

STAFF REPORT: The Blue Mountains Fire Department

REPORT TO: Committee of the Whole
MEETING DATE: October 20, 2014
REPORT NO.: FD.14.5
SUBJECT: The Blue Mountains Fire
 Department Third Quarter
 Report July – September, 2014

PREPARED BY: A. J. Lake, Acting Fire Chief

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report FD.14.5, “The Blue Mountains Fire Department Third Quarter Report July – September, 2014” for information purposes.

B. Background

The Blue Mountains Fire Department prepares Quarterly Reports as previously requested and in a format approved by Council

These Quarterly Reports reflect the actions and activities of the Fire Department in that quarter.

This Report addresses The Blue Mountains Fire Department Third Quarter Report July – September, 2014.

Fire Department staff recommend Council receive The Blue Mountains Fire Department Third Quarter Report July – September, 2014 for information purposes.

C. The Blue Mountains’ Strategic Plan

Town’s Strategic Plan Goal No. 6 “Providing a strong, well-managed municipal government”.

D. Environmental Impacts

Training and emergency response will generate some greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle operation.

E. Financial Impact

Addressed in annual Department Budgets

F. In Consultation With

Blue Mountains Fire Department staff.

G. Attached

1. The Blue Mountains Fire Department Third Quarter Report July – September, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

A.J. Lake, Acting Fire Chief
The Blue Mountains Fire Department



THE BLUE MOUNTAINS FIRE DEPARTMENT

2014 3RD QUARTER REPORT

The Vision of The Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department is:

To provide the citizens of The Blue Mountains with pro-active, effective and efficient delivery of fire, rescue, public education and fire prevention services; through a unified forward thinking organization with good morale and with the highest standards of personnel safety, fairness and professionalism.





REPORT TO: Finance & Administration Committee
FROM: A. J. Lake, Acting Fire Chief
DATE: October 20, 2014
SUBJECT: 3rd Quarter Report – July –September 2014

**The Blue Mountains Fire Department
Quarterly Report – July – September 2014**

This quarterly report is to provide information with regards to the operation and status of The Blue Mountains Fire Department for the 3rd quarter

Highlights of 3rd Quarter:

