. Wade Sterling (04)
Eng. Eric Brodie (08)
Eng. Heath Crowder (11)
FF Luke Powell (12)
FF Jacob Guernsey (13)

Paid-per-Call

Firefighter Gregg Lee (77)
Firefighter Steffen Wiest (11)
Firefighter Derek Lawrence (11)
Firefighter Hershel Macy (13)



The Fire Service is a noble calling, one which is founded on mutual respect and trust between firefighters and the citizens they serve. To ensure the continuing integrity of the Fire Service, the highest standards of ethical conduct must be maintained at all times.

Response area of the department is approximately 93 square miles, which includes:

City of Neosho (15.75 Sq. Miles)

District A-Inside City limit, north of South Street

District B-Inside City limit, south of South Street

**Neosho Area Fire Protection District
District C-Area outside City of Neosho
(77.25 Sq. Miles)**

Limits: Iris Road on the north, Goldfinch on the west, AA Highway on the south, Panda Road on the east. District lines follow section lines where no roads are located.

Mutual Aid (M/A)

Assistance requested from and provided to all local fire or other agencies that request personnel, equipment, or special assistance from the fire department. Department also participates in the State Wide Mutual Aid assistance program when requested if resources and personnel are available.

Equipment Operated by the Fire Department: (year of vehicle)

City:

2 Engines (2013 & 1999)
1 Reserve Engine (1987)
1 Aerial-75 Ft. (1996)
1 Light rescue (2008)
2 Service units-pickup truck, & Air Unit (2000, 2001)
1 Command vehicle-Staff (2006)
1 Educational trailer (CARE)

District:

2 Engines (2009 & 1995)
1 Reserve Engine (1997)
2 Tankers (1999 & 2000)
3 Brush trucks (2001, 2006, 2009)
1 Light rescue (2005)
1 Command vehicle (Chief) (2009)
1 Cargo trailer

County Supplied Vehicle (2001)-Air Unit 1 is a Mobile Air Supply unit purchased through a joint agreement of the Newton County Fire Departments and Newton County Commission. (Pickup used to supply breathing air for firefighters during emergencies.) Area departments share cost of operations of this equipment.

Homeland Security Equipment operated by fire department- In September 2008, the City of Neosho Opted out of this program due to funding available to support the program. In January 2010, we closed out funding from Missouri's Homeland Security Regional Response System (HSRRS) program funds. Teams retained all equipment received through the program. Unencumbered funds were reallocated to the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee. Team was comprised of members of the Neosho Police (Law Enforcement), Neosho Fire (Haz-mat), and Newton County Ambulance District (Medical). Equipment has been used to support local and mutual aid operations when requested or Regional or State Responses when called for. Primary mission of the Neosho Haz-Mat Team was to support other Regional and State teams during times of emergency.

Equipment listed consists of Hazardous materials and Decontamination Equipment used by the Neosho Fire Department HSRRS.

3-Prime equipment Movers (F250, F-550, and Bobcat loader)

1-28 foot Cargo Trailer-Hazardous Materials Equipment

1-20 foot Cargo Trailer-Equipment Mover

1-16 foot Flatbed Trailer-Equipment Mover

4-ATV's with Trailers and Carts-Equipment Movers

Assorted logistical support equipment (Sheltering tents, generators, heating system, etc).

Neosho Police and Newton County Ambulance District also received specialized equipment through the program.

Equipment issued to and purchased for the team through the Homeland Security Program was in excess of \$410,000.

Vehicle Maintenance and Service

Due to the nature of the services the fire department provides, the task of proper operation and maintenance of all equipment is of utmost importance. The maintenance programs of the department consist of daily, weekly, monthly, six-month and annual service. Records are maintained on all apparatus and motorized equipment. Minor service and repairs, such as oil changes, adjustments to vehicles, and equipment are performed by duty personnel or individuals within the department that have been factory trained in maintenance procedures on specific equipment. These would include major repairs, computerized diagnostics on apparatus engines and electrical equipment, air sampling and service of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and their air cylinders. Our annual ISO testing of pumpers, aerial, and ground ladders are performed by an outside vendor since the department does not have proper equipment for these types of testing. NFPA recommends an outside testing source as well. We do attempt to schedule and offer these testing requirements to other departments within our area to help with reducing the cost to all departments for these services.



