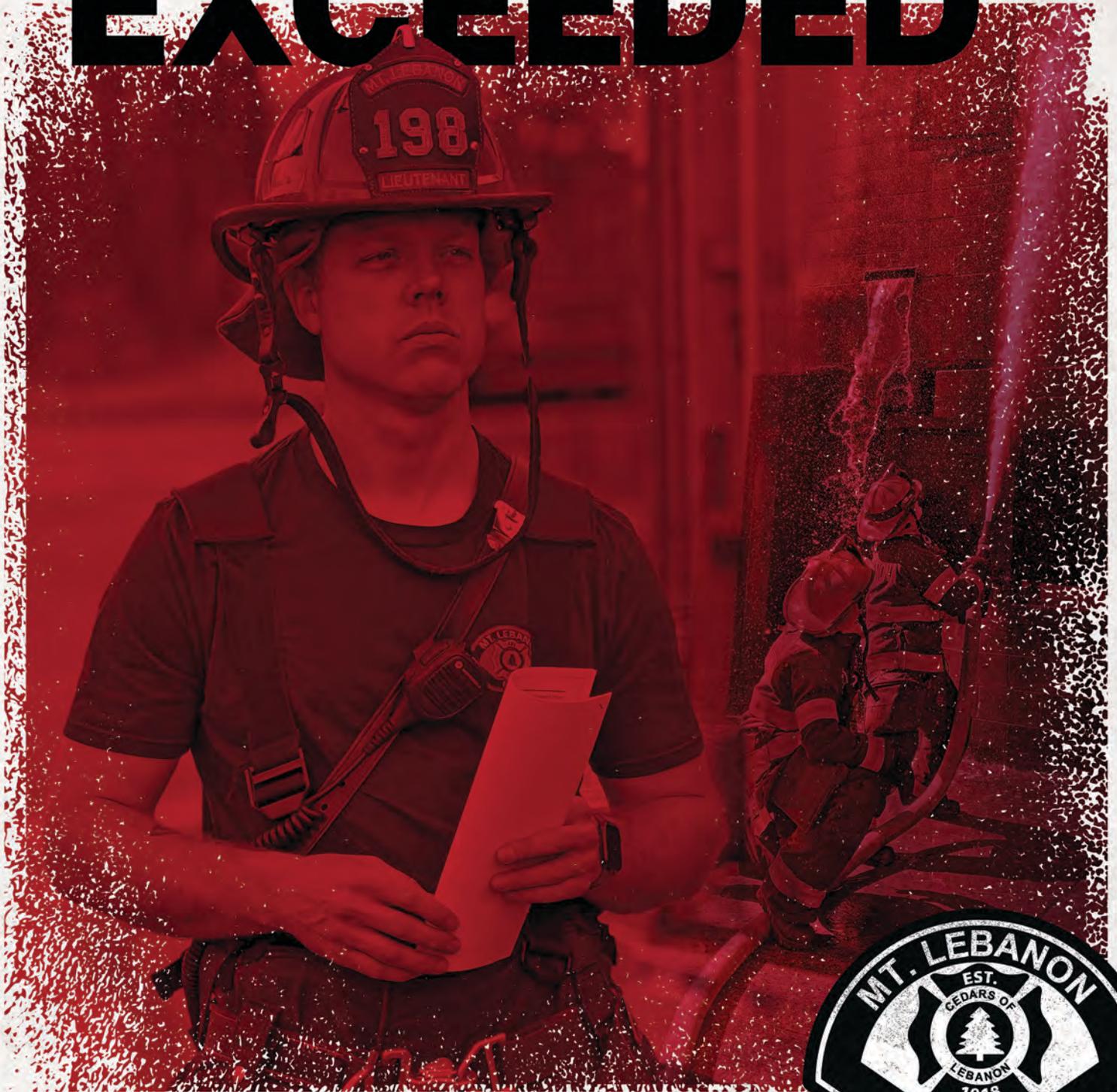


MT. LEBANON FIRE DEPARTMENT

STANDARDS EXCEEDED



2025

ANNUAL REPORT



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FROM THE CHIEF

On behalf of the dedicated members and officers of the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department, it is with great pride and humility that I present the 2025 Fire Department Annual Report.

While many fire service agencies strive to provide excellent service, the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department is able to validate its commitment to superior service through measurable outcomes and recognized national benchmarks. These include our Accredited Agency Status through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI), a Class 1 Public Protection Classification from the Insurance Services Office (ISO), historically low fire loss, and a strong and healthy volunteer force currently comprised of 46 active members. The Mt. Lebanon Fire Department is one of only 334 accredited agencies nationwide, 517 ISO Class 1 agencies, and just 125 agencies that maintain both Accredited Agency and ISO Class 1 status.

The year 2025 marked a period of significant change within the department. Deputy Chief Loren Hughes retired after 25 years of dedicated service to the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department. Deputy Chief Hughes spent much of his career in the training and fire prevention divisions and was instrumental in modernizing and updating our fire codes. Following his retirement and my subsequent promotion, the department promoted two Lieutenants to the rank of Deputy Chief. Deputy Chief Steve Quatchak was promoted in January, followed by Deputy Chief Joseph Gavita in February. These promotions created vacancies within the lieutenant ranks, prompting the department to conduct a competitive examination process, which resulted in the hiring of Scott Bowlin and Eric Yarina in March.

Consistent with our continuous improvement model, the department continued development of its strategic plan throughout the year. The strategic planning process,

which began in 2009, has now reached its fourth iteration. This community-driven, multi-step process incorporates stakeholder input through surveys and focus groups to identify community needs, establish organizational goals, and define our mission, vision, and values. Through SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis and the development of measurable objectives, responsibilities, and performance metrics, the plan ensures alignment with accreditation standards while positioning the department to meet current and future community needs.

Finally, the department successfully recruited eight new volunteer members who will begin their recruit training in January 2026. At a time when volunteer participation is declining nationwide, particularly within the fire service, we are encouraged by this growth. We believe our culture of excellence, diversity, inclusion, and appreciation will continue to attract and retain outstanding residents who wish to serve their community in a volunteer capacity.

