



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



2023 Annual Report

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Message from the Chief

The Bloomfield Fire Department continues its dedication to safeguarding our community from all hazards, embodying professionalism and bravery every day. We continually strive to meet and exceed industry standards, ensuring the safety and well-being of our members and residents.

In the pages that follow, we are honored to present the 2023 Annual Report, a testament to our unyielding commitment to the Township of Bloomfield. This report showcases the tireless efforts of our department by investing our resources in basic and advanced training, cutting-edge equipment, apparatus and our facilities to fortify our ability to address evolving challenges.

Throughout the year, the Bloomfield Fire Department achieved numerous achievements. Our highly motivated members demonstrated remarkable dedication, leading to milestones that have further elevated our capabilities. We take immense pride in showcasing these accomplishments, detailing the diverse array of services and activities provided to our community.

For over 140-years, the Bloomfield Fire Department has exemplified service above self. We are humbled by the trust and support of the community, and it is with profound gratitude that we pledge to persist in our unwavering commitment to service. As we reflect on our achievements, we remain steadfast in our pursuit of continuous improvement.

On behalf of the Bloomfield Fire Department, we extend our sincerest thanks for taking the time to learn about our endeavors and accomplishments in 2023. Your support and partnership are integral as we continue our mission to serve the Township of Bloomfield with pride and dedication.

Sincerely,

Louis Venezia

Louis Venezia; Fire Chief



Mission Statement

The Bloomfield Fire Department exists to provide the highest level of public safety services to the great community that we serve. We are dedicated to saving lives and property through fire suppression, emergency medical response, disaster management, hazardous material response, fire prevention and education. Our members are committed to excellence, providing the highest level of service to those that we serve, treating everyone with respect regardless of race, color, creed, sex, age, lifestyle, national origin or economic status.

Vision Statement

The vision of the Bloomfield Fire Department is to become a leader in the fire service. We will attain this vision by continuing to provide the community we serve with the tools, programs and services necessary to create and ensure the highest standards of safety.

We will provide continuing educational opportunities to our members, seek accreditation from the industry and nation's most respected accrediting agency, increase efficiency of services we provide as well as enhancing those services to include emergency medical response.

We will also continue creating a high reliability organization by establishing an internal risk management program and maintain fiscal responsibility while upholding standards of excellence through a creative and carefully planned equipment replacement program.

Core Values

The core values of the Bloomfield Fire Department establish a foundation of expectations for its members. Members of the Bloomfield Fire Department react instantly, unselfishly, compassionately and professionally in mitigating a wide array of emergency calls.

Integrity– Maintain the highest level of ethical standards. Instill community trust by demonstrating honesty and fairness on all our actions and decisions.

Citizenship– We advocate collaborative relationships with other governmental agencies. We maintain community through professional behaviors and open communication.

Respect– We honor the rights, beliefs and differences of all our members and those within the community we serve. We value diversity in our department and within the township.

Teamwork— We are a team of dedicated and hard– working individuals that believe in professional development, continual improvement and working together towards common goals.

Personnel

The Bloomfield Fire Department consists of 78 active professional firefighters, augmented by a roster of up to 25 volunteer firefighters, and 8 civilian administrative employees.

The paid members are divided into Operations and Administrative. The Operations function consists of four work "groups" (shifts), each consisting of up to 19 paid members. The Administrative function consists of 2 uniformed members and 8 civilians who are on duty Monday to Friday, during normal business hours. These personnel are responsible for fire prevention, public fire education, inspections, fire cause investigation, and logistics functions of the department.

The fire department is supplemented by the "on call" volunteers that operate and staff the rescue company. These personnel are paged out when needed for both emergency incidents and to assist the department at planned community events.

Retirements

Two retirements from the Bloomfield Fire Department occurred in 2023.

Deputy Chief Robert Barra on February 1 and Deputy Chief Kevin Nelson on May 1



Hiring

In 2023, Bloomfield Fire Department hired three new members. These hires ensure that roles vacated by recent retirements stay filled and coverage to the population is maintained.