Fire Department Response Information

Calls by District

District A (862) =46.24% District B (484) =25.96%
 District C (453) =24.30% Mutual Aid (65) =3.48%

Yearly Average Response Time (from receiving alarm to arrival) (Fire calls only) (In minutes) (Times are from Station to call)

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
City: District A	5.32	5.12	5.24	4.34	4.34
District B	6.48	4.30	6.00	6.00	6.20
District C:	8.11	10.12	10.03	8.41	9.46

5 year average

City-District A 4.87 City-District B 5.80 District C: 9.23

Factors that can effect response times are location of call, travel routes, traffic, overlapping or multiple calls, calls outside the district areas (Example: Dist. A apparatus responding to Dist. B area or Dist. B responding to Dist. A area) and Dispatching of call.

Insurance Services Organization criteria say that a build-upon area of a community should have a first-due engine company within 1.5 road miles of the protected properties and a ladder-service company within 2.5 miles. This benchmark criterion produces an expected response time of 3.2 minutes for an engine company and 4.9 minutes for a ladder-service company, based on a formula developed by the RAND Corporation. During our last evaluation ISO awarded 2.28% of a possible 4% for Distribution of Companies.

Time Spent On-Scene

City vehicles: 729.06 hours of time on-scene
 District vehicles: 2,221.65 hours of time on-scene

Man-hours by District (Man-hours=number of personnel responding X length of call) (From receiving alarm till apparatus and equipment are returned to service) (All call types)

District A (Calls for service-862) 1,491.26 man hours
 District B (Calls for service-484) 1,087.75 man hours
 District C (Calls for service-453) 1,487.82 man hours
 Mutual Aid (Outside City and District 65 calls for service) 336.15 man hours

Average Response Turnout (Personnel On-scene of working structure fires only)

District A (Incidents-20) Average turn out per incident-9
 District B (Incidents-5) Average turn out per incident -12
 District C (Incidents-13) Average turn out per incident-9

ISO recommends 10 personnel for structure alarms

Major structure incidents, with over \$5,000 fire department estimated loss:

January	City-1005 Sunberry St.-\$250,000 City-409 Jefferson St-\$6,000 City-1818 Rachael Dr-\$15,000
February	City-710 Park St-\$11,000 City-407 E. Hickory-\$40,000 City-620 Pearl-\$10,000
March	City-303.5 N. Wood St-\$20,000 City-301 N. Wood St-\$8,000 City-801 S. High-\$9,000 District-17115 Locust Rd-\$60,000 District-11622 Gateway Dr-\$15,000
April	District-11725 Gateway Dr-\$85,000 District-17818 Elwood Junction Rd-\$11,000
May	City-1529.5 Ridgewood Rd-\$7,000 Dist-10961 Moose Dr-\$18,000 Dist-13571 Moberly Ln-\$165,000
June	District-12551 Linden Dr-\$30,000
July	City-902 W. South-\$8,000 District-1133 Madison Ave-\$16,000 District-12720 Kelley Ln-\$15,000
October	City-714 Park St-\$30,000 City-1526 Pineville Rd-\$5,500
December	City-825 Roudup Hill-\$65,000 District-19121 Ingersoll Ln-\$18,000

We responded to 75 calls for service that were logged as a fire (Structure, vehicle, etc.) and of that number we had an estimated dollar lose amount of \$1,148,718. This number reflects all calls where there was a reported loss of any amount. (Estimates for dollar loss are just an estimate from fire personnel on scene and do not reflect the actual dollar lose by the Insurance Company or Home Owner)

Fire related injuries or deaths (Civilian or Fire Personnel)

1-Civilian deaths in the City or District

1-Civilian injury in the City or District

0-Fire personnel deaths in the City or District

0-Fire personnel injury in the City or District

Fire Department Manning/Personnel:

During our last ISO review in 1999, manning consisted of 22 fulltime personnel: 2 Chief Officers, Fire Inspector, 3 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 12 Engineers and 1 civilian. At that time the department had 8 paid-per-call Firefighters.