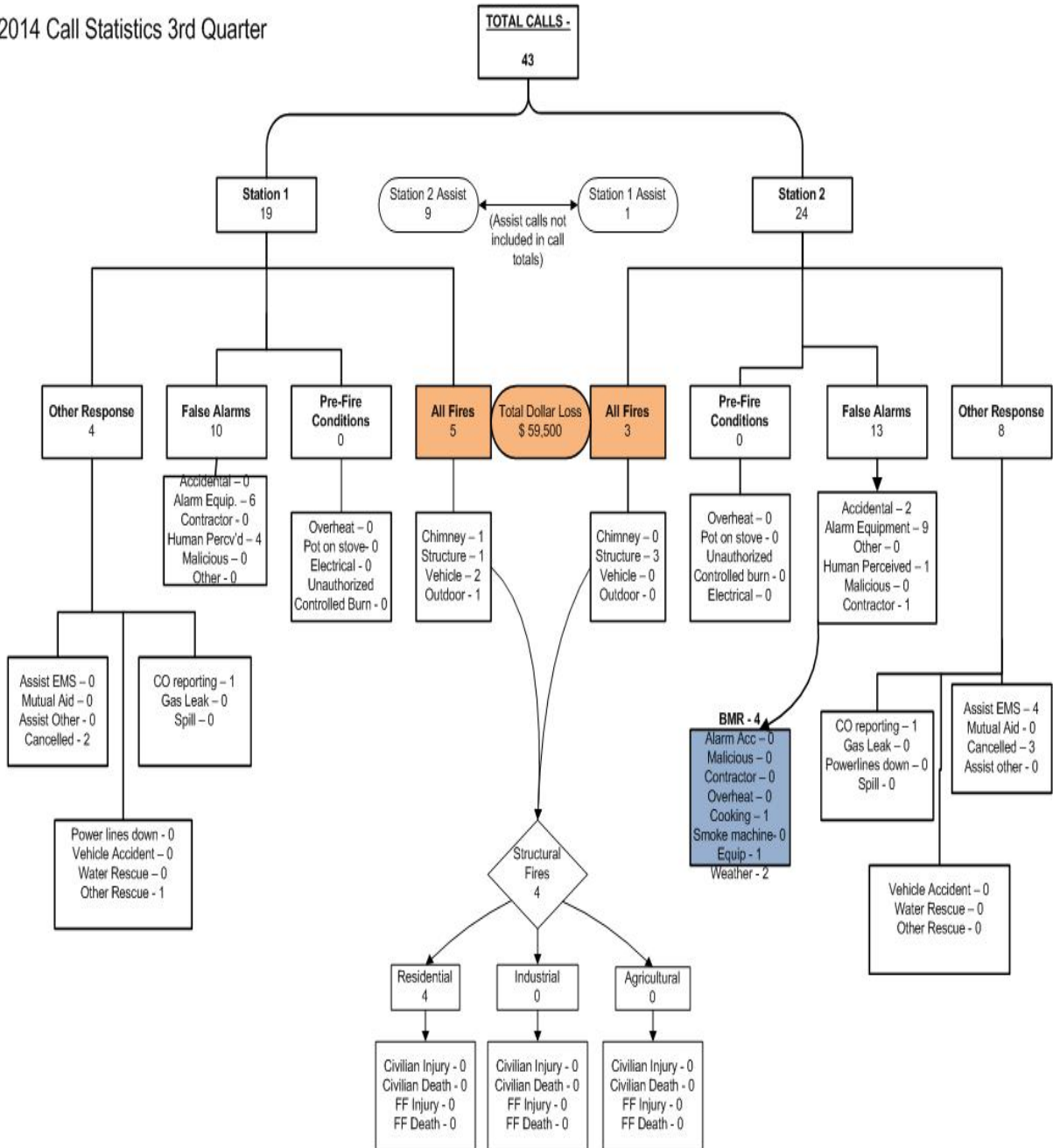
**2014 3rd Quarter
Highlights**

- The Department responded to a total of 43 incidents during this time period. Station 1 responded to 19 calls while station 2 responded to 24.
- The Department currently has 10 probationary fire fighters in training and responding to calls with restrictions. Testing early in the 4th quarter will see some of these firefighters being promoted and the subsequent removal of these restrictions.
- During the last quarter, all remaining “double hatters” (firefighters employed fulltime with other fire departments) responding as volunteers with the TBMFD, resigned due to pressure from their local unions and requirements of their collective agreements.
- Station 1 personnel and apparatus continue to provide support to Station 2 on a routine basis outside of normal business hours to ensure an adequate response of equipment and qualified personnel.
- Recruitment of volunteer firefighters began in late September. Advertising through local newspapers, social media, and outdoor signage at the fire stations, advertising at public events and a firefighter incentive program is promoting this

recruitment with success. The recruitment is planned to extend into October before screening and training begins.

- There have been no discussions as of yet, between the Blue Mountains Professional Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 4986 and the Town in regard to negotiating the first collective agreement.
- An agreement is being prepared for the Fire Department to continue to have an emergency communications antenna mounted on a tower owned by Blue Mountain Resorts. The Resort is replacing the current tower where the Fire Department has had an antenna mounted for numerous years. A formal agreement between the Municipality and the Resort was never completed prior to this time.
- The Department is noticing a positive trend toward Fire Code compliance with regard to routine fire prevention inspections, and seeing fewer additional inspections for outstanding items.
- The Department has implemented a new training platform which will be phased in over the next several months. The program has many features including record keeping and on line training.

