



East Pierce Fire & Rescue



Where Compassion and Action Meet

2007 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Mission, Vision and Values

Mission Statement

Exceptional people providing compassionate service and rapid response to our community's diverse needs.

Vision Statement

East Pierce Fire & Rescue is a regional leader in providing fire and emergency medical response services to a diverse and growing community.

Our community and our employees are our most important resource.

We support regionalized fire services for improved public safety.

We strive to influence our community growth to ensure the best possible level of service.

We strive to meet all regulatory obligations, while providing a safe environment for our citizens and our employees.

Stewardship of our taxpayers' resources is paramount, and our goal is to develop a strong and diverse funding base.

We intelligently pursue and utilize technology to improve service delivery, planning and quality.

We strive to educate our community on fire and medical safety while providing the highest level of service.

Core Values and Guiding Principles

We are committed to:

- Doing the Right Thing
- Everyone Must Make a Difference
- Anticipating and Meeting Our Community's Needs



Table of Contents

East Pierce Fire & Rescue 2007 Annual Report

Editor and Designer
Teresa McCallion

Photography
Teresa McCallion
Craig Williams

Printing
Minuteman Press of
Puyallup, WA

East Pierce Fire & Rescue
Headquarters Station
18421 Old Buckley Hwy.
Bonney Lake, WA 98391
phone: 253-863-1800
fax: 253-863-1848
www.eastpiercefirerescue.org

This annual report covers
January 1 through
December 31, 2007.



Mission, Vision and Values	2
Letter from the Fire Chief	3
Fire Commissioners	4
Organizational Chart	5
Fact Sheet	6
History of East Pierce Fire & Rescue	7
2007 Highlights	8
Operations	9
Emergency Medical Services	11
Map of the Service Area	13
Volunteer Program	15
Training and Education	17
Prevention	19
Emergency Preparedness	20
Public Education	21
Safety	23
Budget and Finance	24
Awards	25
Citizen Advisory Committee	25
Contact Information	26



Letter from the Fire Chief

ANNUAL
REPORT 2007



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Since its inception just eight short years ago, East Pierce Fire & Rescue has experienced both the growth of our agency and of the community we serve. Following the merger of the City of Bonney Lake Fire Department, Lake Tapps Fire and Pierce County Fire District No. 24 in 2000, our newly formed agency covered 49 square miles and served nearly 43,000 residents. Today, with the merger of Pierce County Fire District No. 12 and South Prairie Fire District 20, plus the addition of an administrative contract for the City of Sumner and Pierce County Fire District No. 1, our combined service area stretches from the Sumner city limits to the western border of Mt. Rainier State Park. This 142-square-mile area is home to more than 73,000 citizens.

As the population continues to grow in our area, we have made key decisions that will continue to help us develop a strong fire district and a highly skilled work force of firefighters and emergency responders.

In order to hire only the best employees, we have developed a stringent process that helps us to identify individuals who are willing to challenge themselves every day and whose ideals and values match our mission of "exceptional people providing compassionate service and rapid response to our community's diverse needs."

We have devoted considerable resources to the continued improvement of our skills as firefighters and paramedics. In 2007, we conducted many hours of fire operations and medical training.

In addition to our Wildland Firefighting Team and Technical Rescue Team, we have expanded our special operations teams to include a Hazmat Team and added swift water rescue to our Water Rescue Team's skills. These special teams are made up of firefighters who choose to undergo additional training to maintain their membership on a team. Together they provide valuable expertise in the event of a specific type of rescue.

Finally, we have established fiscal policies that will provide a solid foundation for years to come, reducing redundancy and taking advantage of our combined purchasing power. We will continue to remain vigilant in maintaining excellent service while managing the District's budget.

On behalf of the firefighters, volunteers, officers and support personnel at East Pierce Fire & Rescue, I wish to thank you for your support. We sincerely appreciate your trust, vision and wisdom that has laid the groundwork for building a strong fire district that continues to dependably serve all of us.

Sincerely,

Dan Packer

Dan Packer
Chief, East Pierce Fire & Rescue

Fire Commissioners

Fire Commissioners form a board elected by the public to represent their fire district. The board meets monthly to set budgets, establish policy and provide administrative oversight.

East Pierce fire commissioners serve six-year terms. Any resident, 18 years or older, who lives within the East Pierce service area is eligible to apply for an open position on the board.

All regular meetings of the Boards of Commissioners of East Pierce Fire & Rescue, along with Pierce County Fire District No.1, are held on the third Tuesday of every month. Meetings are open to the public and offer residents an opportunity for citizen input.

Both East Pierce fire commissioners and commissioners from Pierce County Fire District No. 1 meet together to administer the combined districts.

2008 Fire Commissioner's Meeting Schedule

January 15
February 19
March 18
April 15
May 20
June 17
July 15
August 19
September 16
October 21
November 18
December 16

Meetings start at 7 p.m. at the East Pierce headquarters station, 18421 Old Buckley Highway, in Bonney Lake. The public is encouraged to attend.

