

# 2024

## Evart Fire Dept - Annual Report



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Evart Fire Department  
12/31/2024

## **Preface**

This annual report provides a comprehensive overview of the operations, training, and emergency responses of the Evert Fire Department during the calendar year 2024. It highlights the unwavering commitment and hard work of our firefighters, who continue to demonstrate dedication to the safety and well-being of the Evert community.

This report will cover key areas such as membership, board operations, statistics on emergency responses, firefighter training, and the 20-year strategic plan that was approved in 2020. The information presented here underscores the continued growth and improvement of the department, as well as the efforts to maintain a high level of service and readiness in the face of ongoing challenges.

## Contents

<b>Fire Department Personnel and Board Members.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Annual Staffing and Training Report.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Station Coverage: 2022–2024.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Incident Types and Statistics: 2024.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Training Overview:.....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Community Events:.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Fire Prevention Week.....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Conclusion.....</b>	<b>26</b>

## Fire Department Personnel and Board Members

The following individuals are dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. The leadership team, including the Fire Board Members and Command Staff, work together to guide and oversee the operations of the fire department. Additionally, our department members serve on the front lines, responding to emergencies and providing critical services. Their commitment and professionalism are essential to maintaining the highest level of preparedness and care.

### Fire Board Members:

- **Chairman:** Gary Hammer (Ewart Township)
  - **Vice Chairman:** Ted Wojick (Sylvan Township)
  - **Treasurer:** Sherri Bancroft (Osceola Township)
  - **Trustee:** Dianne Brackett (Orient Township)
  - **Trustee:** Gary Terrill (City of Ewart)
  - **Secretary:** Angie Cushman
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### Command Staff:

- **Fire Chief:** Shane Helmer, Paramedic
  - **Assistant Chief:** Randy Berger, EMR
  - **Assistant Chief:** Jesse Hyden, Paramedic
  - **Captain:** Daniel Odom, EMT
  - **Captain:** Ryan Douglas, EMT
  - **Lieutenant:** Travis Douglas, EMT
  - **Lieutenant:** Daniel Winters, EMR
  - **Lieutenant:** David Kelly, EMR
  - **Lieutenant:** Joseph Robertson, Paramedic
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## Department Members

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
John Beam Jr	<b>Firefighter/EMR</b>	Riley Painter	<b>Firefighter/EMR</b>
Angela Cushman	<b>EMR</b>	Billie Jean Patton	<b>Paramedic</b>
Kenneth Eastman	<b>Probationary Firefighter</b>	Alexis Price	<b>Probationary Firefighter</b>
Kelci Elder	<b>EMT</b>	Renee Robertson	<b>Firefighter/EMT</b>
Kasey Fitzpatrick	<b>EMT</b>	Katelyn Vanappel	<b>EMR</b>
Mike Flachs	<b>Firefighter</b>	Chad Wilson	<b>EMR</b>
Joelynn Gamble-Brown	<b>Firefighter</b>	Joe Wimmer	<b>Firefighter</b>
Zandrea Geranen	<b>Probationary Firefighter</b>	Timothy Woosley	<b>Firefighter/EMR</b>
Trever Hartsock	<b>Firefighter/EMR</b>		
Leroy Helmer	<b>Service Technician</b>		
Raquel Hyden-Shryock	<b>EMT</b>		
Mike Idema	<b>Firefighter/EMT</b>		
Olivia Kelly	<b>Explorer</b>		
Daniel Kleeves	<b>Firefighter/EMR</b>		
Erik May	<b>Firefighter/EMT</b>		

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## Annual Staffing and Training Report

Total Responders: 31

- Roster Overview:  
The team consists of 31 responders, each contributing unique qualifications that ensure readiness across various emergency response scenarios.

Training and Certifications Breakdown:

### 1. Medically Licensed Responders (27 out of 31)

- Percentage of Total Staff: 82%
- Certification Details:
  - These responders hold medical licenses issued by the state of Michigan.
  - They are trained in emergency medical services (EMS) and are capable of providing medical care at various levels, including but not limited to EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) and Paramedic certifications.
- Impact on Operations:
  - This high percentage of medically trained responders ensures that the team is well-equipped to handle medical emergencies, provide life-saving treatments, and support advanced care on-site.