2014 Call Statistics 3rd Quarter



**YEARS OF SERVICE – HALL #1
Volunteer Firefighters**

Summary:

31 Years - 1
28 Years - 1
26 Years - 1
24 Years - 3
11 Years - 1
9 Years - 2
7 Years - 1
5 Years - 5
4 Years - 1
Probationary - 4
Recruits - 0

Total # of Firefighters – 20

**YEARS OF SERVICE – HALL #2
Volunteer Firefighters**

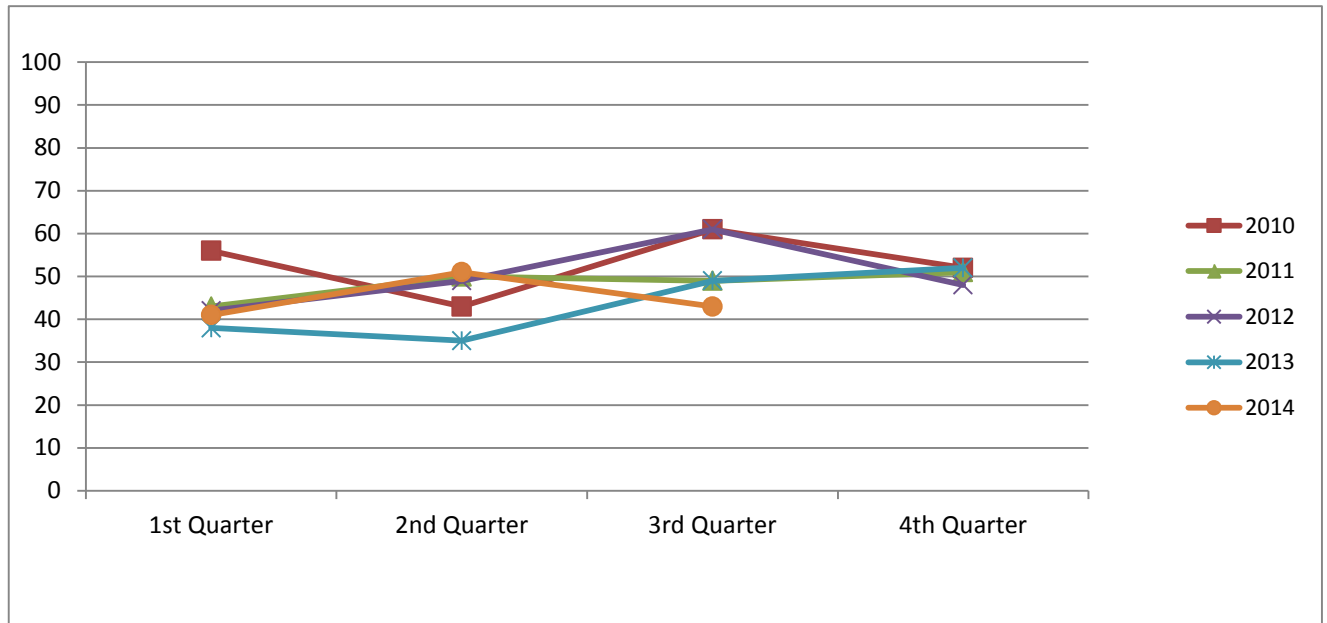
Summary:

25 Years - 1
15 Years - 1
13 Years - 2
7 Years - 1
5 Years - 1
1 Year - 2
Probationary - 6
Recruits - 0

Total # of Firefighters – 14

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department
Response Volume Comparison Chart
3rd Quarter
2014**

The following chart demonstrates total quarterly responses.



