



2020 State of the District

Evergreen Fire Protection District



Mission Statement

Protect life, property, and the environment through prevention, preparedness, education and emergency response.

Vision

Achieve our highest potential by:

- ***Recognize change in our community and respond accordingly.***
- ***Cultivate a safe and effective environment for the public and our members.***
- ***Create a positive work environment through effective internal communication, relationships and leadership.***
- ***Strive to be role models in the community and leaders in our profession.***
- ***Promote responsible stewardship of the resources afforded to us by the community.***
- ***Utilize technologies and methods to evaluate and enhance current practices.***

Values

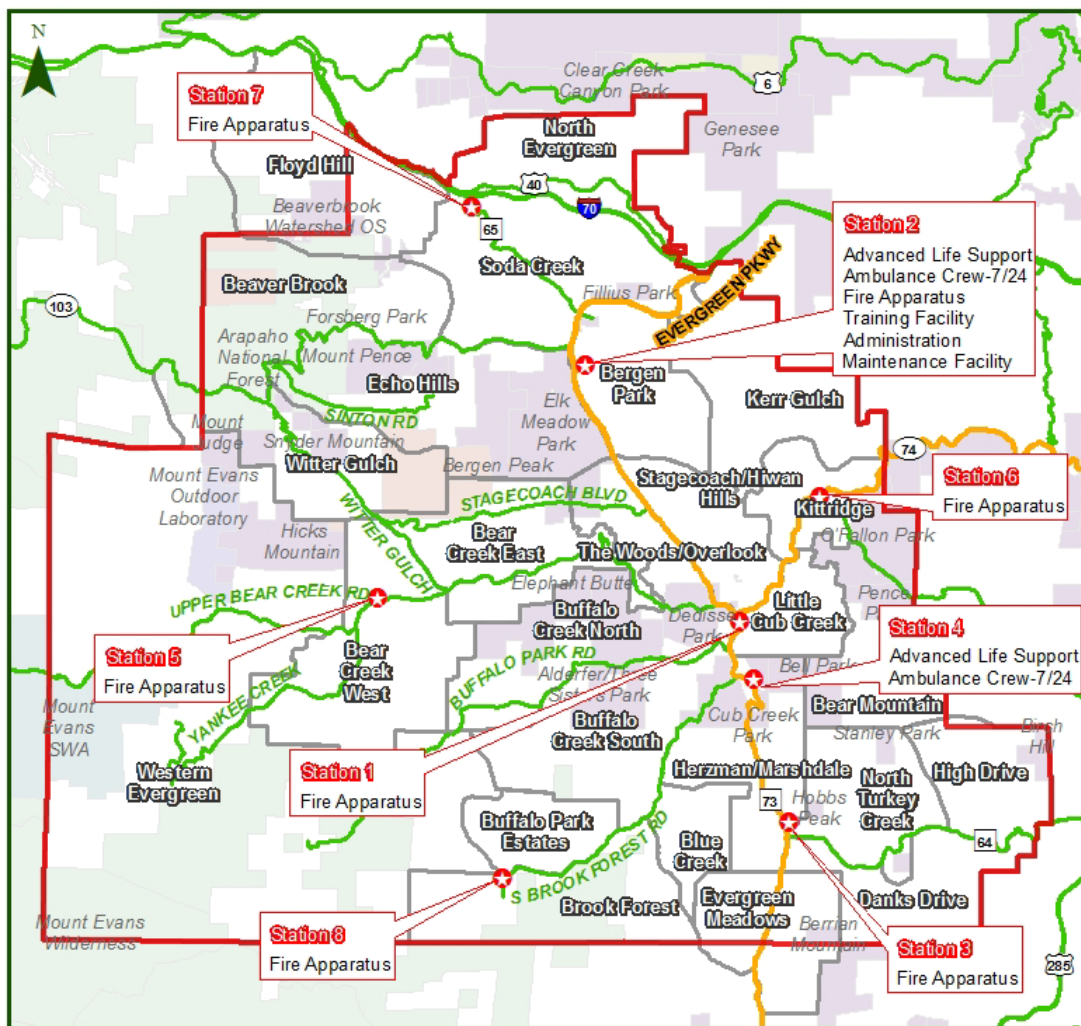
- ***Respect & Integrity***
- ***Communicate effectively***
- ***Responsibility & Accountability***
- ***Team Work***
- ***Encourage and value all contributions***
- ***Commitment & Pride***

Evergreen Fire Protection District

The Evergreen Fire Protection District (EFPD) is a Colorado Revised Statute (C.R.S.) Title 32 Special District centered on Evergreen, Colorado, and dedicated to providing Fire and Emergency Medical Services to the citizens and visitors of the district. The EFPD is located in unincorporated Jefferson and Clear Creek Counties. The citizens established the Evergreen Volunteer Fire Department in 1948, followed by the EFPD in 1950 to fund and be responsible for these needed emergency services. The district does business as Evergreen Fire/Rescue.

Special District Governments date back to the 1700's in the United States following English customs. Special district borders can geographically cross other government boundaries as they are only dedicated to the purpose they are empowered and responsible for. In addition to the EFPD, the unincorporated Evergreen area hosts the Evergreen Park and Recreation District, Evergreen Metropolitan District (water and wastewater) plus a few other districts each with their own geographical area and purpose.

Geographically the Evergreen Fire Protection District is roughly defined by the intersection of the Evergreen Parkway and I-70 to Floyd Hill (Clear Creek County), west through the Bear Creek drainage, south to Brook Forest, south and east of Marshdale (back in Jefferson County), Kittredge and back to I-70. This area also corresponds with terrain limitations for road access that is critical for a timely emergency response. Within these 120 square miles resides approximately 28,000 citizens.