### 2. Certified Firefighters (20 out of 31)

- Percentage of Total Staff: 62%
- Certification Details:
  - 20 responders are certified as firefighters, meaning they have completed the necessary training and certification to perform firefighting operations effectively.
  - The certification includes various aspects such as fire suppression, rescue operations, hazardous materials handling, and fire safety protocols.
- Impact on Operations:
  - With 62% of the roster certified in firefighting, this ensures that the team can respond effectively to fire-related emergencies, while

maintaining a balance between firefighting and medical response roles.

### 3. Fire Officer 3 Level Command Staff (7 out of 9)

- Percentage of Total Staff: 77%
- Certification Details:
  - 7 responders are certified at the Fire Officer 3 level, a command and leadership certification for handling large-scale, complex emergency incidents.
  - Fire Officer 3 certification typically covers strategic decision-making, leadership, personnel management, incident command, and operational coordination during emergency response situations.
  - The remaining 2 officers are working towards their certifications.
- Impact on Operations:
  - These responders are essential for managing fireground operations, overseeing large teams, and making critical decisions in high-pressure situations. Their presence ensures that all incidents are handled effectively from a leadership perspective, minimizing risks and maximizing response efficiency.
- Ongoing Training Initiatives:
  - In order to maintain high levels of readiness and ensure certifications remain current, all responders undergo annual training. This includes both practical drills and classroom sessions, focusing on:
    - Advanced medical procedures and patient care.
    - Fire suppression tactics and rescue operations.
    - Leadership and command simulation exercises for Fire Officer 3 staff.
- Key Training Areas:
  - Medical Training: Regular updates to medical protocols, advanced trauma care, and emergency care for a variety of conditions.

- Firefighting Training: Advanced firefighting techniques, rescue strategies, and specialized training for hazardous materials and high-risk environments.
- Leadership & Command: Command staff receive scenario-based leadership training to refine decision-making skills, incident command protocols, and crisis management.

**Station Coverage: 2022–2024**

The following table shows the station coverage percentages for each month of 2022, 2023, and 2024:

Month	2022	2023	2024
January	100.00 %	62.00 %	97.00%
February	96.00%	68.00 %	97.00%
March	93.00%	75.00 %	100.00%
April	90.00%	80.00 %	100.00%
May	78.00%	71.00 %	100.00%
June	47.00%	69.00 %	97.00%
July	62.00%	71.00 %	100.00%
August	42.00%	80.00 %	100.00%
September	57.00%	94.00 %	97.00%
October	50.00%	94.00 %	97.00%
November	70.00%	86.00 %	90.00%



Month	2022	2023	2024
December	71.00%	94.00 %	88.00%
Total %	71.33%	78.67 %	96.92%

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**Conclusion:**

This year’s staffing and training efforts have ensured that the team remains highly capable of medical, firefighting, and leadership functions. With 81% of the roster medically licensed, 62% certified in firefighting, and 77% of the officers holding Fire Officer 3 command certifications, the team is well-prepared for any emergency situation. Continuing professional development and training ensures that all responders are up to date with the latest techniques, best practices, and industry standards.

**Incident Types and Statistics: 2024**

In 2024, the Evert Fire Department responded to a total of 658 incidents. Below is the breakdown of these incidents by type:

Incident Type	Count	Percent
100 - Fire, other	4	0.61%
111 - Building fire	15	2.28%
112 - Fires in structure other than in a building	1	0.15%
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	1	0.15%
121 - Fire in mobile home used as fixed residence	1	0.15%
130 - Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1	0.15%
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	1	0.15%
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	8	1.22%
143 - Grass fire	5	0.75%

Incident Type	Count	Percent
150 - Outside rubbish fire, other	3	0.46%
151 - Outside rubbish, trash, or waste fire	1	0.15%
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	469	71.28%
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	12	1.82%
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	5	0.76%
341 - Search for person on land	1	0.15%
381 - Rescue or EMS standby	2	0.30%
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	1	0.15%
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	4	0.61%
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	4	0.61%
444 - Power line down	8	1.22%
463 - Vehicle accident, general cleanup	1	0.15%
480 - Attempted burning, illegal action, other	3	0.46%
500 - Service Call, other	2	0.30%
531 - Smoke or odor removal	1	0.15%
550 - Public service assistance, other	1	0.15%
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	7	1.06%
553 - Public service	1	0.15%
561 - Unauthorized burning	1	0.15%
600 - Good intent call, other	15	2.28
611 - Dispatched & canceled en route	35	5.32%
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	1	0.15%
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	1	0.15%
671 - HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	1	0.15%

Incident Type	Count	Percent
700 - False alarm or false call, other	28	4.26%
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	1	0.15%
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	1	0.15%
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	2	0.30%
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	1	0.15%
900 - Special type of incident, other	6	0.91%
911 - Citizen complaint	2	0.30%

**Total Incidents for 2024: 658 (100%)**

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#### Incident Statistics Comparison: 2023

In comparison, in 2023 the Evert Fire Department responded to 622 incidents. Here is a brief breakdown:

- Total Incidents: 622
- EMS-related Calls (Excluding Motor Vehicle Accidents): 407 (65.43%)
- Fire-related Incidents: 35 (5.63%)

The department has seen a notable increase in the number of incidents from 2023 to 2024, particularly in the category of EMS-related calls, fire related calls and false alarms.