Michael Volpe

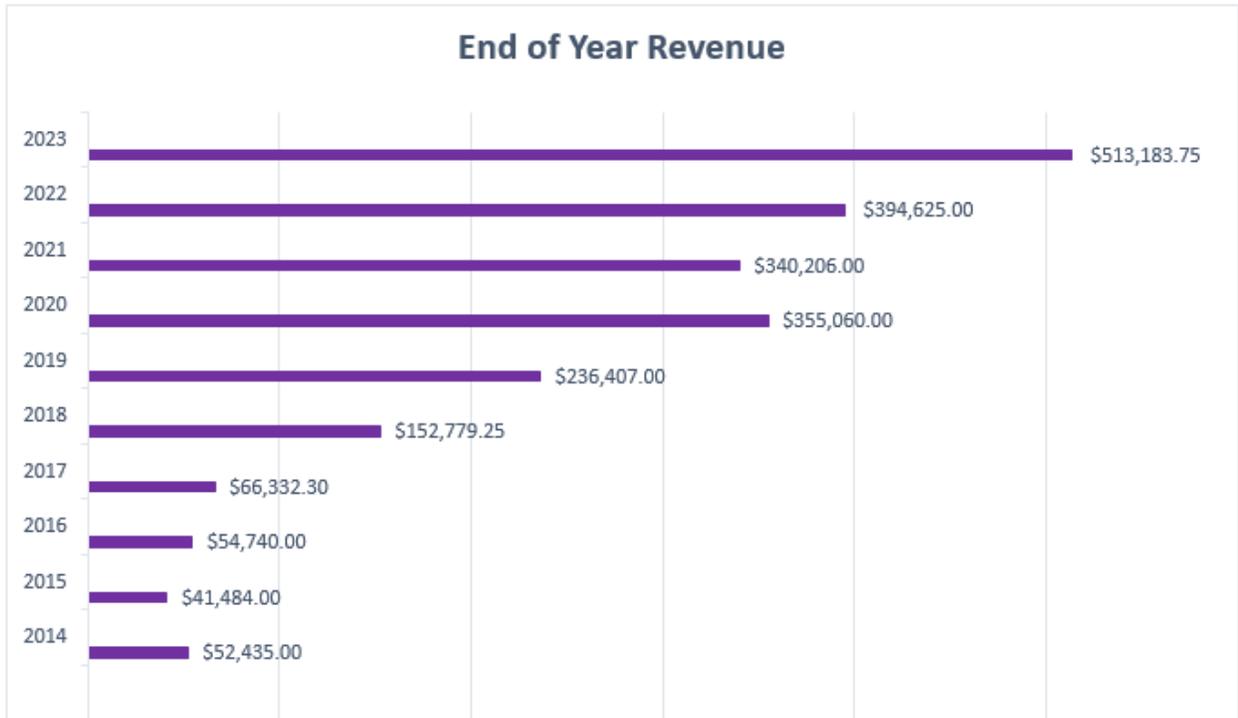
Joshua Feliciano

Jonathan Garcia.



In Fire Administration/ Prevention Chad DiGiorgio and Amy LaMonica were hired part-time.

REVENUE REPORT



The Bloomfield Fire Department has increased revenue over the past years due to the addition of services done by the department. This year the department took on the task of handling lead paint inspections, and the registration of vacant and foreclosed properties.

Policy/ Procedure

At the end of 2022, Bloomfield Fire Department began the process of revising all policies and procedures. Working with Lexipol through their online program KMS, all department policies and procedures (P&P) went through an extensive review and update process. To date 159 policies and 76 procedures have been updated and released to the department officers and members.

In October 2023, Daily Training Bulletins began through the Lexipol/KMS system which reinforces the P&P to each of the department's staff. These bulletins are scenarios that are followed by a multiple choice question that reinforce released policies and procedures.

Accreditation

In 2020, the Bloomfield Fire Department began the process of accreditation, recognizing it as a crucial step in our pursuit of excellence. Accreditation, a voluntary process, demands a substantial investment of time and resources from our dedicated staff. It challenges us to explore uncharted territories within our organization and underscores the importance of continuous learning and improvement.

Continuing this path, in 2023, the department achieved a significant milestone by attaining the status of a Candidate Agency. Guided by our Mission Statement, which emphasizes our unwavering commitment to delivering the highest level of service, this achievement reflects our dedication to excellence in every aspect of our operations.

The accreditation process entails a rigorous self-assessment, comprehensively evaluating our historical, current, and envisioned service levels and internal performance. This self-examination involves benchmarking against industry best practices, fostering a culture of continuous improvement, strategic planning, and regular service evaluations.

It is worth noting that globally, only 311 fire departments hold accreditation amongst nearly 35,000 in the U.S. alone—a testament to the selectivity and significance of this distinction. Embracing the accreditation model signifies our commitment to not only meeting but surpassing industry benchmarks. It has become the gold standard, symbolizing excellence and dedication among fire departments worldwide.

Accreditation promises several benefits. Internally, it fosters a sense of pride among our members, community leaders, and citizens—a tangible testament to our department's commitment to professionalism and service excellence. Externally, it offers opportunities for collaboration, networking, and support from a community of accredited agencies.

I extend my profound gratitude to the committee members dedicating their time and expertise toward this pivotal departmental goal. While the process is demanding, its invaluable contribution toward enhancing our department is immeasurable.

The collaborative efforts of this committee represent a collaboration of insights, expertise, and foresight. By aligning our goals with the aspirations of the Bloomfield community, we aim to forge a path that is not just forward-looking but also reflective of our unwavering commitment to service.

As we navigate the process of drafting and refining our Strategic Plan, we invite each member of our department to contribute their perspectives and aspirations. Together, we shall reinforce the Bloomfield Fire Department, ensuring that it remains an exemplary cornerstone of safety, preparedness, and community resilience.