1st Quarter – the number of responses during this time period remain consistent

2nd Quarter – the number of responses during this time period remain consistent

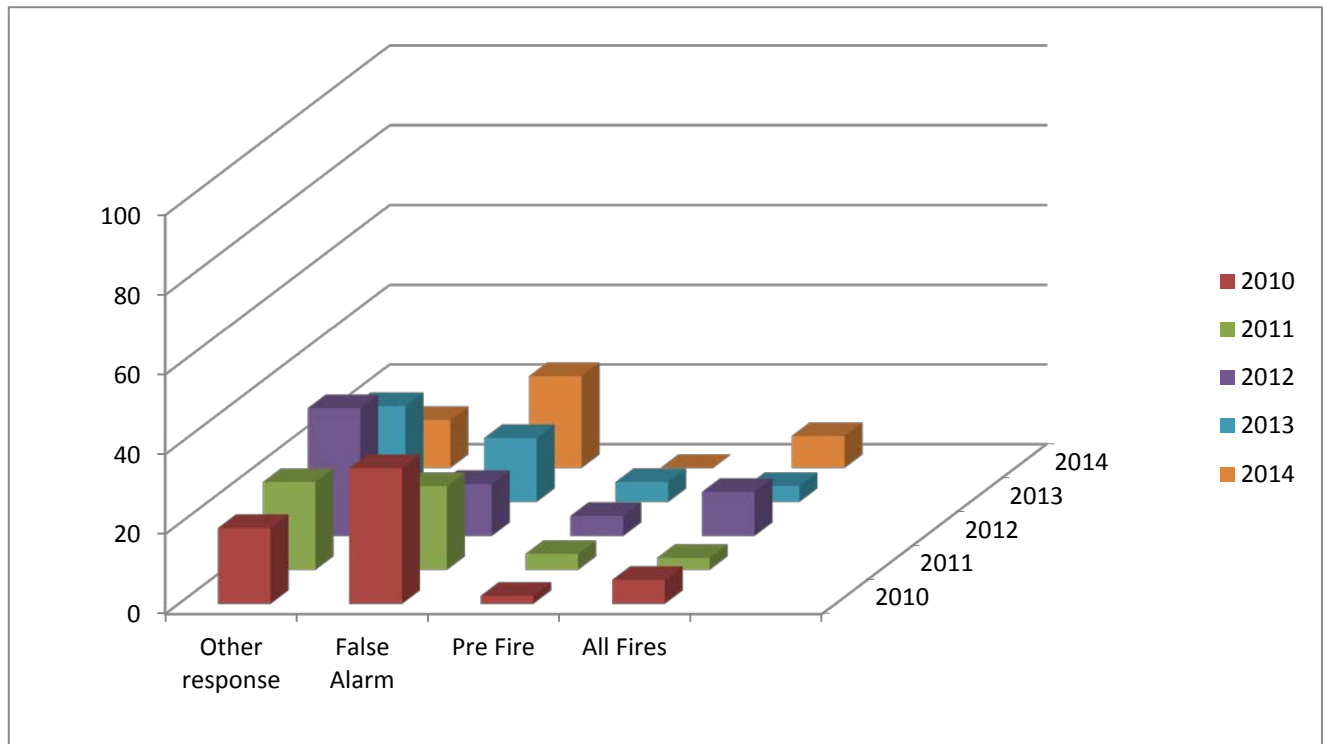
3rd Quarter – the number of responses during this time period remain consistent

4th Quarter –

Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department

Response Type Comparison Chart 3rd Quarter 2014

The following chart demonstrates response type, as a percentage of the overall responses during the same time periods

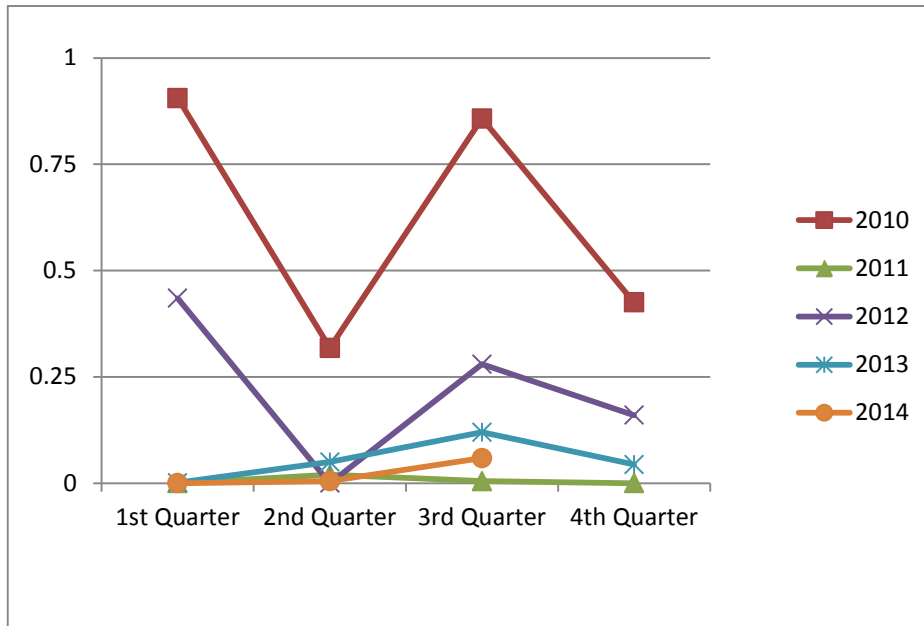


Response types remained relatively consistent with the previous 3rd quarters. There was an increase in the number of responses to residential alarms this quarter.

Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department

3rd Quarter Dollar Loss Comparison Chart 2010 - 2014

The following chart demonstrates quarterly dollar loss comparisons in million dollars.



1st Quarter – zero dollar loss

2nd Quarter – this \$5,000 loss resulted from a fire in a structure used as a residential retreat. The electrical fire was extinguished by a sprinkler system prior to fire department arrival. The sprinkler system was recently installed to enhance the buildings fire safety features and occupant life safety.

3rd Quarter – 4 residential fires – improper disposal of combustibles in attached garage self-extinguished (\$2,500), lightning (\$15,000), electrical-possible illegal operation (\$22,000), detached garage poor maintenance of wood stove (\$20,000)

4th Quarter –

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department
Apparatus Response Times
July – August 2014**

It is expected that the average response time for a fully staffed apparatus to leave the fire station is six minutes. A four minute drive time from the station averages at approximately 3.75 kilometres. Ten (10) minutes shall be used as a baseline to monitor average apparatus and personnel response times.

The following statistics indicate apparatus and personnel on scene within 10 minutes from the time of first page out.

The number of responses is based on responses to overheats, structure and outdoor fires, and alarms. This number does not include responses to ambulance assists, motor vehicle accidents.

	Station 1	Station 2	Average
# of responses	16	16	
Pump on Scene (%)	11 of 16 (69%)	8 of 16 (50%)	60%
10 personnel (%)	6 of 16 (38%)	0 of 16 (0%)	19%

Station 1 Responses

7 of the 16 responses were to areas 3.75 kilometres or more than a four minute drive time from station 1.

Station 2 Responses

5 of the 16 responses were to areas 3.75 kilometres or more than a four minute drive time from station 2.

Corrected Response Times within 3.75 Kilometres of the Station

	Station #1	Station #2	Average
# of Responses	9	11	
Pump on Scene	9 of 9 (100%)	6 of 11 (55%)	78%
10 personnel (%)	6 of 9 (67%)	0 of 11 (0%)	34%

- ❖ *Station #1 is paged out to assist Station #2 at all responses to Condo Corps and commercial properties adjacent to and including the Village at Blue. Station 1 has an approximate 16 – 18 minute response time to these areas. The average response by station 1 personnel to station 2 assists is thirteen (13).*
- ❖ *Reported structure fires continue to be automatic 2 station responses in both the station 1 & 2 areas.*

**Town of the Blue Mountains Fire Department
3rd Quarter
2014**

False Alarm By-law Letters Issued in accordance with 2009-72 Schedule D.7

R1	R2	R3	R4	C1	C2	C3	C4+
9	1	0	0	2	0	0	0

**Town of The Blue Mountains Fire Department
3rd Quarterly Report
Fire Prevention**

Months July - September

Year 2014

Inspections

Request	4
Complaint	1
Institutional	0
Re - Inspections	55
Commercial	99
Commercial Residential	27
Industrial	20
Assembly	23
Residential	22
Tents	20
Display Fireworks	7
Public Amusement Area Fireworks	0
Outdoor Public Amusement Area Approved	16
Electrical Orders Issued	1
Bunk house Inspections	1
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Total Inspections	296

Fire & Life Safety Education

Focus Group	Topic	# of persons
Hincks 2014-09-08	Fire Safety & Extinguishers	16

(SDR – stop drop and roll, s/a – smoke alarms)

Fire Safety Plans

Plans Under Review	Buildings Inspected As Part of Review	Plans Approved	Plans Rejected
6	6	6	0

