



Winter 2019 ISSUE  
December | Volume 3 Issue 4

# The Fire Bell

\* March • June • September • December \*

## A Quarterly Publication of the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department

### A Message from

GREENSBURG FIRE CHIEF | Thomas M. Bell

### I'm just not a Leader

We know what we see is real. We know how it feels. We live with the memories, and know that more will come.

We are tuned in to every aspect of the firefighting life. We know when a brother or sister is lost, and we mourn in our own way, no matter how far away the incident was that took them from us. We don't have to know the name of the deceased, or their story, because we are the people who make the ultimate sacrifice. Inside every one of us lives a small part of the rest, and we feel the loss more profoundly than people could imagine.

The truth is, this is not the easy life that the general public wants to think it is. This is far more than shopping for lunch, parades, Dalmatians, and Fire Prevention Week. This is life, and loss, and tragedy. This is insomnia, and injury, and depression. None of us gets through it unscathed. None of us expect to. Some of us will not get out alive, and we know all too well that the someone could be us.

So we protect the public from whatever misfortune comes their way, and put out their fires, and tend their wounded, and keep them as safe as we can. We pull the dead from the car wrecks, and cover the bodies at fire scenes so the news cameras won't bring the horror into the nation's living rooms. We protect our people from more than just the physical; we keep them from knowing the truth.

The truth is ugly, and devastating. People will tell us that they can imagine how horrific it was for us, but they will never, in a million years, really imagine the depth of that horror.

They will never have to deal with the guilt — the constant mental playback, wondering if only I were a little bit faster, a little bit better, a little more poised, a little more heroic. They will never feel the profound sadness that we do as a result of seeing too much. They will never breathe in the smell of death as it lingers on the recently deceased, before the undertaker does his work.



### SAFETY - SAFETY - SAFETY

**Reminder, If Working in Traffic - Wear A Vest  
If you are Running A Chain Saw - Wear Chaps  
And LASTLY....If you are Responding to an Alarm  
**WEAR YOUR Bunker Gear!!!!****

Please keep in mind the materials used in a building. The sidewalk that surrounds a burning structure is considered a "HOT ZONE". Cyanide is used in building materials. You may not see smoke, but studies have determined that high level of toxins are five to twenty feet from the front door of a burning structure. The sidewalk is no place for spectators or firefighters not wearing SCBA.

They will never wonder how they will even make it home, and get on with things after what they've witnessed.

They don't have to know about any of it. We let them imagine how bad it can be, and allow them the luxury of thinking that they have imagined it right. They don't have to bear the burden of life at its most raw and powerful. They have the luxury of watching the world go by through their screens — screens that don't scream, screens that don't burn, or bleed.

We let them think that life is fair, with an occasional aberration. We allow them the luxury of the illusion of safety and fairness as life barrels along. They do not need to know how often things veer out of control. They don't have to know what we know. We remember how it felt to be innocent. We know exactly how good it feels to not see the brutal realities that linger just out of sight. We don't want them to know about any of it.

All we want is to keep the people who depend on us far away from the things we dread ... and we want to survive this career with our hope, health and sanity intact. Don't ever forget, we are in this together; there's always a door that's open for all of you. If you find you ever need someone, just close the door behind you, I'm here for all of you! Merry Christmas to all of you.



Stay Safe

Tom



**GRANTS** | The Department is looking at any and all grant opportunities for 2020. We received a Federal Grant this year, it was a partial of what we had on the “want list” but it afforded us to be able to equip Stations 2, 3, 6 and 8 with Plymovent Exhaust Systems. This year we are putting together a package for SCBA. According to our records, we have masks dated 2002 and 2005, which gives us an opportunity to bridge into updates, noting that we are four updates behind. We are including radios. The radios we are seeking will be both straight high band and straight 800 band this time. No Dual Band. Bunker Gear – We are applying for 10-12 suits, ideally 2 per Company.

**DRIVER’S CLASS** | Everyone that drives a City Owned Vehicle must take our driving course that is presented by Assistant Chief Chet Bell and Justin Calisti. If you do not participate, you will not drive for that year. If you missed two years in a row, you will be required to retake the 16 hour course. There are no exceptions. All told, we had about 100 members who qualified as drivers this year for the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department.

## Chief’s Staff & Appointments

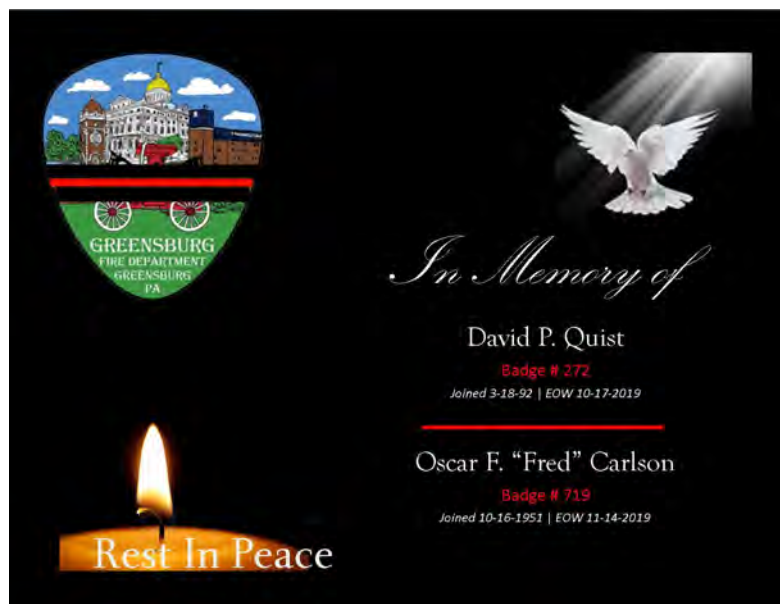
<u>Name</u>	<u>Area of Responsibility</u>
<b>Assistant Chiefs</b>	
Rick Hoyle C-2	Chief Training Officer
Tony Manley C-3	Structures
Lou Battistella C-4	Administration/Teams
Chet Bell C-5	EVOT Officer/Fire Investigator
Kim Houser C-6	Advanced Training   Legal
Les Harvey 58	Emergency Management
<b>Deputy Assistant Chiefs</b>	
David Klingler 41	Truck Company Operations
Richard Johnson 42	Hazardous Materials
Bob Baker 43	Rescue Operations
Calvin Kier 45	Firefighter Health
<b>Command Staff Special Officers</b>	
Ken Bacha 46	Dept. Safety Officer
Mark Seighman 748	Incident Safety Officer
Chris Tantlinger 240	Public Information Officer
George McFarland 824	Captain—Dive/Swift Water
Kristi Steele 790	Department Medical Officer
<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>	
Rob Giles 69	Recruitment & Jr. Program
Rick Steele 794	Youth & Community Programs
Justin Calisti 26	PA State Instructor
Bud Mertz 200	Legislative/Public Safety
Jeff Henry 843	SAFER Grant

## DRIVERS

### STAY WITH YOUR VEHICLES

If you are the driver of an ENGINE, RESCUE or Any Other Primary Piece of Apparatus, you must stay with your vehicle while on scene.

The ONLY EXECEPTION WOULD BE A LIFE OR DEATH SITUATION - Also, if you are the Driver with only a Junior Member on Board, You will call in service as DRIVER ONLY!





### *Why....The Fire Bell?*

Communication is paramount for any organization that wants to be successful. Minutes are provided after all department meetings, and *The Fire Bell* simply recaps three months as a reminder, serves as a Department Record of Accomplishment and further documents our Training.

*Editor For "The Fire Bell" | Lou Battistella*

## ENGINE EQUIPMENT STANDARDIZATION - Reminder



By Assistant Chief Rick Hoyle

It must be reinforced, on the fireground, the GVFD operates as one Department - not six individual companies. To ensure speed and efficiency when operating at any incident, it is important to standardize tools and equipment. Any GVFD member familiar with his own company engine should be able to work off any of the other engines in the GVFD Fleet. This includes cross-lay configuration, and location of gas meters, vent fan, and tools just to mention a few necessary important items to consider. (Continued)

**REMEMBER....**WE cannot work together efficiently if WE don't train together. This past year's effort in Department Training has been **OUTSTANDING**. The Citizens of our City should be proud of the dedication you have all exhibited!

### Situational Awareness

The Ability to perceive what is happening around you  
& the understanding of what is happening  
around you.

### KNOX BOX KEYS

Assistant & Deputy Assist. Chiefs, and Captains are issued a Key for the City Knox Box System. Those who are issued keys are personally responsible for their key and the key must be carried by only the person who signed for the key. At no time, due to liability to the Fire Department & the City of Greensburg, shall a Knox Box key be placed on City Fire Apparatus. Missing keys shall be investigated.

Remember to be Professional on the Radio  
Speaks Volumes for  
OUR Department's INTEGRITY.

### *Engine Equipment Standardization (continued)*

This month, all hose carried on the engines was tested. Directives were issued to each Engine Company, noting tool and appliance necessary re-arrangement requirements. All hose after testing, was repacked to standardize each engine. Inspection of each engine was also done to ensure that all are in compliance with the directive to have each engine set-up similarly in as many regards as possible. This includes equipment location and mounting, hose loads, nozzle selections, and overall uniformity.

### Directives included:

- **Gas Detection Meters** – To be located in the cab, preferably behind the driver's seat if there is room, if not behind the Officer's seat, and all meters should be grouped in a single carrying case. (This would include Truck 2).
- **Halligan Bar / Flat Head Axe / K-Tool** – To be located in the cab, and mounted on the tool board. (This would include Truck 2).
- **Blowhard Fan, (battery operated)** – location should be in the Officer's side, rear lower compartment, accessible from the curb side door. (Engine 6 is excluded because of cord reel – rather the fan is located on Officer's side, rear lower compartment).
- **3.00" Hose Clamp** – located above the pump panel, on the Driver's side.
- **2.50" Double Male and Double Female Adapters** – one of each to be located in both of the pump panel compartments, which is the first compartments rear of the cab.
- **4.00" X 5.00" Storz Adapters** – one each to be located in the pump panel compartments.
- **Distributor Nozzle(s)** – located in the Officer's side pump panel compartment.
- **2.50" Nozzle** – located in the Officer's side pump panel compartment.
- **High-Rise Hose Packs (2)** – located in the Officer's side, rear upper compartment.
- **20# Dry Chemical Extinguisher** – mounted exterior on the rear face of the Driver's side, high compartment.
- **Tool Bag** – (containing screw drivers, pliers, Allen wrenches, adjustable wrench, vice grips, etc.) – located in the Officer's side, rear upper compartment.
- **Decontamination equipment** – 5-gallon bucket, garden hose w / nozzle, scrub brush(s), 1.50" x garden hose adapter, and shower head connection located in the driver's side lower rear compartment.
- **Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) Pack** – located in driver's side upper compartment.





## DRIVERS - PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE!

Take Care and Drive Always with Caution  
PLEASE USE COMMON SENSE

IF 9-1-1 ANNOUNCES an AFA as Burned Food  
Turn Your Lights off and PROCEED

The Call is NEVER OVER until someone from the  
Greensburg Fire Department physically  
checks out the Alarm

**NEVER TAKE THE WORD OF THE  
RESIDENT OR OCCUPANT  
!!! •INVESTIGATE• !!!**

## ALARM INVESTIGATION

On all alarms...our protocol is simply - **"GO"**  
Especially at night, do not wait for the O.I.C., we need to find  
out for ourselves as nobody else is going to  
do it for us

**RUN THE TRUCKS  
LET'S FIND OUT**

## STAY CONNECTED TO THE GVFD

All events that occur with the Department can be found on our  
**TEAM-UP Calendar**

This Calendar can be found directly at

<https://teamup.com/ksm8v5frr4hvnv19ek>

On the Department Website | [www.gbgbfire.org](http://www.gbgbfire.org) or by downloading  
the app and entering the participation code. The app can be down-  
loaded onto any smart device. After launching the app you will be  
asked to enter an email address or participation code. In either case  
you will enter: [ksm8v5frr4hvnv19ek](https://teamup.com/ksm8v5frr4hvnv19ek). If you have any questions,  
contact Rick Steele (724) 454-9519.

The **GVFD Website: [www.gbgbfire.com](http://www.gbgbfire.com)** has taken on an all new  
look and now features a **GVFD STORE** where you will find many  
new items offered by the Department. The Event Calendars are fea-  
tured as well. Connect and Check it OUT!

## 2019 DEPARTMENT TRAINING TURN-OUT STATISTICS

		COMPANIES							
Date	Topic	1	2	3	6	7	8	R/J	Total
1/12	Veh. Extrication	5	4	4	4	6	6	2	31
1/28	CPR/AED	5	18	5	5	12	21	2	68
2/16	Man vs Mach.	4	1	1	3	4	4	2	19
2/17	Man vs Mach	5	1	1	6	4	4	3	24
2/18	Bldg Tour 140 S Main	3	13	2	5	6	15	2	46
2/25	FF Cancer Awareness	5	12	0	6	6	17	2	48
3/9	Hazmat Refresher	3	2	3	2	5	2	0	17
3/18	Bldg Tour Museum of Art	7	10	2	0	7	16	2	44
3/30-31	Flashover Recognition & Survival Simulator	3	5	2	7	6	8	0	31
4/15	Meth Lab Awareness	5	15	5	3	11	13	2	54
4/29	SCBA/TIC Review	4	14	1	2	13	11	2	47
5/14	Bldg Tour Aquinas Acad	1	5	0	1	4	6	2	19
5/20	Hose Lays Attack Line	14	12	4	1	12	13	3	59
6/24	Ropes & Knots	0	12	0	3	13	14	1	43
7/29	Ground Ladders	4	13	0	2	9	15		43
8/26	RIT	1	10	0	1	15	14		41
9/14	Hazmat Refresher								
9/23	Obstacle Course	4	9	0	2	12	16	3	46
10/28	Vehicle Extrication	9	7	0	5	14	16	2	53
11/25	Small Engines & Pumps	6	9	2	5	9	20	0	51
December - No Scheduled Training									
Averages		5	9	2	3	8	12		41



**THE COLLAPSE  
ZONE**  
IS 1.5 times the  
Height of the  
Structure



## 2020 TRAINING IN THE PIPE LINE

Natural Gas Emergencies

Fire Pump Operations

Fire Ground Safety

Fire Extinguishers

Vehicle Fire Tactics

8 Hr. SBS for GVFD

Safety & Survival Weekend

Mutual Aid Ambulance - New Rig Intro





## NOBODY WINS.....

By Assistant Chief Lou Battistella

**THE OPERATOR OF AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SAFE OPERATION OF THE VEHICLE AT ALL TIMES TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE ARRIVES AT THEIR DESTINATION AND RETURNS SAFELY.**

The driving skills needed to properly operate an emergency vehicle can be acquired with practice, experience and the application of sound safety habits.

Emergency vehicles, by law, are granted the “right-of-way” when responding to a fire or other emergency. Operators of emergency vehicles are permitted to disregard certain traffic laws and regulations in order to get emergency personnel and equipment to an incident in the shortest possible time. This privilege places a burden of responsibility on the emergency vehicle operator “to drive with due regard for the safety of other motorists and pedestrians.”

A Fire Engineering survey found that almost 82% of the accidents involving civilian and emergency vehicles could be attributed to civilian driver inattention.

### **PARADE UNIFORMS • PARADE UNIFORMS**

Commander Tony Manley is requesting, if you are not going to parade any longer, to please turn in your uniform so others may use it. There are many that want to parade, but do not have a uniform. According to the list, it is apparent there are many that have uniforms that have not paraded for a long time.

**Your Cooperation would be Greatly Appreciated**

### **? DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ?**

If you or a fellow member are NOT getting Email Messages that includes Meeting Minutes, Training Advisories, or *The Fire Bell*, then more than likely WE DO NOT.

Please send your email to [lbattistella@greensburgpa.org](mailto:lbattistella@greensburgpa.org)

When emergency vehicle accidents are analyzed, the cause most often reported is “civilian vehicles failing to yield the right-of-way to the emergency vehicle.” A contributory cause in a number of these accidents is “operator of emergency apparatus failed to ensure that all traffic had yielded the right-of-way before entering the intersection.”

Tests have shown that a motorist will have great difficulty in hearing a siren or any other audible signal with windows closed, air control equipment and radio turned on. Visual signals (flashing lights) will get the attention of a motorist faster, but only if the motorist is observant.

**Remember, motorists cannot grant you the right-of-way unless they see or hear you coming. Accidents will increase if emergency vehicle operators do not practice good defensive driving skills.**

**Within the City Limits**, Engine, Truck, and Rescue Companies and Chiefs’ Vehicles shall travel **NO FASTER** than 35 mph or up to the posted speed limit above 35 mph.

**GVFD Vehicles** shall come to a COMPLETE STOP at all red lights and STOP SIGNS, PROCEEDING ONLY AFTER THE INTERSECTION IS CLEAR AND OPPOSING TRAFFIC HAS YIELDED THE RIGHT-OF-WAY.

NEVER ASSUME THAT THE OTHER MOTORIST CAN HEAR OR SEE YOU. Always exercise caution.

When responding to a call for help, time is our greatest enemy. Our response time is measured right from moment we receive the call for help to when we actually arrive on scene.

