

Greenville Volunteer Fire Department

Est. 1972

Greenville Volunteer Fire Department Mission Statement

"To protect and preserve the lives and property of our Greenville residents with the highest levels of fire suppression, rescue services and emergency medical care through continual training, public education and fire prevention programs."

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

April 2011

Dear Greenville Residents,

First off, I am honored to be the fire chief for this wonderful community. For those of you who don't know me, my wife, Cheryl, and I along with our 2 children, Ben and Danielle, moved to Greenville from Black Creek in 1991. While a resident in Black Creek, I was a member of the volunteer fire department for 8 years. During that time, I served as a volunteer fire fighter and assistant chief. During my 19 years as a Greenville resident, I have served as a volunteer fire fighter for 18 years, and deputy chief for the last several years. I have also been a part of the first responder group for 12 years.



I am privileged to work with a great colleague, Deputy Chief Tim Lambie. He too, has many years of firefighting experience. In addition to working with Deputy Chief Lambie, I am honored to work closely with Fire Prevention Officer Eric Kitowski. He is the only full-time firefighter in the Town of Greenville. Officer Kitowski takes on the responsibility of manning the station during the work week and also conducts fire inspections for commercial businesses in the town twice a year.

For several years now, the fire department and first responder groups have been challenged to keep up with the rapid growth of the community. Some strategies we have implemented to beat this challenge without increasing our budget are: mutual aid with the Airport Fire Department and automatic mutual aid with the Clayton-Winchester Fire Department on the South end of our town. We continue to maintain a close relationship with our other mutual aid departments. Most recently, we were one of the first fire departments in Outagamie County to implement the MABAS system (mutual aid box alarm system). This is a pre-planned incident paging system that we use for large scaled incidents. For example, we would implement this paging system for a structure fire. The Outagamie County Communication Center would automatically dispatch our mutual aid departments as they are stated in the computer system to provide help in an organized manner.

Continued education is very important to our department. Our members participate in two practice drills each month along with classroom work. We also have classes throughout the state that members can attend. These include weekend classes on firefighting techniques and safety, night classes for fire investigation, arson investigation, driver/operator, etc. This summer, we will be participating in a full-scale mock disaster at the Outagamie Regional Airport. Now you may ask what does this accomplish? The Airport and Greenville Fire and EMS do this to satisfy FAA regulations as well as prepare us for such a disaster. You can see that this is a large commitment for volunteers. Please be proud that Greenville has some of best volunteer firefighters and first responders in the state.

This is a short synopsis of our department. We truly stand by our mission of "neighbors helping neighbors."

Sincerely, Chief Rick Romenesko

PERSONNEL

Greenville Fire Department Table of Organization

Fire Chief Rick Romenesko

> **Deputy Chief Tim Lambie**

Captain Mike Woods Captain Mike Vande Hei Captain Randy Immel

Captain Tom Becher

Lieutenant Robin Krause Lieutenant Todd Hajos Lieutenant Jim Ziegert

Firefighters

Membership Length of Service – As of 3/2011 (Name, rank, continuous years of service)

Command Staff

Rick Romenesko	Chief/1st Resp	20	Randy Immel	Captain 25
Tim Lambie	Deputy Chief	11	Mike Woods	Captain 34
Tom Becher	Captain/1st Resp	40	Robin Krause	Lieutenant/1st Resp 10
Mike Vande Hei	Captain	21	Todd Hajos	Lieutenant 7
	•		Jim Ziegert	Lieutenant/1st Resp 7

Firefighters/First Responders

Dave Switchenberg	Firefighter	11	Troy Olson	Firefighter	0
Tim Hanson	Firefighter	13	Mike Hills	Firefighter	18
Aaron Hansen	Firefighter	4	Ted Ebben	Firefighter	18
Jim Wilke	Firefighter	10	Ryan Wilke	Firefighter	7
Tim Woods	Firefighter	24	Dave Sigl	Firefighter	4
Scott Paap	Firefighter	1	Chris Schlechta	Firefighter	0
Paul Schroeder	Firefighter	20	Pat Ebben	Firefighter	10
Mike Engels	Firefighter	3	Chris Thelen	Firefighter	18
Gary Moser	Firefighter	1	Steve Pashcke	Firefighter	13
Joe Weihing	Firefighter	11	Mike Benton	Firefighter	14
Hailey Worden	Firefighter	1	Rick Fischer	Firefighter	4
Mike Peters	Firefighter	22	Spencer Jack	Firefighter	1
Jonathan Schlafer	Firefighter	0	Dave Schmidt	Firefighter	16
Gary Kelly	Firefighter	18	Tim Flunker	Firefighter	13
John Heenan	Firefighter	16	Josh Lambie	Firefighter	8
Travis Steinacker	Firefighter	10	Chad Miller	Firefighter	7
Shannon Lowenhagen	Firefighter	7	Tyler Ernst	Firefighter	4
Eric Kitowski	Firefighter/1st F	Resp 1	Nick Czaja	Firefighter/1st R	esp 4