2007 Fire Commissioners



East Pierce Fire Commissioners

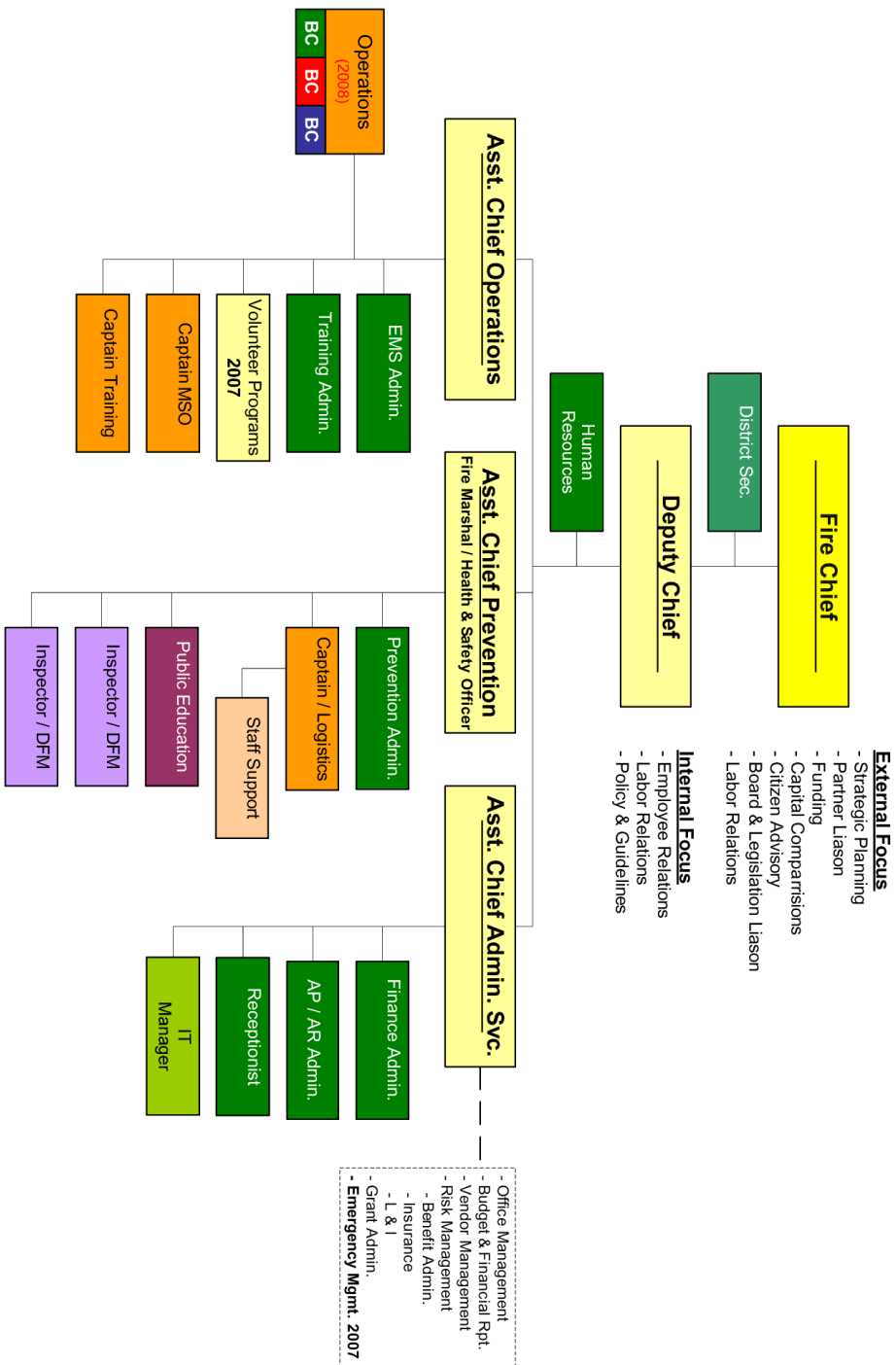
Rick Kuss, Chair
Cheryl Bylin
Raymond Bunk
Rick Kilbourn
Andrew Longstreth
Karlyne McGinnis
"Red" Mendenhall
Victor Proulx

Pierce County Fire District No. #1 Fire Commissioners

Mike Cathey
Greg Hanon
Don Hayford

Organizational Chart

East Pierce Organizational Chart





Land area covered: Approximately 142 square miles
Population: Approximately 73,000

Career Firefighter/Paramedics: 34
Career Firefighter/EMTs: 42
Volunteer Firefighter/EMTs: 50
EMS-only Volunteers: 7



Staffed Fire Stations: 5
Volunteer Fire Stations: 6

Total Number of Emergency Calls in 2007: 6,581
Percent Increase since 2006: 30%
Percent of All Calls That Were Medical in Nature: 70%
Patients Transported to Area Hospitals: 3,509



Number of Fire Investigations: 62
Number of Plan Review Inspections for Bonney Lake: 845

Number of Community Events Attended: 30

Elementary School Students Receiving Fire and Life Safety
Classes in 2007: 5,638
Citizens Receiving CPR Training: 2,208
Teens Graduating the SafeSitter Program: 69

Bike Helmets Sold in 2007: 285
Life Jackets Sold: 79
Child or Infant Seat Inspections: 76
Smoke Alarms Installed: 97
Fire Station Tours Conducted: 80



History of East Pierce

ANNUAL
REPORT

2007

East Pierce Fire and Rescue was created when the City of Bonney Lake Fire Department, Lake Tapps Fire, and Pierce County Fire District No. 24 merged in 2000. The goal was to provide a seamless response to emergency calls in the Bonney Lake, Lake Tapps and Prairie Ridge area.



At that time, the combined district covered nearly 49 square miles and protected a population of approximately 43,000 residents from six stations. All full-time firefighters were cross-trained as either emergency medical technicians (EMTs) or paramedics in order to respond to medical emergencies and fires.



In the spring of 2006, voters in Pierce County Fire District 12 and South Prairie Fire District 20 overwhelmingly passed a special election to formally merge the two districts with East Pierce after a three-year trial period.

For the past two years, East Pierce Fire Chief Dan Packer has served as the Sumner chief, providing administrative oversight. Beginning January 1, 2007, East Pierce Fire & Rescue began providing fire and EMS services to the City of Sumner and Pierce County Fire District No. 1 under a ten-year consolidation agreement.

What is a Fire District?

A fire district is a special-purpose entity formed to provide fire and emergency medical services. A volunteer board of elected citizens who reside in the district governs it.

Board members, called fire commissioners, are elected to six-year terms. Fire commissioners set policy for the department, hire the fire chief and are responsible for budgets, professional audits and authorizing levy requests of the public they serve. The majority of the district's revenue comes from property tax assessments.



January

East Pierce Fire & Rescue began a ten-year contract to provide fire and emergency services to citizens living in the city of Sumner and surrounding Pierce County Fire District No. 1.

February

End of the year statistics for 2006 show another record-breaking year for number of emergency calls. East Pierce crews ran a total of 4,591 calls that year.

April

The East Pierce Volunteer Firefighter's Association celebrated the 50th annual South Prairie Easter Egg Hunt at the South Prairie City Park. The same day, the 17th annual Sumner Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the East Pierce Firefighters Local 3520, was held at Sunset Stadium in Sumner.

June

East Pierce Fire and Rescue sponsored a Summer Splash-Tacular at Pierce County Park on Lake Tapps. The free event featured water safety demonstrations with members of the East Pierce Water Rescue Team.

July

Firefighters from East Pierce Fire and Rescue responded to triple the typical daily call volume during the July Fourth holiday, including an arson fire at Sumner Junior High School. Fortunately there were no fatalities.



August

Firefighters expanded their skills to include swift water rescues as part of the district's coverage of Sumner and Pierce County Fire District No. 1 during a series of drills on the Carbon River. As members of the Water Rescue Team, they are also trained to perform rescues and recoveries on Lake Tapps and other area lakes.

September

The 14th annual East Pierce Open House and Safety Fair was held. Also that month, fire commissioners for East Pierce Fire and Rescue dedicated a memorial stone in front of the fire station on 234th Avenue East. The stone honors those who have made a significant contribution to the local fire service.