The EFPD Board of Directors works with our staff and volunteers to meet the challenges of the district. Our focus is to continue the exceptional emergency services our citizens expect and have enjoyed since the fire department was formed in 1948. We welcome you to attend our discussions as we manage your Fire District. For meeting times and additional information please visit www.evergreenfirerescue.com/efpd-board/. The Board of Directors consists of five members who are elected by the voters to serve four year terms.

The Evergreen Fire Protection District, 2020 Board of Directors:



Jeff deDisse, President



John Anderson, Vice President



Mike Gregory, Treasurer



Chuck Ridings, Secretary



John Porter, Director

Financial Report

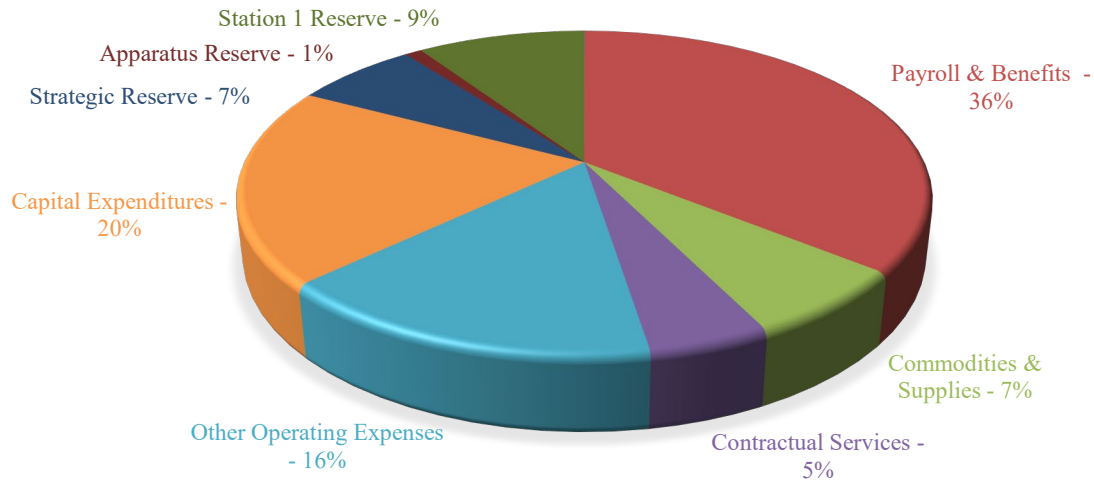
The Evergreen Fire Protection District uses a combination of governmental fund accounting and business accounting practices to keep the district in line with auditing requirements and allow for financial reporting that is straight forward. Below is a list of the Funds that make up the Evergreen Fire Protection District. The District has five funds each with its own budget.

- General Fund: The purpose of this fund is to account for the main operating expenses of the District, which are emergency medical services, fire protection services and administrative costs. This includes but is not limited to the expenses of 911 dispatch, personal protective equipment, training, administrative personnel, station and apparatus maintenance expenses, emergency medical services personnel, supplies and training, ambulance billing and collections.
- Debt Service Fund: The purpose of this fund is to account for the resources accumulated and payments made for principal and interest on the current bond issue.
- Fiduciary Fund: The purpose of this fund is to account for the income and expenses related to the 401(a) Defined Contribution Pension Account and the Volunteer Fire Pension Account.
- Strategic Capital Fund: The purpose of this fund is to capture the strategic expenses for capital building improvements, tools and equipment, software and hardware.
- Apparatus Fund: The purpose of this fund is to capture the expenses of vehicle and apparatus purchases or replacements.
- Station 1: This fund was created in 2017 to allow for funds to be set aside for the remodel or replacement of Station 1, which was built in the mid 1960's.

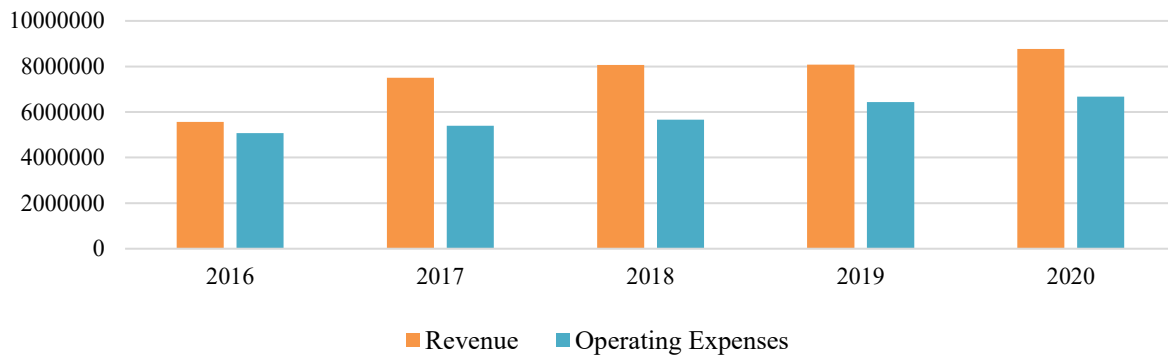
The General Fund is divided into the following sections:

- Payroll and Benefits: Salaries, wages, benefits, payroll taxes, Worker's Compensation, and pension expenses (both paid and volunteer personnel).
- Commodities and Supplies: Tangible items purchased for the operation of the District. Examples include office supplies, maintenance and repair parts, firefighting and EMS (Emergency Medical Services) equipment, uniforms, training books and manuals, and fuel.
- Contractual Services: Legal services, Accounting services, IT support, annual auditing, and other professional fees.
- Other Operating Expenses: Services required for the operation of the District. Examples include postage, janitorial services, internet fees, telephone and other utilities, insurance, and travel expenses.
- Capital Expenditures: Equipment, tools, hardware, software, vehicles, furniture, and buildings needed to support the operations of the District.