ISO awards credit for the total number of members' on-duty: staffing is taken as a yearly average considering vacations, sick leave, and other absences. ISO gives credit for off-duty paid members and paid-per-call members responding on first alarms. At that time our department received 3.27 points of a possible 15 points for company personnel and minimum manning was five on-duty personnel. Credit for off-duty and paid-per-call personnel only counts 3 for every 1 on-duty. If we had 18 personnel off duty or paid-on-call personnel show up for a call we would receive credit for 6 personnel per ISO.

There are several areas that ISO looks at on top of personnel. They are equipment such as fire department apparatus numbers, pumping capabilities, training, distances from fire stations, water system capabilities, roads and dispatching.

A ¼ cent Sales Tax was passed in 2001 and with that the department was able to hire 6 fulltime firefighters and 1 full time Training Officer. The tax was estimated to support the purchasing of new fire apparatus, an additional 3 full time firefighters and the future building of additional fire stations. The tax generated enough only to hire the 7 personnel mentioned above, still 3 personnel short along with new apparatus and future additional fire stations left unfunded.



2013 in Review:

SAFER Grant-We applied in late 2010 for a SAFER grant to fund personnel that had been laid off due to budget constraints within the City. We received word in February 2011 that we had been approved for the SAFER grant to fund 9 personnel for 2 years. The shift personnel returned starting May 1 2011 which brought our staffing back to pre lay off times.

This assisted us in reinstating several programs to include: responding to EMS calls, community education, fire prevention programs and staffing of both stations reducing the time frame to respond to a call. The grant ended in May of 2013 with the employee's salaries returning back to being covered by City funds.

Tri-State Fire Recruitment Alliance-This program allows individuals interested in the fire service to test only one time per year for all departments participating in the program. There are currently seventeen fire departments participating in the program. This allows us to have a set standard for testing and a hiring list when or if the need arises to hire personnel. We used this list twice in 2012. (Refilled two vacated positions)

Annual Pump Testing-Annual testing of all apparatus pumps. Again several problems found, some repairs made, some repairs on hold due to cost. The purchasing of a new pumper and retiring an older pumper will make a difference in next year's testing.

Annual Ladder Testing-Annual testing of all ladders. No problems found this year.

Community Events-Personnel assisted with several organizations for fund raising and community assistance programs. Newton County Fire Chiefs Christmas for Kids, Shop with a Cop, Food Basket Brigade, Neosho Christmas Parade, Neosho School System events, Newton County Relay for Life, Fourth of July activities, numerous other city and chamber events and filled numerous dunk tanks.

Neosho Area Fire Protection District- The district continues to work with supporting the fire department. One area that is being looked at is the ISO rating in the district and what improvements need to be made to help lower the ISO rating. The new water line down Kodiak Road should impact some citizens in the district on the west side of town. The District Board is considering the building of a new fire station west of town on Highway 86. Land has been purchased with plans being drawn up for a building. Funding options are being considered for the project. The location site would help with response times in the district but also could help with time in the Northwest portion of town. At this time it would be an unmanned station.

Fire Training-During 2013 personnel participated in 2,072.59 hours of in-house and outside department training. That breaks down to 271.04 hours of training per individual.

Community Training-138 hours of public education was performed during the year, that consisted of extinguisher training, school fire prevention programs, fire safety talks for businesses, industry and the public.

Inspections-319 inspections were performed during the year, those include Business/Company/Industry, new construction, remodels, tent, fireworks, and burn permits. An additional 41 re-inspections were performed to follow up on questions and or concerns brought up from the first inspection. The inspection process is being updated to assist business owners in making the process smoother. The new procedures should start in early 2014.

AFG Grant-(Pumper truck grant) The first part of 2012 we applied for an AFG grant. This grant had we been approved would have helped us update much needed equipment, such as a new pumper, equipment and tools. We passed the initial phase of the grant process. We received word in late spring that we had been denied this grant.

