



Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

1164 Race Road
Coupeville, WA 98239

Professionalism • Integrity • Compassion • Excellence

(360) 678-3602

www.cwfire.org

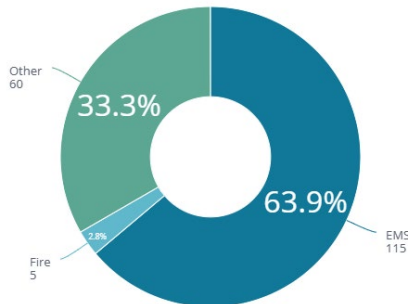
To: Board of Fire Commissioners
 From: Fire Chief Jerry Helm, Deputy Chief James Meek, Battalion Chief John Lloyd
 Date: October 9th, 2025
 Subject: Chief's Report

Operational Activity

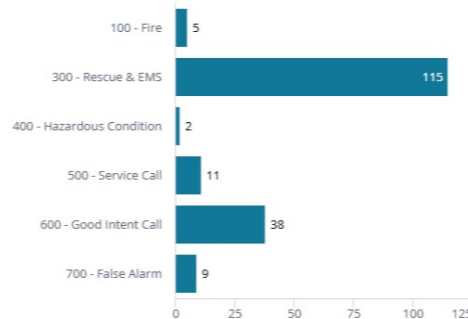
For the month of September 2025, we received **180 emergency service calls**. Of those, **30 overlapping incidents** impacted **17% of total incidents**. **3.1%** Fire response, **28.6%** Other response, and **68.3%** EMS emergency response.