October

Three East Pierce firefighters volunteered to join a local strike team traveling south to help battle massive California wildfires.

December

East Pierce firefighters hosted the annual Pancake Feed at the Sumner fire station. The breakfast is a benefit to raise money for the Sumner Family Center.

Jolly old St. Nick, accompanied by local firefighters on his annual trek through area neighborhoods. Over the course of nine days, they visited neighborhoods in Bonney Lake, Lake Tapps, South Prairie, Sumner and Wilkeson.

The Operations Division provides fire suppression, emergency medical services and technical rescue response for the communities served by East Pierce Fire & Rescue.



In 2007, the 68 career and 57 volunteer firefighters/EMTs and paramedics assigned to the Operations Division responded to 6,583 calls for service. While the primary function of the Operations Division is to respond to emergency and non-emergency calls, division personnel also conduct building familiarization inspections to assist in pre-planning activities and identify potential fire code problems. While on duty, the firefighters participate in training, public education events, vehicle and equipment maintenance and other routine activities.

East Pierce Fire and Rescue is a combination department utilizing both career and volunteer firefighters to handle a wide variety of emergencies. Career firefighters and paramedics are automatically dispatched to calls throughout the 142 square miles that is protected by the district. If unstaffed volunteer stations are located closer to an incident, they will also be dispatched to the scene.

District fire stations are strategically located throughout the jurisdiction to enable a quick response. In 2007, East Pierce Fire & Rescue operated eleven fire stations. Five of the stations are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by career firefighters. The other six are volunteer stations, including a water rescue facility located on the northwest

corner of Lake Tapps. Of the volunteer stations, one is home to resident firefighters. Resident firefighters work or attend school in the community, but live in the fire station, responding to calls and maintaining the facility and equipment.

A regional 9-1-1 center, called Fire-Comm, dispatches the appropriate fire and EMS units from the fire stations closest to the emergency call. More than a dozen fire districts including East Pierce Fire & Rescue financially support Fire-Comm through an inter-local agreement.

The Fire District's headquarters fire station, Station 11, is located in Bonney Lake at 18421 Old Buckley Highway and houses emergency response personnel in addition to the administrative offices for the District.

Emergency Response Equipment

8 fire engines	1 water tender
1 ladder truck	1 water rescue unit
5 medic units	1 special ops unit
4 aid units	2 rescue boats
3 brush fire engines	1 wilderness response unit

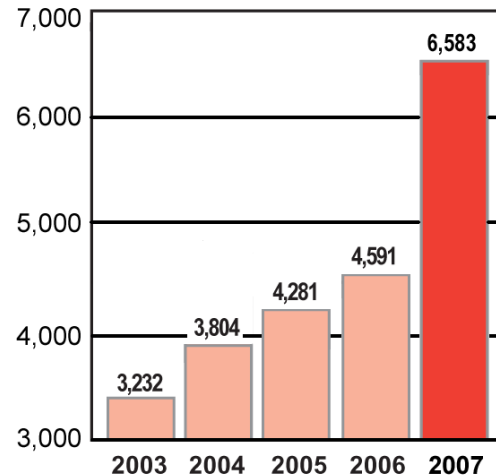
The Assistant Chief of Operations, EMS and Training oversees the Operations Division. This Division is split into three shifts, each headed by a Shift Captain, who works on an engine at the headquarters station.

For calls of a highly technical nature, the Operations Division maintains teams of personnel with specialized training in surface and underwater rescue, wildland firefighting and wilderness response and rescue using specially outfitted ATV's. Two other teams, with special training in hazmat and technical rescue, will be added in 2008.

Accomplishments for 2007

- Integrated Sumner firefighters, paramedics and officers into East Pierce Fire & Rescue
- Assumed responsibility for providing fire, rescue and EMS service to the City of Sumner and Pierce County Fire District 1, located north and south of Sumner
- Staffed the Sumner Fire Station with two separate fire crews 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to improve response times in Sumner and District 1
- Took delivery of one new fire engine
- Deployed three East Pierce wildland-trained firefighters as part of regional strike team deployed to southern California. The crew spent almost two weeks assisting local departments in fighting fires that swept through the region. California Office of Emergency Services paid the cost of their deployment.

Trend: Total Emergency Calls



Total emergency calls in 2007 includes the city of Sumner and Pierce County Fire District No. 1.

Trend: Emergency Calls By Type

Call Type	2006	2007
Emergency Medical Calls, including motor vehicle crashes	61%	70%
Service Calls	11%	9%
Good Intent	11%	8%
Hazardous Conditions	6%	3%
False Alarms	5%	5%
Severe Weather	2%	1%
Brush Fires	2%	1%
Structure Fires	1%	1%
Other Fires	.5%	1%
Vehicle Fires	.5%	1%
Total Calls	4,591	6,583

Emergency Medical Services

ANNUAL
REPORT 2007



The EMS Division provides clinical oversight and analyzes department performance on medical aid calls through a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program. EMS Division staff work with the Training Division to conduct education and training programs. Insurance and billing information is utilized to bill insurance and third-party payors.

Each East Pierce fire engine, aid car and medic unit is staffed with firefighter/emergency medical technician (EMT) and firefighter/paramedics.

EMTs provide basic emergency care including splinting, bandaging, spinal immobilization, oxygen and airway management, and automated defibrillation. The EMTs work in conjunction with the paramedics to prepare patients for transport. A paramedic has additional medical training to stabilize a critically ill or injured patients at the scene before transporting him or her to a hospital. Paramedics are certified to administer medications and intravenous fluids, insert breathing tubes and defibrillate patients.

At East Pierce, each staffed station always includes at least one firefighter trained as a paramedic. We staff five medic units and have four reserve aid units, all capable of transporting patients.

In the past four years, the number of calls for medical emergencies has increased dramatically. In fact, seven out of ten 9-1-1 calls that East Pierce Fire & Rescue responded to in 2007

were medical emergencies. East Pierce responded to 4,837 emergency medical incidents and transported 3,509 patients to area hospitals, or an average of 9.6 patients per day. The non-transport calls include patients refusing care, non-injury auto accidents and patients treated at the scene or those in police custody.

In 2007, East Pierce began providing fire and EMS services to the City of Sumner and the surrounding area, known as Pierce County Fire District No. 1. As a result, the number of patients transported by East Pierce to area hospitals has increased 75 percent since 2006.

To provide better continuity of care, East Pierce began providing ambulance services to residents in 2004. Unlike private ambulances, this service is offered for no "out-of-pocket" expense for patients who are district residents.