### Category Breakdown and Trends

#### EMS-related Calls

- **2023:** 407 incidents
- **2024:** 469 incidents
- **Change:**
  - **Increase:** 62 incidents
  - **Percentage Increase:** 15.23%

## Fire-related Incidents

- **2023:** 35 incidents
- **2024:** 41 incidents
- **Change:**
  - **Increase:** 6 incidents
  - **Percentage Increase:** 17.14%

## False Calls

- **2023:** 20 incidents
- **2024:** 28 incidents
- **Change:**
  - **Increase:** 8 incidents
  - **Percentage Increase:** 40.00%

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## Summary of responses

1. **EMS-related Calls:** This category saw a moderate increase of 15.23%, indicating a growing demand for medical services.
2. **Fire-related Incidents:** There was a 17.14% increase, which reflects a slight uptick in fire-related emergencies.
3. **False Calls:** The most significant increase was observed in false alarms, which rose by 40.00%. This may warrant a review of outreach and educational efforts to reduce false calls.

By addressing these trends proactively, the Evert Fire Department can continue to provide high-quality services while managing increased demand efficiently.

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# Evart Fire Department Strategic Planning & Future

# 20-Year Strategic Plan

## (2020–2040)

The Evert Fire Department's 20-year strategic plan began in 2020 following the passage of a 2-mill millage by voters. This plan has been crucial in ensuring the long-term sustainability and modernization of our department, focusing on the replacement of apparatus, equipment, and facilities. The strategy is designed to replace apparatus every 20 years, update equipment as recommended by manufacturers, and ensure that our community receives the best possible emergency services.

### Key Plan Milestones and Upgrades:

#### 2020:

- **Medical Response Vehicle Upgrade:** The department upgraded the 2008 GMC Yukon used for medical responses and replaced it with a 2020 Chevrolet Tahoe. This upgrade was critical to ensuring reliability and safety during medical calls.

#### 2021:

- **Extrication Tools and Bunker Gear Replacement:** Thanks to a grant from the USDA, the department replaced its extrication tools and bunker gear. The USDA contributed \$100,000, while the department contributed \$50,000 for this essential upgrade. This investment improved the department's response capabilities during rescue operations and protection of our firefighters.

#### 2022:

- **Pumper Tanker Acquisition:** The department purchased a 2022 pumper tanker equipped with a 3,000-gallon water tank and a 1,500 GPM pump. This new apparatus allows the department to better respond to fires, especially in rural areas where water sources may be limited.

#### 2023:

- **Brush 1 Rebox:** Instead of replacing the 2005 Ford pickup (Brush 1), the department opted for a rebox at a cost of \$16,000. This reboxing was a cost-effective alternative to replacing the vehicle entirely at an estimated cost of \$58,000. The reboxed vehicle continues to serve the community in wildfire and brush fire response.
- **State of Michigan Fire Department Equipment Grant:** The department was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the State of Michigan Fire Department Equipment program to upgrade MPSCS radios. This grant allowed the department to acquire radios at no cost, saving the department \$50,000 in expenses.

## 2024:

- **Fire Engine Replacement:** The department sold two 2005 American LaFrance fire trucks and replaced them with a 2025 Spencer fire engine. The new engine is equipped with a 1,750 GPM pump, 1,000 gallons of water, and a foam unit, enhancing our firefighting capabilities, particularly in hazardous materials and large-scale fires.