I hope you find this report to be a positive reflection of the value of the services we provide and of the dedication, professionalism, and commitment demonstrated daily by the members of the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department.

Respectfully,

Kurt B. Christofel
Fire Chief, CFO



OVERVIEW

The Mt. Lebanon Fire Department is a combination fire department that provides around the clock service to the community.

The agency considers itself an "All Hazards, All Risks" organization. In addition to the traditional service of fire suppression, the agency also provides emergency medical services, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, fire prevention and public education, and information programs.

The organization is composed of a career fire chief and assistant fire chief, 16 career fire officers, 44 on-call volunteers, a secretary and a data entry clerk.

A breakdown of the staff is as follows:

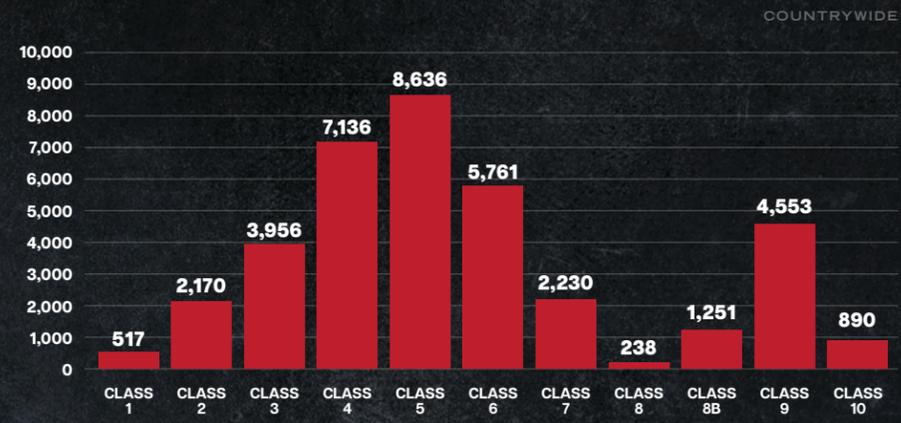
Chief Officers	2
Deputy Chiefs	5
Lieutenants	11
Master Firefighter	2
Firefighter 1 st Class	4
Suppression Firefighters	27
Driver/Operators	3
Non-Suppression Firefighters	3
Recruit Firefighters	5
Support Services Firefighters	4
Civilian Administrative Staff	2

Only 14% of the U. S. Population are protected by an accredited Fire Department.

Accreditation

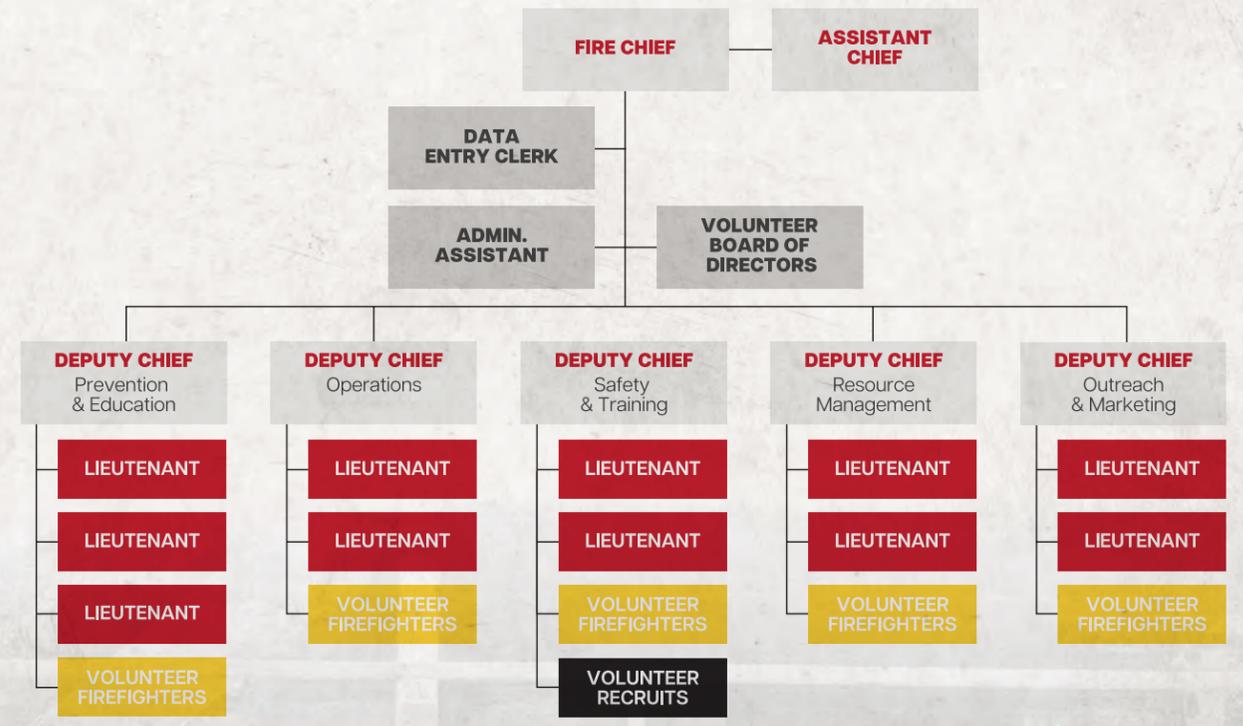
The Mt. Lebanon Fire Department is one of 334 accredited fire departments in the United States and Canada and one of only 33 accredited departments that are not fully career departments. Also, the department is one of 125 fire departments nationally to be both internationally accredited by the CFAI (Commission on Fire Accreditation International) and have an ISO Class 1 Rating (Verisk).

International Organization for Standardization (ISO)



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Our organizational structure brings together leadership, paid officers and volunteer firefighters working as one team.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2025

Our culture of continuous improvement allows us to maintain focus on increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of all programs and services.