In 2023 the Bloomfield Fire Department continued the process of becoming an accredited agency by becoming a Candidate Agency. This was met by meeting deadlines and performing self-analysis on the workings of the department. The following documents were completed and submitted: Self-Assessment Manual; Strategic Plan; Community Risk Assessment; Standards of Cover.

Standard of Cover

As part of the accreditation process, Captain Mercado spearheaded the completion of the Standard of Cover in May of 2023. This document consists of a rational, systematic way to describe deployment decisions in regard to resources and the demand placed on them by the type of risk and historical needs of the community. This document took three years of historical data regarding alarm handling, turnout time, and travel time as well as total response times. This data was compared to developed benchmarks and an improvement plan was developed.

Strategic Plan

As we approached the end of 2023, the Bloomfield Fire Department began the process of updating our strategic plan. We established Internal and External Stakeholder Committees, comprised of diverse voices from various positions within our department and in cooperation with our community partners to take on the pivotal task of crafting our updated Strategic Plan.

This strategic plan will serve as our roadmap for the next five years, capturing our collective goals, objectives, and priorities. By accurately evaluating our department's strengths and weaknesses, as well as recognizing the opportunities and threats that lie ahead, we aim to ensure that the Bloomfield Fire Department remains committed in fulfilling our community's evolving needs.

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In January of 2024 the department will host four fire-service professionals from across the United States and Canada for our Peer Assessment Site Visit. These individuals will visit our department to critique and rate our progress. Once their analysis is completed we will either receive a recommendation for accreditation, deferral or denial.

Fleet Operations



In 2023, the Bloomfield Fire Department attentively adhered to a comprehensive maintenance schedule, aligning with industry best practices. This disciplined approach ensures that every vehicle and apparatus within our fleet operates on a proactive maintenance regimen. This proactive accomplishment has been instrumental in enabling our department to maintain a fleet of fully operational apparatus consistently. This commitment guarantees the readiness and reliability of our equipment, thus safeguarding the safety of the community we proudly serve.

Our current fleet comprises 6 Engines, 2 Trucks, 1 Rescue, and 6 SUVs. As part of our continuous improvement efforts, the department has recently invested in a new E-One Custom Pumper and Chevy Tahoe. Anticipated for delivery in 2024, these acquisitions will replace older models, subsequently repurposed as backups. The addition of these new vehicles not only modernizes our fleet but also enhances our capacity to serve the needs of our citizens, visitors, and our dedicated department members.

Mindful of the pivotal role our apparatus plays in serving the community, the Bloomfield Fire Department has reorganized a comprehensive 15-year apparatus plan within our strategic framework. This forward-looking initiative aims to outline the strategic purchase, maintenance, and retirement schedule of our firefighting apparatus over the next decade and a half. Industry best practices and a keen understanding of evolving technological advancements, this apparatus plan stands as a testament to our commitment to proactive preparedness, operational efficiency, and ensuring the safety and well-being of those we serve.

Firefighter of the Year



The criteria for Firefighter of the Year is awarded based on exceptional performance in various categories including Valor, Customer Service, Dedication to Duty, Loyalty, Professionalism, and Commitment to Excellence. Captain Frank Durantino has demonstrated outstanding proficiency across all these categories, making him a true asset to our department.

Throughout the past several years, Captain Frank Durantino has exhibited dedication to our department, consistently delivering unparalleled and unwavering commitment.

His tenure has been marked by a remarkable display of qualities our department seeks in a firefighter. From his work ethic and unwavering drive, Captain Frank Durantino serves as an exemplary role model for all of us within the department.

What sets Captain Frank Durantino apart is not only his exceptional individual performance but also his innate ability to lead by example and uplift those around him. He has a willingness of assuming additional roles and responsibilities while ensuring their successful completion. His readiness to assist with all departmental duties exemplifies his dedication to the welfare of our team.

Captain Frank Durantino's commitment to improvement is evident in every shift he works. He consistently dedicates himself to training, drilling, and educating his crew, nurturing them into potential future leaders. His proactive approach to enhancing departmental processes and maintaining equipment reflects his unwavering dedication to ensuring our department's operational excellence. As a result, our department is a safer place to work, and our community benefits from this increased safety.

On behalf of the Bloomfield Fire Department, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Captain Frank Durantino for his unparalleled commitment, unwavering dedication, and outstanding contributions to our department and the community. He truly embodies the spirit and values we hold dear.