Photo courtesy of Julie Lee Photography (July 2010)

Notable Membership Changes

In Memoriam



Chief Dave Julius
Born: 3/29/1956
33 years of service
Return to Quarters: 2010

Within a month's time this winter, our department suffered two very significant losses. With deep sorrow, in December, we laid to rest Fire Chief Dave Julius as he lost a hard fought battle to cancer. In January, we laid to rest Captain-Safety Officer Larry Strey who also lost a hard fought battle to cancer. Together they put in over 60 years of volunteer service to this community. Not enough can be said about the commitment these gentlemen had to this town. Each requested a final call at their funeral services and were transported to their final resting place on board Greenville fire apparatus. We ask everyone to keep the families of Chief Julius and Captain Strey in your prayers. They will always be a part of this department.



Captain Larry Strey
Born: 2/7/1956
28 years of service
Return to Quarters: 2011

Chief Julius and Captain Strey, once again we salute you and may you rest in peace.



Deputy Chief Tim Lambie presenting Rick Romenesko with the White Chief's helmet 1/10/11

As a department, with deep regret, we must carry on. With a unanimous recommendation from the department members, the Town Board promoted Deputy Chief Rick Romenesko to Fire Chief. We have complete confidence in Chief Romenesko to lead us into the future as the Volunteer Chief of this department. As a department, we will work hard to maintain the high level of service and dedication that Chief Julius, Captain Strey, and all of our retired firefighters have helped bring to this town. Hopefully, we can make them proud to have served on this department.



Spencer Jack



Gary Moser



Hailey Worden



Scott Paap



Eric Kitowski

We welcomed five new firefighters, including Spencer Jack, Gary Moser, Hailey Worden, Scott Paap, and Eric Kitowski to the department. We appreciate their commitment to the Town of Greenville.

OPERATIONS

Station, Staffing, and Apparatus

Fire Station #53 W6895 Parkview Dr



The station is staffed by the parttime Chief, one full and one part time firefighter/first responder. An active roster of 15 first responders and 45 firefighters answer the call to duty 24hrs a day, 365 days of the year.

Engine 5321



2010 Pierce Velocity Seats 6, Waterous-1250 gpm pump, and 750 gal. water tank.

Thermal imaging camera, extrication equipment, ventilation fan, master stream device, foam system, and scene lighting.

Pumper/Tanker 5361



2004 Pierce Enforcer Seats 6, Waterous-1250 gpm pump, and 2500 gal. water tank.

Thermal imaging camera, 3000 gal. porta-tank, ventilation fan, master stream device, foam system, and scene lighting.

Pumper/Tanker 5362



1997 Pierce/Freightliner Seats 2, Waterous-1750 gpm pump and 3000 gal. water tank

3000 gal. porta-tank, portable generator, ventilation fan, and scene lighting.

Heavy Rescue 5371



2005 Pierce/Freightliner Seats 10, breathing air cascade system, Nightscan light tower, command center, winch, extrication equipment.

Ice rescue equipment, wildland FF suits, rescue rope, EMS supplies, gas detectors, power tools, spill clean up supplies.

Utility/Command 5381



2006 Chevy 2500HD Seats 5, 13 gal. on-board pressurized water supply, and scene lighting.

EMS equipment, long board, hand tools, spill clean up supplies, and portable generator.

<u>Utility/Brush Truck/Light Rescue 5382</u>



2000 Ford F-350XL Super-Duty, Seats 2 Skid mounted 150 gal. tank with pump and Class A foam.

Scene lighting, extrication & EMS equipment, generator, and wildland firefighting equipment.

Rescue Trailer 5383



Features a Polaris 6wheeler with skid mounted tank/pump and Class A foam. Off-road rescue cart, ice rescue sled, trench rescue shoring.