- The department has responded to over 2,200 incidents in the past twelve months. Fire loss through December is estimated at \$397,586 or \$12.08 per capita. This is well below the department's goal of less than \$25.00 per capita and the national average of \$54.00 per capita.
- Additional activities included 2,012 inspection activities, 362 elementary fire and life safety programs, 44 apparatus visits, 92 station tours, 27 block parties attended, 40 smoke detectors installed, and 66 fireplace inspections.
- Several of our personnel spent many hours using blue reflective tape to more readily identify our fire hydrants in town. There are two reflective stripes on each hydrant.
- The fire department worked with the Pennsylvania American Water Company and municipal management to change our hydrant specification to a more modern connection to improve efficiency.
- Twenty-six residents participated in our annual Citizens' Fire Academy this year.
- Members put in over 11,000 hours training. This equates to an average of 220 hours per person.
- Volunteers provided 5,466 hours of station staffing as part of the department's duty and standby shift program which is around 100 hours greater than last year.
- The department saw one retirement this year: In January, Deputy Chief Loren Hughes retired after twenty-five years of service to the municipality. Deputy Chief Hughes was instrumental in our training, fire prevention efforts and fire code enforcement during his career.
- Kurt Christofel was promoted to the position of fire chief after a nationwide search was conducted.
- Steve Quatchak was promoted to Deputy Chief to replace retired Deputy Chief Loren Hughes.
- Joe Gavita was promoted to Deputy Chief to fill Kurt Christofel's open position.
- Scott Bowlin and Eric Yarina were hired in March as Lieutenants to fill the open positions created by retirements and promotions.
- In 2025, five recruits completed their initial training and passed their Firefighter I certification exam. Eight new recruits are applying to begin their recruit training in January 2026. While many fire departments struggle to recruit and retain volunteers, our organization remains strong.
- The fire department transitioned to the 2018 International Fire Code to coincide with the municipality using the 2018 International Building Code.
- In April, as part of his budget message, we hosted Governor Shapiro at the fire station where he conducted a press conference to help secure additional funding for fire department in the Commonwealth.
- The fire department was part of beta testing the new national reporting software named the National Emergency Response Information System, or NERIS. We have built out our platform and will be transitioning with the rest of the country on January 1, 2026. This is significant change in fire reporting, and we were able to help drive the national standard.

The Volunteer and Relief Board of Directors for 2026 includes:

Proceeding the Swearing-in:
Common Pleas Judge Dan Miller



Pictured Left to Right: Charlie Wehrum (Volunteer Board Member), Bob Fisher (Volunteer Board Treasurer and Relief Board Secretary), Brad Craft (Volunteer Board Secretary), Pete Goslin (Volunteer Board President), Krister Nielsen (Relief Board Trustee), Dave Adler (Volunteer Board Vice President), Patrick McCree (Relief Board Vice President), Scott Fargo (Relief Board Treasurer), Don Tang (Volunteer Board Member and Relief Board President). See back cover for a complete list of both boards.

- The Career Firefighters Association completed their 6th year collecting toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. Each year the collection has grown through partnerships with different agencies and groups throughout the community. This year it is estimated that several thousand toys were collected, making it the largest number collected by the association for children in need. One of the achievements of this program is the use of amazon to purchase toys that are delivered to the fire station.
- The fire department conducted an open house at the fire training facility where we demonstrated fire department operations including rope rescue, vehicle extrication, and the grand finale was a live fire in the training building that was live streamed so that spectators could watch. There were several hundred people that attended the event.
- The fire department received a donation of the antique fire truck known as "Old Engine 3" or "The Pirsch". The truck was donated by retired Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Maehling. The fire department has been working with the Historical Society to make it a permanent exhibit at the Historical Society.
- Lieutenant Kris Siegert was inducted into the Mt. Lebanon High School "Great Alumni" in 2025. This was due to his extensive work in Fire and Life Safety Education as the Public Educator for the fire department. There is not a child in the Mt. Lebanon School District that does not know Firefighter Kris.
- Over the course of 2025, the fire department has been developing the next Strategic Plan. The fire department has been doing strategic planning since 2011, and this new plan will set the vision for the next five years.
- The fire department led and participated in a live fire training weekend at the PA State Fire Academy. Mt. Lebanon, along with our mutual aid partners, participated in scenario-based training utilizing our apparatus in unfamiliar buildings.

Fire Administration: Personnel

Lieutenant, Jamie Waugh was awarded the 2026 Fire Officer of the Year.

Nominated by his peers, the award is given to a fire officer who has demonstrated outstanding service to the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department and Mt. Lebanon residents with regard to fire prevention, fire protection and suppression while upholding the core values and goals of the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department.



OPERATIONS: SERVICE DEMANDS & PERFORMANCE

Emergency services minimizes injuries, deaths, and property loss related to fires, medical emergencies and other disasters through the efficient delivery of effective fire suppression, emergency medical response, hazardous materials, and technical rescue services. Services are delivered from a single fire station housing three Class A pumpers, an aerial ladder, an advanced rescue truck, and several utility vehicles.

6



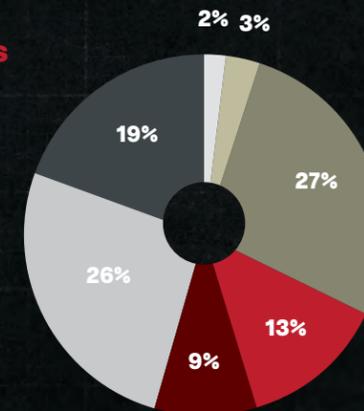
ACQUIRED STRUCTURE TRAINING BURN

Service Demands

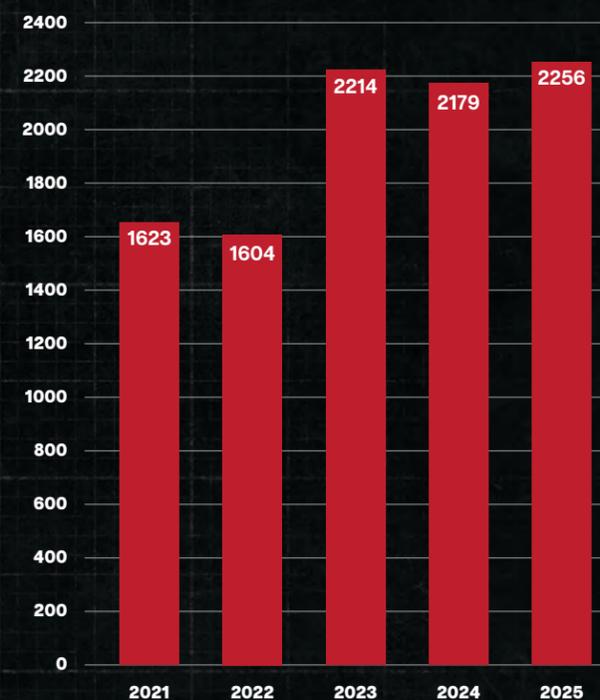
The department responded to 2256 incidents in 2025, an increase of 1% over 2024. A total of 10,523 personnel hours were accumulated on incidents. The average time spent per incident was 25 minutes.