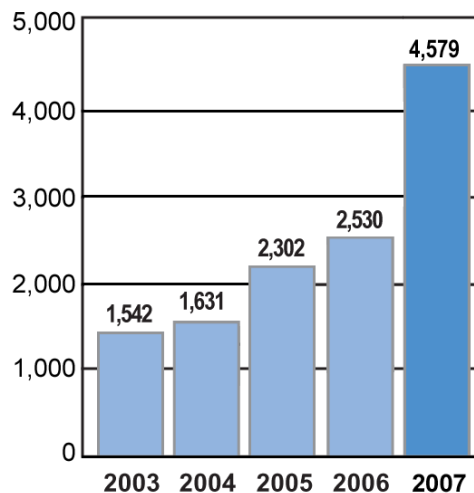
On the occasions where all available East Pierce units are already on calls – such as during a major fire – private ambulances and units from neighboring fire departments may respond into the district. In 2007, this type of mutual aid resulted in 1.6% of

all patient transports, or one-third the number needed in the previous year.

Accomplishments for 2007:

- Contracted with a new EMS physician advisor, Dr. Allen Fink, to provide on-going education and training for EMTs and paramedics. An emergency physician from Good Samaritan Hospital, Dr. Fink previously served as a military physician deployed in Iraq. Dr. Fink also worked for 10 years as a paramedic.
- Working in conjunction with the Training Division, the EMS division provided medical training and evaluation of eight new firefighters
- Provided all department paramedics, career firefighters and volunteers with training on new county-wide treatment protocols for EMTs and paramedics that went into effect in early 2008
- Played a key role in organizing a Quality Improvement workshop for fire departments, hospitals and ambulance services throughout the region. More than 100 EMS supervisors and managers attended the two-day program.
- Implemented use of a new Web-based EMS continuing education program for firefighters and paramedics, making it easier for members to complete annual training requirements
- Initiated a new peer-based EMS-Quality Improvement committee
- Launched a new Volunteer BLS Ambulance transport training program that prepared volunteer firefighters and EMTs to assist with medical patient transport in emergency situations
- Passed a Pierce County Ambulance inspection and audit of training records.

Trend: Total EMSCalls

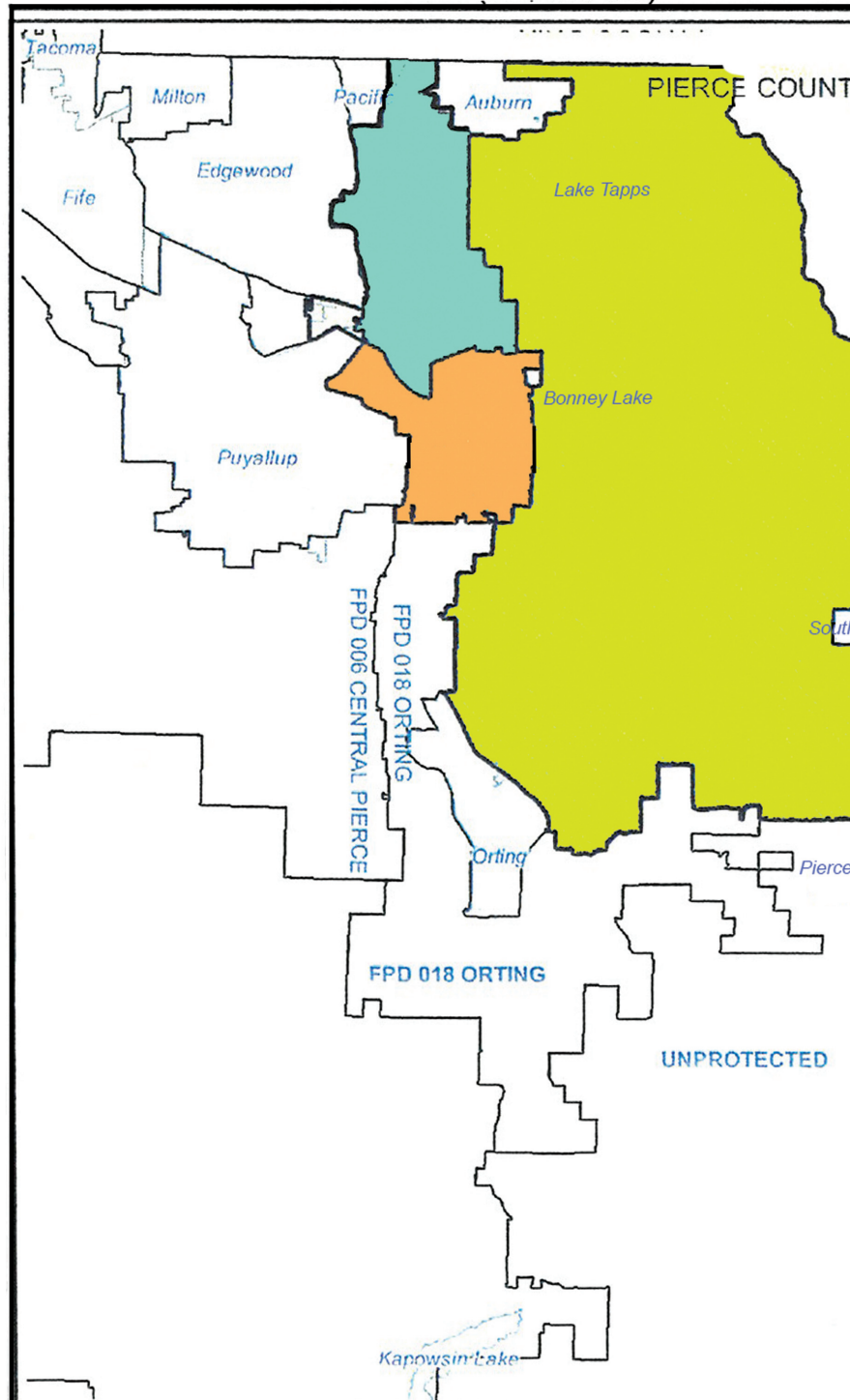


Emergency medical services calls in 2007 includes the city of Sumner and Pierce County Fire District No. 1.