Cribbing, pumps, long boards, Stokes basket, hand tools, trench iacks, and utility rope.

Outagamie County Disaster Trailer



Features a generator, portable lighting, EMS/Triage supplies, and Incident Command supplies.

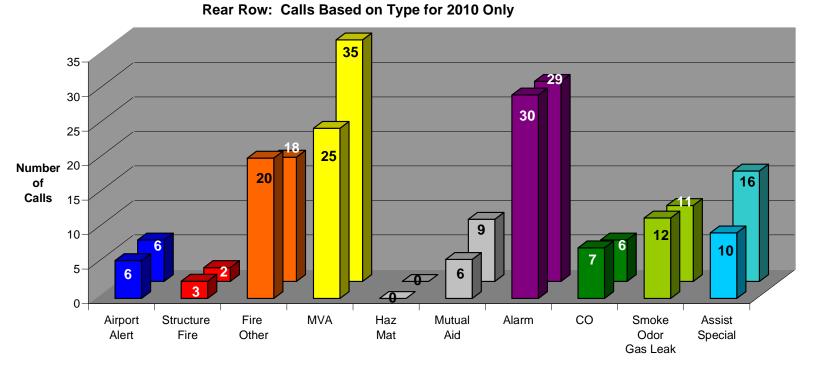
Long boards, chemical resistant boots, sand bags, coveralls, sump pumps and hose.

Call Volumes and Response Summary

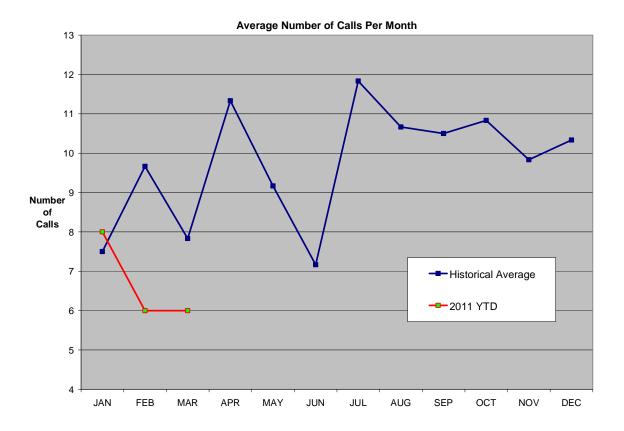
In 2010, the Greenville Fire Department responded to 132 calls. The total number of calls for 2010 increased by 14.8% from 2009. The Greenville Fire Department responded to 20 confirmed fires (two of which were structure fires), 35 MVAs (Motor Vehicle Accidents), 6 Outagamie County Airport Alerts, and 9 mutual aid calls.

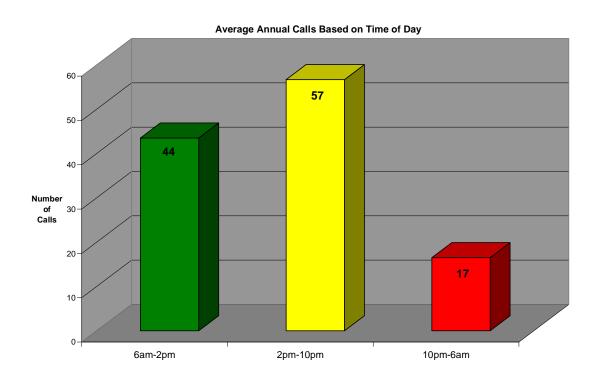


Front Row: Average Annual Calls Based on Type 2005-2010 Data



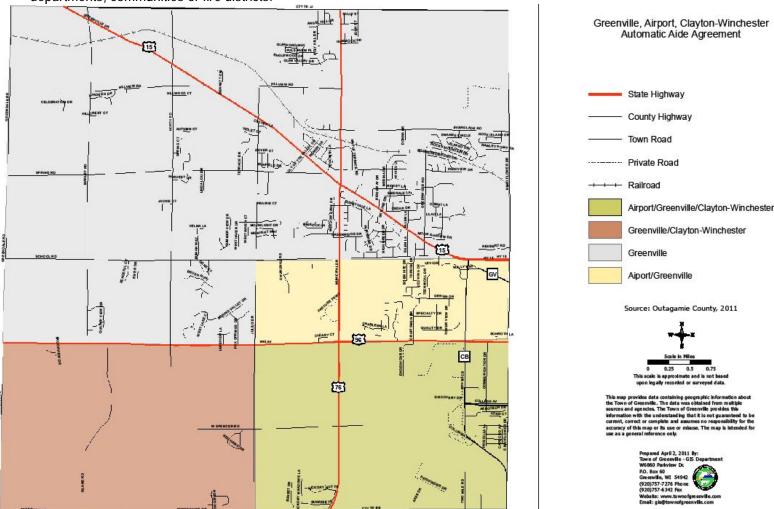
Data from 2005 thru 2010 used for the charts below.