Shaving precious seconds off our response time has always been a priority in the fire service; it can influence the overall outcome for the person(s) that need our help. *Continued on Page 10*

“Fire Trucks are GODLIKE Vehicles that should always be over Maintained as a Labor of Love—Personally and Professionally - So They can Protect Good and Fight Evil”

A.V. Brunacini



## The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department

*Is Governed by the*

### The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Board of Control

2019

President - Rick Steele • Vice President - Jimmy Fontana • Secretary - Justin Calisti • Treasurer Tony Manley  
Financial Secretary - Ken Bacha



Sitting: Jimmy Fontana, Ken Bacha, Bill Wright, Glenn Thomas, Rev. Robert McKie, Mike Korba, Rick Hoyle  
1st Row Standing: Rick Steele, Rich Bauer, Tony Manley, Dale Hutchinson, LeRoy Atkinson, Jim Buscaglia  
2nd Row Standing: Mike Sheffler, Dave Klingler, Tom Bell, Rob Giles, Rich Fry

#### The Board of Control is comprised of Three Elected Members from Each Station & The Fire Chief

<b>Station 1</b>	Jim Buscaglio, Rich Bauer, Mike Korba
<b>Station 2</b>	Bill Wright, Dave Klingler, Justin Calisti
<b>Station 3</b>	Glenn Thomas, Dale Hutchinson, Leroy Atkinson
<b>Station 6</b>	Rob Giles, Mike Sheffler, Angelo Rosetti
<b>Station 7</b>	Rich Fry, Jimmy Fontana, Rick Steele
<b>Station 8</b>	Tony Manley, Rick Hoyle, Ken Bacha
<b>Fire Chief</b>	Thomas M. Bell

YOU CAN'T TRAIN  
TOO MUCH  
FOR A JOB THAT CAN  
KILL YOU



## The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Relief Association

Back in 1736 in Philadelphia, Ben Franklin encouraged the formation of the Union Fire Company and since then, Volunteer Emergency Service Organizations have been providing much-needed fire protection and lifesaving services to communities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Relief Association of the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department is a complete separate entity of the Fire Department. It serves as an Association to handle proceeds generated from distributed PA State Funds from a 2% tax on property insurance premiums from Insurance Companies that are not Pennsylvania Insurance Companies. Funds are annually distributed to municipalities based on formula of size and population. Use of the Foreign Fire Insurance premium tax monies generated is restricted and can only be spent by the Commonwealth Fire Departments for health, safety, member death benefits and training. Relief Associations in the Commonwealth are subject to the Rules of the Pennsylvania State Auditor General, and must adhere to rigorous accounting and inventory controls or face the consequences of being disqualified to receive annual allocated state funds. The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Relief Association is comprised of three elected members by and from each station, the Fire Chief, and three Fire Chief Appointed representatives. In addition, the GVFD Relief Association Board is supplemented with a Quartermaster, charged with inventory and purchasing, and a Fire Department Attorney. RA Officers are elected by the Relief Association Board.



**2019**

### Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Relief Association

#### Sitting

Bill Wright, Larry Weimer, Clyde Snyder, Rick Hoyle, Kim Houser, Doc Kier, Tony Manley

#### Standing

Jim Buscaglio, Rich Bauer, Les Harvey, Mike Sheffler, Tom Bell, Don Kundrick, Bud Mertz  
Mike Answine, Rob Giles, Lou Battistella, Jon Hillwig, Vince Fontana

Missing From Photo - Jeremy Danko, Frank Blatney, Denny Blank, Keith Hutchinson, & Kevin Hutchinson

## BEING CLEAN • IS BEING SAFE

Please Don't Forget to Keep Your Turn-Out Gear Clean. All Turn Out Gear regardless of whether it saw fire or not, at least once a year must be processed at our designated contract facility

**Jan • Station 1 | Feb • Station 2 | Mar • Station 3**

**Apr • Station 6 | May • Station 7 | Jun • Station 8**

*Remember, Every time you put on a dirty, contaminated bunker suit, you're re-exposing yourself and exposing possibly your family, your loved ones and everyone around you who comes into contact with or near your exposed gear. At the Fire Scene, Gross Decontamination can be accomplished with the portable showers that are available on the Engines. This is help to get you home safely, but nothing replaces having the Bunker Suit Professionally Cleaned.*

*We Have Provided*

**YOUR RESPONSIBILITY IS TO ENSURE IT HAPPENS**

## A MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT THAT IS OFTEN MISTAKENLY NOT CONSIDERED A BENEFIT

### 2019 GVFD Relief Association Officers

<b>President</b>	Dr. Calvin Kier
<b>Vice President</b>	Clyde Snyder
<b>Secretary</b>	Lou Battistella
<b>Treasurer</b>	Larry Weimer
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Jon Hillwig
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Vince Fontana

### Board Members

<b>Station 1</b>	Jim Buscaglio, Rich Bauer, Mike Answine
<b>Station 2</b>	Bill Wright, Don Kundrick, Bud Mertz
<b>Station 3</b>	Denny Blank, Keith Hutchinson, Kevin Hutchinson
<b>Station 6</b>	Mike Sheffler, Rob Giles, Jeremy Danko
<b>Station 7</b>	Frank Blatney, Vince Fontana, Larry Weimer
<b>Station 8</b>	Tony Manley, Jon Hillwig, Clyde Snyder
<b>Fire Chief</b>	Thomas M. Bell
<b>Chief's Appointments</b>	Doc Kier, Les Harvey, Lou Battistella
<b>Quartermaster</b>	Rick Hoyle
<b>Attorney</b>	Kim Houser





### 2019 Station Line Officers

<b>Station 1</b> Engine/Rescue	Bob Rhody	Captain
	Rob Mattes	1st Lieutenant
	Tony Rendulich	2nd Lieutenant
	J.P. Moroney	2nd Lieutenant
	Dave Dorko	Sergeant
	Christian Koury	Sergeant
<b>Station 2</b> Truck Co Air & Foam Truck	Perre DeFelice	Captain
	Bill Miller	1st Lieutenant
	Jeff Guidy	2nd Lieutenant
	Justin Calisti	2nd Lieutenant
	Ron Spisso	Sergeant
	Bob Price	Sergeant
<b>Station 3</b> Engine/Hvy Rescue	Ken McFadden	Captain
	Andrew Strezo	1st Lieutenant
<b>Station 6</b> Engine	Rob Giles	Captain
	Nat Winter	1st Lieutenant
	Mike Sheffler	2nd Lieutenant
<b>Station 7</b> Engine/Rescue	Duane Spencer	Captain
	Rob Baker	1st Lieutenant
	Jim Fontana	2nd Lieutenant
<b>Station 8</b> Engine/Salvage	David Jackson	Captain
	Jeff Peterinelli	1st Lieutenant
	Derek Manley	2nd Lieutenant
	Rob Cameron	2nd Lieutenant
	Mike Hartung	Sergeant

### 2019 Teams

 <b>Bloodhound Team</b>	Lou Battistella	Commander
	Bud Mertz	1st Lieutenant
	Dave Klingler	2nd Lieutenant
	Rob Cameron	2nd Lieutenant
	Elysia Battistella	Training Coordinator & Handler
	Dave Jackson	Handler
	Dave Burnfield	Handler
	Doug Fordyce	Handler
	Greg Saunders	Handler
	Greg Saunders II	Handler
 <b>Dive &amp; Swift Water Team</b>	George McFarland	Captain/Diver
	Duane Spencer	Lieutenant/Swift Water
	Jim Rule	Lieutenant/Swift Water/Sonar
	Jeff Guidy	Lieutenant/Diver
	John Welsh	Lieutenant/Diver
	Rob Baker	Diver
	Duane Spencer	Diver
	Kyle Joseph	Diver
	Joe Mangini	Diver
	Marcus Wisneski	Diver
 <b>Fire Department</b>	Roman Lamberski	Diver
	Bob Wright	Sonar

In addition to the listed members of the Bloodhound Team are support members who respond with the team on deployments. For training, there are firefighter probationary team members and Juniors who do not respond on calls. These individuals play a very important part in the training of the team. Firefighters (probationary) may be cleared for Response at some point in the future as demands dictates.

## WELCOME | New Members

PROBATIONARY		
	Justin Foreman	Sept
	William Koker	Oct
	Kevin McKenzie	Sept
	Nathaniel Zanoni	Sept
	Devin Shepler	Sept
	Scott Hillwig	Nov
	Roman Carloni	Nov
Juniors & 420 Members		
	Evan Miles	Sept
	Masin Miles	Sept
	Brennan Laskoski	Nov

**EMERGENCY REPORTING** | which replaced the outdated, awkward to many, FIREHOUSE SOFTWARE, is being constantly refined and becoming more and more useful to the Department. The 18 information gathering members, 3 from each station, are getting more and more used to the new system and many have become experts at inputting Personnel, Apparatus, and Writing Narratives from the point of view of the station. The system administrators make every effort to help and support the individual station personnel whenever a question arises. Unfortunately when 2019 ends, we will only have seven months of information in EMERGENCY REPORTING. Our FIREHOUSE data is still available to us to fill the voids, but only in READ-ONLY format only on one local computer. With that being said, we were successful in retrieving data from both FIREHOUSE and EMERGENCY REPORTING and assemble the information for the tabulation of the Stipend SAFER GRANT.





## The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department Museum Committee

Has been putting a lot of effort in  
Museum Improvements

The Committee Has Stepped Forward  
Established Scheduled Open Times

**Every Second Tuesday • 6pm - 8pm  
Every Fourth Saturday • 9am - 12 Noon**

Visit *Greensburg*  
VOLUNTEER FIRE  
DEPARTMENT MUSEUM

**NOW OPEN**  
*To the Public Every Month*  
Second Tuesday 6 pm to 8 pm  
Fourth Saturday 9 am to 12 Noon  
*Starting March 2019*

Other times by Appointment  
(724) 832-7904  
[www.gbfire.org](http://www.gbfire.org)



*Goodwill 1825*



*Put Lions 1885*



GREENSBURG VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT MUSEUM

The Museum houses artifacts from the long  
history of fire fighting in Western Pennsylvania.

Displays Include:  
Photos of major fires in Greensburg and surrounding  
areas, antique fire trucks, equipment, alarms  
and fire extinguishers, plus parade uniforms, as  
well as uniform patches from around the country.  
We also have a large toy and model fire truck  
collection as well as other memorabilia.




Located  
BEHIND  
CITY HALL  
416 S. MAIN STREET

GVFD CHALLENGE COINS AVAILABLE



\$10.00

(See Website for Details)

**CLASS B BLACK JACKETS** Jackets were provided by the Board of Control.

The second order for **WHITE UNIFORM SHIRTS** also provided by the Board of Control has been received. Along with this order was a **BADGE** order for those who did not get one originally. The cost of the Badge is the responsibility of either the company or the individual, whichever way this was worked out on the company level.

All of this information was made available to the Companies through the Board of Control Representatives to carry it back to the individual companies.

All inquiries should be made to your  
COMPANY BOC REPRESENTATIVE

**Chief J. Edward Hutchinson**

**DVD's for Sale**

**Photos & Memorial Program**

**Only \$ 5.00**

**To be a Department....**

**we must look like a Department**

<b>Class A</b>	White Parade Uniform consisting of White Pants, Jacket, & Hat; White Uniform Shirt; Black Tie, White Socks, Black Shoes
<b>Class B</b>	White Shirt with Badge; Black Tie; Black Dress Pants (no cargos); Black Belt; Black Socks & Black Shoes with <b>Black Soles</b>
<b>Class C</b>	Blue Dept. Issued T-Shirt; Blue Cargo Pants; Black Shoes or Boots
<b>Class C - ALT</b>	Command Staff may wear Issued Blue Polo Embroidered Polo Shirt - Discretionary



Continued from Page 5

Everybody loses when a major apparatus accident occurs. Here is a scenario.

You are driving an Engine to a reported kitchen fire in a private dwelling. Riding with you is an officer and two firefighters, and you are driving within the City Limits. Without warning, you're met in an intersection by a car driven by a teenager, who also has a teenage passenger. What occurs next will alter the lives of those involved in the accident and their families forever. The Engine and the automobile collide. The late model car is no match for the 22-ton fire truck. The teenage driver is killed and the passenger is seriously injured. What caused the accident? Who is to blame?

Examine the teenage driver. How much driving experience did the driver have? Was this the driver's first encounter with an emergency vehicle with warning lights and sirens? Was the radio blasting with the windows shut and the air conditioner on, rendering the Engine's audible warning devices ineffective? Were alcohol, drugs or fatigue factors in the crash? What mechanical defects, if any, were present in either vehicle? Did driver inattentiveness play a role in this accident? Who had the green light?

Does it make a difference who is to blame for this accident? From an accident prevention point of view, yes. Does it make a difference who is to blame from the accident participants' points of view? Probably not. One person was killed and another seriously injured; the firefighters will have to live with that for the rest of their lives.



The Greensburg Fire Department  
Has a **Zero-Tolerance Policy**  
When It Comes To  
**Human Relations**

Although no fire personnel in our accident scenario were killed or injured, the driver, officer and firefighters may have suffered career-ending psychological injuries. Even though the actions taken by the fire apparatus driver seemed to be in accordance with the established procedures, this is little solace to a person who has devoted his/her life to saving lives.

**THE RISK OF DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY TO OTHERS** | In our accident scenario one person was killed and one was seriously injured. What about the families' mental anguish? What about the seriously injured person? Will there be months or years of rehabilitation?

Fire apparatus are very specialized pieces of equipment and fixing a wrecked fire truck may cost thousands of dollars and take many months. Thus, a totaled piece of apparatus may cost tens of thousands of dollars and take a year or more to replace.

The response to the kitchen fire in the private dwelling was severely delayed. Now we have two incidents, the original kitchen fire and a major apparatus accident, both involving fire department personnel. This puts the incident commander in a difficult position and puts a severe strain on local emergency resources and personnel.

#### The Victims.

- The car the victims were in was totally destroyed.
- The driver was killed, a funeral took place and a lot of grief was experienced by the victim's family and friends.
- The survivor may have to undergo months or years of rehabilitation.
- All parties involved will undergo a lengthy civil trial.

Both families may have incurred deep psychological scars that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

Continued on Page 12

### CODE OF CONDUCT

All members of the GREENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT shall lead by example for all. Each member shall demonstrate self-restraint and be constantly mindful of their demeanor when speaking. When representing the GVFD, members shall avoid bringing discredit to the department by speaking poorly about one another or the department. All members are expected to be professional, courteous, and respectful at all times including conversations in a public setting and/or on social media.



# GVFD NEXT GENERATION

Just having our Juniors in Station is actually giving some much needed drive to renew our commitment and jump start our training routines again, giving purpose to hang out together. You may say that we inspire our Juniors and the Juniors inspire us! We are no longer acting like six separate companies, we are NOW one Department. We are ...

*"Dedicated Teamwork, Six Companies, One Community, One Vision"*

## JUNIORS & 420's | The GVFD is fortunate to have 7 - Juniors & 3 - 420 Members

### JUNIORS 14 –17 YEAR OLD

Trevor Swartz - Station 1

Ryan Heater— Station 2

Zack Long - Station 3

Colten Houser - Station 7

Sara Schall - Station 7

Brett Steele - Station 7

Brennan Laskoski - Station 7

### 420 MEMBERS 12 - 13 YEAR OLD

Evan Miles - Station 6

Masin Miles - Station 6

Dante Keener - Station 7



# GVFD





Continued from Page 10

### The Driver

- Has become a psychological basket case.
- Will have to undergo years of counseling.
- Will probably never drive a fire truck again. He may be so distraught, that it may ultimately end his career.
- What effects will this accident have on his home life?

This accident occurred to a fire apparatus driver who seemed to be operating under correct procedure. How about the fire apparatus drivers, and we have all ridden with them, who believe they can do no wrong? **They speed, blow through red lights under the guise of saving lives and property or just drive recklessly.** If ever involved in a major apparatus accident, they could be held **CRIMINALLY LIABLE AND COULD GO TO JAIL.**

### The Fire Officer

- He was in the front seat.
- He had a birds-eye view of the accident.
- He, too, will have deep psychological scars.
- He, too, may end his career.

### The Two Other Firefighters

- They, too, will have to live with the memories of the accident.
- Their lives will never be the same again.

### The Fire Department

- The accident becomes a public relations nightmare. Having a picture of a fire truck crushing a car and killing a civilian appear on the front page of the local newspaper does little to bolster our public image, even if no blame has been found in the accident.
- How do you think the fire department will fair in its next fund drive or public referendum?
- The fire department will lose a piece of apparatus for weeks or possibly months.
- If the public perception is that the fire department personnel drive poorly, the fire department may actually lose the public trust.

### The City

- When underinsured, will have to make up the difference in the insurance short fall, to buy a replacement Engine or Truck.
- May have to defend the fire department and itself in a multimillion-dollar civil suit.
- May have to endure bad publicity along with the fire department.
- May have to raise taxes to pay for new apparatus, or to subsidize a large liability award or cover the cost of larger insurance premiums.

As you can see, **ABSOLUTELY NOBODY WINS WHEN A MAJOR FIRE APPARATUS ACCIDENT OCCURS.** There are many emergency vehicle operators carrying the heavy burden of having been in a major apparatus accident. Do not let it happen to you or someone you know.

Drivers must understand the consequences of their actions. The driver is the responsible individual assigned to safely deliver a crew and an important piece of fire apparatus to an emergency situation.

If a driver is responding in a careless or reckless manner, the officer and crew aboard is obligated to tell the Driver to SLOW DOWN or if the request is ignored, the officer and/or crew has a responsibility to report the driver to the Captain and if not resolved, the Chief and his Command Staff, and if necessary file a complaint with the Board of Control.