I would like this time to also recognize the recipients of prior years:

Captain Robert Griffin- 2022

Captain Jeffrey Roberts -2021

Firefighter Brian Griffin- 2020

Captain Richard Rannou- 2019

Firefighter Gennaro Ilaria-2018



Training

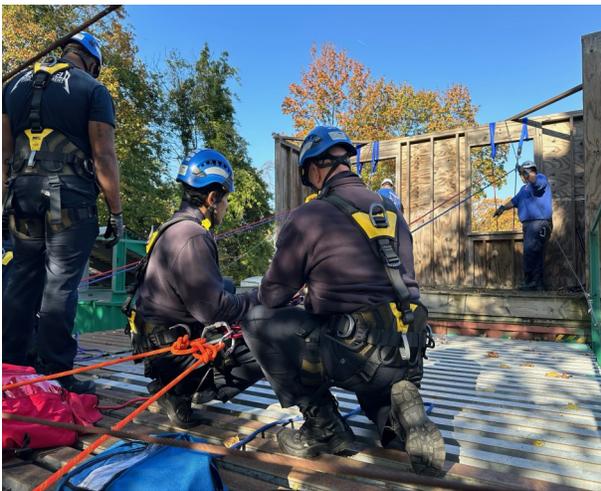
The Bloomfield Fire Department strives to constantly train and educate its members to ensure the safety of the residents as well as themselves. Some of the department wide trainings that were held and offered to its members in 2023 are:

- 9 members completed Swift Water Technician Class. Swift water Rescue Technician-level covers in-water rescue actions, when all other measures including shore-based rescue operations have been exhausted. It is designed to train rescue personnel with in-water rescue systems that are complex. The program looks at in-water rescue as a last resort, and the techniques, hazards, dynamics and specialized equipment to support such water rescue operations. The class requires students to engage in strenuous in-water activities.
- 12 members took Firefighter Safety and Survival Course through Morris County Fire Academy. The course was a lecture and hands on stations that included Emergency Window Egress, SCBA/Mask Confidence Skills, Below Grade Rescue, Wall Breach / SCBA Emergency Skills, Upper Floor Rescue, Ladder Bailout, and Downed Firefighter Rescue Drills.



- 27 members were certified in Hazardous Material Incident Commander. In order to be certified a member must possess both the NJ Firefighter I and Hazardous Materials: Operations certifications issued by the NJ Division of Fire Safety; Successfully complete the NJ State adopted Hazardous Materials: Incident Commander educational program, and pass the State exams.

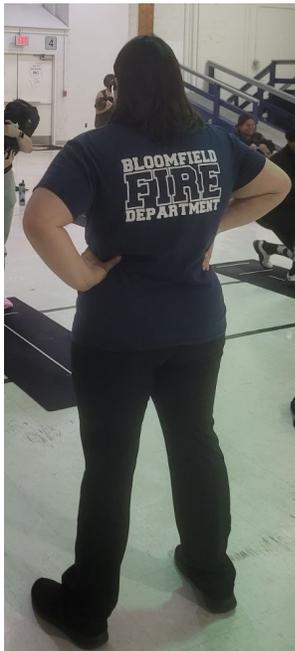
- 10 members attended Pump Operator Training, the 32 hour course included a written test, skills and practical exercises relevant to operating and pumping fire apparatus. Students were required to demonstrate proficiency with the delivered skills, including the use of various appliances, hose stretches, maintaining a water supply, managing proper flows and pressures, troubleshooting, foam operations and more.
- 23 members attended a Street Smart Truck Operations Class. The course curriculum includes the operations of aerial ladders, elevating platforms, special truck company operations, search and rescue and ventilation as it applies to truck companies.
- Technical Rope Rescue Class held for all members At the Technician level, members are required to build rope systems in a high angle rescue environment that includes an “attendant” to be attached to the rescue load. The scenarios include an attendant riding with a rescue litter and patient, removal of victims who are stranded on structure, pick off of and rescue of victims stranded on rope in a rope access environment. course also introduces the member to ascending and descending a rope.



During the course of 2023 the department had the opportunity for hands on training with two live burn trainings held at Union County Fire Academy and Bergen County Fire Academy. Live burns allow for the firefighters to experience real- life situations in a controlled environment. These drills are essential to ensuring the crews have muscle memory when faced with a real- life fire.



Firefighters Stephanie Orgueria-Aponte and Claudia Astudillo traveled to Virginia to attend the O2X Women’s Workshop in March. This two day workshop was specifically designed to meet the unique job-related demands of female first responders. The workshop was led by an all-female team of military veterans, tactical athletes, Olympic, Division 1 collegiate athletes and top tier human performance specialists. The basis of the workshop is to gain an understanding of O2X’s science backed EAT SWEAT THRIVE methodology.





Certifications

- Deputy Chief McDade became a certified Health and Safety Officer through National Fire Academy. The Health and Safety Officer's role is identifying, evaluating, and implementing policy and procedures that affect health and safety aspects for emergency responders.
- Captain Robert Griffin, Captain David Duda, Firefighter Michael Searls, Firefighter William Todaro, Firefighter Claudio Carchia, and Firefighter Peter Carrara completed Fire and Arson Investigator Academy taught through NJIAAI. This training teaches what to look for after a fire to correctly examine and document the scene, collect and preserve evidence, interview and investigate.
- Captain David Parsons and Captain Robert Griffin took Incident Management Level 300. This 24 hour covers the following topics: ICS Staffing and Organization, Transfer of Command, Unified Command functions in a multi-jurisdictional or multi-agency incident, ICS forms, Resource Management, and Interagency mission planning and procurement. This course meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 5:75-6.1 for certification of Incident Management Level 2.
- Captain David Parsons, Captain Brian Griffin and Captain Robert Griffin took Incident Management Level 400. This 16 hour course that builds upon the ICS 300 level of incident management. Both lecture and interactive group scenarios are used to show the effective uses of the level 400 incident management system at large events and emergency situations. It is designed for the individual that will have duties that require the direct involvement in incident management or command at either a "field" Incident Command Post or in a city, county, or regional emergency operations center. This course meets the requirements of N.J.A.C. 5:75-6.1 certification of Incident Management Level 3.
- Captain Michael Nicosia received certifications in Fire Instructor 1 and Fire Officer 1 in 2023. These certifications through the Division of Fire Safety increase knowledge and benefit the department greatly.