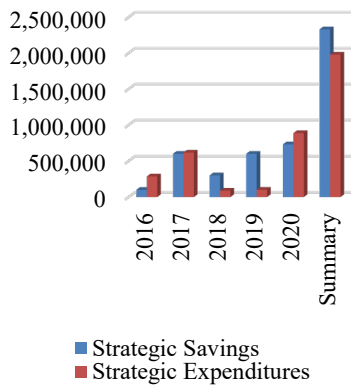
Operating Expenses - 2020



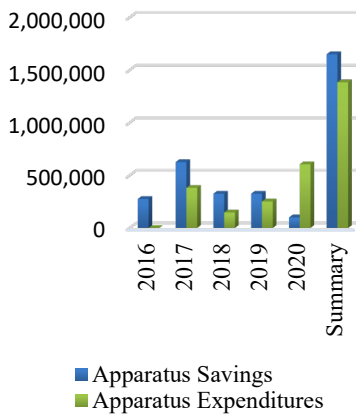
Revenue vs. Operating Expenses*



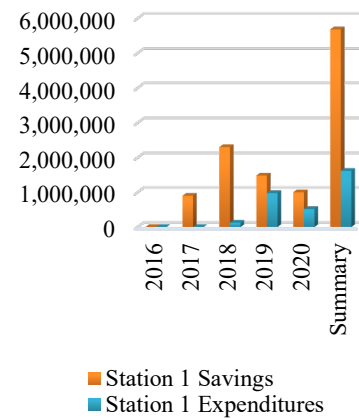
Capital Equipment Reserve



Apparatus Reserve



Station 1 Reserve



Administration Division

The Administration Division represents the Evergreen Fire Protection District in daily business operations and provides day-to-day support to the divisions that make up Evergreen Fire/Rescue (EFR). The administrative team is comprised of the Fire Chief, Office Manager, Human Resource Specialist, Accounting Clerk/ Admin Specialist, and contract support for Information Technology and Financial Management.

Mike Weege has served the district as fire chief for seven years with responsibility for all EFR divisional operations. He represents the district on the Board of Directors of the Jefferson County Communications Center Authority (Jeffcom), and he serves on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Fallen Firefighter Foundation (CFFF). He also serves on the Jefferson County Wildfire Risk Reduction Task Force, and the State Wildfire Commission.

Cindy Haigler manages People and Culture for EFR. Cindy's primary functions include benefits management, personnel matters including hiring, oversight of payroll generation, handbook support and Employee Assistance Program management. During 2020 Cindy coordinated the revisions to our team member handbook and managed the hiring of seasonal employees for the fuels mitigation crew. Office Manager, Carol Hucker, manages all administrative activities within EFR. She handles contract maintenance billing, transcribes meeting minutes, and other functions in support of each division with the support of Erin Small who handles accounts payable/receivable, and assists with administrative tasks. Together they coordinate facility usage and meetings, and respond to public calls for information.

EFR continued its assigned cleanup of Bergen Parkway. Twice a year you will see our team members along the road as we do our part to keep Evergreen clean and beautiful by picking up garbage as participants in Jefferson County's Adopt-A-Road litter control program. As part of the strategic initiative to replace Station 1 due to its age, configuration and county plans to widen Highway 73, the district purchased an additional piece of property located at 28648 Buffalo Park Road. This property is contiguous to the commercial property at 5071 Hwy. 73 that was purchased in 2019.

In response to Covid-19 the administration building, training rooms and auditorium were closed to public access beginning in March of 2020 to follow state mandated guidelines for group gatherings. As an essential organization we continued to provide emergency operations while many of the administrative staff worked remotely. All EFR personnel switched to virtual meeting formats. Many residents and restaurants in the district showered the Team Members with food and tokens of support which were much appreciated.



Emergency Medical Services Division (EMS)

The total call volume in 2020 was up slightly to 2379 total calls for service with just under 60% being EMS related. In comparison, the total call volume for 2019 was 2,365 calls for service with 66% of the calls being for emergency medical services.

EMS Staff

The EMS Division staffs two full-time Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances in our district at all times. Our organizational structure allows us to split the paramedic crews, utilizing firefighters as drivers, at a moment's notice. Firefighters assisted in transport by driving an ambulance to the hospital for the medics in 12% of our patient transports for the 2019 year. With a slight increase in second and third out calls in 2020, firefighters assisted in driving to the hospital 116 times, up 3% from 2019. This speaks to the dedication and commitment of our fire ops division. While this feature is unique, it enables us to routinely double our ALS coverage by providing four ALS ambulances to our community 24/7. The EMS staff consists of twelve full time paramedics, eight part-time paramedics, a full time Community Paramedic and the EMS Chief. The firefighters, under our neighborhood response program, give us the ability to provide a rapid response by having trained first responders on scene within minutes of the call.

ECARES and Community Paramedicine

With the implementation in 2018 of Evergreen Community Assistance Referral and Education Services (ECARES), EFR continues to work with our partners to identify the health and wellness needs of our community. A comprehensive and dynamic, integrated community healthcare, wellness and prevention program has been developed to fill gaps in our local healthcare system; to educate our population in how to stay healthy; and to prevent falls and avoid unnecessary 911 phone calls, emergency room visits, hospital admissions and readmissions.