As a member of the Greensburg Fire Department, everything we do, is predicated on safety and ensuring everyone goes home safe and being safe at all times.

Remember when fire apparatus are involved in an  
Accident | **NOBODY WINS.**

The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department is serious about safety and will vigorously ensure safety is observed at all times. Those that disregard safety in failure to drive in a safe manner will have their driving privileges suspended or permanently revoked.





## West Ridge assists the Barber National Institute at its.... "BEAST-ON-THE BAY"



On September 7th the West Ridge Fire Department once again assisted the Barber National Institute at its yearly "Beast-On-The-Bay" event. As described on the Beast Web Site:

"The seventh annual **Barber Beast on the Bay** is set for **Saturday, September 7, 2019**, at Presque Isle State Park (USA Today's 'Best Pennsylvania Attraction') in Erie, PA. Participants will take on 10 miles of sand, water, and trails – it's the nature of the Beast! Be ready to run, jump, climb and crawl across more than 30 obstacles on the shores of Lake Erie.

While you tackle your challenges during the Beast, you'll also be helping the children and adults with autism, intellectual disabilities and behavioral health challenges at the **Barber National Institute** who take on their own obstacles on a daily basis, as the event supports the non-profit and its 6,100 individuals"...

Again, this year we had fellow **Firefighter John Paul Moroney** of the **Greensburg PA Fire Department** run in this grueling event. John has been a very visible athlete at this event for several years and he is a crowd favorite and a true inspiration to the other runners on this course. Thanks Firefighter Moroney and thanks to the Greensburg Fire Department for such a wonderful representative from your department, and for representing all Firefighters so admirably!

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*The Barber National Institute was founded in 1952 by the late Dr. Gertrude A. Barber. An educator and administrator in the Erie City School District in Erie, Pennsylvania, Dr. Barber, along with a small group of local teachers and parents, opened a one-classroom school in the local YMCA for children with developmental disabilities. As programs expanded, the City of Erie leased its former communicable disease hospital to the Barber Center in 1958. The first permanent location for the programs, this site formed what has become the main campus in Erie. Construction began in 1968 for new Administrative offices, a medical suite, cafeteria, and classrooms for middle and high school aged students. In 1969, a facility was opened in Corry, Pennsylvania to provide services for individuals in southern Erie County. The Barber Center's first group homes were opened in 1973, after the closing of an institution in Venango County, PA. A satellite center was also opened in Girard, PA to accommodate those living in the western portion of Erie County. The Barber Center expanded to other areas of the state by opening group homes and support services in Philadelphia in 1990 and a day support program and residential group homes in the Pittsburgh area in 1999.*

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## Forcing Entry – Have Your Head On

By Assistant Chief Rick Hoyle

It seems to me that we are being called upon more often to perform the duties of forcing entry more so than in years past. Anything from assisting EMS, wellness checks, gaining entry to confirm there is no fire on an AFA, to actually forcing our way in to combat an actual fire incident.

Each year we attempt to devote a training session to forcible entry so that we can continue on improving our skills. Likewise, we attempt to stay current with any new locking mechanisms which may be on the market, and could be in use on properties here in Greensburg. Any information learned is passed along to all members.

So that we can attack any number of forcible entry jobs that we encounter, our “Tool Boxes” are full with a wide array of equipment. The go-to Halligan and flat head axe, K-Tool, Rabbit Tool, Denver Tool, K-12 Saw, and the newest addition, the Firefighter Swipe Tool can be found on most all GFD apparatus.

The point of this article isn’t about the tools, but rather the random situations that you need to be aware of when conducting forcible entry.

**“Try before you pry”.** Maybe the easiest entry may not be the only one. Try alternate doors and windows before causing unnecessary damage.

**Wear your gear.** This isn’t just for safety sake. The helmet especially identifies you as an emergency responder, and without PPE you could be viewed as just a person breaking into private property. The take-away; citizens have the right, and to some, the obligation to defend their property to the death.

**Stand to the side.** Don’t stand directly in front of a door you are forcing, just in case, (see above).

**Announce yourself, loudly.** At every moment while forcing entry yell “Fire Department” over, and over, and over again.

**Don’t go it alone.** If you are gaining access through a window from a ladder, when you get in take another member or two with you.

**Exhaust all possibilities.** Before forcing entry, check with neighbors who may have a key, and check under the door mat or nearby flower pot. But, limit your time in doing so.

**Preplan.** As we answer calls to the many number of buildings in town, evaluate the entry points and how you would approach them if called upon to force entry. Do the doors open inward or outward? Do they have dead bolts, knob locks, or mortise locks? If the building is quipped with a Knox Box, are there keys to access any/all apartments and offices, and have the keys been updated.

**Notify Police.** Any time we, as members of the GFD, must force entry, (outside of during an actual fire incident), the Police Department needs to be on scene.

**Secure property.** Do as little damage as possible, and make certain the property is secure prior to clearing, if there is nobody home.

**Paperwork.** To avoid any problems before they arise, be certain to include any suitable information to the Run-Sheet, such as tools used, point of entry, PD incident number, FD personnel, and note that the property was secured. This will all then be entered into the Emergency Reporting.

Forcible entry is one of the many tasks that we are called upon to perform, but in doing so you are reminded to use common sense and “have your head on.”

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**FROM THE SCOTT ELECTRIC GRANT** | The GVFD was able to purchase \$18,000 DeWalt Battery Powered Tools replacing many of the tools in use prior in favor of the new Battery Platform. All Tools will use the SAME BATTERY.

**BLOODHOUND TEAM** | has so far for this year, averaged 2 calls per month. That is up from recent prior years. The team taking the time to do so far, 29 Public Service Demonstration along with their regular training session which so far has numbered 18 coupled with exposure on social media has made the team better known to our area. If they don’t know you are here, they won’t call you!



## Automatic Fire Alarms ...

### Proceeding Into the Unknown

All hands responding to an automatic fire alarm, anyone can become the initial first responder. The closer one gets, sets in mind many things that you could be faced with. It could be a single or multiple family residential unit, a multi-family residential complex, or a vast commercial structure.

In the GVFD scheme of things, there should always be a designated OIC in response; however until that designee arrives, anyone could be the first on-scene incident command.

Having first-line apparatus calling in appropriately, puts at ease into anyone's mind, you are going to have the necessary personnel for investigation and/or initial response actions.

An apparatus on-board personnel count is a critical piece of information to know, especially when you are the first on-scene. This is an area we used to be very precise about, but recently, has not been keenly focused on enough.

We should know that the apparatus is either driver-only, or what the size of the crew is. Essentially, those in the head count in-service roll call, needs to be those who are SCBA qualified. Juniors and 420 Members do not count as Crew!

### GVFD APPAREL FOR SALE

Baseball Hats	\$15.00
Challenge Coins	\$10.00
Window Stickers	\$7.00
Hoodie	\$30.00 - \$32.00
Long Sleeve Shirt	\$25.00 - \$27.00
Tee-Shirt	\$20.00 - \$22.00
Kids Tee-Shirt	\$15.00
Tossle Hat	\$15.00
Onesie (6,12,18 & 24 Mo.)	\$14.00
1/4 Zip	\$40.00 - \$45.00

Visit the GVFD Website at [www.gbgfire.org](http://www.gbgfire.org)  
For Pictures and Complete Details

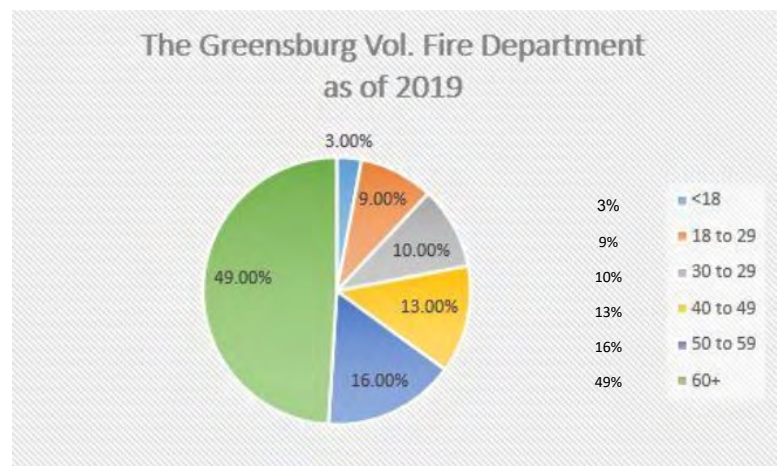
**SAFER GRANT** | As of November 19<sup>th</sup>, so far the GVFD has requested funds from the Regional WestCoFire SAFER Grant in the amount of \$37,797.00 for 2019 Response Stipend which amounted to \$550.00 per GVFD Member that responded to 15% of the GVFD incidents between December 1, 2017 and November 30, 2018 which totaled \$17,600.00 for 32 Firefighters. Currently there is \$20,197.00 due, which is comprised of Physicals, New Bunker Suits for New Recruits, & Training.

Upon the close of the November 2019 Department Incident Reports, tabulations and calculations were finalized for the 2020 Stipend for the December 1, 2018 to November 30, 2019. The Safer Stipend request has been submitted to WestCoFire in the amount of \$13,200.00 which covers responses of at least 15% for the period, for 24 GVFD Firefighters. Checks will be made out directly to each of the firefighters and will be distributed when received some time in 2020.

With the submission of that request, it brings the total of funding request to \$50,997.00.

It has been said, there may be one more year for the Stipend Per Call Program. The SAFER Grant provides money to departments for recruiting and training to provide retention incentives and repay tuition fees.

The Regional Hempfield Grant available for 5 years, was awarded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. SAFER is short for "Staffing for Adequate and Emergency Response," on September 1, 2017.







**DEPARTMENT TRAINING** | The Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department doesn't very often deny training for any member that will nurture knowledge to ensure one is the best he or she can be on the fire ground or at any emergency incident we may respond to. In order to take advantage of this opportunity, you must adhere to certain requirements. On the [www.gbgbfire.org](http://www.gbgbfire.org) website, there is a **MEMBER ONLY SECTION**. You should have all received the new login and password, which was just recently changed. The new login and password is a bit more easier to remember. If you didn't receive it, please contact Rick Steele and he will send it to you via text or email. Here in this member only section, you will find documents that you can download. A lot of these documents are continually evolving, so make sure you check back from time to time to make sure you have the latest version.

When you decide that you want to take a class or course, you must first, before you even sign up, download the **"GVFD CLASS PREAPPROVAL FORM"**. This form needs your name and all other personnel information, the approximate cost of the registration, meal expense, lodging if any, and gas estimate. There are several questions to complete, and you need to ascertain as to whether this is something the Board of Control is Responsible for or is something that will be assumed by the Relief Association. You, as the requesting member must sign and date it; you must carry it to the Board of Control President or the Relief President must approve, sign and date it, and the Fire Chief must approve, sign, and date it. It is your responsibility to make this happen.

When the class or course is completed, you must then fill out another form, again available on the website **"GVFD REIMBURSEMENT FORM"** Once again, your name, and other information, enter your itemized expenses, attach your receipts and include a copy of your certificate of completion (you must supply all of this for reimbursement – no exceptions). All paperwork should be submitted no more than sixty (60) days after the date of the class or course. All course fees and expenses shall be assumed in advance by the individual taking the course, or underwritten by the member's company that must be rearranged and approved by your company. The Relief and the Board of Control does not give advances. For the time being, the Board of Control and Relief Training Expenses after the final reimbursement form is submitted, can be submitted for consideration under the Regional Safer Grant that is in effect.

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**ENGINE EQUIPMENT AND HOSE & NOZZLE STANDARIZATION** | The GVFD has set a goal to standardize equipment on the Engines. This was a change for all, but it only improves our working as a department and not as individual companies. This was done for safety and efficiency. Safety will always be the Number One Priority in anything we do as a FIRE DEPARTMENT.

We tested hose and nozzles in September. We bought pressure gauges to find out what we need to get the GPM at the nozzle without over-pressurizing the hose, making the hose easier to handle even with one man on the line, which in the middle of day may happen from time to time, until the rest of the troops arrive on scene. The GVFD wants it possible, no matter who operates each of our Engines, one can be confident, just by running the Engine up, stopping at the vinyl line on the gauges in conjunction with a standardization hose length, coupled with the appropriate nozzle, that even an unfamiliar pump operator on another company's engine, will successfully deliver the proper gallonage without the hose-man having to exercise a lot of unnecessary exertion. Basically, using the right hose and the right nozzle, an Engine should be able to deliver 160 GPM at 80-90 PSI, depending on the Engine and the hose-line length.





**WRONG INCIDENT TYPE CLASSIFICATION** | For a long time, close to 50% of the calls the GVFD reports monthly to the Mayor and Council and the Board of Control were classified as FALSE ALARMS. Often times we do find actual false alarms caused by an unintentional pull station activation; steam from a shower, smoking or vaping under or too close to a detector, or faulty equipment. However, what we commonly call, in our circle of firefighters as a BAD COOK, is not a false alarm. Whether it be dirty bacon grease in a frying pan, a pot left on a hot stove, an actual grease flare-up, an overdone bird in the oven; these are all examples of a COOKING FIRE-Confined to Container. These are not a Smoke Detector Activation, No Fire – Unintentional, type of Call. By “typing” the call, Smoke Detector Activation-No Fire, you are pushing the incident into the False Alarm category, which is incorrect and inflates the False Alarm Category. The smoking pot left on the hot stove which activated the smoke detector by all rights, is a FIRE! The detector did its job, getting us there in time to prevent the fire from extending beyond its containment vessel. With this said, we began using the correct classification type and already it is quite noticeable in the month-end reports, which now tells an entirely different story.

## **The Water Can**

By Colten Houser - Jr GVFD FF | THE FIRE BELL Contributing Editor

I read a lot of Fire blogs that post a bunch of information, and often times I find how it relates to the Greensburg Fire Department. Such as how a water can may seem like nothing, but how it really has an important function when used. This article, which I found on firehouse.com, talks all about water cans and their importance. Here are some key points from the article entitled **Water in the Can: Small, but a Powerful Firefighting Tool**

**How much fire can your water can (fire extinguisher) put out?** It has always amazed me that fire departments like FDNY have a firefighter dedicated to carrying a 2 1/2-gallon water can with them. Here is the second largest fire department in the world carrying all their equipment and always carrying the can. Why? How much fire can you put out with a can of water?

You would think they would carry a hose line, tools, or something that could knock down more fire than a water extinguisher....Then I thought, maybe these guys are on to something. Being young in the fire service it is important for us to understand the why's and how's of what we do. Maybe I was like many of the new generation of firefighters, those you must show how and why things are done. You can teach someone the reasons why we do things, but if you are given the chance to show them, it will be ingrained forever in their minds. Here are some reminders for these cans:

- 1) *P.A.S.S.: Pull, aim, squeeze and stop the fire*
- 2) *Adding Class A foam or dish detergent can help increase firefighting output*
- 3) *Adding a shoulder strap can help with the transportation of the can*
- 4) *Practice using the can while spraying vertically to contain the fire inside the fire room*
- 5) *Always allow an egress route in case the can has a failure*

A water can does put out a lot of fire and it can hold fire back until you have made your way safely to an escape route. We carry a water can for a reason, but that reason has no meaning unless you train on the use of the can. With only 2.5 gallons of water to use, knowing how to use it properly is more important. Grab your crew members and review how to use a water extinguisher. You never know when that small amount of water can pay huge dividends like your life.



## **Persistence & Hard Work ... Pays Off !**

By Rick Steele - GVFD President

**On January 12 the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department will be celebrating its 129 birthday. 2019 was a very productive year for the Department. The following is a list of achievements our Department incurred this past year**

- Received a grant from the Greensburg Rotary for the purchase of a 3-gas meter for the Chief's Vehicle.
- Received a grant from the Robertshaw Foundation for the purchase of a FAST Board for Engine 8
- Received a grant from the Buncher Foundation for the purchase of 3 Extrication Suits
- Received a grant from the Snee-Reinhardt Foundation for two 3-gas meters for Assistant Chiefs
- Received a grant from Scott Electric – used to purchase 39 pieces of DeWalt Flexvolt equipment with peripherals distributed to all stations to be placed on Engines, Rescues, Truck and Salvage.
- Received a grant from the Greensburg Foundation for 7 personal Thermal Imaging Cameras. The cameras were then given to the Assistant Chiefs
- Received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant from FEMA for Exhaust Evacuation Systems for Stations 2, 3, 6, & 8.
- Received a grant from the Baughman Foundation for new fire hose
- Brought the Firefighter night to Greensburg Community Days and brought back the Battle of the Barrel
- Held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual John E. Hutchinson Youth Emergency Services Day
- Received a grant from the Aldi Corporation for the food for the Hutch Youth Day
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual GVFD Family Picnic
- Replaced cracked block, repointed and waterproofed the GVFD Drill Tower
- Supported the Hempfield/Greensburg Fire Prevention Night at Westmoreland Mall
- Donated \$1500 to Westmoreland Walks Pink Angel Fund through the sale of Breast Cancer Awareness shirts.
- Coordinated an effort to bring Thanksgiving to over 50 needy families in the Greater Greensburg Area.
- Brought back the GVFD Blood drive
- Purchased 2 flow meters, a cap gauge and a pitot gauge to test flow hose, nozzles, and fire hydrants.
- Inventoried and moved equipment, and adjusted hose loads in an effort to standardize our 5 pumpers
- Brought in 2 separate manufactures of nozzles to conduct flow testing. Conducted flow tests on 4 different manufactures of hose. Both tests were performed to move forward with a nozzle and hose recommendation for all Companies to follow for future purchases.
- Coordinated an effort to add new benches and trash cans in the Parklet on Pennsylvania Ave.
- Purchased 3 plastic newspaper boxes and converted them into Food Pantries for the needy. Placed at the Parklet on Pennsylvania Avenue, Lynch Field, and Amphitheatre on Maple Avenue.
- Coordinated the effort and assisted in purchasing and assembling 400 Hygiene kits for pre-school through high school students of the Greensburg area. The kits were distributed during the Salvation Army Back to School Bash.