For the upcoming future upgrades in 2027, your department is facing the replacement of critical equipment, including 24 SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) units and the compressed air system used for filling those SCBA bottles. Here are some considerations for planning these upgrades:

### 1. SCBA Units Replacement

- **Current Status (2012 Grant):** The SCBAs were purchased in 2012 with the help of an AFG (Assistance to Firefighters Grant). As these units approach the end of their service life in 2027, they will no longer be supported by the manufacturer.
- **Future Considerations:**
  - **Technology Advancements:** SCBA technology has evolved, offering improved safety features, lighter designs, more ergonomic fit, and enhanced communication systems.
  - **Manufacturer Support:** Look for new models that meet NFPA standards and are supported by manufacturers with warranties, service contracts, and spare parts availability.
  - **Funding & Budgeting:** Investigate funding options like AFG grants, state and federal resources, or budgetary allocations. Plan ahead to ensure sufficient time for the application process.
  - **Training & Transition:** Ensure adequate training for staff on the new SCBAs, including their features, maintenance, and operational procedures.



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## 2. Compressed Air System Upgrade

- **Current Status (20-Year-Old System):** Your compressed air system, which has been filling SCBA cylinders for 20 years, is nearing obsolescence and requires an upgrade.
- **Future Considerations:**
  - **Upgrading to Current Standards:** Modern air compressors and filling stations offer increased efficiency, reliability, and safety. Look for systems with automatic shutdowns, higher flow rates, better filtration, and energy-efficient compressors.
  - **Energy Efficiency & Sustainability:** Focus on systems that are energy-efficient, considering both cost-saving benefits and environmental impacts.
  - **Maintenance & Reliability:** A reliable compressed air system is critical for SCBA operation. Research manufacturers that offer long-term service contracts and can provide support for their systems.
  - **Compatibility with New SCBAs:** Ensure the new air system is compatible with the new SCBA units, including pressure and cylinder specifications.
  - **Installation & Testing:** Proper installation by certified professionals is essential for ensuring the system's performance. Test the system before full deployment to ensure compliance with standards.

## 3. Budget and Timeline Planning

- **Budget Forecasting:** Since SCBAs and compressed air systems are large investments, plan a budget that considers both initial costs and long-term maintenance expenses. Be prepared to allocate funds for installation, training, and potential delays in supply chains.
- **Long-Term Funding:** Explore potential grants or local government support. Ensure that funding is secured well in advance of 2027 to avoid delays in the acquisition and installation process.
- **Procurement Process:** Start evaluating vendors and systems well before the equipment reaches its expiration date. Doing so will allow time for quotes, evaluations, and contract negotiation.

#### 4. Safety and Compliance

- **Regulatory Standards:** Ensure that all replacement equipment meets current NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) and OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) standards.
- **Testing & Certifications:** The new SCBA units and air systems should be tested and certified for reliability, durability, and safety to meet operational needs.

To stay ahead of these needs, it's important to begin planning the upgrades now. Look for funding options, evaluate equipment vendors, and take into account the technological advancements that will improve the safety, efficiency, and performance of both your SCBA units and compressed air system. Proper budgeting, training, and installation processes will be key to ensuring a smooth transition to the new systems.

The ongoing improvements and upgrades to your fire department over the past 20 years have clearly had a positive impact on the safety of your community and its residents. Below is a summary of the key benefits and improvements made:

##### 1. ISO Rating Improvement

- **Impact on Insurance:** The Fire Department's efforts to improve its services, training, and equipment have led to a significant reduction in the ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating from a 7 to a 4 as of 2020. This improvement has tangible benefits for homeowners in our community, as it can directly lower their homeowners' insurance premiums.
- **How ISO Rating Affects Insurance:** The ISO rating is one of the primary factors used by insurance companies to set rates for fire protection. A lower ISO rating typically means better fire protection infrastructure, which can result in reduced insurance costs for residents.

##### 2. Installation of Dry Fire Hydrants

- **Grant from MDNR:** With a grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), your fire department has been able to install two dry fire hydrants in key locations in rural areas, which significantly enhances the department's ability to fight fires in these remote areas.
- **Locations of Dry Hydrants:**
  - **Spring Hill Camps, Osceola Township:** This location was identified as a critical area for fire protection, and the dry fire hydrant provides an essential water source for firefighting efforts in this area.
  - **Lake Miramichi, Ewart Township:** Another rural area with limited access to water resources, the installation of the dry fire hydrant improves your ability to respond to emergencies.

- Sylvan Township: The department also maintains an additional dry fire hydrant here, ensuring that water is accessible in yet another area with limited infrastructure for firefighting.

### 3. Benefit to Rural Areas

- Addressing the Needs of Rural Communities: Your efforts to place dry fire hydrants in strategic locations directly address the unique challenges of serving rural communities where access to reliable water sources can be limited. These hydrants help ensure that firefighting operations can proceed swiftly and effectively, even in areas far from traditional water mains or hydrants.
- Improved Firefighting Capacity: The presence of these dry hydrants ensures that your department has the ability to fight fires efficiently in areas that previously lacked a reliable water supply.