Health and Wellness

First Responder Assessment and Coaching

First Responder Assessment and Coaching was offered for all members in 2023. This service allows members to speak to a professional confidentially. Members can text or call a coach and discuss how they are feeling. In 2023 the department updated the Health and Wellness policy to encompass all services available to the department members.

PTSD Seminar

In April of 2023 Carewell Health provided a seminar to the members of the Bloomfield Fire Department to be aware of the signs and symptoms of PTSD. Post-traumatic stress disorder, commonly known as PTSD, is commonly seen in first responders. Knowing the signs and symptoms opens a dialog that allows for help to be sought whether it be for depression or substance abuse.

Annual Physicals

Bloomfield Fire Department promotes the use of annual occupational medical evaluations. All employees are afforded time off from work to participate in the “Gift from Captain Buscio” program. This program provides full medical evaluations including bloodwork and cardiovascular stress test and screening on a voluntary basis and is at no cost to the member.

Fitness

The Bloomfield Fire Department promotes maintaining physical fitness holistically. A well-rounded fitness program includes muscular strength training, cardiovascular endurance training, flexibility training and proper nutrition. All firehouses are equipped with an assortment of exercise equipment to be used for strength, cardio, and flexibility training. All members are encouraged to use this equipment while on duty.

UL Solutions

The Department contracted with Underwriter Laboratories to conduct Air Quality and Domestic Water System Checks at all four fire stations. Testing included checks for carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, airborne particulates, allergenic particles, common indoor gases, volatile organic compounds, water quality as well as temperature and humidity. The testing was conducted over a few weeks. Results were in satisfactory levels and were posted for all department members to review.

Equipment Upgrades

Bloomfield Fire Department's commitment to the health and safety of our members and community is a catalyst for the maintenance and purchase of equipment. These efforts ensure that our members are equipped and trained at the highest caliber.

- All PPE was inspected, repaired and certified this year by Fire Equipment of New York. These efforts ensure that the departments PPE is safe for use and in line with NFPA standards.
- Turtle Fire Suppression System this system is used to help combat Electrical Vehicle fires, EV fires are notorious for long, extremely hot burn times. The Turtle allows our members to cool the underneath of an electrical vehicle safely.
- Rave Struts and Auto Crib-Its were acquired to enhance vehicle rescue operations and equipment management.
- Smoke Machine for enhanced training, the water vapor fog simulates white out conditions. The addition of this machine allows our members to safely and effectively simulate real-life scenarios for training operations.
- Two Fast- Rescue Boards were purchased in November of 2023. These boards are used to assist in the removal of incapacitated firefighters or civilians from unsafe situations.
- The department purchased Rope Rescue Equipment in conjunction with hosting a Rope Rescue Class in which all members participated in. This training ensured that members have the skill knowledge to use ropes in order to gain access and or save a victim.
- Swiftwater Rescue Equipment and Gear was purchased to go hand in hand with our members being certified and the 2022 purchase of the department's boat. In an effort to ensure that the department is properly equipped if major flooding occurs. To help keep the gear in the best possible condition the Department also purchased the Octopus and Ice systems from Hang-Dry. These systems ensure the gear is dried efficiently.
- Portable Radios are a main component in the departments communication with Central Communications and each other. To ensure consistent, reliable communication the department purchased 47 replacement batteries.
- A new Thermal Imaging Camera was purchased. This tool is used when encountering a thick smoky environment with low visibility, its technology allows the firefighter to be able to see victims and heat source of the fire by tracking thermal image rays.

Inspections

Fire Prevention Bureau handles most inspections for the department. In 2023 the Bloomfield Fire Department began inspections for lead paint in single and two family rental properties and vacant/ foreclosed properties.

Fire Prevention Inspections	2023	2022	2021
Bureau of Housing Inspections	209	175	214
Life Hazard Use Inspections	799	206	165
Non- Life Hazard Inspections	297	124	58
Company Inspections Non -LHU	1729	1713	1168
TOP Inspections	548	594	413
RPR Inspections	2580	2785	1980
Lead Paint Inspections (Started in June of 2023)	613	N/A	N/A
Vacant/ Foreclosed Property Inspections	790	N/A	N/A

In April, the Township of Bloomfield passed a Lead Paint Ordinance to comply with New Jersey State requirements. All one and two family rental property owners were notified in writing of the requirement of needing a lead inspection prior to June 30, 2024. In June 2023, the Bloomfield Fire Department began performing visual lead paint inspections on all one and two family rental properties built prior to 1978. The department was awarded a \$52,000 grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (NJDCA) to offset the operational costs of the program.