**This list is very impressive and took a great effort by many people to achieve. Thanks to everyone who helped make these achievements possible. Here's to an even better 2020!**



## Adopt-A-Hydrant | By Rick Steele

**THE GREENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT “ADOPT-A-HYDRANT” PROGRAM WAS STARTED BY TOM BELL, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF JIMMY FONTANA, IN THE SPRING OF 2014. THE PROGRAM WAS DEvised TO HELP MAINTAIN AND IDENTIFY FIRE HYDRANTS THROUGHOUT OUR CITY.**

Due to the number of fire hydrants (324) located in Greensburg, they began asking for help from the community to make sure the fire hydrants are visible and are in good working order. For a fee of \$15.00 per hydrant, residents could adopt their very own City of Greensburg Fire Hydrant. Once the adoption form was received, a member of the fire department inspected the hydrant to make sure it was in good working order and/or if it needed painted, and attached a high visibility marker. The *HY-VIZ* marker was installed to make the hydrants easily visible. This program was successful in getting over one third of the hydrants in the city adopted.

Fast forward to 2018 when the program rejuvenated. Due to an increase in the cost of the *HY-VIZ* marker the adoption fee was upped to \$25.00, but the mission remained the same, get all 324 fire hydrants adopted/flagged.

Through the generosity of members of the community, individuals across the United States, the Greensburg Rotary, and the Greensburg Salem Interact Club, a great push was made to accomplish the mission. On Saturday, November 16, 2019 the final hydrant was adopted!

**Thanks to everyone who had a part in making this project a success!**





**NATURAL/LP GAS INCIDENTS** | The GVFD has developed a **new Standard Operating Guideline (SOG)**, covering responses to Natural/LP Gas Leaks. This protocol has been adopted and implemented and must be followed, all in the interest of personnel safety and protection of our apparatus. A communication has been sent to our neighboring Automatic Mutual Aid departments who surround us. Those reached out to were: **South Greensburg, SW Greensburg, Forbes Road, and the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire Companies.**

## GVFD Standard Operating Guidelines update -

### SECTION 731: RESPONDING TO NATURAL OR LP GAS LEAK OPERATIONS

#### A. Section 1 | Definitions

- a. **NATURAL GAS** | A gas that is much lighter than air & will dissipate readily outside. Inside building, however, it tends to pocket particularly in attics, under stairs, and in dead air spaces.
- b. **LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM (LP) GAS** | A mixture of gases at normal room temperature and atmospheric pressure. They liquefy under moderate pressure, readily vaporizing upon release of this pressure. The potential fire hazard of liquefied petroleum gas vapors is comparable to that of natural or manufactured gas except that liquefied petroleum gas vapors are heavier than air. Inside building, this gas will pocket in low air spaces

c.

#### B. Section 2 | Inside Gas Leaks

- a. First Arriving Units shall stop a minimum of 100 feet prior to the dispatched address and upwind if possible. Units should position in a manner so they may exit area should leak zone expand.
- b. Evacuate and Isolate. Resident/Building Occupants of dispatched address and occupants of neighboring structures on both sides of the dispatched address structure.
- c. Turn on meters in fresh air atmosphere.
- d. Officer in Command shall determine if the leak involves a public utility and have dispatch contact the appropriate utility and request a response.
- e. A minimum crew of two shall initiate entry wearing full PPE and SCBA
- f. If a meter LEL value of any level occurs, the interior first responder personnel shall evacuate immediately and defensive tactics and ventilation should be started to decrease the LEL values.
- g. Position Pressure Ventilation (PPV) must be started in a safe location and maneuvered into position.
- h. First responder personnel should only shut off valves that are above ground. Underground valves should only be shut off by authorized utility personnel only.
- i. Fire service personnel may not restore gas service once it has been secured.
- j. If LP Gas Tank is burning, apply water to cool above liquid line and do not extinguish the fire unless you can shut off valve. Keep away from tank ends.



*Continued Next Page*





## **GVFD SOG** (Update)

### **SECTION 731:RESPONDING TO NATURAL OR LP GAS LEAK OPERATIONS - Continued**

#### **C. Section 3 | Outside Gas Leaks**

- a. First Arriving Units shall stop a minimum of 100 feet prior to the dispatched address and upwind if possible. Units shall position in a manner so they may exit the area should the leak zone expand.
- b. Evacuate and isolate the area.
- c. Turn on meters in fresh air atmosphere.
- d. A minimum crew of two shall initiate entry wearing full PPE and SCBA. Begin taking readings and walk toward the suspected leak area. Note: SCBA shall be donned but the mask does not need to be worn with air flow on unless needed.
- e. Fire service personnel should only shut off valves above ground. Underground valves should only be shut off by authorized utility personnel only.
- f. Fire service personnel may not restore gas service once it has been secured.
- g. If LPG tank is burning, apply water to cool above the liquid line and do not extinguish the fire unless you can shut off valve. Keep away from the tank ends.

## **WHY WE NEED AN INCIDENT NUMBER**

By Chief Tom Bell

In the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department, we use INCIDENT NUMBERS to track services and training that is provided by the department. Some may ask what is an example of an incident that would require an INCIDENT NUMBER?

**GLAD YOU ASKED! Here are a few...**

- Engine 3 Assist Police on a Lockout
- Utility 7 will be in service in Smithton at Training
- Parades, Turkey Trot, Community Days that require stand-by, Fireworks stand-by, essentially anything that requires the use of personnel that involves equipment, (Engines, Utility's, Rescues, Special Ops, etc...)

A report should be filled out and a narrative put into that report on what the task was and the Personnel who was there to perform that task. This always needs to be done so there is an incident number attached to all incidents. **THIS IS FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES.** It makes it easier on everyone that, if something were to happen, there is a record of the event. If there is no record, basically **IT NEVER HAPPENED!**

We don't need incidents for Company Drills that happen in station, going for fuel, running to the store to pick up materials like food, water, etc., Driver's Training, and so on. Department Function Incidents will be handled by the OIC that is in charge of that event.

In essence, ANYTHING that involves equipment, personnel, and public property, PLEASE get an Incident Number. If you are not sure...get an INCIDENT NUMBER - They Don't Cost Us a Thing!



# GREENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Greensburg, PA

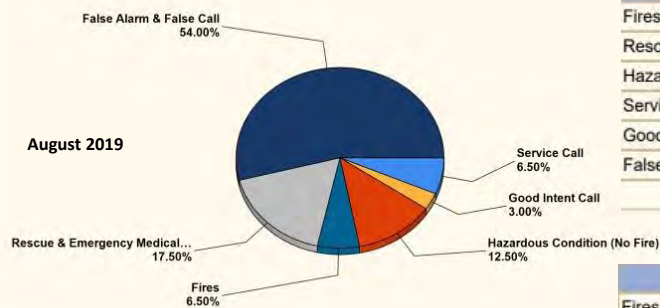


**EMERGENCY  
REPORTING**

RESPONSE BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR INCIDENT  
August - September - October - November 2019

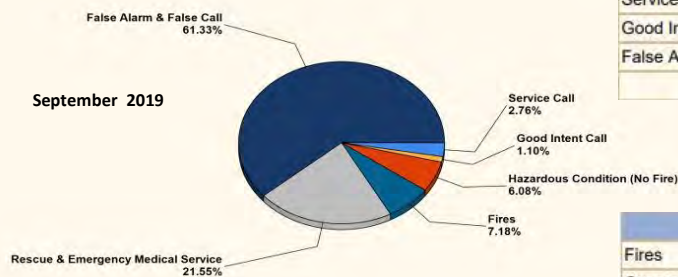


August 2019



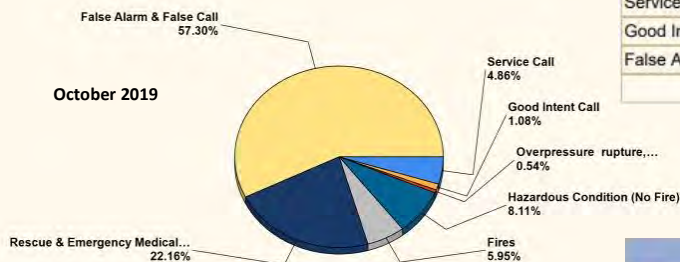
MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	13	6.50%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	35	17.50%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	25	12.50%
Service Call	13	6.50%
Good Intent Call	6	3.00%
False Alarm & False Call	108	54.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

September 2019



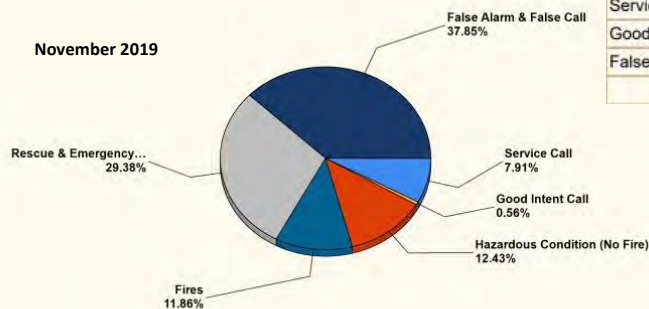
MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	13	7.18%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	39	21.55%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	11	6.08%
Service Call	5	2.76%
Good Intent Call	2	1.10%
False Alarm & False Call	111	61.33%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

October 2019



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	11	5.95%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	1	0.54%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	41	22.16%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	15	8.11%
Service Call	9	4.86%
Good Intent Call	2	1.08%
False Alarm & False Call	106	57.30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

November 2019



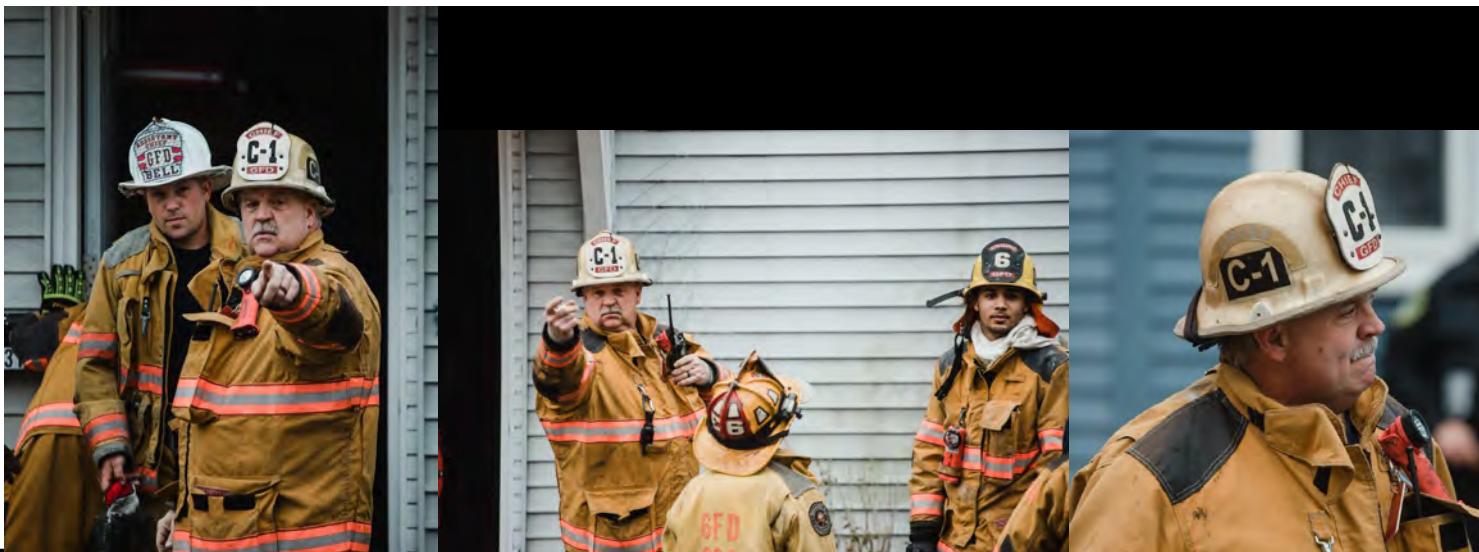
MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	21	11.86%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	52	29.38%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	22	12.43%
Service Call	14	7.91%
Good Intent Call	1	0.56%
False Alarm & False Call	67	37.85%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>100.00%</b>





## THOMAS A. BELL | Sworn in for another Three-Year Term as Fire Chief

Tom Bell was sworn in for his second term as Chief of the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department after Mayor Rob Bell and the members of City Council accepted the results of the vote by the Department Members on November 9th. Mayor Bell, in the presence of the city officials and those members of the public attending the December City of Greensburg Council Meeting, which included 11 members of the Greensburg Volunteer Fire Department, administered the oath of office to Chief Bell, with his wife, Kami and daughter, Jessica.





## BASEMENT FIRES | One Way In and One Way Out

Dealing with a basement fire is one of the most dangerous encounters on the job. This specific area of a home is critical and will challenge even the most experienced and well-trained firefighters. The treacherous conditions of having limited access, few ventilation options, and the possibility of collapse can be difficult to recognize, so a strong command presence by the Incident Commander is essential. Properly determining size-up conditions sets the groundwork for assessing this particular location and making the calculated decision whether or not you want to risk your firefighters in that structure.

When we think of what's in a basement, what comes to mind? I would almost always say some type of storage, for example, clothing, furniture, bulk household items, non-perishable food, or outdoor accessories, and more importantly, hazardous materials that are flammable and combustible liquids.

Basements are also commonly used as a utility space, where items such as a water heater, breaker panel or fuse box, and air conditioning system are located, generally fueled by natural gas, propane, or fuel oil.

Sometimes basements are often used as living space that will, depending on how large the area is, have walls just as the other levels of the home. Unless you are speaking with the evacuated occupants, you never know what you are walking into. Even then, they may not mention everything.

Entering the basement of any dwelling, there will be one way in, one way out, and the windows will almost always be small. With the heat and flames trying to rise, proper ventilation is imperative. With this in mind, the first crew will encounter high heat, lots of smoke, and generally low visibility.

After entering into the home and finding yourself at the top of the basement stairwell, the best way down is particularly done in pairs. You'll also

want to ensure that your firefighters have enough hose line, migrating quickly and all the way. It's either all or nothing at this point. The backup position is very crucial as well, feeding the hose line down the steps and continuously monitoring conditions.

Ventilation will be tricky in this particular case because it can also feed an oxygen-starved fire, resulting in a backdraft. To avoid a backdraft, you'll want to make sure the basement windows are vented. You may even need metal-cutting tools to assist in ventilation.

You'll also have to consider the potential for collapse, many basements have exposed ceilings that can quickly compromise components such as floor joists and floorboards. The floor above can partially or completely fail and collapse into the basement, trapping the crew below. This can result in disorientation or even being lost, not knowing where to send help, and in some cases, in death.

The entering crew must keep a close look on if the floor is hot, weak, or shows signs of embers lifting. This will call for an immediate reverse of the Engine group and change in tactics.

No matter what, this is one of

the most challenging places to work within a home or dwelling. There is a great risk involved but can be controlled rather quickly with everyone doing their job and completing the entire operation efficiently.

*Article from the PFIA Protector  
Author - Rebekah Brownson*







## CURLY Q Light Bulbs | No Way

By Colten Houser - Jr. GVFD FF  
[THE FIRE BELL Contributing Editor]

Do you or your friends have “Curley Q” Light Bulbs, also known as a Conservation Bulb? What it’s really called is a COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMP (CFL) and are simply curley versions of the long tube fluorescent lights you may already have in a kitchen or garage. A typical CFL can pay for itself in energy savings in less than 9-months and continue to save you money each month. But what do they do for us? One of our neighboring fire department members responded to a call where the nature was an odor of something burning.

His narrative - “Odor of something burning in a house. Arrived on scene and the odor was gone. Checked all the usual appliances. Then had the homeowner turn all the lights on that she had on prior to our arrival. Also asked if she had any of the screw-in fluorescent bulbs. This one was in the bathroom and she said it quit working last week then all of a sudden it starting working again. The ballast in these are notorious for failing. When they fail, the plastic at the base of the bulb will start to discolor and then eventually start to melt before catching on fire. One almost burned my house down a few years ago. The plastic was glowing red and arcing. Check your bulbs in your house.

Remember this when going to a house for an odor of “something” burning. Look for these lights.

## SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Keeps You SAFE!



Merry Christmas  
Happy New Year  
From The GVFD







## MOMENTS IN TIME

# GVFED



**Public Safety Training Center  
65 Public Safety Drive, Smithton, PA 15479**

**Westmoreland PSTC Spring, Summer, and Fall 2020 Schedule**

**Specials for 2020!**

- Fire and EMS Administrative Officer Course
- Tactical LifeSaver Course
- Chainsaw Safety - Awareness Level
- Incident Safety Officer – Technician
- Interaction with Special Needs: Hearing Impaired Individuals
- Smoke Diver's Program
- Aerial Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Pilot Exam
- Fire Officer II
- Fire Service Instructor II (ZFSI-II)

Instructors will be listed on the PSTC Website, as they are assigned to the courses. Website:  
<https://westmoreland.edu/about/locations/public-safety-training-center>

The following packages are available:

1. Pay-as-you-go
2. Westmoreland County training package(s)
3. Out-of-County package(s)
4. NEW! PSTC All Exclusive Package

Please contact Marc Jackson, Director/Public Safety Training Center, 724.872.2447 or [jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu](mailto:jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu) for additional details and pricing.

**Courses at a Glance:**

**January**

- 4 Introduction to the Fire Service (ELIS)
- 14 HAZMAT Awareness Level (HMAJB)
- 16 Fireground Support (ELFG)
- 29 Fire Officer I
- 29 Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA) Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam
- 30 Exterior Firefighter (ELEF)

**February**

- 1 Fire and EMS Administrative Officer Course
- 10 Advanced Firefighter (ELAF)
- 22 HAZMAT Operations Level (HMOJB)

**March**

- 2 Firefighter II Application Package Prep
- 3 Emergency Medical Technician
- 3 Interior Firefighter (ELIF)
- 9 Principles of Building Construction Combustible (NFA) (BCP)



- 11 Rapid Intervention Teams (RITC)
- 14 Basic Vehicle Rescue Awareness (NVR-A)
- 15 Incident Safety Officer (NFA) (ISO)
- 16 Introduction to the Fire Service (ELIS)
- 18 Fire Officer I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification
- 19 Cancer Prevention
- 22 Basic Vehicle Rescue Operations (NVR-O)
- 22 Basic Vehicle Rescue Operations (NVR-O)
- 24 Fire Dynamics: - Practical Applications
- 27 Tactical LifeSaver Course
- 28 Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) – Recognition and Understanding
- 29 Incident Safety Officer – Technician
- 30 HAZMAT Awareness Level (HMAJB)
- 31 Water Rescue for the First Responder Awareness Level

#### **April**

- 1 Fireground Support (ELFG)
- 1 Firefighter I Preparation
- 2 Art of Reading Fire Smoke
- 4 Modern Engine Company Operations
- 4 Modern Truck Company Operations
- 5 HAZMAT Operations Level Refresher (HMORJB)
- 6 Educational Methodologies for Local Level Instructors (EMLL)
- 6 Introduction to Fire Officership (INFO)
- 7 Pump Operations I (PUOP)
- 8 Pennsylvania Department of Health Basic Vehicle Rescue Technician Exam
- 9 Interaction with Special Needs: Hearing Impaired Individuals
- 14 Pump Operations II (PUOA)
- 14 Arson Awareness for Emergency Response Personnel (AAEP)
- 14 Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA) Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam
- 15 Exterior Firefighter (ELEF)
- 15 Chainsaw Safety - Awareness Level
- 19 Firefighter II Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam
- 21 Recruitment and Retention for the Volunteer Fire Service
- 21 Wilderness Search & Rescue – Search Responder (WRSR)
- 23 Company Readiness for the Fire Service
- 23 Interaction with Special Needs Individuals
- 26 Hazardous Materials Operations Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam
- 27 Fire Fighter Survival (SURV)
- 28 Emergency Vehicle Operations Training (EVOT)
- 28 Alternative Fueled Vehicles – Introduction
- 28 Basic Rigging for Rope Rescue (ROBR)
- 29 Driver/Operator – Pumper Skills Preparation
- 30 Smoke Diver's Program

#### **May**

- 2 Structural Burn Session (SBS) with CAFS
- 2 Special Vehicle Rescue (Dept. of Health) (DHSV)
- 9 Forcible Entry (TFE)
- 9 HAZMAT Operations Level (HMOJB)
- 10 Instructor I Pro Board / IFSAC Written & Skills Exam
- 17 Driver/Operator – Pumper Pro Board/IFSAC Certification Exam
- 18 Interior Firefighter (ELIF)
- 19 Aerial Apparatus Operations Extended (AELX)

## 30 Firefighter I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam

### June

- 1 Emergency Medical Technician
- 1 Junior Firefighter Academy
- 3 Cancer Prevention
- 6 Introduction to the Fire Service (ELIS)
- 8 Fire Dynamics: - Practical Applications
- 14 Aerial Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Pilot Exam
- 20 Emergency Vehicle Operations Training (EVOT)

### July

- 11 HAZMAT Awareness Level (HMAJB)
- 11 Firefighter I Preparation
- 18 Fireground Support (ELFG)

### September

- 1 Introduction to the Fire Service (ELIS)
- 12 HAZMAT Awareness Level (HMAJB)
- 12 Firefighter I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam
- 14 Pump Operations I (PUOP)
- 15 Emergency Medical Technician
- 15 Fireground Support (ELFG)
- 19 Hazardous Materials Technician
- 22 Pump Operations II (PUOA)
- 25 Tactical LifeSaver Course
- 28 Emergency Vehicle Operations Training (EVOT)
- 28 Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA) Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam
- 29 Tanker Water Supply (TAWs)
- 29 Exterior Firefighter (ELEF)
- 30 Firefighter II Skills Preparation

### October

- 3 Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) – Recognition and Understanding
- 5 Driver/Operator – Pumper Skills Preparation
- 5 Principles of Building Construction Combustible (NFA) (BCP)
- 6 Introduction to Fire Officership (INFO)
- 6 Engine Company Operations (ECOP)
- 8 Truck Co. Operations I (TRCO)
- 13 Driver/Operator – Mobile Water Supply Skills Preparation
- 17 Forcible Entry (TFE)
- 18 Driver/Operator – Pumper Pro Board/IFSAC Certification Exam
- 19 Structural Burn Session (SBS) Night Burn
- 22 HAZMAT Operations Level (HMOJB)
- 25 HAZMAT Operations Level Refresher (HMORJB)
- 28 Art of Reading Fire Smoke
- 29 Recruitment and Retention for the Volunteer Fire Service
- 29 Interior Firefighter (ELIF)

### November

- 2 Fire Fighter Survival (SURV)
- 2 Basic Vehicle Rescue Awareness (NVR-A)
- 3 Fire Officer II
- 3 Structure Collapse I (SCOA)
- 4 Company Readiness for the Fire Service
- 10 Structure Collapse II
- 12 Cancer Prevention

15 Fire Service Instructor II (ZFSI-II)  
15 Firefighter II Application Package Prep  
15 Firefighter II Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam  
17 Fire Dynamics: - Practical Applications  
17 Water Rescue for the First Responder Awareness Level  
18 Arson Awareness for Emergency Response Personnel (AAEP)  
22 Hazardous Materials Operations Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam  
23 Firefighter I Preparation  
24 Rapid Intervention Teams (RITC)  
25 Pennsylvania Department of Health Basic Vehicle Rescue Technician Exam

#### **December**

5 Hazardous Materials Technician Pro Board & IFSAC Certification Exam  
13 Instructor II Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam  
15 Fire Officer II Pro Board / IFSAC Written Exam  
18 Firefighter I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam

#### **REGISTRATION GUIDELINES:**

1. **PRE-REGISTRATION** is required to ensure sufficient enrollment.
2. All classes require a minimum of ten (10) students, unless otherwise specified
3. Maximum class is thirty (30) unless otherwise specified
4. Classes not meeting minimum enrollment five (5) days prior to the start date WILL BE CANCELED
5. Students SHOULD arrive 15-minutes prior to start of class, with pen and paper.

#### **Westmoreland County Fire Departments**

Pending availability, Westmoreland County Fire Departments can schedule 3-8 hour special training FREE of charge at the PSTC. A completed facility usage form is required, and can be located at the PSTC website under Facilities. A certificate of training for these sessions is also available, but would require the use of a PSTC approved instructor at a cost of \$10 per student. Use of the Class A or B burns for departments is permitted, but must meet NFPA 1403 2018 Edition, and a PSTC approved Safety Officer is required at a cost for "live fire" training is \$250.00, plus cost for EMS, and \$5 fuel usage fee is also applied per person. Additional fees for on-site equipment use may be applicable.

#### **Out-of-County Fire Departments**

Rental of the PSTC is available to out-of-county fire departments. Please contact the facility for pricing and requirements.

#### **Acquired Structure Burns**

The PSTC is willing to facilitate "Acquired Structure Burns." The burn must meet all DEP and PSFA documentation requirements which will be the responsibility of the owner/hosting fire department. Please contact the facility for pricing and requirements.

For more information about First Responder classes, contact Marc Jackson, Director/Public Safety Training Center, 724-872-2447 or [jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu](mailto:jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu).

#### **Training Packages**

Don't forget about our training packages! Contact the Director today for more details.



## Emergency Medical Services Professionals

### Emergency Medical Technician

#### **NEW REDUCED PRICE!**

Prepare to be an EMT! Develop competence in the following skills: patient assessment/management of a trauma patient and a medical patient; cardiac arrest management/AED; bag-valve-mask ventilation of an apneic patient; spinal immobilization (both seated and supine patient); long bone fracture immobilization; joint dislocation immobilization; traction splinting; bleeding control/shock management; upper airway adjuncts and suction; ventilation with supplemental oxygen; and supplemental oxygen administration to a breathing patient. The curriculum follows the new National EMS Education Standards. 16.4 CEUs. Must be 16 years old to register and be able to pass background check – requirements explained first night of class. During the program, you will be required to complete ten (10) patient contacts with a preceptor (ambulance service), additional background clearances/medical exam may be required (explained first night of class). Upon successful completion of this class, and ICS 100 and NIMS 700 (both online completion) and (included in class), you will be eligible to take the state certification exam and the National Registry Exam. (Registry exam fees not included). Textbook available at the college bookstore (review of textbook prior to class is recommended). \$500 tuition + \$30 lab fee + required textbook. 16.4 CEUs Complete schedule available at <https://westmoreland.edu/pages/locations/public-safety-training-center/>

#### **Spring Session MEDX 1880-78**

Tuesdays & Thursdays 6-10 p.m. and some Saturdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. March 3 through June 23, 2020 Tuesday, May 19, 6-10 p.m. Hazardous Materials Awareness course

**Registration Deadline:** February 19

#### **Summer Session MEDX 1880-79**

Mondays & Wednesdays 6-10 p.m. and Saturdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. June 1 through August 17, 2020 Monday, July 20, 6-10 p.m. Hazardous Materials Awareness course

**Registration Deadline:** May 18

#### **Fall Session**

MEDX 1880-78

Tuesdays & Thursdays 6-10 p.m. and some Saturdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., September 15 through January 14, 2021 Tuesday, December 1, 6-10 p.m. Hazardous Materials Awareness course

**Registration Deadline:** September 1

#### **NEW! Tactical LifeSaver Course**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

The Tactical Lifesaver Course (TLC) is a TECC training course that is recognized by the Committee for Tactical Emergency Casualty Care and is a derivative of the U.S. Army's Combat Lifesaver Course. TLC is our most comprehensive and most sought after training program. This training program has been adapted to teach lifesaving techniques for active shooter situations, bombings and MCI scenarios. The course offers multiple in-depth training scenarios that are used to drive home lifesaving techniques and emphasize Fire, EMS and Police integration. This course is also used as an in-depth Rescue Task Force training program. This is a 3-day training course that will challenge anyone to learn and apply skills rapidly in the tactical environment.

- DAY 1: Primary lecture day with small group skill stations.
- DAY 2: Small Group Skills, Tactical Movements, Rescue Task Force Concept Training
- DAY 3: Large scale exercises and skills evaluation exercises

For information on the program, go to:

[www.SergeantRescueTraining.com](http://www.SergeantRescueTraining.com) \$425 tuition (not available for package use). ConEd available.

#### **Spring Session PPRX 7960 78**

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, March 27, 28, & 29, 7:45 a.m.-5 p.m.

#### **Fall Session PPRX 7960 79**

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, September 25, 26, & 27, 7:45 a.m.-5 p.m.

## Apparatus Training

### Pump Operations I (PUOP)

This course provides the fire fighter with an introduction to basic pump construction and theory as well as operating techniques. Emphasis is placed on getting water to the pump, getting water from the pump for hose streams, and prevention of common mistakes in pump operations.

Prerequisite: ELFG or EBM. \$50 tuition + \$10 material fee

#### Spring Session PPRX 6658-78

Tuesday & Thursday, April 7 & 9, 6:30-10:30 p.m. & Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m.-4:30 pm.

#### Fall Session PPRX 6658-79

Monday & Wednesday, September 14, & 16, 6:30-10:30 p.m. & Sunday, September 20, 8 a.m.-4:30 pm.

### Pump Operations II (PUOA)

This course is designed to instruct the student in advanced techniques of operating pumps. Topics covered include friction loss, relay pumping, master streams, and elevated master streams. The goal of this course will introduce the student to advanced concepts and methods of fire pump operation. \$50 Tuition + \$10 material fee

#### Spring Session PPRX 6659-78

Tuesday & Thursday, April 14 & 16, 6:30-10:30 p.m. & Saturday, April 18, 8 a.m.-4:30 pm.

#### Fall Session PPRX 6659-79

Tuesday & Thursday, September 22 & 24, 6:30-10:30 p.m. & Sunday, September 27, 8 a.m.-4:30 pm.

### Emergency Vehicle Operations Training (EVOT)

A large number of emergency service personnel and civilians are injured and killed each year as a result of inappropriately driven emergency vehicles. Participants in this course will have the opportunity to gain and/or verify a broad range of competencies associated with driving an emergency vehicle.

These competencies include basic understanding of emergency vehicle operations, as well as the skills necessary for practical and safe application of driving on a competency course. Students must provide a notebook, pen/pencil and apparatuses

desired for certificate of training. Minimum age of 18 by the first day of class. EMS ConEd available. \$50 tuition + \$12 material fee

#### Spring Session PPRX 1752-78

Tuesday & Thursday, April 28 & 30, 6:30-10:30 p.m. & Sunday, May 3, 8 a.m.-4:30

#### Summer Session PPRX 1752 78

2 Saturdays, June 20 & 27, 8 a.m.-4:30

#### Fall Session PPRX 1752 79

Monday & Wednesday, September 28 & 30, 6:30-10:30 p.m. & Sunday, October 4, 8 a.m.-4:30

### Driver/Operator – Pumper Skills Preparation (Westmoreland Exclusive)

This refresher course is for all experienced pump operators wanting to update or reinforce “rusty” skills or prepare for the next PSFA Pro Board/IFSAC Driver/ Operator - Pumper certification test. Students should have previously completed the requirements for Driver/Operator – Pumper certification or comparable training. Students must bring full turnout gear, and it is recommended that they bring their pumper to the second night of class for comfortability for proper preparation for the certification. \$35 tuition + \$15 material fee

#### Spring Session PPRX 6660-78

3 Wednesdays, April 29, & May 6, & 13, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Driver/Operator – Pumper Pro Board/IFSAC Certification Exam, Sunday, May 17, 0730 a.m.-5 p.m. \$175 tuition, Application Deadline: May 1**

#### Fall Session PPRX 6660 79

Monday & Wednesday, October 5, 7, & 12, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Driver/Operator – Pumper Pro Board/IFSAC Certification Exam, Sunday, October 18, 0730 a.m.-5 p.m. \$175 tuition Application Deadline: October 2**

### **Aerial Apparatus Operations Extended (AELX)**

This course will give a more extensive treatment of the subject of aerial device operation and prepare the student for certification. Through both classroom and hands-on practice, students will become familiar with basic design and operational theory of aerial devices, safety considerations, spotting and stabilizing, device operation, elevated master stream, and rescue. An introduction to basic truck company operations is also included. Prerequisites: IST or ELIS. \$80 tuition

PPRX 0006 78

Tuesday & Thursday, May 19, 21, 26, & 28,  
6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday, May 30, 8 a.m.-  
4:30 p.m.

### **Aerial Pro Board / IFSAC Certification**

**Pilot Exam**, Sunday, June 14, 0730  
a.m.-5 p.m. \$175 tuition, **Application**  
**Deadline**: June 1

### **Tanker Water Supply (TAWS)**

A program dealing with supplying the fire ground with water from tenders. Subjects covered include construction, water flow requirements, water supply set up, and the drop tank shuttle system. Students attending this program will become familiar with techniques for moving water for fire extinguishment utilizing tenders. Students shall understand the safest, most efficient methods of supplying the fire ground with water requirements with tankers.

PPRX 7900 78

Tuesday & Thursday, September 29, &  
October 1, 6, & 8, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Driver/Operator – Mobile Water**  
**Supply Certification Exam**, Sunday,  
October 18, \$175 tuition.

**Application Deadline**: October 13

### **Driver/Operator – Mobile Water Supply Skills** **Preparation (Westmoreland Exclusive)**

This refresher course is for all experienced mobile water supply (tanker) operators wanting to update or reinforce “rusty” skills or prepare for the next PSFA Pro Board/IFSAC Driver/Operator – Mobile Water certification test. Students should have previously completed the requirements for Driver/Operator – Mobile Water certification or comparable training. Students must bring full turnout gear, and it is recommended that they bring their tanker to the second night of class for comfortability for proper preparation for the certification. \$35 tuition

PPRX 0950-78

Tuesday & Thursday, October 13 & 15, 6:30-  
10:30 p.m.