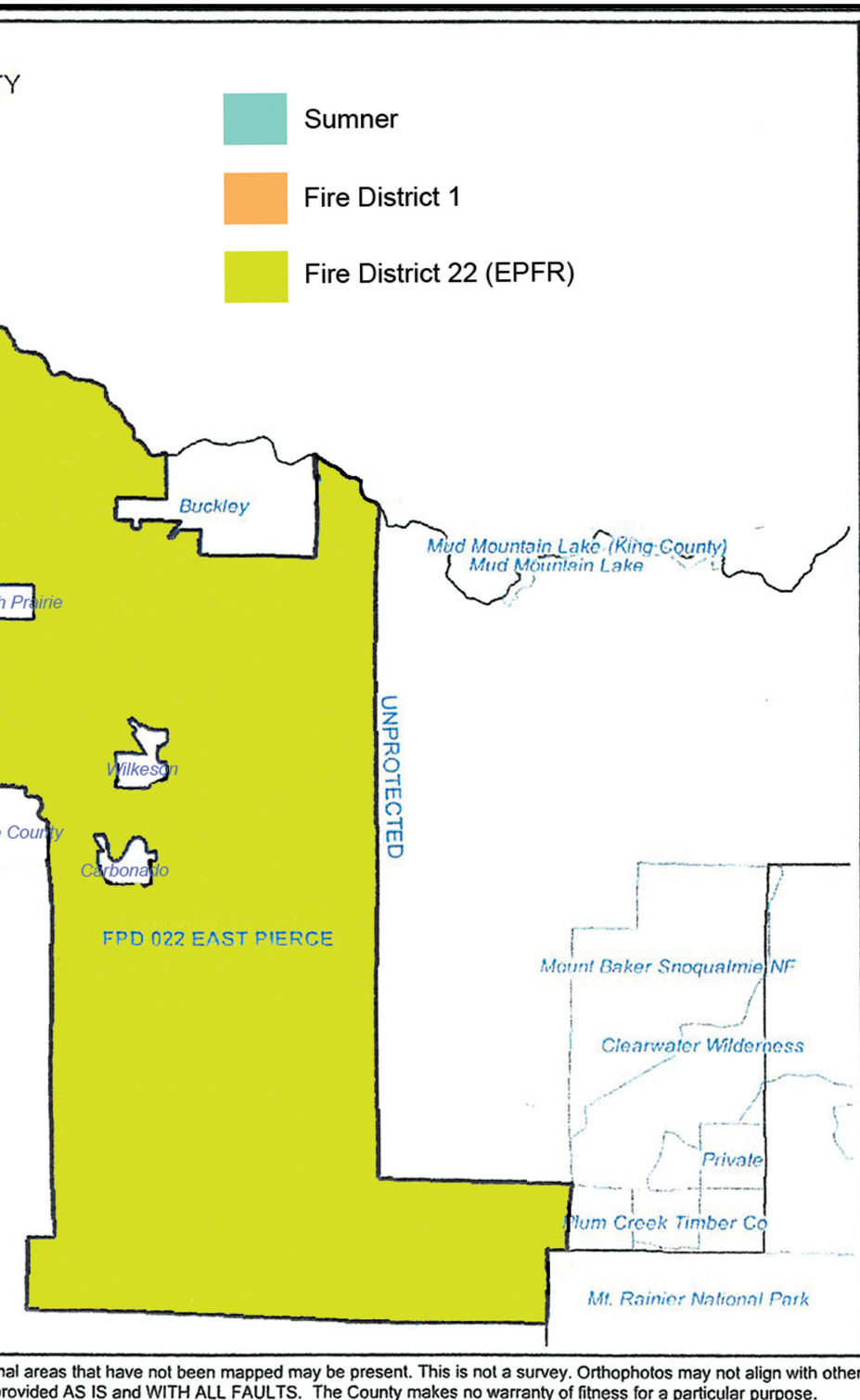
2007 Ambulance Transports By Destination

Good Samaritan Hospital	2,576
Auburn Regional Medical Center	243
Mary Bridge Children's Hospital	128
Enumclaw Regional Hospital	154
St. Joseph's Medical Center	134
Tacoma General Hospital	106
St. Francis Medical Center	52
Madigan (Ft. Lewis Army Base)	25
All Other Hospitals	39
All Other Transports	62
Total Number of Transports	3,519

Area Covered By East Pierce Fire & Rescue



The map features are approximate and are intended only to provide an indication of said feature. Additional data. The County assumes no liability for variations ascertained by actual survey. All data is expressly p



Volunteer Program

ANNUAL
REPORT 2007

Volunteer firefighters, EMTs and support personnel are on call to respond to a wide array of emergencies including fires, emergency medical incidents, motor vehicle accidents and water rescue emergencies.



In 2007, fifty-seven men and women volunteered their time and energy to serve as firefighters and EMTs for East Pierce Fire & Rescue.

Volunteer Chief Jake Doty leads the Volunteer Division. Volunteer officers provide leadership in maintaining equipment and care of volunteer stations.

On a typical day, the career firefighters on shift are able to respond to the majority of calls. But during a big fire that requires a large number of firefighters or when there is an unusually high number of calls at the same time, volunteers are called in to assist. Whether it's the weekend, weekday or the middle of the night, volunteers are there to serve the community. East Pierce volunteers responded to more than 150 General Alarms in 2007.

A number of volunteer applications come from residents seeking a career in the fire service, although interest is often mitigated by the sheer number of training hours required to become volunteer. Firefighting requires 310 hours of schooling plus and additional 140 hours for EMT certification. Each EMT volunteer requires classroom time plus additional technical training. To gain field experience, volunteers

participate in the Volunteer Experience Opportunity Program (VEOP). The requirements for both firefighters and EMTs continue to increase as the public expects more of its first responders.

All volunteers are required to attend 75 percent of the weekly drills and achieve 84 points per quarter for attendance at General Alarms. Each drill is approximately 3 hours long, averaging 117 hours annually of drill time per volunteer. Alarms can range from 30 minutes to all day, depending on the type of emergency. To receive the 84 points required, volunteers are expected to also volunteer a significant number of hours serving their community.

Within the East Pierce fire district there are six stations staffed by volunteers. Volunteer and career personnel respond together at five other stations. One of the volunteer-only stations serves as a resident station where six volunteer firefighter/EMTs – referred to as resident firefighters – live at the station.

Over the past few years, a total of 22 East Pierce volunteers have become career firefighters. Sixteen are currently employed by East Pierce Fire & Rescue, and six have been hired by neighboring departments in Washington State.

