

2024



Ripon Area Fire District Annual Report



Prepared by

Interim Fire Chief John Hollatz
Assistant Chief Heather Donovan

Message From the Chief

Dear Citizens of Ripon, Town of Ripon, Town of Nepeuskum, and the Ripon Area Fire District Board,

It is my honor to present the 2024 Ripon Area Fire District Annual Report highlighting our accomplishments and commitment to our communities. 2024 was a busy year for the Ripon Area Fire District as we responded to 362 calls for service which reflects the rising need of our community and the commitment and dedication from our personnel.

I sincerely appreciate all the firefighters effort and the teamwork of our neighboring fire departments, our district board members, and all the municipal services that help us to support our mission.

As we look ahead to 2025, we will continue to cultivate teamwork, partnerships, and community engagement. I look forward to working along side of each one of you and continuing to grow Ripon Area Fire District into a Leader in the Fire Service.

Interim Fire Chief
John Hollatz





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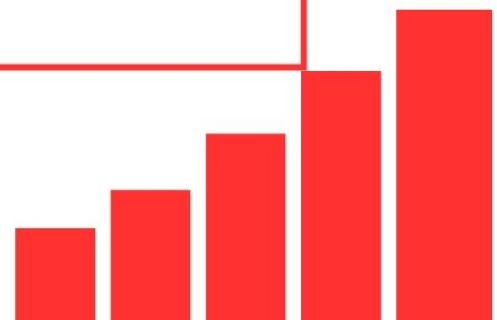
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Mission And Vision

Mission

The Ripon Area Fire District's Mission is to protect the lives and property of the communities we are called upon to assist for fires, natural disasters, and rescues. We will focus on the needs of all who are involved and our commitment to Excellence.

We will be leaders in the fire service by continually improving our resources, people, proactive progress in training, equipment, and the services we provide.

Our joint understanding is that continuous improvement is attained through safety and accountability, the empowerment of people, and establishing partnerships with surrounding fire departments. Our ultimate goal is to professionally protect and serve in a timely manner.

Vision

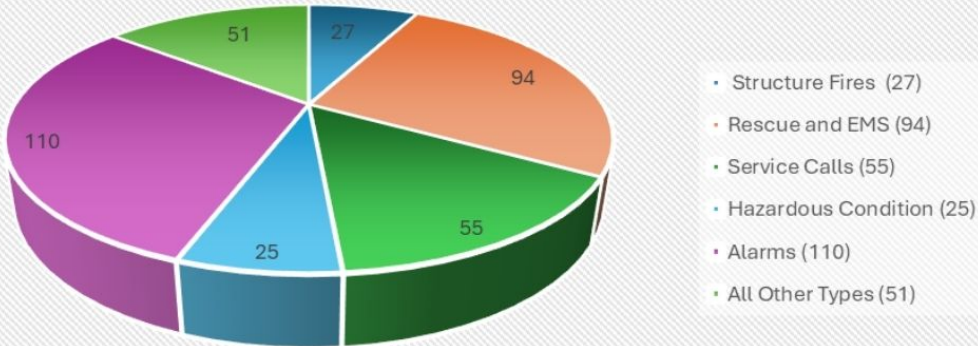
Members of the Ripon Area Fire District through our commitment to innovation, service, and excellence, will always strive to be leaders in fire and life safety services, and be the model of a successful fire department. We will do this by:

- Continually being prepared for duty, serving with integrity, responding with professionalism, and commitment to our fellow firefighters and our mission.
- To exceed our community's expectations of delivering a highly trained firefighters in a prompt manner.
- To provide industry-leading service to our community members.

Emergency Response



362 Total Calls in 2024



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Auto Aid Given - 24
Auto Aid Received - 6