Also in April 2023, Bloomfield Fire Department partnered with VPR Solutions to handle all Vacant Property and Foreclosed Property inspections and registrations. These registrations ensure the department has contact information for responsible parties. The inspections are to document situations where the property is unsafe and have the issue remediated.

The Bureau of Housing Inspection administers the New Jersey Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Law (N.J.S.A. 55:13A-1 et seq.) The Bureau is responsible for ensuring that multiple-family buildings of three or more dwelling units operating within the State of New Jersey are properly maintained and do not pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of their residents, nor the community in general. The Bureau of Housing conducts a five year cyclical inspection of these properties. The Bureau has thereby been given the authority to enforce the New Jersey Regulations for the Maintenance of Hotels and Multiple Dwellings and, where applicable, Subchapter 4 of the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code, by issuing citations for the violation of these requirements. The Bloomfield Fire Department conducts these inspections for the State. The State pays the Fire Department the majority or the fee collected.

Life Hazard Use is defined as the use of a building or structure that may constitute a potential risk to human life, public welfare or firefighters. The program registers high rise and life hazard use buildings and businesses to inspect and enforce the Uniform Fire Safety Act. The inspections enforce the Uniform Fire Code and Regulations. The types of businesses included under Life Hazard are restaurants, bars, gas stations, repair shops, dry cleaners, medical facilities, retail stores, child care facilities, schools, dorms, group homes, and warehouses. The Bloomfield Fire Department conducts these inspections for the State. The State pays the Fire Department the majority or the fee collected.

Non- Life Hazard Inspections are of any building or structure that does not constitute a potential risk to human life, public welfare, or firefighters, but must be registered to track inspections with the NJ Division of Fire Safety, such as 3 unit and above residences as well as offices. These inspections may be done by Fire Inspectors or Firefighters as part of a Company Inspection.

The Transfer of Property Title (TOP) ensures that a general inspection of the visible parts of a building are made, there are no violations of the current codes, and no unsafe conditions have been found prior to the transfer of title for the property. This certificate shall also serve as the CSDCMAC as required in 5:70-2.3 with regard to smoke and carbon monoxide detectors also includes fire extinguishers.

The Rental Property Registration (RPR) requires that the owner of a rental unit has it inspected every three years or upon a change in tenant. The inspection ensures the property is in compliance of Property Maintenance Code, Uniform Construction Code, Uniform Fire Code, and the International Property Maintenance Code.

Emergency Response



	2023	2022	2021	2020
Total Emergency Incidents	3660	3670	4174	4213
Vehicle/ House Lock Outs	398	376	458	452
Natural Gas Emergencies	146	153	156	131
Fires in Structures	24	129	130	130
EMS Assists	747	949	554	1134
Motor Vehicle Extrications	23	3	5	2
Motor Vehicle Fires	19	21	18	19
Elevator Rescues	42	10	19	16

Since November 2021, Bloomfield Fire Department has implemented an Automatic Aid Agreement with the Belleville and Nutley Fire Departments. Automatic aid is a response of apparatus and personnel to certain first alarm response assignments. This agreement has many positive affects to all three Townships and departments. Most notably, this deployment will increase firefighter safety and provide enhanced protection on civilian life and property.

Hydrants



2023	
Fire Hydrants Inspected and Flushed	1303
Hydrants Flow Tested	45

Hydrant flushing is a requirement of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, every hydrant in their system has to be flushed yearly. It ensures that sediment and rust that accumulate in the water system pipes over time are flushed out of the system. It also allows the Fire Department to be NFPA 291 compliant and ensure all hydrants are operational for firefighting purposes.

In conjunction with the Department of Public Works and Engineering, the Bloomfield Fire Department has been ensuring all hydrants are in proper working order and replacing the units when needed due to obsolete equipment. During the 2023 flushing cycle the department was able to locate 17- OOS hydrants, document over 100 needed repairs on other hydrants, and identify 118 hydrants that need to be drained before winter. In addition all hydrants within the township now have proper ID tags.

At a minimum, two hydrants per month during the spring, summer and fall, are to be flow tested using a hydrant test kit. This testing ensures that there is sufficient flow in case it is needed for emergency firefighting purposes.

Community Outreach

The Bloomfield Fire Department offers car seat installations and inspections. We have sixteen members that are currently certified through National CPS Certification Training, a program of Safe Kids Worldwide. This 32 hour course includes classroom and hands on activities to ensure the confidence of the technician. This past year, Michael Volpe, Joshua Feliciano, and Jonathan Garcia became certified. Thanks to them, the Bloomfield Fire Department installed 118 child car seats in 2023. In October of 2023 the Bloomfield Fire Department began hosting a Child Safety check on the first Saturday of each month.