Accomplishments for 2007

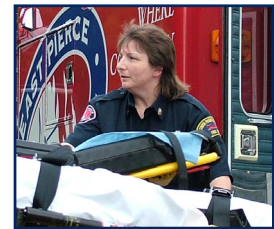
- East Pierce volunteers participated throughout the year at various community events, including the Santa Run, Summer pancake breakfast, annual Open House and numerous school and community events with the Safety Trailer.
- A select group of volunteers recently completed 52 hours additional academic and technical training. After completing a designated number of hours riding along with career crews on the medic units, those volunteers will serve as backups to career crews and transport patients requiring basic life support skills to local hospitals during General Alarms.
- Five new volunteer firefighters graduated from the Fire Academy in June. East Pierce Volunteers were recognized for excellence in leadership. Three of the volunteers received the Chief's Company Award and one was honored with the Top Academic Award.
- Two volunteers celebrated their 25th year serving the community as volunteers. With 25 years and 10 days, they elected to retire. Both responded to countless emergency calls. One was the first female firefighter to join a volunteer department in 1983.
- In 2007, East Pierce volunteers experienced only two minor accidents with no loss of time from their regular job. Nationally, 59 volunteers lost their lives in 2007 responding to alarms, on the fire scene, at wildland fires, during training or returning from incident.
- Four volunteers passed a rigorous testing process to become career firefighters for East Pierce.

- East Pierce opened applications for new volunteers in June 2007. After a review of 62 applications, physical fitness testing, interviews and background checks, 12 recruits began training in October.

East Pierce Volunteers with Ten or More Years of Service

East Pierce Fire & Rescue thanks the following volunteers for their many years of service:

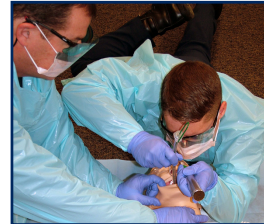
Layne Ross	35 years
Brian Dougherty	26 years
John McCormick	26 years
Darrell Seymour	26 years
Terry Richardson	26 years
Lon Snope	24 years
Jay Doty	23 years
Jack Schmidt	21 years
Bob McDonald	19 years
Kathy Seymour	19 years
Tim Balding	18 years
Mark Nevill	18 years
Walter Collins	17 years
Larry Harter	16 years
Jill Fielding	11 years



Training and Education

ANNUAL
REPORT 2007

East Pierce firefighters maintain and improve skills and abilities through ongoing training overseen by the Training Division. All career and volunteer personnel must undergo annual firefighting and emergency medical training.



Training and education is crucial in keeping critical firefighting and medical skills current. In addition to the more commonly used skills, firefighters must continually update and practice special skills, such as extrication maneuvers used to remove patients trapped in their vehicles following a car accident; rope rescue often used to retrieve a patient who has fallen over an embankment; wildland firefighting; trench rescue techniques and surface and underwater rescue.

The Training Division is currently managed by a Training Captain and an Administrative Support Specialist, with oversight provided by the Assistant Chief for Operations/EMS and Training.

The Training Division is responsible for assessing training needs, developing a training calendar and curriculum, providing instruction and record keeping. It also conducts evaluations of probationary personnel, crew-based training drills and hires new employees.

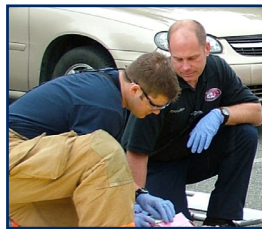
This Division conducts on-duty training for personnel and provides instructors and specialized classes for Officer Development, Incident Command, Tactical Operations and Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Firefighters attend some specialized classes outside the department at Community Colleges,

firefighting and EMS workshops and fire service academies.

Training provides an opportunity to upgrade skills and keep informed of new regulations. It allows firefighters to become familiar with equipment and maintain proficiency in critical, but sometimes seldom used firefighting, rescue and medical skills.

The Division must also maintain records, documentation and certifications for all firefighter/EMTs and paramedics. Assuring that all East Pierce career and volunteer firefighters meet mandatory training requirements is vital for the well-being and safety of our personnel and successful fire and EMS operations.

The Training Division continues to be challenged by a lack of adequate space for training. Some training is provided in classrooms, but much of the fire and rescue training requires "hands on" practice and the deployment of multiple fire engines, hoselines and other equipment. There is no dedicated space available for this training, and finding open parking lots in the area is becoming increasingly difficult.



for career and volunteer firefighters. Department members were able to use specialized rescue equipment (i.e. "Jaws of Life") and practice on 18 heavily damaged automobiles obtained from junk yards.

Accomplishments for 2007

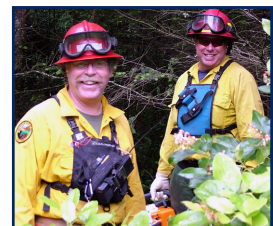
- Coordinated training programs for special operations programs, such as technical rescue, water rescue, swift water rescue, and wildland firefighting classes.
- 8 career firefighters completed the Fire Training Academy and earned Firefighter I Certification.
- 5 volunteer firefighters completed a Volunteer Fire Academy, earning Firefighter 1 Certification.
- Conducted initial eight week post-academy training program for eight new probationary career firefighters preparing them for assignment to shifts.
- Performed 24 probationary firefighter evaluations and eight driver-operator evaluations.
- Conducted a day-long "live fire" training exercise in a donated house, giving firefighters the opportunity to practice various firefighting and rescue activities.
- Conducted multi-company fire operations training using three other donated single-family homes and a 12-unit apartment building. Training included using saws and other power tools to cut ventilation holes in roofs and gain entry.
- Participated in selection process for new career firefighters.
- Used outside instructors to provide specialized auto extrication training

Special Operations Teams

Selected individuals of both career and volunteer firefighters are given the opportunity to participate in one of the special operations teams maintained by the District. Team members attend additional training beyond the fire suppression and emergency medical training received by all career and volunteer personnel. In 2008 a Hazmat Team will be added. A Technical Rescue Team is also being formed to respond to trench and structural collapses and rescues requiring high angle or ropes techniques. The 2007 special ops teams were:

Wildland Firefighting and Rescue – Maintain skills to fight wildfires like the Carbon River Fire in 2006 or the massive California fires.

Water Rescue – Trained divers and support personnel perform lake and swift water rescues.





The Prevention Division provides plan review, code enforcement, juvenile fire setter intervention, and fire investigation within the City of Bonney Lake and the City of Sumner along with Public Education Services for all of the residents served by East Pierce Fire and Rescue.

The Fire Prevention Division underwent several major changes in 2007. The division now has four fire investigators who are also responsible for other duties.

The Prevention Division has three plan review and inspection personnel that include one Assistant Chief and two Deputy Fire Marshals. Division oversight continues to be provided by an Assistant Chief. East Pierce Fire and Rescue now provides plan review and inspections for the City of Sumner. Public Education has been included within the Fire Prevention Division.

The fire prevention division also provides juvenile fire setter intervention. The service is offered free of charge to families with a child who has displayed interest in fire play or may have intentionally set fires for revenge or spite. The referrals come from firefighters who recognize a juvenile fire setter problem. The referrals also come from local police departments, schools, local police and the families themselves. The division conducted 25 interventions during 2007.

