



Ocean City Fire Department

Volunteer & Career

United to Serve

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Building Pre-Plans To Begin—By Captain Rickards

With hose testing completed for the year and great progress on the CO program, we will be getting back to doing some preplans. I will be assigning preplans to each shift on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Preplans assist our personnel with becoming more familiar with the buildings and are of great value on fires. There are some preplans in Visual Fire and they can be accessed from the MDTs. We need to broaden that data base.

I will place Preplan Information sheets in a folder at Station 3. You can fill the information in by hand and place the completed sheets in the EMS Report box to be returned to my mailbox. I will be looking for one person to enter the information in the computer. If anyone is interested please send me an email. I will make contact with the building owner before it is assigned. If anyone has a floor plan, please see if they will allow us to borrow it. They can be scanned in as part of the preplan.

As you collect this information, please review all areas of each building and become familiar with the building. As you go to these buildings, please advise management this is not an inspection but for information gathering to help us be prepared. With that being said, if you see something wrong you should do a FMO referral. While we are there, please check Fire Department connections and lubricate if needed. Check the Knox Boxes and keys. If any keys are outdated or additional keys are needed please advise building management. If the buildings have elevators check for Fire Service keys in the Knox Boxes. I would like you to flush the closest hydrants and make sure they are operational. You can report any hydrant problems to the Water Department.

The shift Lieutenants will be responsible for handling the on-site preplan. The Lieutenant will be responsible for any referrals, gathering the correct information, and filling out the paperwork. Thank you for your cooperation with this program.

Training Reminder

Annual FADO Competencies Training Dates:

- Saturday, April 3, 2010 @ 0800 hours
- Saturday, April 11, 2010 @ 0800 hours

Please report to Fire Station 5.

Any questions please see Captain Peterson



NEW STAFFING DEPLOYMENT– By Chief Larmore

Beginning Monday, May 3, 2010, at 0700, the Department will implement a new staffing model that will utilize three person crews. Each three person crew will consist of, at a minimum, two ALS providers, one of which will be a paramedic; the third member may either be an ALS or BLS provider. The crew will remain intact for all calls, regardless of call type, and will respond on either an ambulance or an engine depending upon the nature of the call. There will no longer be a crew dedicated solely to the engine at Station Three. This model is currently working in other jurisdictions, and we believe it will better represent our commitment to the town.

There are several reasons for making this transition, first and foremost is to ensure that we continue to provide a high level of service to the members and visitors of our community. Other reasons for adopting this new staffing model are:

- This will virtually eliminate the need for the response of two paramedic units to priority ALS calls, thereby reducing the risk of a collision during the response and allowing us to provide appropriate care on our arrival.
- This will allow for a more efficient use of the department's resources.
- This will allow for the closest available staffed unit to respond to any type of call, eliminating the delay of an engine responding to the North end of town.
- It will allow for equity in the performance of job tasks; everyone will participate in EMS and fire related tasks.
- No one group of individuals will be constantly assigned to the engine, thereby allowing them to maintain their EMS skills.
- Firefighter safety will be enhanced overall due to the increase of personnel on all calls.

We realize that this is a new concept to us and that it will take some time to become comfortable with operating in this fashion. We trust that everyone will continue to help the Department move forward and make this a successful transition.

If you have any questions, please ask a member of the Command Staff.