Phase three of our community paramedic program through our Community Integrated Healthcare Services (CIHCS) license has continued to be implemented through the work of the three Community Paramedics. They continue to provide out-of-hospital medical services such as initial and subsequent assessments, certain medical interventions, care coordination, resource navigation, education, medication inventory, administration and review, gathering of laboratory and diagnostic data and other allowable Community Paramedic tasks. COVID -19 presented a challenge as we were not able to visit many patients in their homes for an extended period of time. The number of patient visits for 2020 was 118 compared to 98 visits in 2019. Of those visits 29 were ongoing from 2019 and 79 were new referrals. In total for ECARES and CIHCS there were 212 calls including lift assists.



Referrals primarily come from in house paramedics as they see these residents first and recognize the need additional resources. Other referrals are generated from local case managers, local physicians, and the MEHHS (Mountain Area Health and Human Services) group. The remainder are word of mouth or from various other groups. Services provided to these consumers range from home risk assessments, resource sharing, recommendations for services including in home

care, social workers, specialty care and transportation. EFR has partnered with the St. Anthony Hospital Education Department to develop a mountain area specific Community Paramedic class tailored to the mountain area. This is still in the development stages.

Training and the Future

The EMS division continued our mission of prevention, emergency preparedness, and education through 2020. With almost 8% of transported patients being cardiac related, education and technology play a significant role allowing for earlier recognition of potentially life threatening and time sensitive cardiac events. Through teamwork, cardiac cath-lab advancement and improved technology, communication, along with professional working relationships with St. Anthony Hospital, the EFR paramedics have the ability to recognize cardiac emergencies within minutes of arriving on scene of a cardiac patient. With these essentials in place, we can treat our patient's accordingly and notifying the receiving facility earlier. This allows for cath-lab preparation and swift treatment at the facility, significantly reducing tissue damage and providing a better opportunity for our patients to engage in a better quality of life after the event. In 2020 EFR ran 17 sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) calls. Two were obvious death and we were unable to provide life saving measures. Seven were transported to the hospital (2 survived) and the remaining 8, advanced life support was provided but unsuccessful. This is a 13.2% survival rate, well above the almost 9% national average. Ninety percent of SCA calls are in the patient's home.

Department Education

Each year our probationary firefighters are required to go through Emergency Medical Responder training as part of their fire academy. This 8 plus week class provides the didactic and skills education to prepare our EFR first responders to be well equipped to handle that neighborhood emergency until the ambulance arrives. During 2020 Paramedic Captain Quatro Roderick and Deputy Chief Bill Cronk successfully brought another 7 probationary firefighters and 4 cadets through the EMR class equipping them with the skills required to manage the beginning of that neighborhood emergency.

New Additions

The EMS staff had two very welcome additions to the part time paramedic staff in 2020. Aaron Welch, a graduate 6 years ago from the Denver Paramedics education system and a full time employee at Denver Health Paramedics brings a wealth of experience to Evergreen. Aaron Pugmire, now in the Field Instructor program comes to us from Denver Paramedics. Pugmire brings 9 years of paramedic experience to Evergreen Fire Rescue along with an Advanced Wilderness Life Support certification.

CPR and Public Outreach

Evergreen Public Access Defibrillation (EPAD), EFR and Centura Health (St. Anthony Hospital) ceased all CPR classes in late February 2020. The efforts of EPAD and Paramedic Captain John Lock along with a CPR team of instructors will continue to provide CPR classes to Evergreen once it is safe to resume. During 2019 there were 654 students. Prior to the Covid -19 shut down of CPR classes we were able to educate 50 people. Stop the Bleed training was added in 2020 with all administrative staff participating and a special training held for the Evergreen Metro Water District personnel.



Peer Support

Peer support has proven to be an asset to the entire Evergreen Fire Rescue organization. Consisting of five trained Peer Support Team (PST) members, we had 45 contacts in 2019 and 57 contacts in 2020. Each of these PST members attends quarterly trainings along with other mountain area fire agencies. These agencies, Foothills Fire, Highlands Rescue Team, Blackhawk Fire and Evergreen Fire Rescue make up the Mountain Area Peer Support Team (MAPS). We train with counselors and instructors from Building Warriors, a specialty group of responder counselors and peer specialists providing direct services and training to support emergency responders, and those afflicted by traumatic experience.

Awards

In 2020 Evergreen Fire/Rescue was recognized with the Silver Mission Lifeline award. This recognition is a program designed to showcase Emergency Medical Service organizations across the nation for excellent (ST Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction) STEMI care. Prehospital personnel are the first providers of care to patients suffering from cardiac emergencies. The role of EMS in the system-of-care for these patients is crucial and often sets the course for the patient's outcome.

Some of the criteria needing to be met in order to achieve the various levels of this award are the following: number of cardiac calls annually, number of minutes from patient contact to obtaining a 12 lead ECG, number of minutes to hospital notification, amount of time spent in the ED and time of first ECG to time of ED notification.

Covid 19, PPE and Grants

Covid 19 played a significant role for the EMS division and our entire organization throughout 2020. We had to practice and learn resilience, patience and adjust protocols and guidelines and quickly adapt to them. EFR adjusted our community response numerous times in an effort to maintain the health and safety of our team members. In addition, EFR successfully obtained the needed PPE throughout the year to maintain the appropriate safety of our responders and the community as we provide care.

Lt. Kelly Guthner and Erin Small played a significant role in assisting EFR acquire nearly \$200,000.00 in DOLA, JEFFCO CARES and UHG grant funds. These funds helped equip EFR with all of the necessary PPE, which included gloves, N-95 masks, surgical masks, eye protection, Tyvek suits and gowns for responders. In addition, we obtained 3M N-95 ½ face masks and N-100 equivalent filters for SCBA masks. We were also fortunate to obtain 2 Aerolcave decontamination machines to place in each of the primary ambulances to help decontaminate responders and equipment. These machines are also available for crew quarters and building decontamination. These are all resources that were very difficult to purchase at times but EFR was fortunate to maintain their supplies. Rachel Rush and Annie Dorchak are shown at right in PPE.



