

# CITY OF WILLOUGHBY HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Established in 1947 as a volunteer department to protect the southernmost portion of Willoughby Township, WHFD has grown in to a full service all hazards fire department proudly serving the residents and visitors of the City of Willoughby Hills and the Village of Waite Hill. The department consists of 10 career and approximately 30 part time members under the direction of Chief Richard A. Harmon. Responding to over 1,700 requests for emergency service annually, WHFD also works closely with neighboring fire departments through automatic and mutual aid agreements and is an active member of the West Lake County Fire Investigation Unit, Lake County Hazardous Intervention Team, and the Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team.



# 2014



# ANNUAL REPORT

It is my pleasure to represent the outstanding members of the Fire Department .

Our goal is to provide exceptional service to those in need. This simple statement guides all aspects of our organization, including personnel, equipment, training, and policy. The result is fast, efficient, and effective service, provided by well-trained, courteous and compassionate emergency responders.

Perhaps more than any other service, the fire department has a direct impact on the quality of life in our community. The equipment, staffing , training and range of services are directly tied to residential and commercial building insurance, economic development, quality of emergency medical assistance, fire protection, education and special services.

We are best described as the “department of first resort and the department of last resort.” Because no matter what the emergency or problem, be it fire, EMS or special services.

We are proud in the knowledge that our community can continue to count on us to safeguard the health and safety of our citizens.

Fire Chief Richard Harmon,  
OFE



Assistant Chief, Thomas Talcott

Fire Chief, Richard Harmon

### Emergency Services

A modern, highly trained fire department is the most diversified service a city can provide its residents. The Willoughby Hills Fire Department responds to over 1700 emergency incidents each year.

Emergency Services are any incident causing an immediate threat to life, property, and/or the environment.

The following partial list, is examples of emergency services responded during 2013

Fire suppression & investigation ~Emergency Medical Services ~ vehicle crashes & vehicle extrication ~ Hazardous Materials spills ~ Technical Rescue, rope, water, ice, river, etc.  
Smoke/Odor investigations ~ Utility emergencies including electrical, gas, and carbon monoxide incidents

#### **Service Area (Response District)**

The City of Willoughby Hills is the primary response district of the Willoughby Hills Fire Department; we also provide contracted Fire & EMS services to the Village of Waite Hill and have done so since 1976.

Nine communities border Willoughby Hills: Euclid, Gates Mills, Highland Heights, Kirtland, Mayfield Village, Richmond Heights, Waite Hill, Wickliffe, and Willoughby. We have a great working relationship with our neighbors and provide or receive assistance as needed. The Willoughby Hills Fire Department also participates in a statewide mutual aid agreement.

While many fire departments' response districts are limited to certain types of hazards and occupancies, the district covered by the Willoughby Hills Fire Department provides an array of potential incidents. In addition to single-family and commercial occupancies, our district includes many high risks, technical and intensive response and staffing requirements. Some of the more notable response areas are: High-rise apartment buildings, Interstates 90 and 271

North Chagrin Reservation, Chagrin River and its watersheds, and the approach path to Cuyahoga County Airport.

Because we never know what the next incident may involve, we plan, we train, we clean, we repair, we inspect. Then we train and train again.

Because of this diverse and dynamic responsibility, it is imperative that our firefighters train every day in order to continue providing safe and effective service to the community. Here is a small list of examples of the types of certifications and training that

Willoughby Hills Fire Department members hold and participate in:

State of Ohio Firefighter certification, State of Ohio EMS Paramedic), State of Ohio Fire Safety Inspector certification, State of Ohio Fire Instructor certification, State of Ohio EMS Instructor certification, National Registry of EMT, Paramedic, American Heart Association Basic Life Support

American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support, American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support, International Trauma Life Support, Advanced Haz-Mat Life Support

Advanced Disaster Life Support, Hazardous Materials Response, Radiological Monitoring Weapons of Mass Destruction, Fire Investigator, Incident Command, Building Collapse, Confined Space, Dive, Ice, River, Rope, Swift Water, Tower, Trench Rescue (operations-level, technician-level) Vehicle Extrication and Rescue techniques, NFPA Fire Officer courses, Ohio Fire Executive program OFE,

## Non - Emergency Services

Services in regard to the well-being or benefit of the community but not classified as an emergency event by definition:

Public assistance (including flood, storm, and lift assists)  
Smoke/ Carbon monoxide detector checks and installations  
Animal assists and rescue Fire Prevention Bureau  
Home fire safety "inspections"  
Community education programs  
Public relations events

### MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE

### INCIDENT RESPONSE PER VEHICLE

### MISC

Fires	76	4.85%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overhear - no fire	1	0.06%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	1,024	65.31%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	56	3.57%
Service Call	192	12.24%
Good Intent Call	143	9.12%
False Alarm & False Call	74	4.72%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1	0.06%
Special Incident Type	1	0.06%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,568</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

TYPE	YEAR	UNIT	R	MAKE
SUV	2012	1211	724	Ford
Medic	2006	1212	631	Ford
Medic	2003	1222	592	Ford
Engine	1997	1213	40	Sutphen
Engine	2012	1214	887	Peirce
Tower	2005	1219	32	Peirce
Pickup	2012	1217	45	Ford

Personnel	
Full time	10
Part time	24
<b>ISO Rating ~ 4</b>	
Training	2,000 + hours
<b>Public Relations/Ed</b>	
800+ staff hours	

### Mutual aid /Auto Aid

Given ~ 110

Received ~ 85

### 1<sup>ST</sup> DUE RESPONSE DISTRICT

WILLOUGHBY HILLS ~ SQUARE MILES	10.9	WAITE HILL ~ SQUARE MILES	4.3	METRO PARKS ~ SQUARE MILES	2.8
POPULATION	9,500	POPULATION	500		
		<b>TOTAL POPULATION</b>	<b>10,000</b>		
		<b>TOTAL SQUARE MILES</b>	<b>17</b>		

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST CAREER FIREFIGHTERS/PARAMEDICS

FF. Cindy Sabo

FF. Robert Vencil