Percentage of Calls by Incident Type

- Others
- Fire
- Rescue & EMS
- Hazardous Condition
- Service Call
- Good Intent Call
- False Alarm



Incident Responses, 2021-2025



2025 Incident Responses

Building Fire	33
Cooking Fire	18
Chimney Fire	0
Mobile Property Fire	5
Trash, Rubbish, Dumpster Fire	3
Brush Fire	10
Fire, Other	6
Excessive Heat	36
Emergency Medical	414
Vehicle Accident with Injuries	50
Vehicle/Pedestrian Accident	5
Extrication: Vehicle	4
Extrication: Elevator	29
Extrication: Other	5
Rescue: Other	10
Vehicle Accident with No Injuries	103
Chemical/Flammable Liquid Spill/Leak	7
Natural Gas Leak	62
Carbon Monoxide Incident	11
Arcing, Shorted Electrical	40
Power Line Down	149
Hazardous Condition, Other	47
Lock-Out	24
Water Problem	26
Assist Police, Other Agency	45
Public Service	86
Service Call, Other	42
Cable / Telephone Wires Down	117
Cancelled En Route	330
Smoke Scare	28
HazMat Release Investigation	47
Good Intent, Other	61
False Alarm, Malicious	6
System Malfunction	32
Unintentional False	225
CO Alarm, False	67
Other	24

Total 2256

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Service Demands

The following operational metrics provide insight into staffing demands, call volume patterns and service reliability throughout the year.

Staffing | The average number of responders per incident was ten responders. This was slightly elevated from prior years due to the significant storm events in April and May where 35 responders were on over 100 incidents.

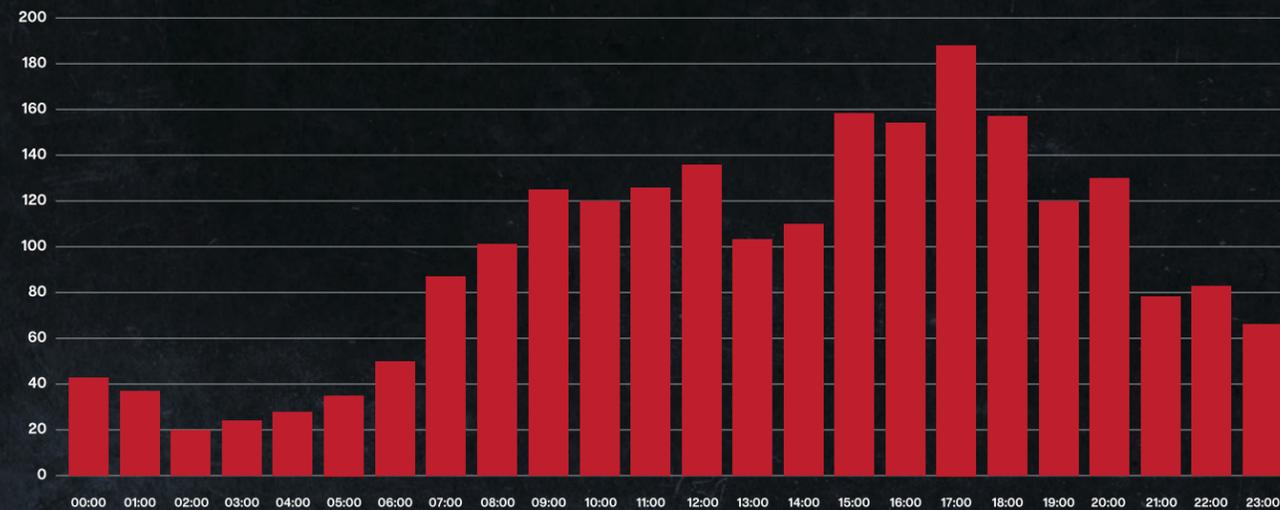
Overlapping Calls | There were 594 incidents (26%) where more than one incident was occurring simultaneously. This was much higher in 2025 due to the April 29, 2025 significant storm event.

Reliability | There were zero calls where a Mt. Lebanon Fire Department unit was unavailable to respond and the call was handled by a mutual aid unit.

Frequency | Calls were relatively evenly distributed throughout the week, with Tuesday experiencing the highest call volume. Monthly call distribution was generally consistent, with the exception of April and May, when the fire department responded to significant storm events that resulted in multiple calls for service. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of all calls occurred between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Response Mode / 56% of all responses are in a non-emergency (no lights and sirens) mode.