These grants also helped staff on both the north and south sides of the district with one on duty firefighter to accompany the ambulance on calls providing an additional set of hands and Incident Command on scene while others were staged for safety close to any incident. Response times were impacted as shown below by the time required to stage crews and don PPE for calls.

Fire Operations Division

In 2020, the Evergreen Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) marked its 72nd anniversary providing emergency response as one of the largest volunteer fire departments in Colorado. With 120 square miles to protect, the highly trained firefighters in our neighborhood response system were dispatched to 744 fire calls for service over the year.

Each January the EVFD holds elections for its Board of Directors and for the Deputy Chief of Operations. The Deputy Chief then puts a slate of officers before the membership for approval. For 2020 the Board of Directors was Brad Richards – President; Craig Rothluebber – Vice President; Greg Grotke – Treasurer; and Terri McLaughlin – Secretary. For the year Mason Duncan was elected as Deputy Chief with Assistant Chief Bill Cronk.



Stephanie, Finn, and Chief Duncan

After many years of increasing need for a fulltime Operations Chief the District hired Mason Duncan for the position of Division Chief of Fire Operations in March. After this change, the EVFD Board of Directors and the membership elected Bill Cronk as Deputy Chief aligning under the new position of Division Chief. Stacey Martin served as Assistant Chief. The Operational Captains for the year were Ed Mills, John Oglesby, Drew Schneider, and Bill Atkins. Serving as Operational Lieutenants were Matt Duty, Kelly Guthner, Dustin Searle, Wayne Shephard, Dan Guajardo, Britt Van Dissel, Chris McKay, Doug Matheny, and Scott Cole.

During 2020 many projects were started or completed. A significant change to the Duty Officer program was the designation of an officer to provide 24-hour coverage on all days. Formerly this was activated only when there are special events or circumstances that might lead to a higher incidence of emergency calls. This change was to assure that an officer is available to assist the firefighters as needed with direction or support 365 days per year. It also ensures immediate emergency response decisions to events such as red flag days, holidays, special events within the district like the Christmas Walk, Big Chili, or severe weather situations.

Crew and resident quarters have been constructed at Station 2. A firefighter resident occupies an apartment in the old communications center and is available to respond with apparatus for calls day and night to get apparatus on the road more quickly. The resident firefighters provide set hours of service from the station and must be qualified to drive the Rescue truck and the Engine. A new type 3 wildland engine was added to the fleet to improve the opportunities for firefighters to deploy to a larger incident and gain experience from outside our district. Many members of the wildland team have helped to build this truck.



Chief Duncan presented Cheryl Denbow (left) as Firefighter of the year and Captain Ed Mills (right) as Officer of the year for 2020 in acknowledgement and appreciation for their dedication and commitment to the community and emergency response. Both went the extra mile and took shifts as ambulance support

drivers during the first months of the pandemic allowing us to split the paramedic crews to keep more ambulances in service. The District greatly appreciates their service.

Academy:

In June 2020 eleven students graduated from the fire academy. To make the academy more efficient, help share the load of teaching, and build unity with our closest neighbor agencies, a joint academy was formed for the 2021 graduating class. A new class started in August with seven students from EFR, two from Indian Hills Fire, and four from Foothills Fire. A dedicated instructor cadre was also formed to ensure consistent delivery of material. The academy meets weekly for classroom and hands on training over a period of 10 months. During this time, they complete many milestones including the state of Colorado Firefighter 1 written and practical exams, emergency medical responder written and practical exams, rescue training that covers motor vehicle accidents and other forms of rescue, wildland fire training, and hazardous materials.

Response Time Data

EFR tracks emergency response times using the National Fire Protection Association Guideline 1720, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Departments. The purpose of this standard is to specify the minimum criteria addressing the effectiveness and efficiency of the public fire suppression operations, emergency medical service, and special operations delivery in protecting the citizens of the jurisdiction. Changes in how we collect and report this data were started and will be completed as part of our strategic planning.

Count of Responses from each Station by a unit by year 2016 to 2020										
	Assists	EMS	Fires	Fire Alarm	HazMat	Other	Rescue	Wildland	Total	% By Year
2016	62	1380	92	178	92	139	12	147	2102	18.5%
2017	169	1491	90	157	91	90	24	186	2298	20.3%
2018	169	1491	90	157	91	90	24	186	2298	20.3%
2019	288	1270	40	177	125	260	14	113	2287	20.2%
2020	66	1616	44	251	72	101	17	180	2347	20.7%
Total	754	7248	356	920	471	680	91	812	11332	100.0%
Percentage	6.7%	64.0%	3.1%	8.1%	4.2%	6.0%	0.8%	7.2%	100.0%	

Count of Responses from each Station by a Unit 2016 to 2020										
	Assists	EMS	Fires	Fire Alarm	HazMat	Other	Rescue	Wildland	Total	% By Year
Station 1	159	859	78	163	87	119	21	190	1676	14.8%
Station 2	370	4103	131	473	249	324	37	257	5944	52.5%
Station 3	23	225	33	76	19	55	4	90	525	4.6%
Station 4	144	1500	21	38	31	18	19	63	1834	16.2%
Station 5	12	139	42	84	14	20	1	44	356	3.1%
Station 6	9	144	28	21	12	23	3	37	277	2.4%
Station 7	13	89	10	42	36	24	3	55	272	2.4%
Station 8	24	189	13	23	23	97	3	76	448	4.0%
Total	754	7248	356	920	471	680	91	812	11332	100.0%
Percentage	6.7%	64.0%	3.1%	8.1%	4.2%	6.0%	0.8%	7.2%	100.0%	