### 4. Future Considerations

- Expansion of Coverage: As your community grows and more rural areas are developed, continuing to expand the network of dry fire hydrants will further improve your department's response capabilities. Future grants or funding initiatives could be explored to add additional hydrants where needed.

The improvements made by your fire department—such as lowering the ISO rating and the strategic placement of dry fire hydrants—are significant achievements that not only improve the department's operational capabilities but also directly benefit your community members. Lower homeowner insurance rates and enhanced fire protection in rural areas are clear examples of how these investments have paid off in terms of safety, financial savings, and community well-being. The fire department's continued commitment to upgrading and maintaining these systems will ensure that your community is well-prepared for future emergencies.

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Through careful planning and execution, the Evert Fire Department is committed to providing the highest level of service to our community, ensuring safety for both our firefighters and the citizens we serve.

## Fire Station Upgrade Exploration Report

As part of our upgrade and providing upgraded services we are actively exploring options to upgrade its current fire station, originally built in 1984. Over the years, the station has served our community well, providing critical fire protection and emergency services. However, with the advancement of technology and growing concerns about firefighter health, safety, and the need for enhanced facilities, the Fire Board has initiated discussions on upgrading the fire station to meet the modern needs of both our firefighters and the community.

### Key Areas for Improvement:

#### 1. Health and Safety Enhancements:

- Cancer Prevention Measures: One of the main concerns for firefighters is exposure to harmful cancer-causing products encountered during fires. In response, the fire department is considering the addition of showers and Gear washing station at the station. These showers and gear washing station will allow firefighters to clean themselves immediately after responding to fires, reducing the risk of carrying carcinogens back into the station or their homes.
- Fitness Room: The physical fitness of our firefighters is essential to their performance and well-being. The upgrade plans include the creation of a fitness room, providing a space for firefighters to maintain the physical strength and endurance required for their demanding duties.

#### 2. Operational and Educational Upgrades:

- Day Room: The addition of a day room will offer a comfortable space for firefighters to rest and recharge during shifts. This will enhance their readiness and help prevent fatigue, ensuring they are better prepared for emergency calls.
- Office and Conference Room: We also plan to add a conference room and office space to support administrative functions, meetings, and training activities. These spaces will allow for better coordination and management of operations and will provide a designated area for staff to plan and strategize for future challenges.

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### 3. Community Support and Emergency Shelter:

- Emergency Shelter Area: In the event of a major disaster or emergency, we want the fire station to be a reliable resource for the community. The upgrade includes the creation of an educational/emergency shelter area, where the department can assist in providing shelter, meals, and showers to those affected by large-scale emergencies. This facility will help us serve the community by preparing meals, offering shelter, and providing other essential services during a disaster.

### 4. Power Backup for Emergencies:

- Generator Installation: To ensure the fire station remains fully operational during power outages or other emergencies, we are considering the installation of a generator. This generator will provide backup power for the station's essential services, as well as support community needs during a disaster, ensuring the station can continue to provide fire protection and emergency services even when the power is down.

The proposed upgrades to the fire station are essential to maintaining the department's ability to serve the community effectively and to meet the evolving needs of our firefighters. These improvements will address concerns about firefighter health, enhance our capacity for emergency response, and provide vital services to the community during major disasters. The Fire Board is committed to ensuring the station remains a safe, efficient, and valuable resource for both the department and the citizens we protect.

We are in the early stages of exploring these options, and we look forward to engaging with the community as we continue to plan for the future of the fire station.



## Training Overview:

In 2024, the Evert Fire Department conducted 463 hours of training, covering a wide range of skills from medical training to firefighting techniques. The training includes:

- MIOSHA Required Training: Focused on safety protocols and equipment.
- Firefighting Training: Including pump operations, wildland updates, fire behavior, and apparatus operations.
- Medical Training: Provided to support emergency medical responses and assist EMS crews.

Training was conducted for all department members, including Command-Level training for key officers and specialized workshops like Elevator Training and Pump Operations.