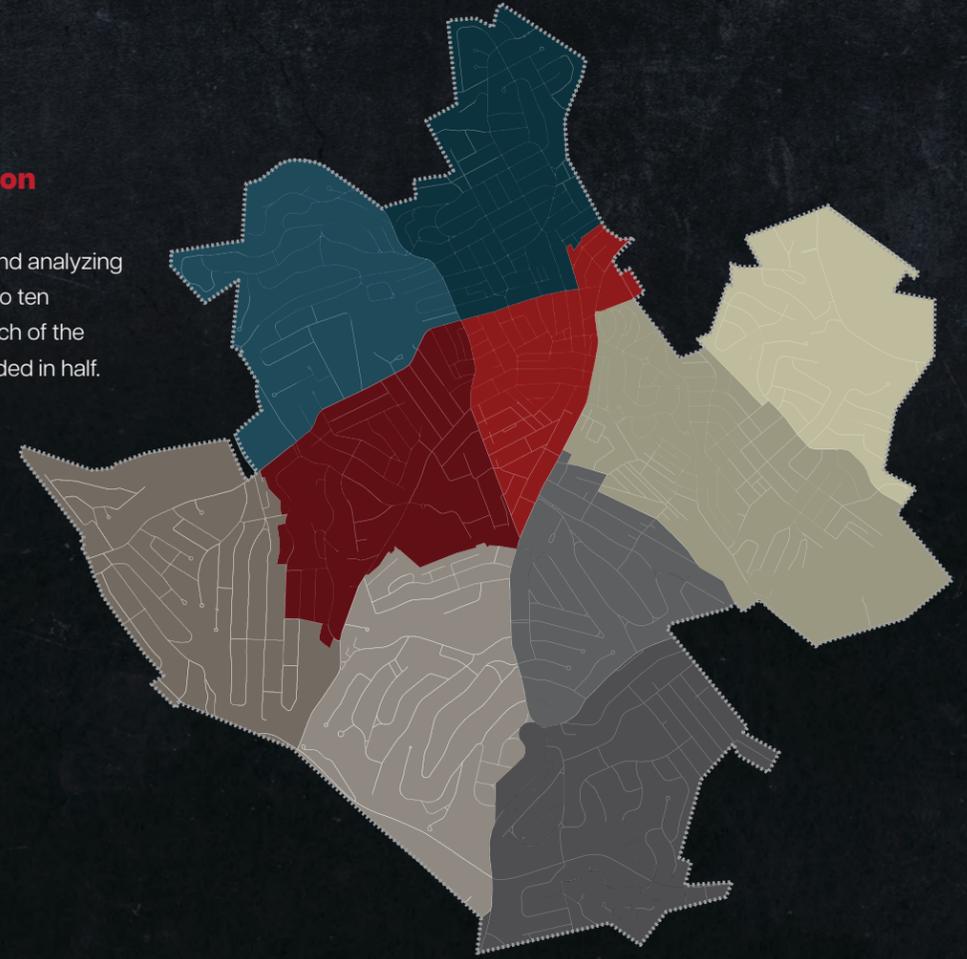
Frequency of Incidents by Time of Day



Incident Type/Location

For the purposes of planning and analyzing data, Mt. Lebanon is divided into ten geographic planning zones. Each of the municipality's five wards is divided in half.

- Zone 1A/1B
- Zone 2A/2B
- Zone 3A/3B
- Zone 4A/4B
- Zone 5A/5B



Incident types and locations were as follows based on geographic planning zone:

Zone	Fire	Overheat	Rescue & EMS	Hazardous Condition	Service Call	Good Intent	False Alarm	Severe Weather
1A	4		64	38	19	46	48	4
1B	4	1	44	39	15	104	46	5
2A	5	4	79	44	18	68	41	3
2B	6	1	70	25	16	70	47	4
3A	8	1	35	26	10	35	25	2
3B	5	1	28	23	18	31	21	1
4A	2	4	59	24	31	58	33	3
4B	2		40	9	11	43	21	1
5A	1	2	41	13	17	22	27	1
5B	8	4	158	39	53	71	116	
Out	30	4	8	11	2	49	8	

Performance

FIRE SUPPRESSION



Emergency Services protects lives and property through the rapid and effective delivery of fire suppression, emergency medical response, hazardous materials mitigation, and technical rescue operations. These services are provided from a centrally located fire station equipped with three Class A pumpers, an aerial ladder, an advanced rescue truck, and multiple utility vehicles to ensure a timely and capable response to all incident types.

Fire Loss Per Capita 2021-2025



Fire Loss – Per capita fire loss for 2025 is estimated at \$12.08 per capita. The community’s 5-year average per capita fire loss was \$11.28. This is 20% lower than the national average of \$54 per capita and forty-five percent (45%) below the department’s 5-year average fire loss benchmark of \$25 per capita.

Property Saved – The value of property saved by fire department intervention at fire-related incidents in 2025 was \$8,708,267. The total value of property saved at fire-related incidents over the previous 5-year period was \$21,324,830.

Staffing – The average number of members responding per building fire in 2020 was 18 members. Including automatic and mutual aid, the average number of personnel responding per building fire was 44 personnel. Average Daily Staffing was 5 personnel.

Civilian Injuries/Casualties – There were no civilian injuries or casualties related to exposure to fire products.

Confinement – The department’s benchmark is to arrive quickly enough to confine 80% of all fires to the compartment of origin. In 2025, the department was able to confine 100% of all structure fires to the compartment of origin. Over the previous 5-year period, 90% of all fires were confined to the compartment of origin.

Automatic/Mutual Aid – The department provided automatic/mutual aid to surrounding communities on 103 occasions and received automatic/mutual aid from surrounding communities on 81 occasions.

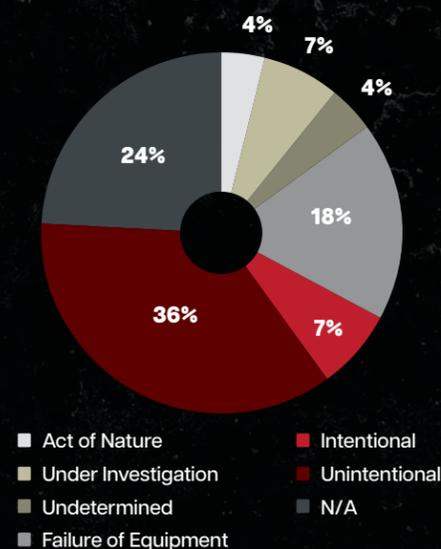
Alarm Handling – The amount of time elapsed from the time the dispatcher receives the call until the fire department is dispatched.

Turnout Time – The amount of time elapsed from the time the fire department receives the call until the first suppression unit is in route to the incident.

Travel Time – The amount of time elapsed from the first suppression unit calling in route until the first suppression unit arrives on scene. The above chart depicts the travel time for both the 1st suppression unit (distribution) and the balance of the 1st alarm assignment (concentration).

Total Response Time - alarm handling time + turnout time + travel time for both the first due suppression unit (distribution) and the balance of the 1st alarm assignment (concentration) which should equal an effective response force (ERF) of 15 firefighters on scene.