Mutual Aid Given - 11
Mutual Aid Received - 16

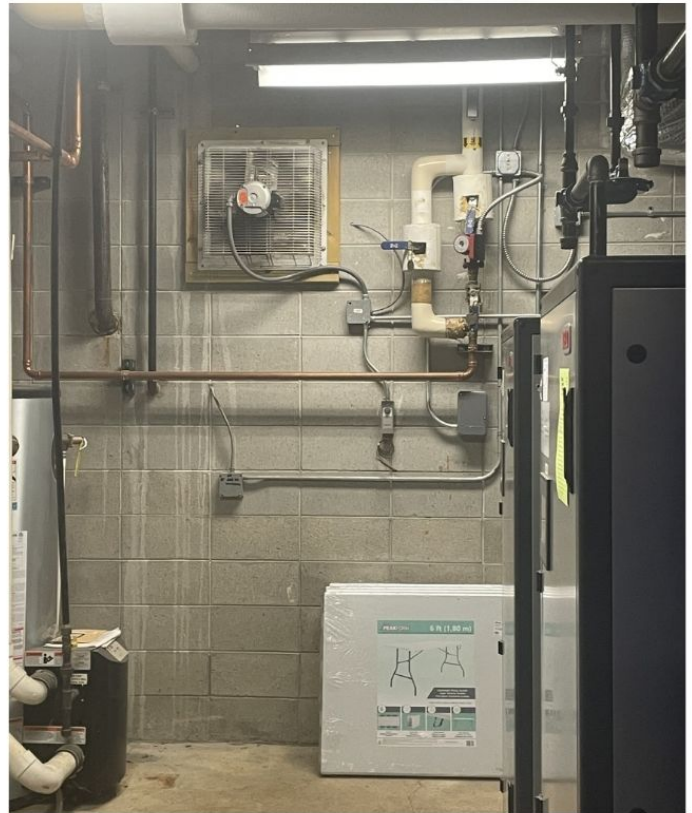


FIRE PREVENTION



Every year, the Ripon Area Fire District conducts fire inspections throughout the community. Why do we conduct Fire Inspections? Fire departments conduct inspections to proactively identify and mitigate fire hazards, ensure compliance with fire codes and safety standards, and ultimately protect lives and property from the devastating effects of fires. These are the top reasons why:

- Fire Prevention
- Life Safety
- Property Protection
- Code Compliance
- Early Detection and Response
- Firefighter Preparedness
- Education and Outreach to Business Owners



Inspectable Buildings

375



FIRE INSPECTIONS

Inspections Conducted

486



Violations Found

431



Violations Corrected

257

PUBLIC EDUCATION

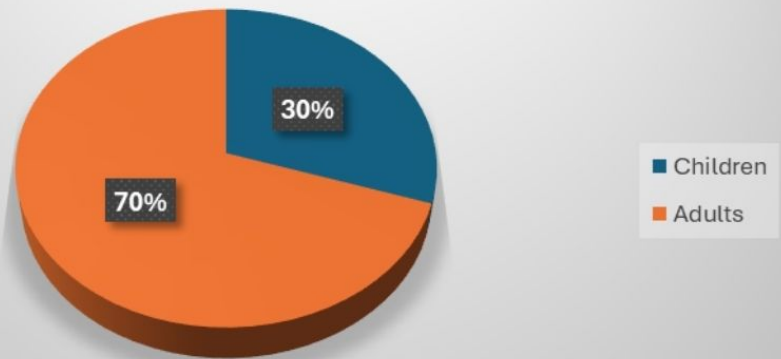
Contacts with our Community!

➔ In 2024, your Ripon Firefighters had taken part in various events that had over 6,000 adults and children within the communities we serve through various events and education opportunities throughout the year. Your Ripon Firefighter's enjoy meeting people in our great community and enjoy the rapport between the fire department and the communities we serve; we feel a sense of shared responsibility to your families to share our safety messages.

➔ Events

- Girl Scout Tour at Station
- Diverse Options Fire Safety
- Children's Fair
- Summer School Tour
- Touch-A-Truck
- Hoops for Heart
- Bunny Hop
- Phi-Delta Firefighter Run
- Graduation Parade
- Bike Rodeo
- Fireworks
- Riponfest Parade
- Truck Pulls
- Homecoming Parade
- Fire Department Open House
- Trunk or Treat
- Trick or Treat
- Santa Coming to Town
- Holiday Parade
- Handing Out of Hams at Hy-Vee

2024 Public Education and Special Event Contacts - 6,433 Total



TRAINING

Training is the mainstay of any fire department. Training produces an organized and prepared department that through repetition boosts the pace, efficiency, and confidence of a fireground operation that enhances proper execution while reducing injuries.