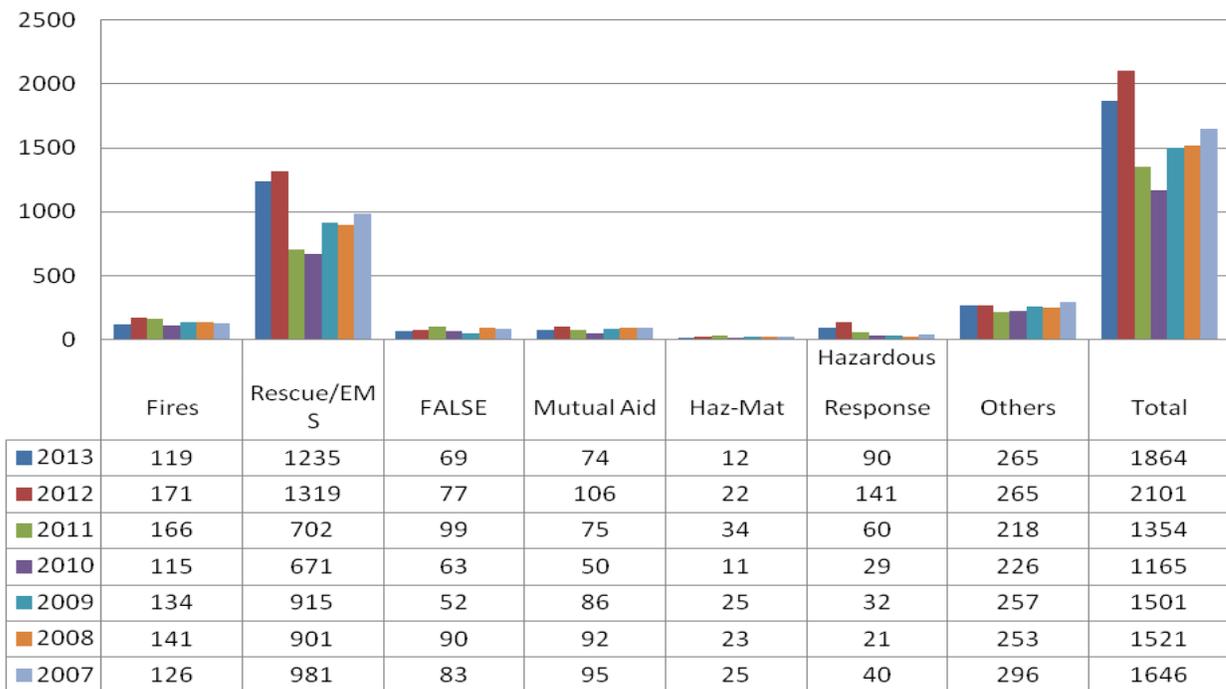
Firefighter Training-We continue to train all Firefighters to be Engineers so we have the flexibility to have enough operators of the apparatus to respond to structure fires. The department is revamping its training requirements for all personnel. These changes will give us more flexibility in our operations and what we can offer.

125th Anniversary Open House-Our open house and anniversary was a great success even though the weather may have dampened the size of the crowd and our outside activities. The Chili cook-off went over very well and details are being worked out to possibly make this an annual event.

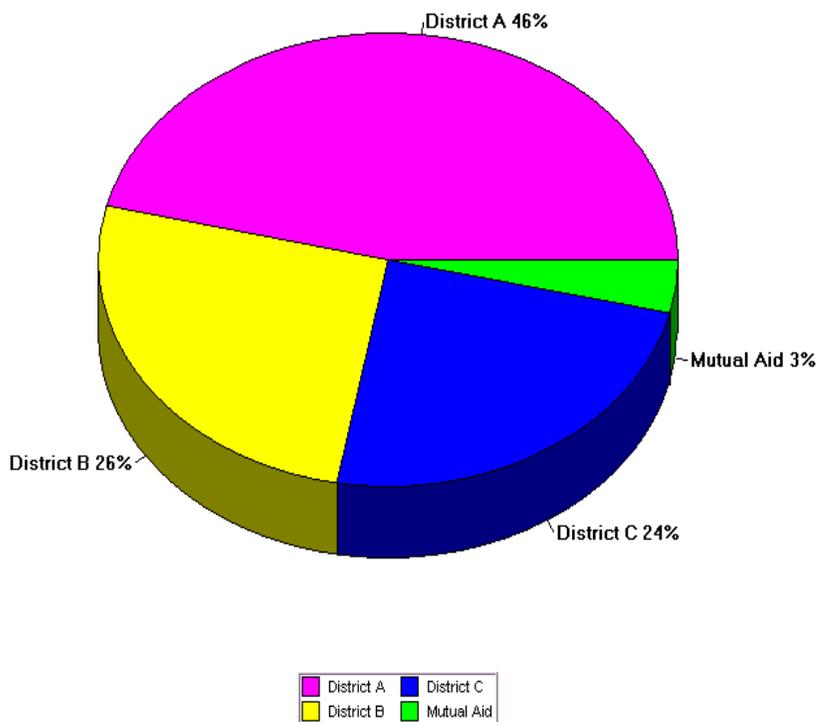
Arrival of new Engine-Engine 6 arrived late in the year and was put into service at the end of the year. After several weeks of training the truck is performing very well and is very much appreciated piece of equipment in our inventory.