The Bloomfield Fire Department participated in many community events this year. These type of events are a pinnacle part in the department's daily objective to meet the core values of Citizenship, Integrity and Respect.

Throughout the year you often saw members at block parties, Bloomfield Community Farmer's Market, Town-wide Community Clean-up, Girl Scout/ Boy Scout events, and other township sponsored events. Attending these events are an excellent opportunity for the department to connect with the public and offer fire safety education.



Members participate in events at the Bloomfield Children's Library throughout the year. During the summer months, Firefighter Friday allows them to read, play and educate the children about fire safety.



Firehouse visits by the public are encouraged, visits can be requested online. Members use the visits as a time to allow the public to look at the apparatus, equipment and an-



Partnering with our Schools

In 2023, Bloomfield Fire Department participated in several educational events within the township. This partnership allows the department to establish a positive relationship with the children, so they are familiar in the event of an emergency.

Department members visited local schools, daycares and preschools to teach the importance of fire safety, allow the children to get familiarized with the apparatus sirens and the firefighter gear so they would not be afraid during an emergency. This year's fire safety poster contest was "Cooking Safety Starts with You. Pay attention to Fire Prevention"

The department is active and present for all school fire drills, allowing all Fire Department members to establish a relationship with key stakeholders at each school. It also allows the members of the department to ensure the drill is efficient and positive by using the time to interact with the teachers and students while teaching them fire safety tips.

In 2023, Bloomfield Fire Department again participated in a summer internship program with the youth of Bloomfield. Two students had the opportunity to work with the department and learn what it takes to become a member of the Bloomfield Fire Department.

Overall, the Bloomfield Fire Department strives to make Bloomfield and the citizens that reside, visit and work within its boundaries as safe as possible.



Senior Class

The department has a history of working with Bloomfield High School senior class. Deputy Chief Coletta coordinates an annual Drunk Driving Presentation/ Auto Extrication Event for the Bloomfield High School Senior class prior to Prom and Memorial Day Weekend events. The students see a simulated response and rescue of entrapped occupants. This dramatic presentation teaches these young adults an important lesson about the dangers of drunk driving.

For the past five years the senior class also participates in the After the Fire Presentation Program about the fire at Seton Hall University, the program discusses dormitory fire safety with the high school students. Two of the most critically burned survivors of the fire talk to the class and present their documentary.



Girls on Fire Youth Camp

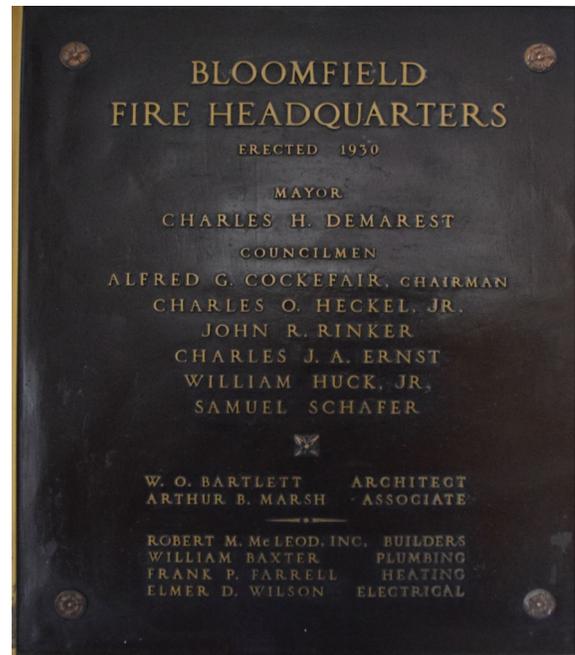
Bloomfield Fire Department hosted its first youth camp in August 2023. The free camp was available for Bloomfield girls in fourth and fifth grade. "Girls on Fire" allowed the girls to experience what it takes to become a firefighter. The two day camp was filled with exercises, finding their way through a maze, trying on gear and watching a car extrication. The department is looking to expand the camp in the future.