**Driver/Operator – Mobile Water Supply**  
**Certification Exam**, Sunday, October 18, \$175  
tuition. **Application Deadline**: October 13

## **Junior Firefighter Development**

### **Junior Firefighter Academy (Westmoreland Exclusive)**

The Junior Firefighter Camp provides classroom and practical training to further participants' knowledge, skills, and abilities in firefighting and emergency operations for certification in NFPA 1001, Standard on Firefighter Professional Qualifications. Some instructional topics to be covered include: CPR and First Aid, hoseline operations, fireground operations, portable fire extinguishers, ground ladders, leadership and team-building, self-contained breathing apparatus, personal protective equipment. Goal of this academy is to allow youth to gain insight and interest in becoming long term members of emergency services, increasing awareness among youth about volunteering and supporting the fire and emergency services, providing departments with additional help in accomplishing non-firefighting or non-emergency tasks, developing leadership for America's youth, who are tomorrow's leaders, and educating parents and mentors on the importance of encouraging volunteerism. Program will finish with a Capstone Project on Sunday, June 7 by assisting Smithton Volunteer Fire Department with Firefighter Special Needs Camp Day. Registration Deadline: May 22, 2020. Age Requirement: 14-17. **FREE** tuition, **Wavier Required**.

PPRK 4450 78

Monday through Friday, June 1 to June 5, 6 - 9:30 p.m.



## Officer Development

### Fire Officer I

A course for every current or future officer. Company officers face daunting challenges: from firefighter safety to "refereeing" social conflicts in the station. The step from firefighter to officer is a big one; get some help with this course. People management, leadership, pre-planning, budgeting, personnel safety, fire investigations, training and incident command are covered. Don't lead by the seat of your pants, discover some proven officership principles and tips to improve your command ability. The PA Fire Officer I certification exam is administered upon successful completion. Prerequisites: NIMS, Haz. Mat. Ops., Firefighter II and Fire Service Instructor I. Minimum age, 18. \$80 tuition + \$10 material fee

PPRX 0880 78

Wednesday's, January 29, & February 5, 12, 26, & March 4, & 11, 6-10 p.m., & Sunday's February 16, & March 1, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**Fire Officer I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification,**  
Wednesday, March 18, 6:30 – 9:30 pm. \$75 tuition, **Application Deadline:** March 1

### Fire and EMS Administrative Officer Course (PSFA AOTR Program)

The Pennsylvania State Fire Academy is offering this 24-hour Fire and EMS Administrative Officer Course to educate those in an administrative leadership positions within a volunteer or combination Fire/EMS organizations. The course outlines modern management techniques, to include managing the business of the organization, board management and governance, managing human resources, risk management and dealing with the public and elected officials. This course is presented in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO) with financial support of the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The course instructors are a combination of PA State Fire Academy and PANO instructors. Students are required to attend (three 8-hour classroom sessions that meet once a month for three months), participate in class activities and complete homework assignments specifically designed to improve the operations of their organizations. The instructors review the homework assignments and

provide feedback. Course Tuition: \$150.00 per person.

PPRX 0881 78

3 Saturdays, February 1, March 14, & April 11, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### Principles of Building Construction Combustible (NFA) (BCP)

The overall goal of this course is to provide knowledge about the classification system of buildings, the importance of fire resistance for structural support elements, and the risks associated with performing fire-suppression activities inside and around buildings involved in fire. One additional major goal of this course is to enhance the skills of emergency response personnel so they can read a building correctly and apply the information to the action plan for the incident. This course is intended for fire response personnel. Prerequisite: IST or ELIS \$35 tuition

**Spring Session** PPRX 0458-78

4 Mondays, March 9, 16, 23, & 30, 6:30 – 9:30 pm.

**Fall Session** PPRX 0458-79

4 Mondays, October 5, 12, 19, & 26, 6:30 – 9:30 pm.

### Incident Safety Officer (NFA) (ISO)

Provides the company and line officer with the skills to effectively function as the fireground safety officer. Developing decision making skills by recognizing safety cues is stressed. Covers the safety officer role, regulations, standards and policies; recordkeeping and documentation; risk management; incident considerations and communicating and monitoring evolutions. Prerequisites: NICS-FS or NICS-EMS or ICS and training to the Haz-Mat First Responder Operations level. EMS ConEd available. \$35 tuition

PPRX 3607-78

2 Sunday's, March 15 & 22, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Electronic Registration Available** ([Click Here](#)) Or Our Website at:  
Westmoreland.edu/pstc

### **NEW! Incident Safety Officer – Technician**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

This Incident Safety Officer - Technician Course prepares aspiring and current safety officers to meet and exceed the specific job requirements outlined in Chapter 5 of NFPA 1521: Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer, 2015 Edition. This course includes current information on responding to incidents involving hazardous materials, wildland fire, technical rescue, and other disasters. In addition, this edition provides methods for the development and improvement of existing safety programs. The required text for the course is Jones & Bartlett Fire Department Incident Safety Officer, Third Edition. \$35 tuition. Prerequisites: ELIS & HMA

PPRX 2501 78

2 Sunday's, March 29 & April 5, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### **Art of Reading Fire Smoke**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

Often, smoke issuing from a building is the only clue available to predict fire behavior and the likelihood of a flashover or rapid fire spread. First-arriving officers, incident commanders, and safety officers MUST know how to rapidly read smoke. This course will provide the basic understanding of modern structure fire characteristics of reading fire smoke. \$10 tuition

**Spring Session** PPRX 0015-78

Thursday, April 2, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Fall Session** PPRX 0015-79

Wednesday, October 28 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Educational Methodologies for Local Level Instructors (EMLL)**

Learn to become an emergency services instructor. A must course if you want to become a PA State Fire Academy field instructor. This class presents the theory and practical concepts of adult education to teach others. Adult learning, instructor attributes, ethics and demeanor, class environment, writing effective learning objectives, selection and preparation of course materials including lesson plans and support materials and the Fire Service Instructor I certification examination included. Student Must Provide the Text Book: IFSTA - Fire and Emergency Services Instructor, Eighth edition.

Experience with word processing and visual presentation software. Prerequisites: Minimum age of 18. \$80 tuition

PPRX 1600

Mondays & Wednesdays, April 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29, & May 4 & 6, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Instructor I Pro Board / IFSAC Written & Skills Exam**, Sunday, May 10, Report time: 7:30AM, **Application Deadline:** May 6

### **Introduction to Fire Officership (INFO)**

To provide students with an overview of the skills necessary to effectively manage volunteer and career fire organizations. Introduction to Fire Officership will give the student a basic overview of company officer responsibilities, personnel issues, their role in fire ground operations, and the development of a sound and effective administrative and fire ground organizational structure. Prerequisites: ELIF or EBM. \$40 tuition

**Spring Session** PPRX 2395-78

4 Mondays, April 6, 13, 20, & 27, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Fall Session** PPRX 2395-79

4 Tuesdays, October 6, 13, 20, & 27, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

For more information about First Responder classes, contact Marc Jackson, Director/Public Safety Training Center, 724-872-2447 or [jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu](mailto:jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu).

### **Electronic Registration**

Available ([Click Here](#)) Or Our Website at: [Westmoreland.edu/pstc](http://Westmoreland.edu/pstc)

### **Training Packages**

Don't forget about our training packages! Contact the Director today for more details.

## Company Readiness for the Fire Service

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

This program is designed to refocus or initially focus department personnel on administrative and operational duties and priorities of responsibilities to more efficiently direct their company's betterment of service delivery to the community. Topics to be covered: Discuss planning priorities both internal and external to the department, review of the Incident Management System and applicable NFPA standards of reference for departments to focus on for positive growth, discuss Training and Certification pathways for members of all levels, introduce safety measures for both internal and external applications to the department, and perform a SWOT Analysis for department(s) and review findings relevant to material covered. \$10 tuition

### Spring Session PPRX 0886-78

Thursday, April 23, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### Fall Session PPRX 0886-79

Wednesday, November 4, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

## **NEW! Fire Officer II** (Westmoreland Exclusive)

This course is based on NFPA 1021: Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications (Chapter 5) and may lead to IFSAC and Pro Board certifications. The course is designed for the Fire Officer who is ready to assume more of a leadership role by moving into the middle management level of his/her department. This course expands on the knowledge base attained in Fire Officer I by revisiting some of the same subjects and adding additional material including Management, Government Structure, and

departmental Budget Planning and Management, while examining critical issues in leadership, human resources, instructing, community interaction, and finances. Topics will include basic investigation techniques, operational plans, and communicating in the written medium. Successful completion of the program requires proficiency demonstration in written practical skills and a multiple-choice examination.

PPRX 0879 78

Tuesday & Thursdays, November 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, & December 1, 3, & 8, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Fire Officer II Pro Board / IFSAC Written Exam**, December 15, Report time: 6:30 p.m. **Application Deadline:** December 3

## **NEW! Fire Service Instructor II (ZFSI-II)**

(PSFA AOTR Program)

This 5-day course will provide instruction in lesson plan development, supervision of training evolutions, test item construction, supervisory and administrative duties and evaluations of instructors and class. **COURSE PREREQUISITE:** Fire Service Instructor I Course Fee: **FREE** for Pennsylvania Firefighters

PPRX 1611 78

5 Sundays, November 15, 22, 29, & December 6 & 13, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### **Instructor II Pro Board / IFSAC**

**Certification Exam**, Sunday, December 13, Report time: 7:30 a.m.

**Application Deadline:** October 15

## Reminder:

### REGISTRATION GUIDELINES:

1. **PRE-REGISTRATION** is required to ensure sufficient enrollment.
2. All classes require a minimum of ten (10) students, unless otherwise specified
3. Maximum class is thirty (30) unless otherwise specified
4. Classes not meeting minimum enrollment five (5) days prior to the start date WILL BE CANCELED
5. Students SHOULD arrive 15-minutes prior to start of class, with pen and paper.



## Support Operations

### **Cancer Prevention (Westmoreland Exclusive)**

This 4-hour class will educate firefighters and EMS personnel about their increased risk of developing cancer, encourage actions and behaviors to reduce or prevent exposure to occupational cancer hazards, encourage healthy lifestyle choices to further reduce cancer risk, and provide information about resources available to firefighters, EMS personnel and their families following a cancer diagnosis. The student will need to provide: pen/pencil, notebook. \$10 tuition

#### **Spring Session PPRX 2561-78**

Thursday, March 19, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Summer Session PPRX 2561-79**

Wednesday, June 3, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session PPRX 2561-78**

Thursday, November 12, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Interaction with Special Needs: Hearing Impaired Individuals (Westmoreland Exclusive)**

This course is designed to provide basic skills for interacting between hearing impaired individuals and emergency services providers. This course is highly encouraged for all First Responders. This course will be structured toward hearing impaired individuals who may also be non-verbal. \$10 tuition.

PPRX 9003 78

Thursday, April 9, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **NEW! Chainsaw Safety - Awareness Level**

Chainsaw use during wildland fire fighting operations and storm clean-up is one of the single most dangerous tasks that can be assigned to any person. any firefighters, public works personnel, and homeowners are injured and killed every year while operating chainsaws. With proper training, experience and an increased state of awareness you greatly reduce your chances of being injured or killed. This class is intended to be an introductory guide to the proper use and maintenance of the chainsaws employed at a Fire Department. Though this class will present you with the basics of chainsaw operation.

PPRX 1002 78

Wednesday, April 15, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Interaction with Special Needs Individuals**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

This course is designed to provide basic skills for interacting between special needs individuals and emergency services providers. This course is highly encouraged for all First Responders. This course will be structured toward verbal individuals with special needs. \$10 tuition.

PPRX 9003 79

Thursday, April 23, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Recruitment and Retention for the Volunteer Fire Service (Westmoreland Exclusive)**

Recruiting new volunteers isn't easy, but it's not impossible. There are many challenges we face. This course will present techniques to assist in recruiting and retaining members as a guide to best practices in volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention. \$10 tuition.

#### **Spring Session PPRX 7118-78**

Tuesday, April 21, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session PPRX 7118-79**

Thursday, October 29, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Alternative Fueled Vehicles – Introduction**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

Introduction to incidents involving alternative fuel vehicles including electric, hybrid, hydrogen fuel cell, bio-diesel and gaseous fuels such as CNG (Compressed Natural Gas), LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas), LPG (Liquid Propane Gas), and their recharging/refueling stations. Examples of alternative fuel vehicles will be onsite for additional knowledge support. \$10 tuition

PPRX 0009-78

Tuesday, April 28, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Acquired Structure Burns**

The PSTC is willing to facilitate "Acquired Structure Burns." The burn must meet all DEP and PSFA documentation requirements which will be the responsibility of the owner/hosting fire department. Please contact the facility for pricing and requirements.

### **Arson Awareness for Emergency Response Personnel (AAEP)**

This course will prepare 'first-on-the-scene' responders to make observations and take actions which will help fire investigators determine cause and origin of fires and, where appropriate, investigate and successfully prosecute cases of arson. This course is appropriate for all emergency responders (fire, fire police, police, and EMS) who might arrive first on the scene of a fire. It consists of material extracted from the longer National Fire Academy course Arson Detection for the First

Responder, and is designed to give essential basic information to responders whose duties do not require the more extensive NFA course, or whose time schedules do not permit attending the longer course at this time.

#### **Spring Session PPRX 0090 78**

Tuesday, April 14, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session PPRX 0090 78**

Wednesday, November 18, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

## **Fire Suppression**

### **Rapid Intervention Teams (RITC)**

Course Goal: Reduce firefighter injuries and deaths in Pennsylvania. Fire ground rescue teams may prevent firefighter deaths or reduce the severity of injuries inflicted on firefighters by being on scene with proper equipment and training. This program is designed to prepare fire department personnel for implementation of a stand-by rescue team at structure fires and certain other incidents. Information is provided from existing fire departments utilizing the concept successfully. \$10 tuition. Prerequisites: ELIF

#### **Spring Session PPRX 7116 78**

Wednesday, March 11, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session PPRX 7116 79**

Tuesday, November 24, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Fire Dynamics: - Practical Applications**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

This course will expand upon knowledge of fire dynamics as it relates to modern fire attack in residential structure fires. Specific topics will include fire spread via improper ventilation, flow path identification, and positive pressure ventilation. This course will be practically based with adequate time for multiple evolutions involving "doll house" type structures to show fire dynamics in a live fire setting. The basis of the course is currently completed UL/NIST research with further expansion of "real life" examples. Prerequisites: Fire Dynamics: Strategies and Tactics (FDST) or requisite knowledge of modern fire attack principles as per UL/NIST Research. \$10 tuition + \$10 lab fee

#### **Spring Session PPRX 2357-78**

Tuesday, March 24, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Summer Session PPRX 2357-79**

Monday, June 8, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session PPRX 2357-78**

Tuesday, November 17, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Modern Engine Company Operations**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

This 32-hour course is designed for firefighters to gain knowledge and skills necessary to operate on a fire ground as a member of an engine company. The course is composed of 8-hours of lecture, 8-hours of drills, and 16-hours of "live fire" burns under various conditions and scenarios. Each "live fire" will be designed as roll-ins on an apparatus requiring all engine company operations on the fire ground to be completed, while working in conjunction with the Modern Truck Company Operations class. Students will be given the opportunity to develop officer leadership roles as well. Topics include: review of structural fire behavior, fire ground safety, hose line advancement and attack procedures, SCBA systems and practice, organized fire attack, forcible entry, and ground ladder handling. Prerequisite: Interior Firefighter (ELIF) with SBS/ Essentials of Firefighting (EBM) or FF I. \$50 tuition + \$10 lab fee

#### **PPRX 1761-78**

4 Saturdays, April 4, 11, 18, & 25, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

## Modern Truck Company Operations

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

This 32-hour course is designed for firefighters to gain knowledge and skills necessary to operate on a fire ground as a member of a truck company. The course is composed of 4-hours of lecture, 12-hours of drills, and 16-hours of "live fire" burns under various conditions and scenarios, while working in conjunction with the Modern Engine Company Operations class. Each "live fire" will be designed as roll-ins on an apparatus requiring all truck company operations on the fire ground to be completed. Students will be given the opportunity to develop officer leadership roles as well. Topics include: review of structural fire behavior, fire ground safety, ladders (a lot of them!), Forcible Entry (doors/windows), Ventilation (mostly vertical), Saw work (chainsaw and rotary disc), Search and rescue (multiple techniques), Vent, Enter, Isolate, and Search (VEIS), and TIC drills with some dynamics. Prerequisite: Interior Firefighter (ELIF) with SBS/ Essentials of Firefighting (EBM) or FF I. \$50 tuition + \$10 lab fee

PPRX 5307-78

4 Saturdays, April 4, 11, 18, & 25, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### Training Packages

Don't forget about our training packages! Contact the Director today for more details.

## Fire Fighter Survival (SURV)

Reduce the risk of fire fighter injuries and deaths in Pennsylvania. The class will enable fire fighters to become more aware and familiar with procedures that may be used to prevent or perhaps lessen the seriousness of injuries or even save their lives. A physically demanding comprehensive program dealing with the necessary knowledge and skills relative to rescue procedures needed for self-rescue. Emphasis will be placed on search techniques, communications, accountability/location and self-rescue procedures. Students must be in adequate physical condition to perform 100% of all practical exercises.