Count of Incidents Per Population Zone 2016 - 2020									
	Assists	EMS	Fires	Fire Alarm	HazMat	Other	Rescue	Wildland	Total
Urban	187	1742	73	217	114	150	15	128	2626
Suburban	220	2385	102	323	132	237	30	174	3603
Rural	223	2470	103	377	149	339	25	345	4031
Remote	30	363	24	40	25	54	2	91	629
OOD	8	209	28	8	4	40	8	42	347
Total	668	7169	330	965	424	820	80	780	11236

Engine 1720 Performance Comparisons						
Population Zone	EFR Benchmark Standard	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Urban	9 Minutes to On-Scene	50.1%	64.8%	44.4%	74.5%	52.4%
Suburban	10 Minutes to On-Scene	52.2%	36.9%	60.0%	78.5%	56.5%
Rural	14 Minutes to On-Scene	53.7%	45.7%	57.5%	83.4%	64.5%
Remote	17 Minutes to On-Scene	64.0%	47.4%	78.4%	100.0%	63.2%
Out of District	17 Minutes to On-Scene	33.9%	35.1%	92.8%	63.0%	75.2%
Percentage of Times a Unit meets the EFR Time Standard						

Brush Engine 1720 Performance Comparisons						
Population Zone	EFR Benchmark Standard	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Urban	9 Minutes to On-Scene	54.5%	83.0%	73.0%	89.1%	50.0%
Suburban	10 Minutes to On-Scene	67.3%	51.3%	48.5%	83.7%	70.0%
Rural	14 Minutes to On-Scene	44.9%	47.7%	63.5%	94.3%	51.1%
Remote	17 Minutes to On-Scene	44.0%	32.9%	52.8%	91.0%	44.5%
Out of District	17 Minutes to On-Scene	No Data	27.5%	64.6%	23.3%	72.9%
Percentage of Times a Unit meets the EFR Time Standard						

POV 1720 Performance Comparisons						
Population Zones	EFR Benchmark Standard	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Urban	9 Minute to On-Scene	77.2%	84.9%	73.8%	65.9%	77.3%
Suburban	10 Minute to On-Scene	82.6%	84.0%	85.1%	63.2%	75.8%
Rural	14 Minute to On-Scene	77.8%	79.1%	91.2%	64.3%	81.3%
Remote	17 Minute to On-Scene	83.6%	72.2%	93.9%	64.2%	76.0%
Out of District	17 Minute to On-Scene	77.0%	91.2%	93.6%	76.2%	89.2%
Percentage of Times a Unit meets the EFR Time Standard						

Medic 1720 Performance Comparison						
Population Zone	EFR Benchmark Standard	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Urban	9 Minutes to On Scene	86.2%	85.3%	81.8%	83.0%	73.90%
Suburban	10 Minutes to On Scene	86.9%	88.0%	85.7%	80.0%	80.00%
Rural	14 Minutes to On Scene	85.7%	86.1%	78.8%	79.7%	77.40%
Remote	17 Minutes to On Scene	75.4%	78.2%	74.0%	83.8%	77.00%
Out of District	17 Minutes to On Scene	77.9%	91.8%	92.4%	89.4%	75.90%
Percentage of Times a Unit meets the EFR Time Standard						

Fire Prevention Division

Risk Reduction

There were many challenges brought to the Prevention Division in 2020 with the Covid 19 pandemic. Despite the challenge of working remotely, reduced public interaction and the impact on commercial fire/life safety inspections, 2020 was a year of many successes for community risk reduction (CRR).

For the Risk Reduction Team commercial fire/life safety inspections were the most heavily impacted by the pandemic. Many businesses closed or had such limited access that it was difficult to complete in-person inspections and our inspection rate was capped at 32%. However, from this we introduced a self-inspection program targeted at business (B) occupancies that allowed them to complete a short form and return it to us. The form was comprised of check box questions that addressed basic fire/life safety concerns. Approximately 40% of the businesses in this program completed the form and returned it. We will continue to explore this option through 2021.

We saw a significant increase in commercial, residential, and protection systems reviews with 54 permits issued in 2020 and a fee intake of over \$17,000. Some of the notable commercial projects included Walmart (sprinkler head replacement – cancelled), Evergreen High School (press box remodel), Evergreen Country Day School (addition), Wilmott Elementary School (addition), Marshdale Elementary (new school – under review), Clear Creek High School (new press box and concession stand), Jimmy Johns (new restaurant), and Campfire (new restaurant). In addition to commercial work in Evergreen, Prevention assisted Genesee with a significant remodel of a multi-story building and North Fork Fire Protection District with multiple building additions to Camp Ramah.

The Risk Reduction team also completed an internal evaluation which resulted in the review and updating of numerous operating guidelines. Some of the former guidelines were determined to be obsolete and were discarded. New or updated guidelines include Fire Inspection Program, Fire Investigations, Plans Review, Prevention Referrals and Complaints, and Knox Security Program. Review of operating guidelines will be a regular process for remaining current to industry standards, efficiency, and new programs.

An operational change was introduced to EFR through Prevention in the fall of 2020. The change was the discontinuation of resetting fire alarms in commercial buildings. The rationale behind the change was twofold. First, to reduce liability exposure to EFR/EFPD for manipulating a protection system and potentially placing a building and/or its occupants at risk. Second, resetting alarms clears all data input to the system memory which prevents system technicians from troubleshooting the system and correcting deficiencies.