Automatic Aid

The Town of Greenville has Automatic Aid agreements with Outagamie County Airport Fire and the Clayton/Winchester Fire Department. Automatic Aid is assistance that is dispatched automatically by a contractual agreement between two fire departments, communities or fire districts.



Mutual Aid

The Town of Greenville also has Mutual Aid agreements with surrounding fire departments. Mutual Aid is assistance that is dispatched, upon request, by the responding fire department. Mutual Aid agreements are in place with the following departments: Dale, Ellington, Center, Grand Chute, Hortonville, and Town of Menasha.

Response areas within the Town of Greenville given by Automatic Aid departments

MABAS

In the event of a large incident, the MABAS system (**M**utual **A**id **B**ox **A**larm **S**ystem) provides for even more assistance from departments located beyond the towns listed above. MABAS is a mutual aid measure that may be used for deploying fire, rescue and emergency medical services personnel in a multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-agency response. Participation in the mutual aid program is voluntary. The Greenville Fire Department is a MABAS member department and could be called upon to respond for aid to departments within the system.

TRAINING

All candidates hired are required to successfully complete 60-100 hours of classroom training. This training which includes both structural and wildland firefighting skills is done through Fox Valley Technical College in conjunction with the NFPA 1001 standard (Standard for firefighter professional qualifications). Many firefighters go on to take State of Wisconsin



Lt. Robin Krause descending personal escape rope during a self rescue training. Special thanks to Airport fire.

certification tests for enhanced qualifications such as Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Driver/Operator-Pumper, Fire Officer and Fire Inspector. Even though we train as a department at least twice each month, there are many additional outside training opportunities that some firefighters take advantage of on their own personal time to stay

on the cutting edge of technologies and tactics. Having these individuals willing to go above and beyond demonstrates their dedication and leadership which is an asset to the Greenville Fire Department.

Greenville firefighters are trained at a high level in firefighting and rescue operations. Training leads to proficient, efficient, and safe execution of tasks on emergency scenes. The Greenville Fire Department is fortunate to have access to two buildings used for live fire training. We also have access to wrecked vehicles for rescue/extrication training. "Live" scenario trainings are invaluable to firefighters in providing an opportunity to put table-top instruction to actual practice in a non-emergency and relatively safe atmosphere. Greenville Fire Department firefighters trained a total of 1745.5 hours in 2010. This includes the 2 scheduled department trainings per month along with other training opportunities outside the department. Below are several examples:

Clayton-Winchester (Mock Tornado Drills)

FVTC: Firefighter I class FVTC: Firefighter II class

Tower Evacuation Training (w/Airport and Town of

Menasha Fire Departments)

Janesville extrication training FVTC: Fire Inspector class

Tomahawk Fire School (High Angle Rescue)

Theda star: Scene reviews

The scheduled department trainings are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month. Below are just a few examples of training topics:

Ice RescueR.I.T. RescueSCBA Confidence CourseVehicle ExtricationHoseline OperationsDriver SkillsPump OperationsLadder RescueRoof VentilationForcible EntryHazardous MaterialsSearch & Rescue



Cpt. Mike Vande Hei operating hydraulic rescue tools at a vehicle extrication training in Janesville.

"Ours is a serious job,
Take what we do seriously,
Train like it's real,
Be safe and have fun"

FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Public fire prevention and life safety education has been proven to be one of the most effective and cost efficient methods of reducing not only the number of fires, but also the number of deaths and injuries that result from fires. The Greenville Fire Department offers residents of Greenville the latest techniques for not only surviving a fire and other hazards, but also gives them knowledge and skills to prevent emergencies from occurring. The goals of the Greenville Fire Department's Fire Prevention & Public Education Programs are to provide the residents, visitors, and businesses of Greenville protection against loss of life and property by fire and other hazards through:

Fire Prevention Inspections & Code Enforcement

- Fire and life safety inspections of all commercial, multi-family residential, health care, church, and school buildings.
- Maintenance of the Knox Box program, which controls emergency access to buildings and other secure areas for fire operations.
- Investigation of citizen complaints of potential fire code violations.