Frequency by Incident Type

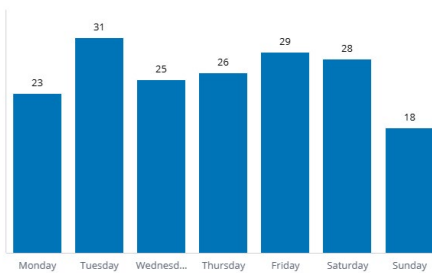
EMS/Fire Incident Breakdown



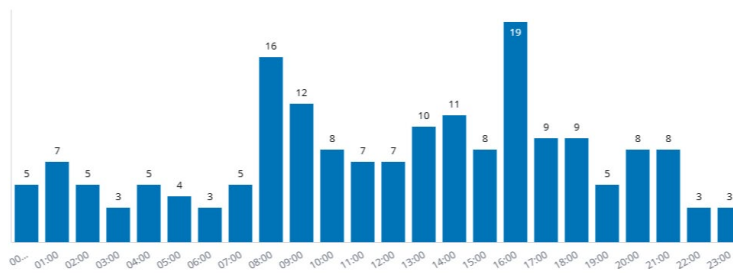
Count of Incidents by Incident Type



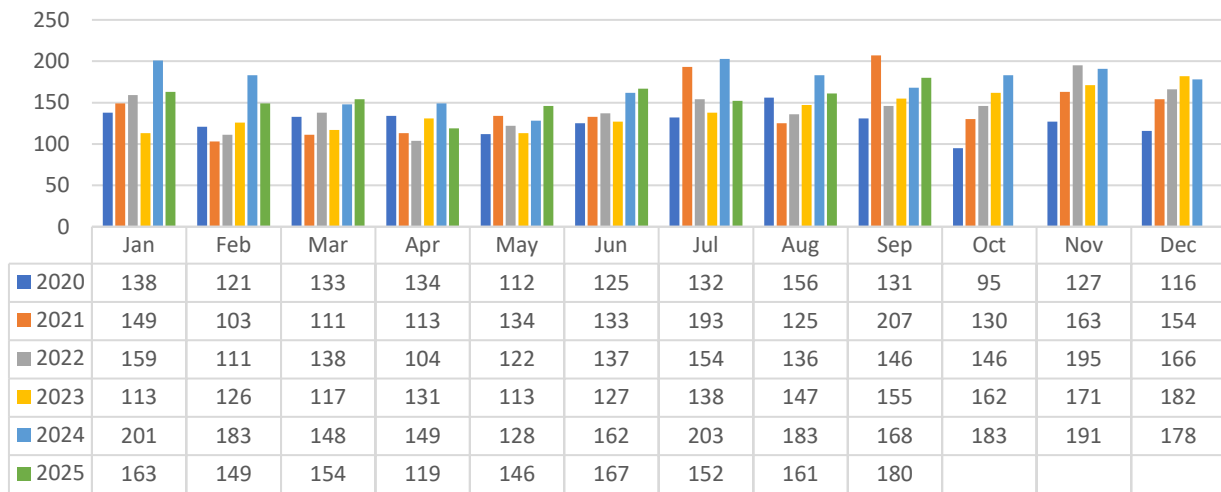
Incident Count by Day of Week



Incident Count by Hour of Day



2025 Incident Frequency by Month



Station 53 Construction Project

There are no new updates for Station 53, as our new SCBA washer, which is being replaced under warranty, is currently in production.

Other Administrative work

Chief Helm attended the monthly EMS Council and Fire Tac meeting. Chief Helm met multiple days with South Whidbey regarding collaboration efforts and leadership meeting collaborations. Held firefighter written exam retesting for two candidates. Spent a considerable amount of time with the 2025 budget development process and met with ISO Outsource (IT services) for the anticipated 2026 major IT infrastructure upgrades.

Training & Development – Battalion Chief John Lloyd

Administrative

Chief Magallon has assumed the lead role for training, with myself continuing to play a significant supporting role. I have also assisted in developing the monthly training schedule, helping to ensure a smooth transition. With three Battalion Chiefs now actively involved in training, we have added considerable experience and depth to the program, enhancing the quality and scope of training being delivered. This will add great benefit when developing and delivering the training. I have also completed my submission for the 2025 training budget.

Recruitment

Volunteer Applications: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

We have received two additional volunteer applications, and I have also spoken with two other individuals who have expressed interest in volunteering. Interviews are scheduled to take place in October.

In-Service Training

In September, personnel completed a total of 220 hours of training. Training topics covered during in-service sessions included:

- Apparatus operations
- Online medical training
- Hazardous materials (Hazmat) training
- EMS Mega Code scenarios, including multiple OTEP skill sheets
- Vehicle extrication
- Company Officer-led specific training

These training sessions supported both individual skill development and enhanced inter-agency coordination.

Collaboration

September marks the first full month of joint operations for Battalion 31, now staffed by Chief Magallon, Chief Burbank, and myself. During this time, we have collaborated closely across departments on both training exercises and emergency responses. The partnership is off to a strong start and is already demonstrating significant potential.

Other

Operations – Deputy Chief James Meek

Community Partnerships

Over the past several months, CWIFR has collaborated with the Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association (CHWA) to develop a plan for the 2025 Fire Safety Week presentation. This year, our Station 51 volunteers participated in a simulated fire drill at Vail Wine on Front Street. Additionally, we gave a fire prevention presentation that was attended by representatives from the Town, County, and local business owners. A big thank you to volunteer firefighters Travis Dotson, Jake Keating, and Luke Hillier for their dedication to our community and CWIFR. Furthermore, a big thank you to CHWA and the Town of Coupeville for the opportunity to train and engage with our community members.

CWIFR participated in the Pacific Rim Institute’s Whidbey Island Cider Fest. CWIFR conducted a speaking engagement with attendees, providing public education and demonstrations on hands-only CPR, Narcan, and tourniquets. Additionally, children were allowed to “Touch-a-Truck.”

Notable September Events and Incidents

CWIFR responded to four (4) fires in September. All were brush or wildland-related fires, except a large fire that involved refuse from a farm in North Whidbey. CWIFR sent multiple tenders to assist.