Community Risk Reduction has led to an exciting co-mingling of ECARES and Prevention. We were able to continue working together performing home visits, installing smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, and providing community training. We also hosted and participated in a socially distanced 9 Health Fair which had 120 participants. 9 Health is a non-profit that provides resources and affordable and convenient health screening for healthier living. A Sound Off grant was awarded to us that provided funding for the purchase of smoke alarms and we have been providing education in the Evergreen Schools as part of the program. In addition, the Stop the Bleed training was presented to all members of the Evergreen Metro District. We continue to seek ways to engage the community and bring training and education that will help bring awareness and a reduction in risk behaviors. Programs being considered are a Community Business Safety Program and outreach to high school upperclassmen preparing to live independently.

Prevention continues to lead the Mountain Fire Marshals group. We saw this group expand in 2020 to include all fire marshals within Jefferson County as well as participation from our County sister offices of Planning/Zoning, Building Safety, and Transportation Engineering. This has resulted in discussion of how

we might standardize some aspects of code amendments, water access requirements, and review process efficiencies.



Amy Vanlandingham stopped to visit some fire truck fans and taught an outdoor class on fire safety.

Fire Prevention month was another success and innovation played a significant role. Prevention staff produced a great video to bring attention to cooking safety. An art contest was created with many terrific entries from Evergreen children and an honorable mention to a contestant from New Jersey. With the inability to perform in person station tours we began offering parades on a limited basis to keep children engaged in fire safety or in socially distant classes.

WILDLAND

The Wildland Team had a very busy 2020, even with Covid 19. The fire season started early and ended late. Evergreen Fire Rescue sent firefighters out on 10 different fires throughout Colorado in 2020. Scott Adams as the Wildland Specialist, has dedicated many hours to working with the Community Wildland Protection and Implementation Plans (CWPIP), assisting new groups in getting organized and initiating their plans, and assisting existing CWPIP with mitigation education to their area. New CWPIPs were started in West Evergreen, Marshdale, Witter Gulch, Kittredge, Herzman/Mesa, Troutdale, and Upper Bear Creek. The goal is to have all 26 CWPIP's completed and active by the end of 2021.

Educational programs for mitigation and wildfire were provided to Mountain Metro Realtors Association, neighborhood and HOA meetings, and other groups. Paul Amundson and Scott attended many neighborhoods zoom meetings and homeowner's association meetings over the year to continue the process of educating the public on the importance of mitigation on private and community property. The CWPIP leadership team was formed to bring the leaders in each area together, working on common goals and sharing information. In turn the CWPIP leadership team began working with the Rotary and Colorado State University on education and preparedness for Evergreen. A \$20,000 grant from the Colorado State Forest Service and a \$58,000 grant from The Nature Conservancy were applied for and received for work to be undertaken and finalized in 2020. North Turkey Creek CWPIP was awarded the State Fire Assistance (SFA) grant for \$500,000 and will begin work in 2021. The Fillius Park/Soda Creek CWPIP applied for a SFA grant in 2020 with awards announced in the spring of 2021.

In January a grant funded GIS (Geographic Information System) coordinator from the Colorado Forest Service began working on updating wildland fire preplan mapping of the district for fire attack as well as detailed identification of areas targeted for mitigation, fuel breaks, fire modeling, and other uses. The district began working on updates to its Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) with the aid of Corrina Marshall, the Forest Stewards Guild Intermountain West Region Manager. With her assistance several stakeholder meetings were held over the year for the public as we identified and updated the districts CWPP focus. A final report was completed late in 2020.

The Wildland team has partnered with Jefferson Conservation District (JCD) on several mitigation projects throughout the district totaling around 300 acres to be treated over the next couple of years. We will be conducting pile burns in 2021, 2022 for some of the JCD projects if conditions allow. EFR joined JCD and Jefferson County in a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant which is for capacity building and should be informed of awards in the spring of 2021. A service agreement with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) was completed which will fund mitigation work on TNC land in the district. With equipment donations from Chuck Ridings Insurance and an anonymous donor, the district was able to equip a trailer for CWPIP groups to have access to mitigation tools and equipment, and fund grants to the groups for chippers and removal of chipped materials. A district tour was conducted for the Federal National Wildland Coordinators. A Memorandum of Agreement with Jefferson County was completed which will allow us to perform thinning and mitigation along county right of way.



Jefferson County implemented a Wildfire Risk Reduction Task Force, and the state of Colorado formed a Wildfire Commission. EFR has representation on both groups. The Wildland Team met with Director Mike Lester of the Colorado State Forest Service to provide a tour of projects and grants that are underway or planned in Evergreen including the Upper Bear Creek Fuel Break, North Turkey Creek, Evergreen Meadows, and the Buffalo Park CWPIPs. Paul has been working on a community mitigation assistance team (CMAT) for Evergreen. This is a federal team that assesses how we can improve or use best practices. The team has been busy participating in many groups, including the Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative (RMRI) and Upper South Platte Partnership (USPP). Additionally, Paul is on the Social Licensing subcommittee for RMRI promoting prescribed fire and mitigation in Colorado, participates on the management and science team for the USPP, and sits on the State CFC Large Fire Funding Subcommittee.