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### Training Highlights:

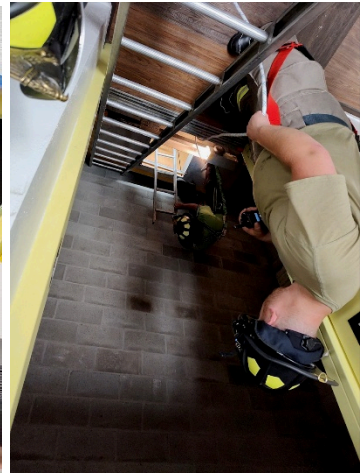
Some members' training hours are detailed below:

- Shane Helmer: Participated in 3 hours of new apparatus orientation, 3 hours of mapping/address training, and a total of 26.5 hours of various other trainings.
- Ryan Douglas: Received training in pump operations, fire behavior, and emergency operations for a total of 24.5 hours.

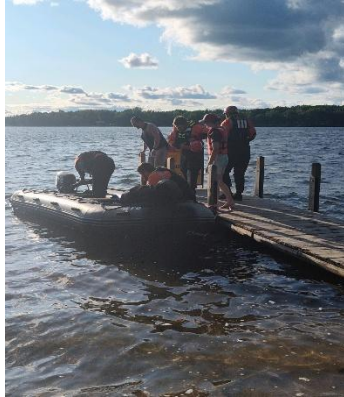
Training also included specialized sessions like Fit Testing SCBA, Radio Communications, and Wildland Update Training to ensure the department remains prepared for a variety of situations.

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## Community Events:

Throughout the year, the Evert Fire Department remains actively engaged in various community events, contributing to local safety awareness and fostering stronger connections with the public. Here are the key events the department participates in:

### 1. 4th of July Fireworks & Fun in the Park

The department collaborates closely with the Evert Police Department during the 4th of July celebrations. This includes assisting with the fireworks display and ensuring safety for the event. Additionally, the department hosts "Fun in the Park," providing an enjoyable and safe experience for children to play in the sprinkler system.



2. **National Night Out**

As part of National Night Out, the department joins local law enforcement in promoting fire and safety awareness. Fire safety materials and school backpacks are distributed to attendees, helping spread important safety messages and assist families for the upcoming school year.

3. **Halloween**

The department hosts an annual Halloween event at the fire station, where we welcome more than 1,200 community members each year. The event includes a safe and fun environment for children and families, showcasing the department's commitment to both public service and community spirit.





## Fire Prevention Week

During **Fire Prevention Week**, the Evart Fire Department dedicates time and resources to educating local schools about fire safety. This important initiative involves visiting classrooms to teach students essential fire prevention techniques, how to react during a fire emergency, and the importance of having a fire escape plan. Through interactive lessons, demonstrations, and hands-on activities, the department ensures that children understand the critical steps they can take to stay safe in case of a fire. These educational efforts play a key role in raising awareness and fostering a culture of safety among the youth in the community.



## **Funding and Sustainability**

These upgrades and replacements have been made possible through the continued support of the millage passed by voters, as well as the careful budgeting and strategic planning of the Executive Board and Command Staff. The 2-mill millage has allowed for a steady stream of funding that ensures the department's equipment remains up-to-date, reliable, and effective in serving the community. By leveraging grants, cost-saving decisions like reboxing, and thoughtful capital investment, the Evert Fire Department is prepared to meet future challenges.

## **Looking Ahead (2025–2040)**

The 20-year plan will continue to focus on maintaining and replacing key apparatus, ensuring that our equipment meets evolving standards and remains operational for the long term. The department will also explore additional funding opportunities, grants, and millage renewals as needed to sustain this plan through 2040.

## **Conclusion**

The 2024 Annual Report highlights the ongoing progress and commitment of the Evert Fire Department to serving the community with excellence. Through the continued efforts of our dedicated personnel, the department has achieved key milestones, maintained high operational standards, and provided vital community engagement and education.

In 2024, the department's incident response rates, training hours, and strategic upgrades to apparatus and equipment demonstrate the unwavering commitment to preparedness and public safety. Notably, the completion of significant strategic plan milestones, such as the replacement of vital fire equipment and the efficient use of grant funding, strengthens our readiness to face future challenges.

The community involvement through events like the 4th of July celebrations, National Night Out, Halloween, and Fire Prevention Week has fostered deeper connections and raised safety awareness. Furthermore, our continuous training efforts ensure that all members remain skilled in both emergency response and the latest safety techniques, enabling the department to respond effectively to a diverse range of incidents.

Looking forward, the department will continue to focus on enhancing service delivery, maintaining equipment, and engaging with the community. The 20-year strategic plan, with its focus on long-term sustainability and innovation, will guide the department through 2025–2040, ensuring the highest standards of safety and service for the residents of Evert.