The Town of Greenville has one full-time and one part-time firefighter/fire inspector charged with approximately 293 inspectable occupancies. State statutes require a minimum of 2 inspections in non-overlapping 6-month periods totaling a minimum of 586 inspections per year. Raising that total are follow-up inspections that are done when code violations are discovered. These are done to ensure the owners/occupants correct code deficiencies and bring their occupancies to satisfactory levels of fire and life safety.

Look for future annual reports to contain occupancy updates and follow-up inspection volumes.

Fire Prevention and Life Safety Education Program

- Fire station tours
- Community parades
- Home fire safety inspections
- Fire extinguisher training for businesses
- Public appearances at local events (ex. National Night Out and Catfish Races)
- Fire Prevention Month programs at local schools and day care centers (Firefighters visit the schools with fire apparatus).
- Annual Fire Prevention Week open house
- Fire prevention and life safety information that can be found at the Greenville Town Hall, the Town's quarterly newsletters, and on the

fire department and first responder websites www.townofgreenville.com/dept-fire/ (look to the Town of Greenville's website in late spring 2011 for the new fire department and first responder websites)





The fire station is open to public tours during daytime business hours Monday-Friday and/or by appointment. Tours give the public an opportunity to see the fire station, apparatus, and equipment up close to become more familiar with what is used on emergency scenes.

Home fire safety inspections are free to residents who would like help pointing out hazardous conditions in their homes, providing suggestions on how to eliminate the hazards, and emergency preparedness.

Fire extinguisher training is offered to local businesses. We instruct employees how to properly use fire extinguishers for specific types of fires.

Fire prevention month includes fire crew visits to local schools and day care facilities to teach children the basics of fire safety, familiarize them with what a fire fighter looks like in protective clothing, and to let them see the fire apparatus up close. The month's activities culminate with the fire department's open house. Some highlights of this event include station

tours, fire extinguisher demonstrations, car seat inspections, various apparatus on display, a live, mock emergency demonstration, and a visit by the Theda Star helicopter (weather permitting). Food and beverages are also served.

Look for future annual reports to contain statistics regarding the number and type of fire prevention and life safety education events that were held and the number of adults/children that participated.



2010 HIGHLIGHTS

The Greenville Fire Department maintains a membership of approximately 50 firefighters. In early 2010, the Greenville Fire Department reviewed its staffing volume and determined that a recruitment process was necessary. By May, 5 new volunteer firefighters were added (Gary Moser, Scott Paap, Hailey Worden, Spencer Jack, and Eric Kitowski). Their dedication to the Town and the fire department is appreciated (photos on page 6).

Greenville fire officers and town officials also looked at the day to day workload involved with a department and municipality of this size. Those duties include: Fire/Life safety inspections on commercial buildings and businesses including follow-ups, and pre-fire plans, light apparatus/equipment maintenance, response to fire/EMS calls, fire prevention/education activities, reports, data entry, and assist with training set-ups. Based on a review of that workload, the committee created a full time Fire Prevention Officer position and began an internal hiring process late in the year. Eric Kitowski (photo on page 6) was promoted to this position and began the duties of the Fire Prevention Officer in January of 2011.



Due to new NFPA requirements and after many years of dependable service, Engine 8 was retired from active fire service duty in 2010. The truck was sold to

the North Dakota Chapter of "Guardians of the Ribbon" which is also part of www.pinkfiretrucks.org
Engine 8 has found a new calling and will be used by these organizations to raise money and

awareness for the fight against breast cancer. The truck will eventually be painted pink and be taken to various charity events across the country. It will be part of the Pink Heals Tour attending community cancer awareness events. The current fleet of fire trucks is decorated with over 40,000 signatures from women who have survived cancer. Engine 8 is currently being prepared for this new duty. Look for pictures of Pink Engine 8 in the 2011 GFD annual report. We are proud to know that Engine 8 is serving such a worthy cause.