We have continued to work on risk assessment with our neighboring districts, with the goal of applying for FEMA grants. The entire Prevention team completed training for Home Ignition Zones and a home assessment program will be initiated in partnership with Elk Creek Fire Protection District. This has been

named Wildfire Partners and home assessments will begin in the spring of 2021. We continue to work on wildfire preplans, targeted for completion in the spring of 2021. The seasonal Evergreen Fuels Crew started in the spring 2020 with the hiring of a Supervisor and crew members. The Fuels Crew completed slash chipping at 350 addresses, completing in its first year, cut a 19-acre fuel break for Jefferson County Open Space, and worked many Initial Attack Fires within Evergreen and our surrounding fire districts. The crew were one of the first on scene of the Elephant Butte Fire.

Fleet and Facilities Maintenance Division

The Fleet and Facility Maintenance Division continued with four full time employees for 2020. During 2020 two fleet team members spent a week in a manufacturer's electrical training. The training proved valuable diagnosing electrical issues on Pierce units. Many training opportunities were cancelled over the year.

The demand for a 5th ambulance was identified for the fleet inventory. The order was placed in 2020 and delivery will be made in 2021. It was decided to beta test automated tire chains on this unit in comparison with the traditional tire chains used on the existing fleet in inclement weather. During the year a type 3 Engine, a Chip Truck and chipper, and a crew hauler were purchased.



Contract Maintenance requests were down for the year. It was expected as agencies experienced lower call volumes during the initial months of the pandemic shut down, resulting in less wear and tear on apparatus. Analysis of the fee structure was conducted for market benchmarks. The cost of labor has increased and a fee change proposal will be taken to the board for 2021. The cost per hour was identified as 5% higher than in previous years. It was also identified that as more electronics are installed on vehicles there is an increased need for scanning to read the system codes and a higher cost for this software. Since the inception of the contract maintenance program nearly \$1,000,000 has been invoiced to other agencies for apparatus maintenance services.

The HVAC system installation was completed for the administration building during 2020 and is now functional. Station 2 received substrate repairs and then new stucco over the entire exterior to extend the useful life of this service. Station 4 exterior stairs were replaced and now provide a stronger and code compliant secondary exit. Maintenance facility lighting was replaced with LED technology providing a better lit work area for the team. The parking lot at Station 2 was modified to accomplish better drainage of melting snow and allow for safer foot traffic.

Training

EFR places significant emphasis on training its volunteer firefighters and paid staff. Over the year 10,956 hours of training were accomplished. For the year 2020 instructors put in many hours instructing active members and academy members with an additional 548 hours dedicated to leadership and officer development.

Training hours in 2020 were impacted by the ability to hold in person training exercises for several months during the Covid-19 restrictions on group gatherings.

The hours for the year are shown by topic:

Topic	Hours
Fire	3788.3
Driver Engineer	516
Rescue	1844.5
Wildland	1420
HazMat	470
Officer Development	548.5
Public Education	62
Continuing Education	2098
HR /New Hire	209
TOTAL	10956.3



Vehicle Fire Training



Swift Water Rescue Training

EFR Honor Guard

The 2020 Honor Guard members were John Porter, Ed Mills, Connell O'Brien, Kristy Tolan, Bill Cronk, Terri McLaughlin, and Harrison Leahy. Honor Guard members in training are Mike Amdur, Matt Duty, and McKenna Duty. The Honor Guard trains regularly to perfect their timing and presentation skills.

During 2020 the Honor Guard presented the colors for one funeral, one Girl Scout Troop, and one-flag folding demonstration. COVID-19 shutdowns and restrictions on the size of group gatherings had a large impact on the ability of the Honor Guard to attend sporting events and other special occasions for presentation of the colors.



Honor Guard Flag Folding Demonstration



Turnouts Food Drive for the EChO Food Bank

EFR Turnouts

The EFR Turnouts were formed in 2017. It is a group of community-oriented volunteer team members dedicated to the support of the District through community outreach, event coordination, volunteer recruitment and first responder assistance prior to, during and after emergency incidents. The Officers for 2020 were Rae Cronk, President; Don Payton, Vice President; Debby Humphrey, Secretary; and Marilyn Wood, Treasurer.

Even though many of their usual activities were curtailed or canceled during the Covid pandemic, the Turnouts managed to volunteer 625+ hours for EFR over the year. They coordinated and held two drive-through food collections for Evergreen Christian Outreach (EChO), collecting 5,685 pounds of food and supplies, and \$3613.95 in financial contributions. Due to social distancing requirements Christmas with EFR was also converted to a successful drive-thru event. We provided meals for the fire academy and other training days, as well as wildland weekend. The Turnouts assisted EMS Chief Montesi with the EPAD Golf Tournament and with replacing AED batteries throughout the district. Turnout Tom Meyers continues to use his experience as a videographer by recording training and informational videos for the department and community. Our team responded very well in support of the Elephant Butte fire, setting up a shelter and providing food and drinks to the responders. A rehab vehicle was placed in service as the Turnouts Support Unit. This is a used van that was retrofitted by VP Don Payton, Evan Fosler and the maintenance team. It will be used by the Turnouts to provide on-scene rehabilitation for the firefighters at large incidents. It is outfitted with food and drinks, a pop-up shelter, seating, heat, and other necessities.



Back Row (L to R): Frank Stanbach, Chris Roll, Tom Westby, Sandy Macomber, Maureen Sullivan, Tom Meyers, Rae Cronk
Front Row: Mandy Frale, Don Payton, Anna Moderski, Marilyn Wood, Debby Humphrey
Not Pictured: Andi Burnum, Sarah Guillaudeu, Melissa Webber

IN MEMORIUM

Chief Vern Smith 1946-2020

Chief Smith joined the volunteer fire department in 1974. He worked his way up through the ranks serving as Deputy Chief of Fire Operations from 1982-1983. He retired from the fire department in 1996.



**On behalf the Evergreen Fire Protection District and the citizens of Evergreen,
we thank him for his service.**