Cause of Ignition 2025



Performance Benchmarks	2021-2025	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	90 th % Benchmark Target
Alarm Handling	2:08	2:30	3:16	2:21	2:30	2:13	1:30
Turnout Time	1:22	1:47	1:18	1:30	1:08	1:07	1:20
Travel Time	4:59	4:47	4:37	5:15	4:30	5:47	4:00
Total Response Time	6:42	5:54	5:04	7:21	6:51	8:20	6:50
No. of Incidents	100	17	18	19	23	23	

Performance

EMERGENCY MEDICAL

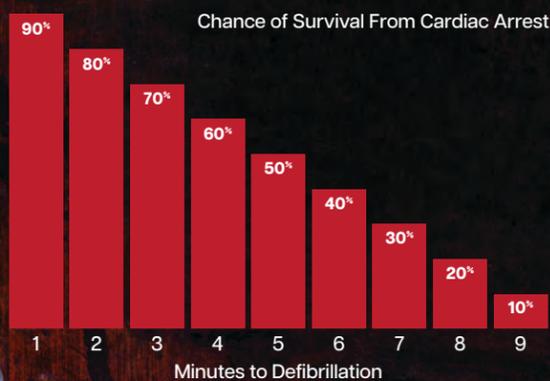
The Department plays a vital role in delivering timely emergency medical care to our community, ensuring patients receive rapid assessment and immediate lifesaving intervention when seconds matter most.

The department provides rapid-response emergency medical services for all priority medical calls in Mt. Lebanon and lower priority medical calls when the primary EMS provider is unavailable, delayed or requests assistance.

In time-sensitive emergencies such as cardiac arrest, stroke, trauma, and pediatric incidents, prompt EMS response is critical to assess patients and initiate lifesaving care until an advanced life support (ALS) provider assumes patient care.

Most medical emergencies require multiple personnel to safely and effectively perform patient care tasks; therefore, a minimum of two emergency medical technicians (EMTs) respond to each medical emergency to provide appropriate assistance and ensure quality care.

Performance Benchmarks	2021-2025	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	90 th % Benchmark Target
Alarm Handling	2:14	2:51	3:05	3:14	1:13	0:51	1:30
Turnout Time	1:24	1:22	1:21	1:36	1:20	1:25	1:20
Travel Time	5:49	5:45	5:54	5:46	6:12	5:31	4:00
Total Response Time	7:35	6:35	6:54	9:18	8:08	7:04	6:50
No. of Incidents	721	204	166	362	96	77	



In addition to response, Mt. Lebanon Fire Department operates a public access defibrillation program in several community buildings/ locations, and MRTSA provides CPR/AED training to the public.

Performance

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The Department plays a vital role in delivering timely hazardous materials response to our community. Our goal is to minimize potential harm to residents, visitors and the environment.

To ensure an efficient and scalable response, the Fire Department has developed a three-tier classification system based on risk level, complexity, and resource requirements:

Low Risk- Low risk incidents pose minimal danger and can typically be managed safely by the on-duty crew. These incidents include carbon monoxide alarm activations with no reported symptoms, natural gas leaks occurring outside of buildings, minor quantities of flammable or combustible liquids spilled outside of buildings, investigations of possible chemical or gas odors and other conditions that are manageable by the on-duty crew.

Response Mode- Apparatus generally responds in non-emergency mode.

Medium Risk - Medium risk incidents present a moderate level of hazard and may require additional precautions or resources. Examples include carbon monoxide alarm activations where occupants are experiencing symptoms, natural gas leaks inside buildings, flammable or combustible liquid spills inside buildings, large quantities of flammable or combustible liquids spilled outside of buildings and investigations of possible chemical or gas odors.

Response Mode - Apparatus may respond in either emergency or non-emergency mode, based on dispatch information.

High Risk - High risk incidents pose significant threats to life, health, property, or the environment and often require specialized resources. These include spills, leaks, or conditions that require Level B or greater personal protective equipment (PPE), as well as situations that may necessitate activation of the Allegheny County Hazardous Materials Team.

Response Mode - Apparatus will respond in emergency mode, based on dispatch information.

Performance Benchmarks	2021-2025	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	90 th % Benchmark Target
Alarm Handling	2:50	2:31	3:10	N/A	N/A	N/A	1:30
Turnout Time	1:36	1:26	1:46	N/A	N/A	N/A	1:20
Travel Time	6:21	6:24	6:18	N/A	N/A	N/A	4:00
Total Response Time	8:41	8:24	8:59	N/A	N/A	N/A	6:50
No. of Incidents	37	20	17*	0	0	0	

* In 2024 the fire department began to treat Natural Gas leaks inside a building as a moderate risk.

Performance

TECHNICAL RESCUE

The department is certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Health at the Advanced Level under the Voluntary Rescue Recognition Program.

The Fire Department is also a member of the South Hills Area Council of Governments (SHACOG) Technical Rescue Team. This cooperative agreement allows multiple communities to support one another during highly technical and resource-intensive rescue operations. Several fire department members are also on the Pennsylvania Urban Search and Rescue Team where they receive specialized training in these disciplines.

Advanced Level certification identifies the tools, equipment (including hand and basic power tools), staffing, and training requirements necessary for personnel to safely and effectively conduct rescue operations ranging from basic to complex incidents.

Technical rescue capabilities include vehicle extrication; confined space rescue; trench rescue; machinery extrication; rope rescue; water rescue; building extrication; and rescue from stalled elevators.

Performance Benchmarks	2021-2025	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	90 th % Benchmark Target
Alarm Handling	2:26	2:28	3:17	N/A	1:50	2:11	1:30
Turnout Time	1:13	1:26	1:54	N/A	:23	1:11	1:20
Travel Time	4:06	5:04	4:55	N/A	3:16	7:19	4:00
Total Response Time	8:06	7:59	9:26	N/A	6:21	8:38	6:50
No. of Incidents	7	2	3	0	2		

Fire & Life Safety Education Highlight

Lt. Joshua Sadowy and Firefighter Lindsay Cashman received their Fire and Life Safety Educator II in 2025.