Courtesy: www.pinkfiretrucks.org

Engine 5321 was put into service in spring of 2010 to replace Engine 8. 5321 is a 2010 Pierce Velocity that seats 6, has a Waterous-1250 gpm pump, and 750 gal. water tank. Important safety upgrades include front independent suspension, an

airbag system, fully enclosed cab, anti-lock brakes, and a back-up camera for the driver. 5321 also has a thermal imaging camera, extrication equipment, ventilation fan, master stream device, foam system, and scene lighting. In addition to firefighting operations, the truck is equipped to perform passenger extrications from vehicles, provide RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) equipment and personnel, and spill clean-up at accidents. 5321 is our fist-out engine within areas containing fire hydrants.



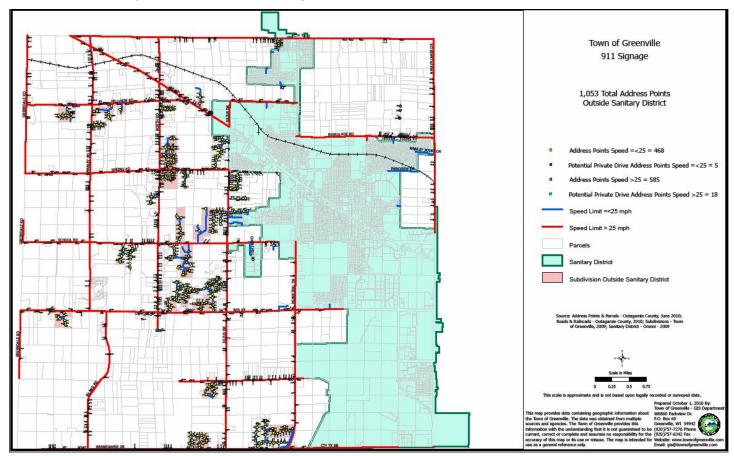
Box Alarm System) provides further assistance from departments located beyond our mutual and automatic aid departments. MABAS is a mutual aid measure that may be used for deploying fire, rescue and emergency medical service personnel in a multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-agency response. Participation in the mutual aid program is voluntary. The Greenville Fire Department is a MABAS member department and could be called upon to respond for aid to departments within the system. The groundwork to implement this system was laid in 2010 and went live on January 1, 2011.

As stated in the OPERATIONS section, the MABAS system (Mutual Aid



Uniform address signage is a project that was near and dear to the heart of Chief Dave Julius and all Greenville emergency responders. Installation of the signs began in 2010. The new signs are standardized to have the same look for each address, are reflective, and are on the same side of the road as the actual residence/building. Responding to the correct address has been greatly improved, especially at night. Greenville Fire and 1st Responders, as well as law enforcement, Gold Cross ambulance, and utility companies are extremely grateful. Responding units and delivery vehicles no longer create a hazardous road condition by changing their direction of travel due to

missing the proper address. The map below outlines the sanitary district (light blue) and the area outside the sanitary district (which currently utilizes the new address signs).



2011 GOALS

The MABAS system (**M**utual **A**id **B**ox **A**larm **S**ystem) goes live on January 1st of 2011. "Box Cards" will be added to the system for different response/incident types. A box card indicates the mutual/automatic aid resource(s) that would respond depending on the alarm level. The alarm level is directly related to the severity of the incident or the resources needed to mitigate an incident.

The Greenville Fire Department encourages all residents to learn more about Wisconsin's new carbon monoxide (CO) law that goes into effect as of February 1, 2011

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- All single family and two-unit homes new and existing must install a CO alarm on every floor level, near sleeping areas.
- New construction must be hard-wired with a battery back-up.
- Existing homes may install any type of CO alarms; battery, plug-in, or combination smoke/CO devices.
- A carbon monoxide detector required under this section shall bear an Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., listing mark.
- The law takes effect February 1, 2011.
- Alarms should be installed in accordance with directions from manufacturer.



Photo courtesy of Kidde

EXCEPTIONS

- CO alarms are only required in new and existing homes that have any fuel burning appliance, which include: stoves, ovens, grills, clothes dryers, furnaces, boilers, water heaters, fireplaces and heaters OR an attached garage.
- Alarms do not need to be installed in the attic, garage or storage area of homes.

MAINTENANCE

- Test alarms monthly.
- Replace alarms according to manufacturer instructions.
- Check batteries and replace twice a year.
- Alarms should never be disconnected or unplugged.
- Batteries should never be removed for other uses.



