

Fire Department

The Wilmington Fire Department (WFD) responded to 3584 calls in 2020. Most of these were EMS calls, but our services also included Fire Responses, Fire Inspections, Investigations, Public Interaction in several ways, and other general calls for assistance.

We made 537 fire responses for fires such as houses, apartments, vehicles, and mulch. In addition, we responded on many good intent calls where someone may have thought there was a problem and just needed us to check it out for their own piece of mind.

Even throughout the pandemic, our department completed many fire inspections on new buildings, renovated buildings and businesses, potential foster care houses, and yearly inspections.. This is possible by having depth of certifications within the department with many Firefighters having their fire inspectors certifications. We were unable to spend a lot of time out with the public this year just interacting and spreading the word on fire prevention due to COVID. We miss interacting with kids and adults through our time in the schools, involvement at the park such as National Night Out and Halloween, neighborhood get-togethers, and visits from groups or individuals at the Fire House. Hopefully 2021 will provide those opportunities once again.

We hired two new Firefighter/Paramedics this year. Justin Comer joined our team from Xenia Township and Michael Sowards came from Paint Creek FD to help the citizens of Wilmington and Clinton County. We look forward to these team members bringing new ideas and energy into the Fire Department and working side by side with our seasoned members. Also, we congratulate firefighters Shingai Calhoun and Brad Burns for earning their paramedic certification in December.

We did replace the bay doors on the firehouse with new, well insulated, doors. We also replaced rescue air bags which are used mostly in vehicle accident scenarios when we need to lift or stabilize vehicles. Through the efforts of firefighter Jeff Haines, the WFD was awarded a federal grant which allowed the purchase of nearly \$50,000 for new fire hose and nozzles. This new equipment helps the department better serve the citizens we protect. The Department also benefitted from the generosity of local business with the donation of smoke alarms for community distribution from State Farm and new tools and saw blades from Lowes.



Andy Mason, Chief