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

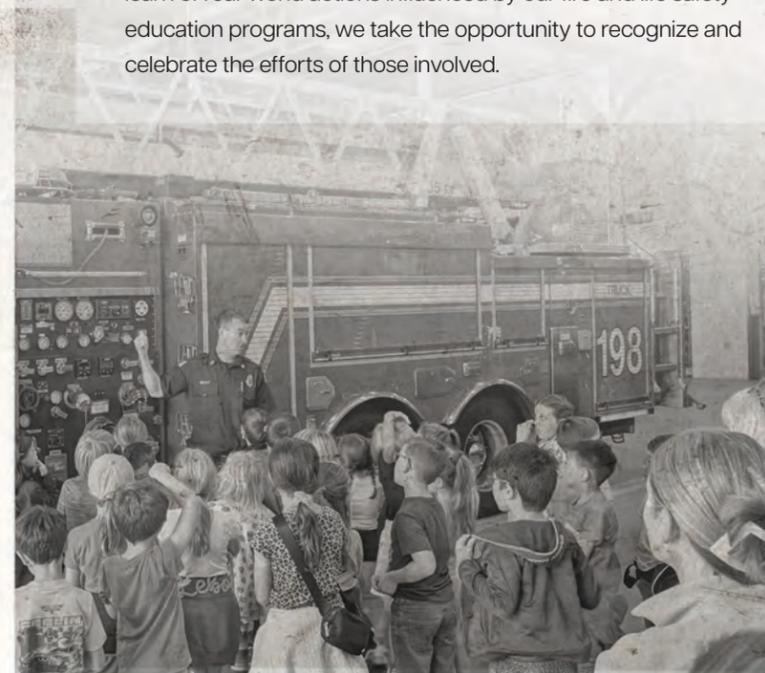
Public fire and life safety education has been proven to be one of the most efficient and cost-effective methods for reducing not only the number of fires, but also the deaths and injuries that result from them.

These classes are delivered to all Mt. Lebanon School District elementary school students, Mt. Lebanon High School theatre arts and driver education students, 8th grade junior high cooking classes, and students enrolled in Mt. Lebanon's Life Skills Program.

In 2025, staff delivered over 390 fire and life safety education classes including:

Preschool Visit	29
Kindergarten	46
First Grade	45
Second Grade	34
Third Grade	41
Fourth Grade	78
Fifth Grade	33
Eighth Grade	21
Special Needs	15
Stop the Bleed	15
Fire Extinguisher Training	15

Measuring the effectiveness of a fire prevention program through data alone is challenging. By nature, prevention efforts often stop incidents from occurring, making it impossible to quantify events that never happened. For this reason, when we learn of real-world actions influenced by our fire and life safety education programs, we take the opportunity to recognize and celebrate the efforts of those involved.



FIRE PREVENTION

The responsibility of Fire Prevention is to protect the public and fire service personnel by preventing emergencies and reducing the harm caused by them through coordinated efforts in code enforcement and fire inspections.

Fire Prevention staff conduct general fire safety inspections in commercial occupancies to ensure compliance with the fire code, issue operational permits, and witness acceptance testing of fire protection systems. Additional responsibilities include investigating and addressing citizen and fire department officer complaints, reviewing plans for compliance with the 2018 International Fire Code, coordinating lock box installations, and observing evacuation drills.

The number of fire code violations discovered during inspections was 5,759. Throughout the year, 5,727 violations were corrected by property owners. The violation correction rate for all violations is approximately 99.4 percent with approximately 0.6 percent requiring a citation.

In 2025, the fire prevention staff and in-service companies conducted the following inspections:

Annual inspections	394
General inspections	325
Company inspections	454
Plan reviews	10
Acceptance testing	28
Violations discovered and corrected	5,759

Fire Prevention Highlights

745 out of 767 (97%) systems compliant per Compliance Engine (Reduction in nuisance alarms)

0 fires in inspectable spaces

100% of plans reviews complete within 30 days of submission

100% of commercial buildings in compliance after re-inspection

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Community Outreach Division is responsible for maintaining the department's ongoing visibility and engagement within the community.

Each year, the fire department partners with the Mt. Lebanon Recreation Department to host a children's play camp which fills up within one day of posting. The fire department also hosts the highly regarded Citizens Fire Academy. This year, 26 residents enrolled in the Citizens Fire Academy. In addition, the department hosted an open house at the fire training facility, inviting community members to tour the facility and participate in fun, educational activities, culminating in a live fire demonstration.

The department's social media presence has continued to grow, now exceeding 25,000 followers on Facebook, with multiple videos achieving viral reach. This success is a direct result of the Outreach Division's clear vision and consistent commitment to the department's community service mission.

Community outreach programs and activities delivered by staff members in 2025 included:

Fireplace Consultations	59
Smoke Alarm & Home Safety Consultations	46
Events/Apparatus Visits	45
Block Parties	27
Senior Safety Programs	5
Station Tours	94
Public Safety Campers	32
Citizens Fire Academy Participants	28

SAFETY & TRAINING



Comprehensive training and professional development remain central to the department’s commitment to excellence and safety.

The Training Division is responsible for all career and volunteer training within the department. This includes internal weekly, monthly, and shift-based training sessions, with shift training conducted twice each week. The division also tracks all firefighter training progress, with a primary focus on recruit training and the completion of Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) for each recruit class.

The fire department has 14 Pennsylvania State Fire Academy–certified instructors and has achieved more than 500 professional certifications. In addition, the department began utilizing the fire training facility constructed in late 2024 for in-house training. Mutual aid departments have also taken advantage of this facility, further strengthening regional training partnerships.

Twenty-seven members earned Pro Board certifications during the year, including Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Fire and Life Safety Educator, Fire Officer, Hazardous Materials, and Chief Fire Officer certifications.

The department is one of only 43 “Gold” departments recognized through the Pennsylvania Participating Department Recognition Program. This designation honors departments that maintain certified fire professionals at multiple levels in accordance with nationally recognized and sanctioned professional qualifications. Notably, the department is one of just seven “Gold” departments in Allegheny County.

Training hours for 2025 included:

Total Training Hours	11,884.25
Career Training Hours 227 average per career staff training hours	4,079.75
Volunteer Training Hours 169 average per volunteer member training hours.	7,804.5



OPERATIONS & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Established in accordance with Pennsylvania law, the Mt. Lebanon Emergency Management Agency is responsible for preventing, minimizing, and mitigating injury or damage resulting from natural or man-made disasters.