Photo courtesy of First Alert

This information based on Wisconsin Act 158 and Wisconsin Department of Commerce RulesPictured are two different CO alarms



With a generous donation by Diane Julius, the fire department will be purchasing a chainsaw designed specifically for use in the fire service. She requested that the fire department purchase something that it needed. This saw will be placed on the new engine and aid in roof ventilation operations and for clearing fallen trees/limbs during severe weather incidents. We are truly grateful for the donation from Diane. The saw will be a fitting tribute to the late Chief Dave Julius who was an avid woodsman.

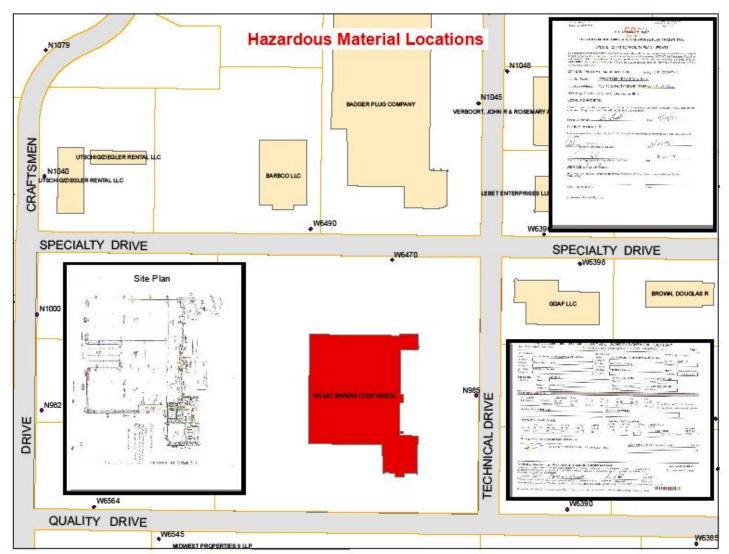
The Greenville Fire, GIS (**G**eographic **I**nformation **S**ystem), and Public Works departments will be working closely on several mapping/information projects. These projects are intended to help better define emergency response areas for both mutual aid coming into Greenville as well as the Greenville Fire Department's response into surrounding communities.

Additionally, Jennifer Tovar (Greenville GIS) is conducting a hazardous material inventory within the Town of Greenville. The maps, information, and software resulting from this project will show locations which contain hazardous materials, the material type, and location of the hazards within a facility. Benefits from this project will include:

Tabletop preplanning/training with department members without having to visit the actual facility. "Preplanning includes identify building construction, floor plans, exposures, evacuation routes, and hazardous materials. It can mean the difference between life and death. By identifying building hazards and combustibles, as well as exits for rapid egress, utilities shut-off locations and firewalls, firefighters will have a better understanding of the situation and potential hazards, which may result in more lives saved and reduced property damage. The more information that can be generated by a fire pre-plan, the better prepared the first responders can become upon arrival."

From: "Why Develop Fire Pre Plans?" (www.emergency-response-planning.com)

- In the event of a fire or hazardous materials call to such facilities, a fire department member at the fire station could pull up the facility floor plan and hazardous materials location(s) then share this information with first in fire crews.
- Future MDTs/MDCs (Mobile Data Terminals or Mobile Data Computers) mounted in Greenville Fire apparatus would allow for instant access to this facility information while en route.



Look for a fresh update to the Fire Department and First Responders websites by mid-2011. They will continue to be accessed through the Town of Greenville's main website (www.townofgreenville.com). Examples of the site's content: brief histories of both entities, upcoming news/events, fire prevention and public education information, contact info, recruitment info, seasonal safety tips, etc. Information will be updated on a regular basis.

The uniform address signage project will continue in 2011. Signs will be installed within the sanitary district (area highlighted in light blue---see map on page 15).

CREDITS/CITATIONS

Greenville Fire Department 2010 Annual Report

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Lieutenant Robin Krause/First Responder

Firefighter Tim Woods

Firefighter/First Responder Eric Kitowski Firefighter/First Responder Nick Czaja

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"Why Develop Fire Pre Plans?" (www.emergency-response-planning.com)

Photos courtesy of: Greenville Fire Department

Greenville First Responders

Julie Lee Photography

Stihl USA First Alert Kidde

www.pinkfiretrucks.org

Wisconsin Department of Commerce

Greenville Fire & EMS

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