Prerequisites: ELIF or

EBM; Recommended RITC, SFR, ICS: Student must be physically able to crawl, climb and

descend ladders, slide on rope, and SUPPORT OWN BODY WEIGHT WHILE HANGING BY ARMS. Pa State Fire Academy facial hair policy applies. \$65 tuition + \$15 lab fee

### Spring Session PPRX 2175-78

4 Mondays, April 27, & May 4, 11, 18, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### Fall Session PPRX 2175-79

4 Mondays, November 2, 9, 16, & 23, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

## Westmoreland County Fire Departments

Pending availability, Westmoreland County Fire Departments can schedule 3-8 hour special training FREE of charge at the PSTC. A completed facility usage form is required, and can be located at the PSTC website under Facilities. A certificate of training for these sessions is also available, but would require the use of a PSTC approved instructor at a cost of \$10 per student. Use of the Class A or B burns for departments is permitted, but must meet NFPA 1403 2018 Edition, and a PSTC approved Safety Officer is required at a cost for "live fire" training is \$250.00, plus cost for EMS, and \$5 fuel usage fee is also applied per person. Additional fees for on-site equipment use may be applicable.

## Out-of-County Fire Departments

Rental of the PSTC is available to out-of-county fire departments. Please contact the facility for pricing and requirements.

### **NEW! Smoke Diver's Program**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

#### **THIS IS NOT FOR THE T-SHIRT WEARING**

**FIREFIGHTER!** This is a physically demanding, advanced firefighter course with a focus on firefighter survival and structure fire rescue. The course activities are designed to provide realistic fireground working conditions, requiring the student to learn as a team member the limitations of equipment and physical conditioning. Course activities are designed to teach: the limitations of firefighter personal protective equipment, tactics in structure fire rescue techniques, navigating in fire structures in zero visibility, hose line techniques utilizing 1 3/4" and 2 1/2" attack lines and rappelling while utilizing firefighter protective equipment. The emphasis of this class is personal firefighter safety while functioning as a team member, exposing the student to a multitude of scenarios designed to be as realistic as possible, to include "live" smoke conditions during firefighter survival techniques. The student should recognize that the majority of the course will take place on the drill field in full PPE. Each student is expected to have a basic understanding of fire fighter survival and RIC prior to attending this course. Students **MUST BE** in adequate physical condition to perform 100% of all practical exercises. Student **MUST BE** physically able to crawl, climb and descend ladders, slide on rope, and **SUPPORT OWN BODY WEIGHT WHILE HANGING BY ARMS**. Class size is limited to 14 students. Final selection will be determined by PSTC staff and proper review of Medical Examination Form to determine fitness for firefighter training. Medical Exam form can be located at [Westmoreland.edu/PSTC](http://Westmoreland.edu/PSTC) and will be required for final selection. Students requesting course above the class limit will be placed on waiting list if a spot becomes available or first selection for the next course. \$50 tuition & \$25 lab fee. Please note the various times of class prior to registering.

PPRX 2401 78

Thursday, April 30, 6:30-10:30 p.m.,  
Saturday, May 2, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., &  
Saturday, May 9, 4 p.m.-12 a.m.

### **Structural Burn Session (SBS) with CAFS**

(PSFA / Westmoreland Exclusive)

This is a specially developed structure burn session with the emphasis in the use of Compressed Air Foam Systems (CAFS) for structure firefighting. Darley Fire Equipment will be providing the opportunity to conduct "live" fire training under the Minimum Standards of Accreditation (MSA) for the PSFA Structural Burn Session (SBS). This course will provide the student with a review and application of the techniques used in safe firefighting practices in an actual fire environment to include both traditional and CAFS firefighting extinguishment. Emphasis is placed on safety for both interior and exterior operations. Students must provide; turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Prerequisite: ELIF or EBM or FF I. Minimum age 18. \$65 tuition + \$25 lab fee

PPRX 7703-78

Saturday & Sunday, May 2 & 3, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### **Forcible Entry (TFE)**

This course will provide the fire fighter with a better understanding of building construction as it applies to forcible entry. Also covered will be opening techniques and the use of tools for safe, quick access to a structure. Students must provide; a notebook and pen/pencil, work gloves and steel toed shoes. Prerequisite: ELIF or EBM or FF I. \$35 tuition + \$10 Lab Fee

**Spring Session** PPRX 2555-78

2 Saturdays, May 9 & 16, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Fall Session** PPRX 2555-78

2 Saturdays, October 17 & 24, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

#### **Electronic Registration**

Available ([Click Here](#)) Or Our Website  
at: [Westmoreland.edu/pstc](http://Westmoreland.edu/pstc)



### **Engine Company Operations (ECOP)**

A discussion of fire behavior and spread in structures, methods of calculating needed fire flow and organizing and equipping an engine company is followed by a series of "hands on" drills involving various engine company evolutions. Students must provide turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Prerequisite: ELIF or EBM or FF I. \$55 tuition + \$10 lab fee

PPRX 1756-78

4 Tuesdays, October 6, 13, 20, & 27, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Truck Co. Operations I (TRCO)**

This course will introduce the student to the basic duties of a truck company including hand and power tool operation, search and rescue, and ventilation. Truck company support to the engine company is also covered. Students must provide turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil.

Prerequisite: ELIF or EBM or FF I. Minimum age 18. \$55 tuition + \$10 lab fee

PPRX 8105-78

4 Thursdays, October 8, 15, 22, & 29, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Structural Burn Session (SBS) Night Burn**

This course will provide the student with a review and application of the techniques used in safe firefighting practices in an actual fire environment. Emphasis is placed on safety for both interior and exterior operations. Students must provide; turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Prerequisite: ELIF or EBM or FF I. Minimum age 18. \$65 tuition + \$15 lab fee

PPRX 7703-79

Monday & Wednesday, October 19 & 21, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday, October 24, 6:30 p.m.-2:30 a.m.

## **Hazardous Materials**

### **HAZMAT Awareness Level (HMAJB)**

The primary target audience for this course are First Responders who will witness or discover a hazardous substance/materials release. Students will be trained to initiate an emergency response sequence by notifying the proper authorities of the release. They shall have sufficient training or have had sufficient experience to objectively demonstrate competency to understand what hazardous substances are, the risks, potential outcomes, the ability to recognize and identify their presence, their role including site security, safe scene management and how to use the Emergency Response Guidebook during a hazardous materials/WMD emergency. Students must provide a notebook and pen/pencil. Minimum age 14. ConEd Available. \$10 tuition

### **Spring Session A PPRX 3143-78**

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30–10:30 p.m.

### **Spring Session B PPRX 3143-79**

Monday, March 30, 6:30–10:30 p.m.

### **Summer Session PPRX 3143-78**

Saturday, July 11, 8 am.-12 p.m.

### **Fall Session PPRX 3143-78**

Saturday, September 12, 8 am.-12 p.m.

### **Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA) Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam**

- Completed Application is due at time of exam
- 1. Wednesday, January 29, Report time: 6:30 p.m.
- 2. Tuesday, April 14, Report time: 6:30 p.m.
- 3. Monday, September 28, Report time: 6:30 p.m.

### HAZMAT Operations Level (HMOJB)

This class provides training for first responders that respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous substances as part of the initial response for the purpose of protecting nearby persons, property and the environment. Personnel are trained to respond in a defensive fashion to contain the release from a safe distance, to keep it from spreading and prevent exposures. They must understand basic hazard and risk assessment, how to select and use proper personnel protective equipment, basic hazardous materials terms, basic control, containment and/or confinement operations within the capabilities of the resources and PPE available, basic decontamination procedures and termination procedures. Students must provide; SCBA, turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Minimum age, 16. ConEd Available. \$70 tuition + \$10 lab fee

#### Spring Session A PPRX 3156-78

Saturdays, February 22 & 29, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., & Tuesday & Thursday, February 25 & 27, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### Spring Session B PPRX 3156-79

Saturdays, May 9 & 16, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., & Monday & Wednesday, May 11 & 13, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### Fall Session PPRX 3156-78

Thursday & Tuesday, October 22 & 27, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday & Sunday, October 24 & 25, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### Hazardous Materials Operations (HMO) Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam:

- Sunday, April 26, Report time: 07:30AM, **Application**  
**Deadline:** April 10
- Sunday, November 22, Report time: 07:30AM, **Application**  
**Deadline:** November 6

### HAZMAT Operations Level Refresher (HMORJB)

The primary target audiences for this refresher course are First Responders who have taken a Hazardous Materials Operations Level 472 course. The student will review previous learned information and skills associated with NFPA 472

Chapter 5 Competencies for the First Responder at the Operational Level, and 29CFR1910.120 OSHA's Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, (HAZWOPER), First Responder Operations Level. Prerequisite: HMOJB or HMORJB. Minimum age, 16. EMS ConEd available. \$15 tuition + \$10 lab fee

#### Spring Session PPRX 3161-78

Sunday, April 5, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

#### Fall Session PPRX 3161-78

Sunday, October 25, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

### Foam-Ethanol Technician Level I (FEUT) (AOTR Program)

This **FREE** program covers a host of issues, including foam equipment, foam application, types of foam and provides an opportunity to utilize the latest foam equipment. Minimum-age, 18. **FREE** tuition

PPRX 7050-78 Sunday, March 22, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Registration Deadline:** March 6

### Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) – Recognition and Understanding (Westmoreland Exclusive)

This is a 16-hour course in understanding the basic risks and hazards associated with explosives. Topics include explosive sequencing, types of explosives, improvised explosive devices, homemade explosives, booby traps, precursor identification, explosive recognition and first responder safety. Approximately half of the class time will be spent on hands-on exercises including a limited number of explosive events. Minimum Age of 18. \$40 tuition + \$10 lab fee

#### Spring Session PPRX 1353-78

Saturday & Sunday, March 28 & 29, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

#### Fall Session PPRX 1353-79

Saturday & Sunday, October 3 & 4, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

#### Electronic Registration

Available ([Click Here](#)) Or Our Website at: Westmoreland.edu/pstc

### **Hazardous Materials Technician**

(PSFA AOTR Program)

This course is based on NFPA 472, "Standard for Professional Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials Incidents" and is designed to lead to ProBoard and IFSAC certification.

Designed for the student already trained at the Operations level; this course develops the skills already learned and provides in-depth training in the mitigation of hazardous materials incidents. Through both classroom and practical training, the student becomes familiar with health and safety issues, incident management, hazard and risk analysis, personal protective clothing, and decontamination. Students must provide; SCBA, turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil.

Min. age-18. Prerequisite: HMOJB or HMORJB.  
FREE tuition

PPRX 3166 78 9 Saturdays, September 19, 26, & October 3, 10, 17, 24, & November 7, 14, 21, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### **Hazardous Materials Technician Pro Board & IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam**

Sunday, December 5

Report time: 07:30

**Application Deadline:** November 21

### **Pennsylvania Entry Level Firefighting**

Pennsylvania Entry Level firefighting is comprised of seven different modules. Completion of all modules provides for the basis of more advanced training. Classes must be completed in order. The textbook: Essentials of Fire Fighting, 6th Edition (ISBN 978-0-87939-509-4) is required. The text is available from the college bookstore. A FREE skill booklet is provided. Students must provide a full set of turnout gear and a 20 ft. piece of rope (min. 7/16" dia.). Certificates are awarded upon successful completion of each course. Junior firefighters may attend the first three courses. Minimum age for Interior Firefighter is 18 at the onset of the class.

#### **Introduction to the Fire Service (ELIS)**

This entry level course is designed to introduce new firefighters to basic information including an overview of the fire service, fire service organization, firefighter safety, personal protective equipment, tools and emergency lighting, and backing apparatus. In addition, the student will complete American Heart Association (AHA) First Aid & CPR. This is the first of five levels (courses) in the curriculum. Students must provide turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Minimum age 14. \$65 tuition + \$25 Material Fee (AHA cards)

#### **Spring Session A**

PPRX 3700-78

Saturdays, January 4 & 11, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., & Tuesday & Thursday, January 7 & 9, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Spring Session B**

PPRX 3700-79

Mondays & Wednesdays, March 16, 18, 23, & 25, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday, March 21, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

#### **Summer Session**

PPRX 3700-78

Saturdays, June 6, 13, 20, & 27, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session**

PPRX 3700-78

Tuesdays & Thursdays, September 1, 3, 8, & 10, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday, September 5, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



### **HAZMAT Awareness Level (HMAJB)**

See Hazardous Materials Section for full course description. Students must provide a notebook and pen/pencil. Minimum age 14. ConEd Available. \$10 tuition

#### **Spring Session A**

PPRX 3143-78

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30–10:30 p.m.

#### **Spring Session B**

PPRX 3143-79

Monday, March 30, 6:30–10:30 p.m.

#### **Summer Session**

PPRX 3143-78

Saturday, July 11, 8 am.-12 p.m.

#### **Fall Session**

PPRX 3143-78

Saturday, September 12, 8 am.-12 p.m.

### **Fireground Support (ELFG)**

This entry level course is designed to introduce new firefighters to fire ground operation including fire behavior, building construction-structural collapse, fire hose, water supply, communications, ropes and knots, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). This is the second of five levels (courses) in the curriculum. Upon successful completion an entry level firefighter shall be able to identify and utilize basic knowledge, skill, and abilities as they relate to fire ground operations. Prerequisites: Introduction to the Fire Service (ELIS), Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA). Students must provide turnout gear, SCBA, a notebook and pen/pencil. Minimum age 14. \$100 tuition

#### **Spring Session A**

PPRX 2178-78

Thursdays & Tuesdays, January 16, 21, 23, & 28, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturdays, January 18 & 25, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **Spring Session B**

PPRX 2178-79

Wednesdays & Mondays, April 1, 6, 8, 13, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Sunday, April 5, & Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **Summer Session**

PPRX 2178-78

Saturdays, July 18, 25, & August 1, & 8, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session**

PPRX 2178-78

Tuesdays & Thursdays, September 15, 17, 22, & 24, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturdays, September 19 & 26, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

### **Exterior Firefighter (ELEF)**

This entry level course is designed to introduce new firefighters to fire ground operation including Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), fire behavior, building construction, fire extinguishers, forcible entry, ladders, and fire streams/hose line advancement. This is the third of five levels (courses) in the curriculum. Upon successful completion an entry level firefighter shall be able to identify and utilize basic knowledge, skills, and abilities as they relate to exterior fire ground operations. Fireground Support (ELFG), NIMS 700, ICS 100. Students must provide turnout gear, SCBA, a notebook and pen/pencil. Minimum age 14. \$140 tuition + \$20 lab fee

#### **Spring Session A**

PPRX 1806-78

Thursdays, & Tuesdays, January 30, & February 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, & 20, 6:30-10:30 p.m. & Saturdays, February 1, 8, & 15, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **Spring Session B**

PPRX 1806-79

Wednesdays & Mondays, April 15, 20, 22, 27, 29, & May 4 & 6, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Sunday, April 19 & 26, & Saturday, May 2, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session**

PPRX 1806-78

Tuesdays & Thursdays, September 29 & October 6, 8, 13, 15, & 20, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturdays, October 3, 10, & 17, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

### **HAZMAT Operations Level (HMOJB)**

See Hazardous Materials Section for full course description. Students must provide; SCBA, turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Minimum age, 16. ConEd Available. \$70 tuition + \$10 lab fee

#### **Spring Session A** PPRX 3156-78

Saturdays, February 22 & 29, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., & Tuesday & Thursday, February 25 & 27, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Spring Session B** PPRX 3156-79

Saturdays, May 9 & 16, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m., & Monday & Wednesday, May 11 & 13, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session** PPRX 3156-78

Thursday & Tuesday, October 22 & 27, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday & Sunday, October 24 & 25, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

**Electronic Registration** Available ([Click Here](#)) Or Our Website at: [Westmoreland.edu/pstc](http://Westmoreland.edu/pstc)

For more information about First Responder classes, contact Marc Jackson, Director/Public Safety Training Center, 724-872-2447 or [jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu](mailto:jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu).

### **Interior Firefighter (ELIF)**

The final class for entry level firefighters is for those persons that want to do live, interior fire suppression with SCBA. Self-contained breathing apparatus, nozzles and fire streams, rescue, ventilation, fire suppression, salvage and overhaul, firefighter survival and a live fire exercise are included. Satisfactory completion of a written exam required to receive a certificate. Students must provide turnout gear, SCBA, notebook and pen/pencil. Prerequisite: Exterior Firefighter (ELEF) and Hazmat Operations (HMO). Minimum age 18. \$150 tuition + \$25 lab fee

#### **Spring Session A**

PPRX 3663-78

Tuesdays & Thursdays, March 3, 5, 10, 12, 19, 24, & 26, 6:30-10:30 p.m., Saturdays, March 14, 21, & 28, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **Spring Session B**

PPRX 3663-79

Mondays & Wednesday, May 18, 20, & 27, June 1, 3, 8, & 10, 6:30-10:30 p.m., Saturdays, May 23 & 30, & June 13, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session**

PPRX 3663-78

Thursdays & Tuesdays, October 29, & November 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, & 19, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturdays, November 7, 14, & 21, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

## **Pennsylvania Advanced Firefighter Series**

### **Advanced Firefighter (ELAF) – Firefighter II Training**

This entry level course is designed to introduce seasoned firefighters to advanced fire ground operations including Building Construction, Fire Safety Surveys/Fire and Life Presentation, Generators, Lighting Equipment, Technical Rescue, Fire Protection Systems, Service Testing of Hose, Combustible Gas and Liquid Fire Control, Foam, Coordinating Fire Ground Operations Communications, and Advanced Origin, Cause and Arson. This is the fifth of five levels (courses) in the curriculum. Upon successful completion a seasoned entry level firefighter shall be equipped with basic knowledge, skills, and abilities as they relate to advanced fire ground operations. Prerequisite: ELIF or equivalent + HMO/R. \$75 tuition + \$10 lab fee

PPRX 0044-78 Monday's & Wednesday's February 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, & 26, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Basic Vehicle Rescue Awareness (NVR-A)**

See Rescue Section for full course description. Textbook required: Jones & Bartlett, Vehicle Extrication – Level I & II: Principles and Practice, 1st Edition. Students must provide turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Prerequisite: HMA. Minimum age, 16. Minimum of 12 students required. EMS ConEd Available. \$80 tuition + \$25 lab fee

PPRX 0483 78

Saturday's, March 14 & 21, & Sunday, March 15, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.