Property development continues to be strong throughout the district, particularly in the cities of Sumner and Bonney Lake. Prevention Division

personnel conducted several hundred plan reviews and pre-applications in Sumner and Bonney Lake. Plan review projects range in size. In 2007, some of the largest include the Wal-Mart expansion, a hotel complex, a large recreational vehicle warehouse storage project and the development stages of Lowe's Home Centers.

Prevention personnel committed more than 237 hours to the completion of plan reviews and conducted more than 845 inspections during 2007 for the City of Bonney Lake.

More than 200 of those inspections were completed under a new, self-inspection program. Business owners are sent a fire safety form that business owners can complete on their own and return to the fire department. We will send the forms out for two years. On the third year the division will conduct an on-site visit. The majority of inspections, however, were related to new construction activity.

In addition, on-site inspections are conducted during business license renewal in both Bonney Lake and Sumner, along with random inspections.

Finally, the division will provide on-site visits when we receive referrals from

engine companies as a result of false alarms or a compliance issue.

The fire district is responsible for determining the origin and cause of all fires that occur within the jurisdiction. In 2007, the Prevention Division investigated or assisted in investigations of 62 fires ranging from grass fires, vehicle fires and a variety of structure fires, often in conjunction with the Pierce County Fire Marshal's Office.

The four people who make up the division share the fire investigator duty twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. However, not all fires require an investigator to the incidents. In certain circumstances, the crews at the scene can investigate a fire.

The most significant challenge is having enough personnel to complete the work and keep pace with the growth. We have ongoing inspections within the jurisdiction that we simply cannot get done as a result of the lack of personnel.

Accomplishments in 2007

- Reduced the number of commercial false alarms in Sumner by 39 percent
- Completed the Wal-Mart expansion
- Completed Sumner RV warehouse project
- Conducted 845 plan review inspections for the City of Bonney Lake
- Implemented self-inspections for the City of Bonney Lake

Emergency Preparedness

Planning for emergencies takes practice and coordination. That is why we undertake a full-scale multi-casualty incident training scenarios every three years. These drills may include the police, sheriff's department and SWAT teams.

East Pierce Fire and Rescue also has teamed with the cities of Sumner and Bonney Lake and the Sumner School District to develop a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan is part of the emergency preparation the fire district has undertaken to protect residents and their property in case of a major disaster.

Read more about the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan at our Web site. Visit us at www.eastpiercefirerescue.org and follow the links.

For more information on preparing you and your family for an emergency, visit these Web sites:
Red Cross at www.redcross.org
Pierce County Emergency Management at www.co.pierce.wa.us.

Still have questions?
Call us at 253-863-1800.

Public Education

ANNUAL
REPORT 2007



Public education programs help keep children and adults safe from fire and other hazards. East Pierce has designed programs to teach children how to recognize and avoid unintentional injuries, especially around water. Our senior programs encourage fire awareness and fall prevention for older adults. We offer CPR and Basic Fire Aid twice a month. These classes – held in Bonney Lake and Sumner – are free to district residents.

The goal of the Public Education Division is the prevention of injuries and deaths from fires, accidents, illnesses, drowning and other preventable causes. The best way to do that is to teach fire and personal safety to children and adults. East Pierce has been working with local schools for many years, sending firefighters to teach grade-appropriate lessons on water safety, bike safety, carbon monoxide poisoning and fire prevention.

The division also coordinates citizen safety awareness programs such as free First Aid and CPR classes offered each month.

Representatives participate in community events such as the Puyallup Fair and Bonney Lake Days and organize the annual East Pierce Open House.

Other prevention programs include fire extinguisher training for local businesses and groups and SafeSitter classes for children ages 11-13 years.

Accomplishments for 2007

- Taught 33 CPR and Basic First Aid classes (658 students) in East Pierce and Sumner.
- Taught Fire and Life Safety classes to 5,638 elementary school students in 232 classes in 13 schools in the Sumner, White River and Dieringer School Districts.
- Provided Water Safety instruction to 295 local middle school students.
- Instructed 1,550 middle school students in CPR.
- Attended 16 local community events with the Children's Safety Trailer, delivering fire safety messages to children of all ages.
- Delivered Water Safety instruction to 84 preschool students.
- Inspected and installed 76 infant and children's car seats.
- Sold and fitted 285 bike helmets.
- Instructed 69 babysitters in the Safe Sitter program.
- Sold and fitted 79 life jackets.
- Loaned and fitted life jackets at Station 11 and at Lake Tapps Park.

Loaner inventory at Lake Tapps Park was exhausted every day the concession stand was open.

- Installed 97 smoke alarms in area residences.
- Loaned out "Water Wise Kids" kits to 7 preschools and daycares. The kits provide teachers with age-appropriate water safety curriculum.
- Participated in approximately 30 community events, including various school carnivals, the Puyallup Fair, Orting Resource Fair, Sierra Community National Night Out Event, Bonney Lake Days, East Pointe Family Fun Fest, career fairs and parades.
- Provided fire extinguisher training for businesses and private citizens.
- Facilitated over 80 fire station tours for local schools, day cares, preschools, and civic groups
- Facilitated the first annual Summer Splash-Tacular event at Lake Tapps, focusing on open water and boat safety and raising awareness of the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.



East Pierce Fire & Rescue Public Education Programs

East Pierce Fire & Rescue offers the following services:

Bicycle Helmet Sales and Fitting*

Wearer must be present for custom fitting. Helmets are sold for \$6 each.

Life Jacket Sales and Fitting*

Wearer must be present for custom fitting. Life jackets are sold for \$12 each.

SafeSitter Classes

Registration information and class schedules are available at www.eastpiercefirerescue.org. Cost: \$30

Free Life Jacket Loaner Program

Free loaner jackets are available at the headquarters station. Wearer must be present for fitting.

Free Child Safety Seat Inspection

Call for an appointment.

Free Station Tours

Call to arrange for a tour of any of our fire stations.

Free CPR and First Aid Classes

Registration information and class schedules are available at www.eastpiercefirerescue.org. Free for East Pierce residents.

Free Smoke Alarm Installations

Call for an appointment. Includes smoke alarm with 10-year batteries.

Free Blood Pressure Checks

Stop by any staffed station during regular business hours.

Free Fire Extinguisher Training

Learn the different types of extinguishers and how to use a fire extinguisher in case of a residential or commercial emergency. Call to schedule.

**Sponsored by East Pierce Professional Firefighters Local 3520.*

The goal of the Safety Committee is to ensure the safety of all the firefighters and officers at East Pierce Fire & Rescue. We provide a method to solve safety concerns. We also review and remove hazards that may become safety issues.



