

Report of the Fire Rescue Department

Just as we thought that 2011 would be a year without much fanfare from Mother Nature, she played a Halloween trick on us by hitting us with a major snow storm. As the heavy wet snow fell so did the trees and branches causing power outages. As power outages seem to be the norm more and more, people are relying on portable generators. When using portable generators please use caution, and follow the Owner's Manual. Use them in a well ventilated area away from windows and doors. Carbon monoxide is a deadly odorless gas that can leak into your home undetected. Turn off generators and allow them to cool off before refueling them and have them professionally installed.

Firefighter Jay Lennon returned to us from a deployment in Afghanistan. We are glad to have him home safely and back responding to calls. Lt Vincent O'Connor spent the off season training for another Battle of the Badges hockey game. This game is played at the Verizon Center and will help raise thousands of dollars for the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth (CHaD).

We ask for your support of Warrant Article 5 for the lease purchase of a new combination pumper tanker. This new truck would replace two of the Department's oldest pieces of apparatus which are over 30 years old. The recommended life expectancy of fire apparatus is 20 years. Although we have been able to get by with these trucks, we find replacing parts difficult and increasingly costly, as well as the fact that the older trucks will not meet the safety criteria of current and future regulations. It benefits our Town to invest in this purchase and we thank you.

I would like to thank the members of the Fremont Fire/Rescue Department, and their families, for participating in this community service. It is rewarding, but does take a willingness to dedicate time and make personal sacrifices, often at inconvenient times, to serve the residents of Fremont. Each of our volunteer members must balance careers, family activities, and other commitments, to become adequately trained, be on call, and respond to emergencies both day and night. The demands continue to grow as we experience increasing call volume and training requirements. We are fortunate to have each and every one of our committed volunteers. Also, I would like to thank the other Fremont Departments and Town Hall staff for their ongoing support and collaboration.

Respectfully,

Richard Butler
Chief

We responded to a total of 312 incidents in 2011. The detail and number of these incidents is shown in the following chart:

Structure Fire	5	Carbon Monoxide	11
Dumpster/Rubbish Fire	2	Vehicle Fire	2
Fire Alarm Activation	22	Public Assist	26
Woods/Brush Fire	3	Motor Vehicle Crash	20
Chimney Fire	2	Medical Emergency	182
Mutual Aid Provided	18	Other	19

SOME SAFETY TIPS FOR THE COMING YEAR

- ❖ Be sure to change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms every time you change the clocks for daylight savings. These detectors SAVE LIVES!
- ❖ Be sure everyone in your home knows how to dial 911 in an emergency and that children know their address. Post your street number in a conspicuous place at the edge of your driveway.
- ❖ Have a designated meeting place outside your home and teach children how to exit in case of a fire or other emergency in your home. Practice fire drills with children.
- ❖ Never leave matches in the reach of children. Be extremely careful if you use candles in your home.

❖ Practice FIRE SAFETY every day!

“Without a sense of caring,
there can be no sense of community.”

~ Anthony D’Angelo