### **Basic Vehicle Rescue Operations (NVR-O)**

See Rescue Section for full course description. Text Book required: Jones & Bartlett, Vehicle Extrication – Level I & II: Principles and Practice, 1st Edition. Students must provide turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Prerequisite: NVRA, & HMA. Minimum age, 16. Minimum of 12 students required. EMS ConEd available. \$65 tuition + \$25 lab fee

PPRX 0484-78

Sunday's, March 22, & Saturday, March 28, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., & Sunday, March 29, 8 a.m.- noon.

### **Pennsylvania Department of Health Basic Vehicle Rescue Technician Exam**

Wednesday, April 8, 6:30- 9 p.m. \$10 Exam Fee. *Non-PSTC candidates will be charged \$20 Exam Fee, and must contact the Director two (2) weeks prior for proper course completion verification.* Must have completed NVR-A & O within 1-year.

### **Firefighter II Skills Preparation**

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

See Certification Preparation Section for full course description. Prerequisite: Certified Firefighter I. \$65 tuition + \$10 lab fee. Firefighter II Application Prep will be on Monday, September 28 and is highly recommended.

PPRX 2171-78

4 Wednesday's, September 30, & October 7, 14, & 21, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **HAZMAT Operations Level Refresher (HMORJB)**

See Hazardous Materials Section for full course description. Prerequisite: HMOJB or HMORJB. Minimum age, 16. EMS ConEd available. \$15 tuition + \$10 lab fee

**Spring Session** PPRX 3161-78

Sunday, April 5, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Fall Session** PPRX 3161-78

Sunday, October 25, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

### **Firefighter II Application Package Prep (Westmoreland Exclusive)**

See Certification Preparation Section for full course description. Prerequisites: Committed to taking Firefighter II Exam. **FREE** Tuition

**Spring Session** PPRX 2169 78

Monday, March 2, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Spring Firefighter II Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam**, Sunday, April 19, Report time: 7:30 a.m.

**Application Deadline:** March 27

**Fall Session** PPRX 2169 79

Monday, September 28, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

**Fall Firefighter II Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam**, Sunday, November 15, Report time: 7:30 a.m. **Application Deadline:** October 23

## Rescue

### Basic Vehicle Rescue Awareness (NVR-A)

This course will provide an awareness level of information and skills as it pertains to vehicle rescue incidents. Topics will include general vehicle rescue function/operation; incident management of the vehicle accident/rescue incident; vehicle anatomy, design, and construction; recognition and control of hazards relative to a vehicle accident/rescue incident; and the tools and equipment used at a vehicle accident/rescue incident. Text Book required: Jones & Bartlett, Vehicle Extrication – Level I & II: Principles and Practice, 1st Edition. Students must provide; turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Prerequisite: HMA. Minimum age, 16. Minimum of 12 students required. EMS ConEd Available. \$80 tuition + \$25 lab fee

#### Spring Session PPRX 0483 78

Saturday's, March 14 & 21, & Sunday, March 15, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

#### Fall Session PPRX 0483 79

Monday & Wednesday, November 2, 4, 9, & 11, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday, November 7, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### Basic Vehicle Rescue Operations (NVR-O)

This course will provide an operations level of information and skills as it pertains to vehicle rescue incidents. Topics will include: incident management; tools/equipment; vehicle anatomy/design; hazard control; patient access, care, and packaging; disentanglement; extrication and termination. Upon completion of the course, the student will be eligible to complete the PA Joint Rescue Program Basic Vehicle Rescue Examination. Text Book required: Jones & Bartlett, Vehicle Extrication – Level I & II: Principles and Practice, 1st Edition. Students must provide turnout gear, a notebook and pen/pencil. Prerequisite: NVRA, & HMA. Minimum age, 16. Minimum of 12 students required. EMS ConEd available. \$65 tuition + \$25 lab fee

#### Spring Session PPRX 0484-78

Sundays, March 22, & Saturday, March 28, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., & Sunday, March 29, 8 a.m.- noon.

### Fall Session PPRX 0484-79

Sundays, March 22, & Saturday, March 28, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., & Sunday, March 29, 8 a.m.- noon.

### Pennsylvania Department of Health Basic Vehicle Rescue Technician Exam

*\*Non-PSTC candidates will be charged \$20 Exam Fee, and must contact the Director two (2) weeks prior for proper course completion verification.*

Must have completed NVR-A & O within 1-year.

- **Spring Session**

Wednesday, April 8, 6:30- 9 p.m. \$10 Exam Fee\*

- **Fall Session**

Wednesday, November 25, 6:30- 9 p.m. \$10 Exam Fee\*

### Training Packages

Don't forget about our training packages!  
Contact the Director today for more details.

### Wilderness Search & Rescue – Search Responder (WRSR)

A 16-hour course which prepares the student to assist in Search and Rescue planning, locate and use Search and Rescue resources, know Clue Awareness & Investigation skills, understand the basics of a lost person, and participate in field rescue operations. Search Responder meets the Search Management training requirements for all swiftwater rescue teams under the VRSR guidelines. This course is a prerequisite Grid Search II and Hasty Team Search and Rescue. This course is presented in a combination of classroom and fieldwork to present basic search operation techniques and organizational skills to both the first responding units and requested resources during a missing person incident. Minimum age, 16. \$35 tuition

#### PPRX 8487-78

Tuesday & Thursday, April 21 & 23, 6:30-10:30 p.m. & Saturday, April 25, 8 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

### **Basic Rigging for Rope Rescue (ROBR)**

Designed for ground support personnel needing to establish some patient removal techniques using rope. No rappelling is included. Rope, rescue hardware, knots and hitches and basic haul systems are the foundation of this class. You will perform patient packaging, stoke rescue basket rescue evolutions and rig a variety of hauling systems. You must provide a helmet with chin strap, leather gloves, work boots, one 15 foot piece of rope and 1 inch, 15 foot tubular webbing. Prerequisite: ELIS or IST. \$40 tuition + \$15 lab fee

PPRX 7142-78

4 Tuesdays, April 28, & May 5, 12, & 19,  
6:30-10:30 p.m.

### **Special Vehicle Rescue (Dept. of Health) (DHSV)**

This course is part of a comprehensive rescue training program developed and promulgated by the PA Dept. of Health. It builds upon the knowledge and skill acquired in the prerequisite to prepare the student to deal with rescue situations involving larger vehicles such as buses and large trucks. This course is taught to the standards established by the PA Dept. of Health; the written examination required for certification as a Special Vehicle Rescue Technician is administered at the conclusion of this course. Course Goal: This course will prepare the student who is knowledgeable in basic vehicle rescue operations to deal with large scale vehicle accidents in a safe, effective, patient-oriented manner.

PPRX 7625 78

Saturday & Sunday, May 2 & 3, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

### **Structure Collapse I (SCOA)**

This course is designed to familiarize students with operations at the scene of a structure collapse so they may be able to function at the initial stages of a structural collapse operation, identify and magnitude hazards, recognize the need for assistance, and perform as an integral part of the overall operation once technical rescue teams are on site. This course gives the first responder the knowledge necessary to function effectively during the initial stages of a structural collapse incident. Assessing the magnitude of the situation, utilization of available resources, as well as personnel safety

are highly stressed. Information necessary for first responders to integrate effectively with specialized collapse rescue teams is also provided.

Prerequisite: Fire Service Personnel – ELIS. \$10 tuition

PPRX 7660-78

Tuesday, November 3, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Reminder:**

#### **REGISTRATION GUIDELINES:**

1. **PRE-REGISTRATION** is required to ensure sufficient enrollment.
2. All classes require a minimum of ten (10) students, unless otherwise specified
3. Maximum class is thirty (30) unless otherwise specified
4. Classes not meeting minimum enrollment five (5) days prior to the start date **WILL BE CANCELED**
5. Students **SHOULD** arrive 15-minutes prior to start of class, with pen and paper.

### **Structure Collapse II (SCOF)**

This course is designed to teach students the skills necessary to perform at the operational level at structural collapse incidents involving light frame and heavy wall structures. This course gives fire department and rescue personnel the knowledge and skills necessary to operate effectively at incidents involving the collapse of light frame and heavy wall structures. You are given extensive hands on instruction in structure assessment, emergency shoring and stabilization, breaching building materials and patient packaging and extrication. Prerequisites: Confined Space Rescue (CSR) or Building Construction: Non-Combustible & Fire Resistive (BCN) or Building Construction: Wood and Ordinary (BCP) AND Structural Collapse Operations I (SCOA). \$55 tuition +\$35 lab fee

PPRX 7662-78

Tuesday & Thursday, November 10, & 12,  
6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday, November 14,  
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



### **Water Rescue for the First Responder Awareness Level (PA Fish & Boat Commission)**

This course will provide information that the first arriving emergency services personnel will need at a water incident to recognize risks and dangers associated with water emergencies and take actions to ensure their safety. The course will address scene assessment, activation of emergency response system, evaluation of

potential and existing water hazards, scene management, rescue vs. recovery, and personal safety measures. Minimum age, 16. \$10 tuition

#### **Spring Session PPRX 8702-78**

Tuesday, March 31, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

#### **Fall Session PPRX 8702-79**

Tuesday, November 17, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

## **Pro Board / IFSAC Preparation**

### **Driver/Operator – Pumper Skills Preparation (Westmoreland Exclusive)**

This refresher course is for all experienced pump operators wanting to update or reinforce “rusty” skills or prepare for the next PSFA Pro Board/IFSAC Driver/ Operator - Pumper certification test. Students should have previously completed the requirements for Driver/Operator – Pumper certification or comparable training. Students must bring full turnout gear, and it is recommended that they bring their pumper to the second night of class for comfortability for proper preparation for the certification. \$35 tuition + \$15 material fee

#### **Spring Session PPRX 6660-78**

3 Wednesdays, April 29, & May 6, & 13, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Exam scheduled for Sunday, May 17. See Certification Testing for further details.

#### **Fall Session PPRX 6660 79**

Monday & Wednesday, October 5, 7, & 12, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Exam scheduled for Sunday, October 18. See Certification Testing for further details.

### **Aerial Apparatus Operations Extended (AELX)**

This course will give a more extensive treatment of the subject of aerial device operation than is afforded by the 16 hour version, AELA. Through both classroom and hands-on practice, students will become familiar with basic design and operational theory of aerial devices, safety considerations, spotting and stabilizing, device operation, elevated master stream, and rescue. An introduction to basic truck company operations is also included. Prerequisites: IST or ELIS. \$80 tuition

PPRX 0006 78

Tuesday & Thursday, May 19, 21, 26, & 28, 6:30-10:30 p.m., & Saturday, May 30, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Exam scheduled for Sunday, June 14.

See Certification Testing for further details.

For more information about First Responder classes, contact Marc Jackson, Director/Public Safety Training Center, 724-872-2447 or [jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu](mailto:jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu).

#### **Electronic Registration**

Available ([Click Here](#)) Or Our Website at: [Westmoreland.edu/pstc](http://Westmoreland.edu/pstc)

#### **Training Packages**

Don't forget about our training packages! Contact the Director today for more details.

## Firefighter I Preparation

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

This refresher course is for all experienced firefighters wanting to update or reinforce "rusty" skills or prepare for the next Firefighter I certification test. Students should have previously completed an Essentials of Firefighting course or comparable entry level training. Advancing hose lines, raising ladders, folding salvage covers, working with SCBA, tying knots and hitches and rescuing victims are some of the skills that will be reviewed and practiced. Trained evaluators will lead the course. Students must bring full turnout gear, SCBA, spare cylinder, PASS device and 10 ft. of rope to all classes. Come prepared to refresh your skills in this intensive course. Prerequisite: ELIF or equivalent. \$100 tuition + \$10 lab fee

### Spring Session PPRX 2170 78

Wednesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, & May 6, 13, & 20, 6-10 p.m.

Exam scheduled for Saturday & Sunday, May 30 & 31. See Certification Testing for further details.

### Summer Session PPRX 2170 79

Saturdays, July 11, 18, 25, & August 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29, 8 a.m.- 12 p.m.

Exam scheduled for Saturday & Sunday, September 12 & 13. See Certification Testing for further details.

### Fall Session PPRX 2170 78

Mondays & Wednesdays, November 23, 25, 30, & December 2, 7, 9, 14, & 16, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Exam scheduled for Friday & Saturday, December 18 & 19. See Certification Testing for further details.

## Firefighter II Application Package Prep

(Westmoreland Exclusive)

This class will go over the requirements for preparing the Firefighter II application, specific to residential and commercial pre-plans. Prerequisites: Committed to taking Firefighter II Exam. **FREE** Tuition

### Spring Session PPRX 2169 78

Monday, March 2, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Exam scheduled for Sunday, April 19. See Certification Testing for further details.

### Fall Session PPRX 2169 79

Monday, September 28, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Exam scheduled for Sunday, November 15. See Certification Testing for further details.

### Reminder:

#### REGISTRATION GUIDELINES:

1. **PRE-REGISTRATION** is required to ensure sufficient enrollment.
2. All classes require a minimum of ten (10) students, unless otherwise specified
3. Maximum class is thirty (30) unless otherwise specified
4. Classes not meeting minimum enrollment five (5) days prior to the start date WILL BE CANCELED
5. Students SHOULD arrive 15-minutes prior to start of class, with pen and paper.

For more information about First Responder classes, contact Marc Jackson, Director/Public Safety Training Center, 724-872-2447 or [jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu](mailto:jacksonmarc@westmoreland.edu).

## Certification Testing

1. **Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA) Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam**
  - Wednesday, January 29
  - Report time: 6:30 p.m.
2. **Fire Officer I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification**
  - Wednesday, March 18, 6:30 – 9:30 pm.
  - \$75 tuition
  - **Application Deadline:** March 1
3. **Firefighter II Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam**
  - Sunday, April 19, Report time: 7:30 a.m.
  - Application Deadline: March 27
4. **Hazardous Materials Operations Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam**
  - Sunday, April 26, Report time: 07:30AM
  - **Application Deadline:** April 10
5. **Instructor I Pro Board / IFSAC Written & Skills Exam**
  - Sunday, May 10, Report time: 7:30AM
  - **Application Deadline:** May 6
6. **Driver/Operator – Pumper Pro Board/IFSAC Certification Exam**
  - Sunday, May 17, 0730 a.m.-5 p.m. \$175 tuition
  - **Application Deadline:** May 1
7. **Firefighter I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam**
  - Written Exam, Saturday, May 30, Report time: 6:30 p.m.
  - Skills Exam, Sunday, May 31, Report time: 7:30 a.m.
  - **Application Deadline:** May 15
8. **Aerial Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Pilot**
  - Sunday, June 14, 0730 a.m.-5 p.m. \$175 tuition
  - **Application Deadline:** June 1
9. **Firefighter I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam**
  - Written Exam, Saturday, September 12, Report time: 6:30 p.m.
  - Skills Exam, Sunday, September 13, Report time: 7:30 a.m.
  - **Application Deadline:** August 28
  - **Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA) Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam** Monday, September 28
  - Report time: 6:30 p.m.
10. **Driver/Operator – Pumper Pro Board/IFSAC Certification Exam**
  - Sunday, October 18, 0730 a.m.-5 p.m. \$175 tuition
  - **Application Deadline:** October 2
11. **Driver/Operator – Mobile Water Supply Certification Exam**
  - Sunday, October 18, \$175 tuition.
  - Application Deadline: October 13
12. **Firefighter II Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam**
  - Sunday, November 15, Report time: 7:30 a.m.
  - Application Deadline: October 23
13. **Hazardous Materials Operations Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam**
  - Sunday, November 22, Report time: 07:30AM
  - **Application Deadline:** November 6
14. **Hazardous Materials Technician Pro Board & IFSAC Certification Written & Skills Exam**
  - Sunday, December 5, Report time: 07:30
  - **Application Deadline:** November 21
15. **Instructor II Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam**
  - Sunday, December 13, Report time: 7:30 a.m.
  - **Application Deadline:** October 15
16. **Fire Officer II Pro Board / IFSAC Written Exam**
  - December 15, Report time: 6:30 p.m.
  - **Application Deadline:** December 3
17. **Firefighter I Pro Board / IFSAC Certification Exam**
  - Written Exam, Friday, December 18, Report time: 6:30 p.m.
  - Skills Exam, Saturday, December 19, Report time: 7:30 a.m.
  - **Application Deadline:** November 30

### \* Please note application deadlines!

Your completed application with required certificates of training AND payment must be received no later than 4 p.m. on the above dates to be considered! All prices for certification are based on required student to evaluator ratios. Additional costs may be applied based on number of candidates testing. Application and payment should be sent to:  
Marc Jackson, PSTC Director  
65 Public Safety Drive