Firefighting is an inherently dangerous occupation. Firefighters are often exposed to hazardous conditions during fire suppression and the delivery of emergency medical care. It is the goal of the Safety Committee to ensure the welfare of all firefighters and officers at East Pierce Fire & Rescue by providing a method to resolve safety concerns. The committee also reviews and removes hazards that may become safety issues through hazard reporting.

In 2007, East Pierce Fire & Rescue reduced the number of injuries to firefighters from 12 in 2006 to 10. The injury rate at East Pierce declined despite a dramatic increase in call volume and an expanded work force, with the additional of the Sumner firefighters and several new employees.

Accomplishments for 2007

- Two new fire engines were purchased, providing enhanced safety. One fire engine and two medic units have been ordered for delivery in 2008.
- Initiated a monthly inspection program for the fire district's aerial ladder truck, increasing the safety of

firefighters working from this equipment.

- Added reflective graphics to all East Pierce apparatus, increasing visibility after dark.
- Successfully submitted a request for a Federal Grant to purchase three emergency generators for stations 15, 110, 19. Implementation will begin in 2008.
- Added the Hi-Lo siren sound to all apparatus. This tone will be used to alert firefighters of immediate danger at fire incidents. It is part of a Mayday Emergency procedure that alerts firefighters to immediately evacuate a burning building when it is no longer considered safe.
- Supplied N-100 masks to fire investigators, providing additional safety during fire investigations when a breathing apparatus is not appropriate or needed.
- Identified lifting injuries as the number one health issue in 2007.
- Began replacing light bars on staff vehicles with "LED" units for improved visibility and safety. The project will be completed in 2008.

Budget and Finance

In keeping with East Pierce's Mission and Vision statement, the Budget and Finance Division continually reviews and analyzes its finances and budget performance to ensure that district residents receive maximum value and service from their fire service.

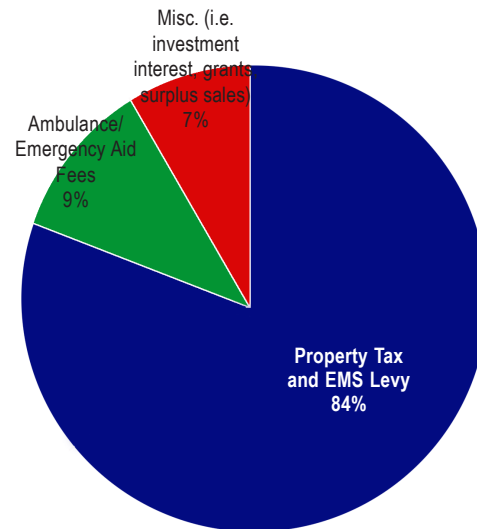
The Budget and Finance Division works closely with the State Auditor's office, which performs an annual accountability report to review budget compliance. The department chose to have the analysis performed annually, rather than the minimum cycle of every three years. This gives the department the opportunity to continually update and improve its accounting practices on a timely basis.

Major sources of funding include personal property taxes, which make up 84 percent of funds; followed by EMS transport fees, in which the department bills third-party payors such as private insurance companies, Medicare, etc.

In line with most departments, 66 percent of department costs went toward employee salary and benefits. Repair and maintenance costs for maintaining ten stations, and more than forty vehicles continue to rapidly increase, along with fuel and other fire and EMS supplies.

In 2007, the department's final operating budget was \$14,424,000.

2007 Annual Revenues



2007 Expenditures

Personnel	66.0%
Facilities Repair & Maintenance	5.4%
Lease Purchase of New Vehicles	5.3%
Dispatch Agency Fees	4.0%
Professional Services	3.9%
Professional Services	3.9%
Fire Suppression Equipment	3.2%
Medical Services & Transport	2.7%
Training Costs	1.8%
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	1.3%
Volunteer Reimbursement	0.6%
Misc.	1.1%



Awards

ANNUAL
REPORT 2007



East Pierce Fire and Rescue announced the recipients of the 2007 Recognition Awards at its annual banquet for members of the district personnel and their families, March 31 at Swiss Park.

The awards are particularly meaningful because the firefighters themselves nominate the winners. The single exception is the Chief's Company award, which is determined by the command staff.

The 2007 recipients were:

Captain Bob McDonald	Volunteer Officer of the Year
Captain Mike Shiner	Career Officer of the Year
Sara Arneson	Volunteer Responder of the Year
Brian O'Leary	Career Firefighter of the Year
Lieutenant Jeff Moore	Emergency Medical Services Provider of the Year
Brian Van Meter	Mike Roberts Goodwill Award
Maggie Winter	Ken Thawsh Inspirational Award
Captain Rick Goetz	Fitness Award

Jay Doty, a volunteer with more than 20 years of service, was recognized as the volunteer who attended the most drills during the year. Firefighter **Terry Richardson** was acknowledged for responding to more alarms than any other volunteer.

The Chief's Company included **Larry Nye, Mike Giefer, Sean Alix, Kirby Pollard, Darrell Seymour** and **Lon Snope**.

There was a tie for Administrative Support Staff of the Year. The award was presented to **Tricia Brown** and **Kim Johnson**.

Citizen Advisory Committee

The East Pierce Fire & Rescue Citizen Advisory Committee was founded in 2006 to provide a forum for community input. The goal is to increase awareness of the District's mission, vision and values, and to provide feedback from the community.

The committee is comprised of volunteers from throughout the district, including Bonney Lake, South Prairie, Wilkeson, Prairie Ridge, portions of Buckley and the area surrounding Lake Tapps. The goal is to establish best practice models for citizen and community communication. The group also provides input on funding and policy development.



Contact Information

Staffed Stations

Station 11 ~ Headquarters Station ~ Bonney Lake
18421 Old Buckley Hwy.
Phone: **(253) 863-1800**

Station 12 ~ Prairie Ridge
12006 214th Ave. E.

Station 14 ~ Lake Tapps
3206 W. Tapps Dr. E.

Station 16 ~ Buckley
10515 234th Ave. E.

Station 13 ~ Sumner
800 Harrison St.

Volunteer Stations

Station 15 ~ Lake Tapps
1605 210 Ave. E.

Station 19 ~ South Prairie
350 SR 162

Station 111 ~ Buckley
27723 Sumner-Buckley Hwy.

Station 110 ~ Wilkeson
501 Church St.

Station 113 ~ Bonney Lake
4824 Aqua Dr. E.

Station 112 ~ Lake Tapps
2905 Sumner-Tapps Hwy. E

www.eastpiercefirer.org





East Pierce Fire & Rescue
18421 Old Buckley Highway
Bonney Lake, WA 98391
www.eastpiercefir.org