Upcoming Events – October

- Fire prevention presentations
 - 10/08-United Methodist Church
 - 10/09-Island Transit
- 10/25-Torchlight Parade
- 10/31-Trunk or Treat (Living Hope Foursquare Church)

Special Operations

- No update

PPE/Respiratory Protection

- Completed budget for PPE Program. Classified and hung all bunker gear in the PPE Locker by Expiration date. Created a self-service system where employees can grab a second set of gear (after a fire) without having to call Stavros.
- Respiratory Protection: Nothing to report per Lloyd

Radios/Pagers

- No Update

Medical Supplies & CPR

- No update

Reports

- Rhodes audited 176 NFIRS report for the month of September.

Other

- [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Facilities—Lt. Jim Huff

Station 51

- Nothing to report

Station 52

- Nothing to report

Station 53

- Benz-air made adjustments to the Niederman system
- Purchased treadmill, new lifting bar, more weight plates, and TV (stream workouts) for the gym

Station 54

- Nothing to report

Other Facilities

- Nothing to report

Community Risk Reduction (CRR)—Lt. Jen Porter

Monthly Inspection Progress

- A shift completed 7/7 initial inspections for September.
- B shift completed 3/6 initial inspections for September.
- C shift completed 4/7 initial inspections for September.

Yearly Inspection Progress (Year-to-Date)

- A shift 100% (59/59)
- B shift 95% (59/62)
- C shift 89% (53/59)

Home Safety Surveys & Installations

- B shift corresponded with a homeowner to assist with smoke alarm replacement.
- A shift communicated with a homeowner to troubleshoot faulty alarms.
- A shift responded and replaced batteries in 5 smoke alarms.

Hydrants

Monthly Inspection Progress

- A-shift completed 13 hydrant inspections and 2 flow tests.
- B-Shift completed 13 hydrant inspections and 2 flow tests.
- C- Shift completed 13 hydrant inspections and 4 flow tests.

Yearly Inspection progress (355 total)

- A-Shift 100% completion (75/75)
- B-Shift 100% completion (75/75)
- C-Shift 100% completion (77/77)

Additional CRR Activities

- LT Porter is working with shifts to coordinate Fire Safety Week with Coupeville Elementary. Crews will have activities in each classroom associated with the 2025 theme “Charge into Safety.” We will go over safety with electronics. Fire Safety Week is October 6-10th.
- LT Porter worked with the TOC Building Official to correspond with Beaver Tales, Wharf Dog, and Coupeville Schools.
- LT Porter completed CES/CMS/CHS inspections and is working with Coupeville schools to develop a solution for their new mag lock security doors. Coupeville schools repaired their main hydrant in the parking lot and are working to install a gate on the delta side hydrant.
- ESO inspection monthly assignment for 2025 input complete. LT Porter worked with FF Luke Hillier to save pdf copies of the past 3 years of inspection data.

Fleet Maintenance Division—FF/Mechanic Mike Matros**Repair & Maintenance**

- Unit 2101 (E-53) – Repaired rock chip in windshield so that it will not crack.
- Unit 2103 (E-51) – Started it’s 1,000hr Preventative Maintenance service and repairs.
- Unit 2102 (E-54) – Thank you to FF Brent Stevens for assisting me in the repairs of the accident-damaged right front fender, fender well, officer’s side rear step, and left front ground light and bracket of the truck. All repairs went smoothly, and the truck looks beautiful again.
- Unit 1101 (Admin – Matrix) – Unfortunately, the Matrix was involved in a deer strike on the highway. It suffered complete left side damage. The driver was o.k. We have worked with the insurance company and Mainstreet Collision to negotiate a repair plan. It is currently being repaired at Main Street Collision with an estimated completion time towards the end of the first week of October.

Other Fleet Maintenance Activity

- FF/Mech Matros attended the annual Washington Fire Mechanics Conference in Wenatchee from September 14th – 19th. There he took continuing education classes on fire apparatus. He also ended the week by taking two more EVT recertification tests.