Stations



Bloomfield Fire Department
Headquarters
375 Franklin Street
Erected 1930

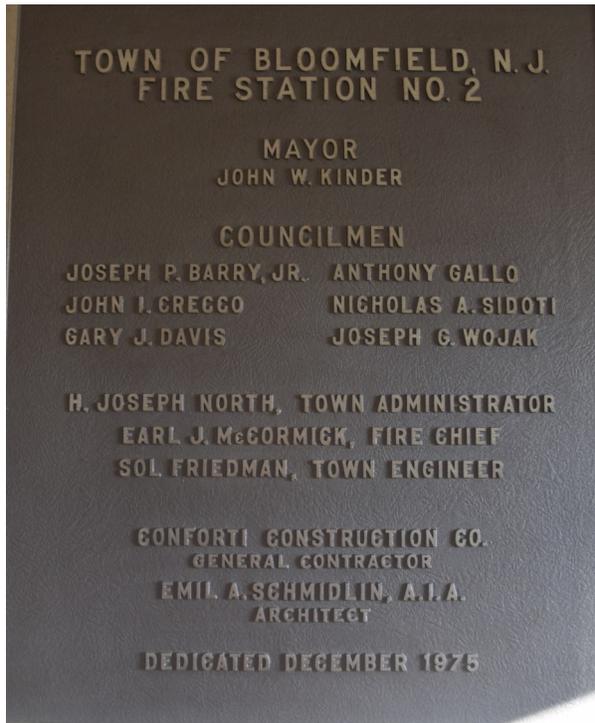


Headquarters is the home of Car 30, Truck 1, Engine 1, Car 6, Car 34 and 36, as well as the department's administrative offices. The Fire Prevention Bureau, which maintains responsibility over New Jersey Fire Code enforcement and Fire Safety Education, resides on the second floor.

In 2023, the stairway entrance was restored to showcase historic documents and photos of the department's history. Now the entrance to Bloomfield's Fire Headquarters welcomes residents while showcasing our mission and history.

THE VISION OF THE BLOOMFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT
IS TO BE A LEADER IN THE FIRE SERVICE.
WILL ATTAIN THIS VISION BY CONTINUING TO PROVIDE THE
COMMUNITY WE SERVE WITH THE TOOLS, PROGRAMS
AND SERVICES NECESSARY TO CREATE AND ENSURE THE
HIGHEST STANDARDS OF SAFETY.

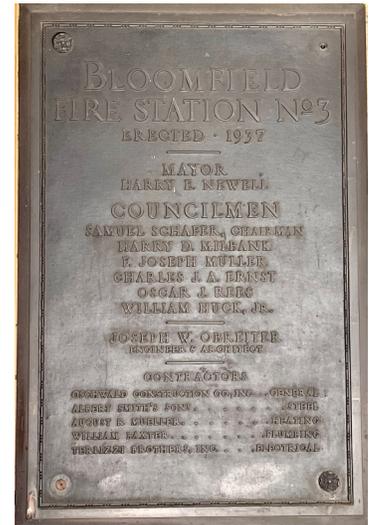




Bloomfield Fire Station 2
90 Watsessing Avenue
Erected 1975

Station 2 is the home of Engine 2, Spare Trucks 2 and 3, as well as our utility pick-up truck. This station covers the southern section of Bloomfield, this area used to have numerous industrial structures but in recent years those spaces have transitioned into large apartment buildings.

Bloomfield Fire Station 3
144 East Passaic Avenue
Erected 1937



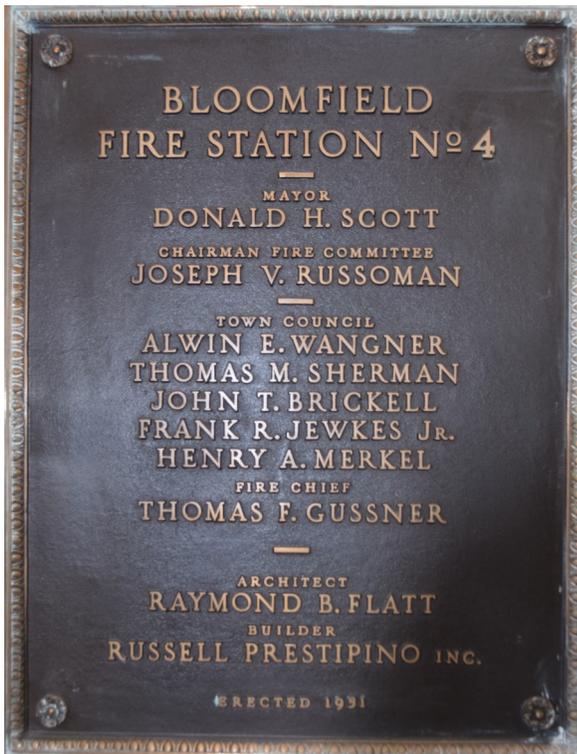
Station 3 is the home for Engine 3 and Rescue 1. There is a classroom on the second floor that is used for most of our training classes. In the rear of the property is a flat and peaked roof simulator prop and a firefighter survival maze.



Roof Simulator Prop



Survival maze



Bloomfield Fire Station 4
1233 Broad Street
Erected 1931

Station 4 is the home of Engine 4, Spare Engine 5, Spare Engine 6 and Car 35. This station covers the largest response area for the department.

Felix the Stone Fireman

During the 2023 Memorial Day Exempt Officer Service “Felix” the Stone Fireman was dedicated to Past, Present and Future Firefighters by the Gardner Family. “Felix” was rescued from the Firemen’s Insurance Company in Newark and given to the Township of Bloomfield in 1932 by former Bloomfield Councilman and Volunteer Firefighter Frederick E. Gardner. Felix is proudly displayed outside of Fire Headquarters.







Bloomfield Fire Department
Fire Chief's Office
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