In 2026, the Mt. Lebanon Emergency Management Center was activated in response to a significant storm that impacted the community on April 29. The storm left many residents without power for up to seven days, and the municipality handled more than 250 calls for service within a 24-hour period, including 118 calls in the first four hours following the initial incident. During this response, Fire, Police and the Department of Public Works worked collaboratively from the Emergency Operations Center to coordinate operations and resources.

The department has also maintained an active safety committee for more than two decades. This committee focuses on promoting a safe working environment and investigates near-miss incidents and accidents to identify root causes and address underlying issues. The committee is certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry and results in a five percent reduction in the municipality’s annual workers’ compensation costs, providing both safety and financial benefits to taxpayers.

The Fire Department continued to pursue innovative, forward-thinking strategies to reduce costs, improve efficiency, and limit occupational exposure risks for firefighters.



Empty Bays: All MLFD apparatus and squads were committed during the April 29 storm response.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The Resource Management Division delivers the maintenance, supplies and operational support essential to the department's daily readiness.

This year, the department received funding to replace the fire chief's vehicle. This is part of the overall fleet management and replacement plan. Several functions of the division include maintenance of fire department vehicles, including annual fire hose, ladder, and pump testing of all fire apparatus, equipment inventory, small equipment maintenance and repairs, and maintenance of protective clothing and equipment.

Throughout the year, over 2,000 maintenance activities were completed, including turnout gear inspections, SCBA flow testing, hose testing, ladder testing, and daily apparatus checks.

2026 GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Each year, the department establishes goals and objectives to guide operational priorities, aligned with both the Strategic Plan, Capital Improvement Plan, and AscendLebo Community Comprehensive Plan.

- Receive a favorable recommendation for re-accreditation from the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) Peer Assessment Team in fall 2026. To facilitate the peer assessment site visit, the department will complete the Self-Assessment Manual and provide all required exhibits for review by the CPSE Peer Assessment Team.
- Execute a contract for a new fire engine. Although Engine 1 is not scheduled for replacement until 2028, current manufacturing lead times exceed two years. Approval in 2026 is necessary to ensure the contract is signed and the apparatus is delivered on schedule in 2028.
- Replace hydraulic rescue tools carried on the rescue truck. The current tools are approximately 20 years old and have reached the end of their useful life. Replacement was approved in the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan. The department will conduct a side-by-side evaluation of multiple manufacturers and select the tools that best meet operational needs while remaining within the approved budget.
- Recertify with the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) for both Quick Response Service (QRS) and Voluntary Rescue Service Recognition at the Advanced Level. The Mt. Lebanon Fire Department Rescue is currently the only rescue service certified at the Advanced Level in Allegheny County.
- Formally adopt the Mt. Lebanon Fire Department Strategic Plan. This five-year guiding document was developed through engagement with firefighters, municipal leadership, residents, and local building and business owners.
- Reevaluate and modernize the volunteer rank structure to better leverage volunteer strengths and promote skill development. While a rank structure currently exists, it requires reformatting to reflect organizational and personnel changes within the department.
- Implement a QRS volunteer program to better utilize volunteer EMT knowledge, skills, and abilities. While volunteer EMTs currently assist career staff during QRS responses, this program would allow volunteer EMTs to operate independently and manage calls when at least two volunteer EMTs are on duty.
- Develop and implement a residential Knox Box program. This program would allow residents who live alone and have mobility challenges to temporarily rent Knox Boxes (secure key boxes). The boxes would enable fire personnel to gain safe, rapid access to a residence using a secured entry key, reducing the need for forced entry and minimizing property damage.



CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY

Citizen's Fire Academy is a 9 week, 10-session program designed to give residents the opportunity to learn about Mt Lebanon Fire Department's role in the community, services that we offer and how we respond to a wide range of incidents.

The Academy is designed to provide structured learning that challenge participants to push themselves, and presents the opportunity to get to know the firefighters that serve the community.

The program, provided at no cost to attendees, allows them to participate in hands-on activities such as simulated fire suppression, forcible entry, using hydraulic tools to stabilize and cut vehicles, and at the end of the program participate in a full day of scenarios including a live-fire demonstration.

This year, 25 residents participated in the program from a wide range of backgrounds. Eight of the 2026 recruit class attended the program.



EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS

Our success is driven by the dedication of our members and strengthened by the trusted partners and organizations who support us in fulfilling our mission.

Mt. Lebanon Commission

Mt. Lebanon Administration

Mt. Lebanon Police Department

Mt. Lebanon Public Works Department

Mt. Lebanon Code Enforcement Office

Mt. Lebanon Public Information Office

Mt. Lebanon Finance Department

Mt. Lebanon Information Technology

Mt. Lebanon Planning and GIS

Mt. Lebanon Recreation Department

Medical Rescue Team South Authority

Mt. Lebanon School District

St. Clair Hospital

Allegheny County Department of Emergency Services

Allegheny County Fire Academy

State Representative Dan Miller

Outreach Teen & Family Services

Pennsylvania American Water Company

South Hills Area Council of Governments

Community College of Allegheny County

The Salvation Army

American Red Cross

South Hills Interfaith Ministries

Automatic and Mutual Aid Fire Departments

Residents and Business Owners

State Senator Wayne D. Fontana

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

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Volunteer Relief Board

Don Tang - President

Patrick McRee - VP

Scott Fargo - Treasurer

Bob Fischer - Secretary

Krister Nielsen - Trustee

Steve Toussaint - Trustee

Jay Monahan - Trustee

Dave Dorn - Trustee

Volunteer Board

Pete Goslin - President

Dave Adler - Vice President

Bob Fischer - Treasurer

Brad Craft - Secretary

Charlie Wehrum - Board Member

Jay Monahan - Board Member

Don Tang - Board Member

Bob Jankowski - Board Member

Bridgette Daugherty - Sergeant at Arms



MT. LEBANON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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**ISO CLASS 1 FIRE DEPARTMENT
INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED AGENCY**

Kurt B. Christofel | Fire Chief, CFO

Peter Goslin | President

Business | **412-343-3402**

Emergency | **911**



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

mtlebanon.org/fire