➔ Monthly Training

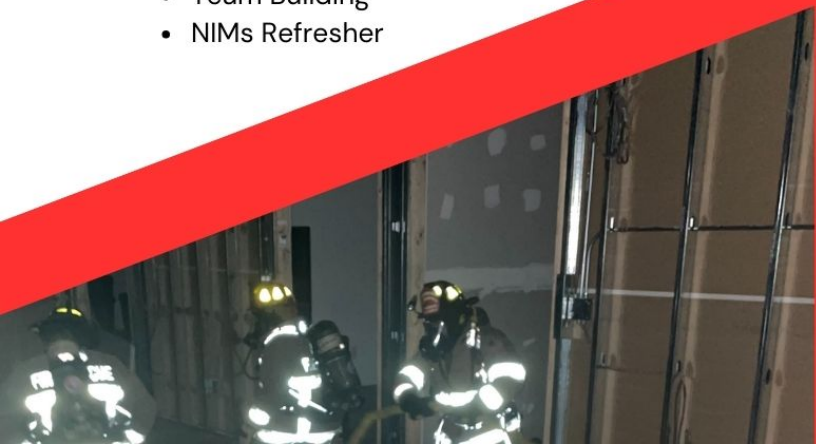
- Your Ripon Firefighters train a minimum of 2 times per month. The firefighters train on the first and third Monday of each month and will sometimes train on a Saturday based on the type of training or if they have a guest trainer come to the fire department.

➔ Types of Training in 2024

- Hose Advancement
- Hydrant Operations
- Driver Operator
- Ladders
- Electric Vehicles
- Water Movement
- Wildland Fires
- Search and Rescue
- Radio Communications
- Hazardous Materials
- Active Shooter
- Scene Size-Up
- Car Fires
- Vehicle Extrication
- CPR Refresher
- Fire Officer
- Drone
- Team Building
- NIMs Refresher

➔ Results

- Your Ripon Firefighters trained over 2,000 hours in 2024 in many different specialties





Promotions, Awards, and Certifications



JON ROY

CAPTAIN

Jon Roy was promoted to Captain in 2024; he has since taken on the role of training officer and is the Captain of Battalion 4.



JAMES COOPER

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Each year the members of the Ripon Area Fire District take the time to vote for the firefighter they feel has contributed in a high volume of different tasks such as extra tasks around the station, participation in events, response to calls, and overall dedication to the department.



JADE BESSON

INCIDENT SAFETY OFFICER CERTIFICATION

Firefighter Jade Besson received her Incident Safety Officer Certification. Course Length: This National Fire Academy class, enables students to fulfill the role of a safety officer at all-hazards incidents, is a 16-hour course. The course aids firefighters with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively monitor incident operations and advise the Incident Commander on safety matters.



ALEX LARSON

DRIVER OPERATOR and EMT -B

Firefighter Larson received his Driver Operator certification and his EMT Basic license in 2024. Firefighter Larson spent 30 hours for the Driver Operator course and 180 hours to be certified as an EMT - Basic.



TORREY STIBB

FIREFIGHTER

Firefighter Stibb spent 96 hours at Moraine Park Technical College receiving his Firefighter 1 certification; Firefighter Stibb is now qualified to make entry into a burning building.



RETIREMENT

Congratulations goes out to Safety Chief Tony Berton who retired in 2024 after 15 years of service. Thank you Chief Berton for your service to our community!



GRANT AWARD

Thank you to the Webster's for their Foundation Grant award of \$1,600 to the Ripon Area Fire District. The Fire District was able to purchase a new Thermal Imaging Camera with this grant. The Thermal Imaging Camera helps firefighters see in a smoke filled environment.

Contact Us to Join the Ripon Area Fire District



920-745-2262



firechief@riponfire.org



<https://www.facebook.com/RiponAFD/>



"Be a Hero for the Ripon Area Fire District: Join Our Paid on Call or Day Time Team!"

Are you looking to give back to your community, learn valuable skills, make a difference in the lives of neighbors, and be part of a dedicated team? The Ripon Area Fire District is seeking passionate individuals to join our ranks!

As a volunteer firefighter, you'll play a vital role in protecting our communities we serve while ensuring the safety of our neighbors. You'll receive comprehensive training, gain valuable skills in firefighting and emergency response, and experience the satisfaction of making a real difference.

Why Volunteer with Us?

Serve Your Community: Make a tangible impact on the lives of your neighbors and friends.

Gain Valuable Skills: Learn essential firefighting, first aid, and emergency response techniques.

Flexibility: Volunteer firefighting offers a flexible schedule, allowing you to balance your responsibilities with your personal life.

Strong Camaraderie: Join a supportive and dedicated team of individuals who are passionate about making a difference.

Personal Growth: Develop leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

