



**CITY OF DANBURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
19 NEW STREET
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810**

**T. J. Wiedl
Fire Chief**

**Phone 203-796-1550
Fax 203-796-1552**

FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of November 21st through December 21st, 2014 and details activities of the Department.

As the temperature drops outside, wood and pellet stoves may be fired up inside the home. What you may not realize is that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fires during the winter months. We would like to highlight several wood and pellet stove safety tips for our residents to keep their homes safe:

- Have a qualified professional install stoves, chimney connectors, and chimneys.
- In wood stoves, burn only dry, seasoned wood. In pellet stoves, burn only dry, seasoned wood pellets.
- Have your chimney and stove inspected and cleaned by a certified chimney sweep every fall just before the heating season.
- Clean the inside of your stove periodically using a wire brush.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing of them. Place ashes in a covered metal container. Keep the container at least 10 feet away from the home and other buildings.
- Keep a close eye on children whenever a wood or pellet stove is being used. Remind them to stay at least 3 feet away from the stove.
- Stoves need space. Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from the stove.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide (CO) alarms outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home.
- Install and maintain smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside each sleeping area and inside each bedroom. For the best protection, interconnect the alarms.

Public Education / Prevention / Public Relations

Crews toured the new Subaru dealership on Newtown Road and Belimo on Turner Road, and familiarized with E-26 district.

Firefighters participated in a stuff-a-truck toy drive on Backus Avenue on behalf of DCF. Lt. Chip Daly again spearheaded the Salvation Army Angel Tree program and toy collection drive.

Suppression / Response Activities of Note

Crews responded to a structure fire at 47 ½ W. Wooster Street. Involved was a two story vacant house with flames throughout the second floor and through the roof. On arrival, a Chevy Suburban was the only exposure possibly at risk. E22 had initial water on the fire. E26 had a hydrant 200' uphill of the structure. A second handline and an additional 2 and ½" handline were put into operation. Considering the degree of involvement on arrival, crews did a remarkable job of preventing further extension of fire. DFM Osborne investigated. CL&P secured the electrical service and the Building Dept. was notified. Squad 6 remained on scene throughout the incident to provide scene lighting. JP McGuire was contracted to secure the building. No injuries were reported.

There were three incidents involving pedestrians struck by motor vehicles – a high number for a 30-day period.

Members assisted in the search of a 13 year old boy who became lost in Tarrywile Park during the annual Officer Donald Hassiak Turkey Trot. Firefighters were assisted by members of the Danbury Police Explorers. The boy was located in the woods, and removed back to the staging area via the Fire Department's Gator.

Smoke detectors were installed at various residences by request.

Command and Staff Activities

- Danbury Hospital Emergency Plan Meeting
- City Council Meeting
- Housing Authority Seniors Christmas Party
- State of The City Address
- Meeting with IXP
- Meeting with Local 801 Executive Board
- Mentoring at Danbury High School

Emergency Medical / HazMat – Coordinator Rey Rodriguez

EMS Wednesday

For the months of November and December, the focus has been re-certifying all our personnel in CPR for the Professional Rescuer to insure skill proficiency in adult, child and infant CPR, and the proper use of the automatic external defibrillator or AED.

HAZMAT TEAM Training

The members of the Danbury Fire Department HAZMAT Team attended a 24 hour HAZMAT refresher class on December 5th, 8th and 12th of 2014. The topics of the class included Risk Assessment, Chemistry and Metering and Clandestine Drug Labs with a scenario drill focused on practical skills.

This class exceeded the OSHA mandated 24-hour refresher for HAZMAT Technicians and was funded by the 2014 Homeland Security Grant.

EMS Supervisors Meeting

EMS/HAZMAT Coordinator Rodriguez attended the monthly EMS Supervisors meeting on December 17th, 2014. The topics of discussion were:

- Education
- Trauma
- Stroke

Communications / 911 – Communications Supervisor Steven Rogers

See Department Statistical Reports.

Training – Provisional Training Officer David Kirkwood

Volunteer Division

Quarterly Training

Fourth Quarter live burn training has been completed as of December 7th.

First Quarter training is scheduled and notification of the dates have been sent to all companies. We will be covering ICS, blood borne and Hazmat in the first quarter.

FF1 has been scheduled and is starting February 12th. Applications are out and we are expecting 15 to 20 participants.

Hose Testing

All Companies are in the process of the annual fire hose testing.

Career Division

Career Live Burns

As of Thursday November 20th all career live burns are complete. The 3 outstanding members that missed the November burns were able to attend the remaining 2 volunteer burns for a 100% completion of members not out on long term sick or injury.

Fire Officer Class

Lts. Bart McCleary and Nick Cabral have completed the 96 hr. Officer I class. They are awaiting certification testing. FF's DJ Rickard and Kevin Lunnie have completed FO 1/2 and passed their certification testing.

Hydrants

All hydrant testing is complete. The water department had allowed us the opportunity to complete the task. Thank you to Lt. Anderson for finishing this task.

Fire Instructor II

Fire Instructor II is complete with the majority of the students passing a very difficult certification test.

NVCC

The Fall semester class, "Municipal Fire Administration" takes place every Wednesday evening at Fire Headquarters through late December.

Dewalt Safety Training

We were able to start hand tool safety and identification through MSC Supply and Dewalt. The class will continue after the first of the year.



Apparatus / Equipment - Joe Cavo

The following is a partial list of the Apparatus Division's accomplishments this past month.

- R-1 – Repaired fuel line, repaired broken wire for air inlet sensor
- E-26 – Adjusted pump packing, serviced pump transmission, replaced step light
- Serviced TAC-1
- Prepared Apparatus Budget

- Coordinated layout/delivery of New Truck-1
- Replaced hand guard on Squad-1's Hurst Tool Cutter
- Replaced rear tires on E-23
- Replaced 4 tires on 03F2
- Sent E-25 to Rocky Hill for body repairs
- Had multiple recalls performed on 2013 Ford Escape



New Aerial Ladder Truck

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Jim Russell

Inspections

This month we inspected 185 apartments. We also did 30 misc. inspections, 9 liquor inspections, 12 places of assembly, 32 businesses, and 3 educational occupancies. There were 10 health care inspections. We also did 27 mercantile inspections.

Fire Prevention Presentations

During the month of November, and into December, members of our office gave 6 Fire Safety Presentations to elderly housing residents.

We also gave two fire extinguisher training classes to the employees at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Plan Reviews

Our team spent 88 hours this month reviewing plans for several projects in the City, including renovations to offices in Danbury Hospital, Cartus, Mannkind, and several changes in the Danbury Fair Mall.

Projects within the City

Site work is underway at the Kennedy Flats project on Kennedy Ave (375 Apts). Also, Mannkind Corp. is just about ready to go into production of its new drug which is being made in their new facility on Casper St.

Training

This month our team spent 21 hours in continuing education courses.

Fire Prevention Poster Contest

The poster contest is underway. We have collected all the finished posters from the schools. The judging will take place after the holidays.

Fire House Software

Fire Marshal Jim Russell and Deputy Fire Marshal Gary Bruce attended another class on Fire House Software. We are starting to use the software for inspections as well as reporting.

Department Statistical Reports

Community Risk Reduction

Monthly inspections	334
Abatements issued	3
Violations issued	2
Complaints	2
Fire Investigations	8
Fire Safety Programs	12

Public Safety Answering Point

Total 911 calls	3647
Abandoned 911 calls	322
Cellular 911 calls	2049
Admin calls received	709