ISO-Insurance Services Organization requested information late in the year and I suspect they will probably be scheduling a visit in 2014 to reassess our rating. Areas of improvement would be the water line projects in and around the City, increased number of hours of training for personnel and better record keeping of same, increased number of personnel, improvements to the communications system and inspections of businesses and industry. All of these improvements were noted as defiance's during our last ISO visit. Two areas of concern that could hamper our efforts at receiving a lower rating for insurance that were noted during our last visit was the recommendation for additional fire stations and personnel to man them in areas of the City outside the 1.5 mile radius of the existing stations. The City funds have not allowed that type of growth for us. To cover those areas, we would be looking at 2 to 3 additional stations and or the moving of the existing stations to cover the City properly plus the manpower for those stations. These concerns have been noted in the past and are part of the long range plan of the fire department, again as funds allow all areas are addressed when possible.

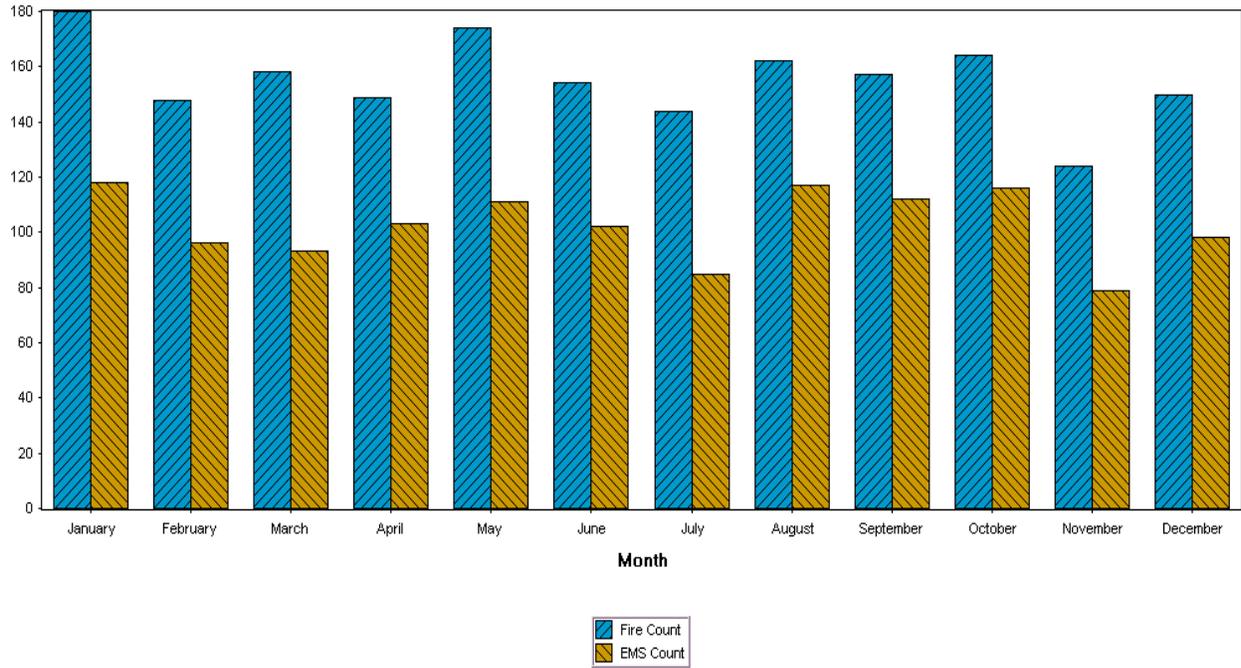
Call Numbers 2007-2013



Incidents by District (Modified)
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013} and District In "A" "B" "C" "MA"



Fire vs EMS by Month
Fire Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}
EMS Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013} and Type of Service Requested In "1"



Incident Responses by Day of Week
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