Smoke Alarm Program

Dwellings Inspected	Deficiencies Identified
73	Corrected

Fire Code Enforcement

Smoke alarm tickets issued – Part 1	Smoke alarm infractions Issued – Part 3	Part 3 – Fire Code Violations Registered	Results
	Prosecution being prepared for “Fail to install smoke alarm”	Prosecution submitted for “Obstructing fire routes”	

Inspection Orders

Bunkhouse	0
Condominium Corporations	0
Boarding Rooming Lodging	0
Commercial	45
Industrial	20
Assembly	23
Residential	13

Prevention Highlights

- Ongoing annual inspections and re inspections completed by Keeling & Johnston.
- Re-inspections are finding higher level of compliance, less 2nd re-inspections
- 1 Inspector completed Public Educator I NFPA 1035
- Ongoing Smoke Alarm program to continue – Condos Smoke alarm program ongoing with emphasis on condo corps replacing smokes as part of common element and Life safety contractors testing door closures for operation while in suites.
- STA inspections are slow but steady, no word on FMO review of 1 Inspection Order

TRAINING
3rd Quarter Report
July – September 2014

TRAINING STATS 3rd QUARTER – 2014 (In House)

JULY 2014		AUGUST 2014		SEPT 2014	
Station # 1	Station # 2	Station # 1	Station # 2	Station # 1	Station # 2
Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
142 hrs.	86 hrs.	98 hrs.	50 hrs.	158 hrs.	78 hrs.
				Total Hours:	612 hrs.

In House training takes place every Monday night (minus statutory holidays) throughout the year.

General Level Firefighter Training

TOPIC	NUMBER OF HOURS
Truck / SCBA / PPE (Monthly)	96 hrs.
High Angle Rescue	180 hrs.
Auto Extrication	54 hrs.
Practical Scenario Based Training/ Recruit Testing	110 hrs.
Pumper Operations/Fire Suppression Techniques	106 hrs.
Driver Training	66 hrs.
TOTAL TRAINING HOURS	612 Hours

***NOTE: Within each Monday night practice hours, Officers and veteran firefighters were tasked with Recruit/Probationary firefighter skills development throughout July – Sept. in coordination with the Recruit Training Program.**

***NOTE: With respect to the scenario based training hours, multiple firefighter skills were practiced. The following are some but not all of the skills training that took place:**

1. Firefighter Survival Techniques
2. Ladders/Ventilation
3. Fire Suppression/Use of Hoses and Appliances
4. Ventilation Techniques
5. Portable Pumps/Rural Water Supply
6. Building construction/Size up
7. Aerial use.....etc

Ontario Fire College Courses – July - Sept 2014

Firefighters	Ontario Fire College Course	Number of Days
1	NFPA Firefighter #1 Part "A"	5
1	Training Officer Seminar	3
2	NFPA 1031 Fire Inspector #1	5 x 2
1	NFPA Firefighter #2 Part "A"	5
1	NFPA Fire Life Safety Educator	5
1	NFPA 1021 Fire Officer #2	5
2	Online Legislation Course	5 x 2
Total Days at the Ontario Fire College		43 Days

Training Continued...

- All TBMFD Officers/Lieutenants and Firefighters that met the NFPA Grandfathering criteria, completed mandatory job performance documentation for formal submission to the Ontario Fire Marshalls Office.
- Recruit fire ground operational skills promotional testing conducted
- Continue with switch over to NFPA Firefighter I & II Curriculum
- Updating and moving towards NFPA Specialized Rescue Curriculum.
- Midweek training offered to all firefighters

Emergency Management Quarterly Report 3rd Quarter 2014

- Revised June 2014 paper copies and index dividers inserted into Emergency Response Plan binders. (Controlled internal and external copies).
- Coordinate with outside agencies for annual training and tabletop exercise.
- Significant thunderstorm Friday Sept. 5th, Generac generator delivered to Arena as contingency plan as power was out.
- Public information booth and draw prize display at annual Beaver Valley Fall Fair.
- Community Control Group Scribe and Alternate attended scribe note taking training hosted at Walkerton Fire Hall.
- Deputy Chief Lake attended Grey County Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise in Owen Sound for his role as Alternate Grey County Fire Coordinator.