



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Core Values:
Honesty
Integrity
Respect
Professionalism
Self-Discipline
Speak Truth to Power
Technical Competence



Chief's Message



On behalf of the professional members of the Clearcreek Fire District, it is my pleasure to present the 2019 Annual Report. Through this annual report, we present our story of the services we provide and how the department works. We offer insight into our mission, vision, and core values, while demonstrating how we maximize taxpayer dollars through sound fiscal management practices. As you will see in this report, we do much more than fight fires. We are an all-hazards emergency response organization, determined to remain responsive to the needs of our residents and countless visitors.

As a result of providing emergency services to one of the fastest growing communities in the State of Ohio, 2019 was our busiest year ever. While we have an active Community Risk Reduction program whose mission is to prevent emergencies from happening, we are responding to more calls than ever.

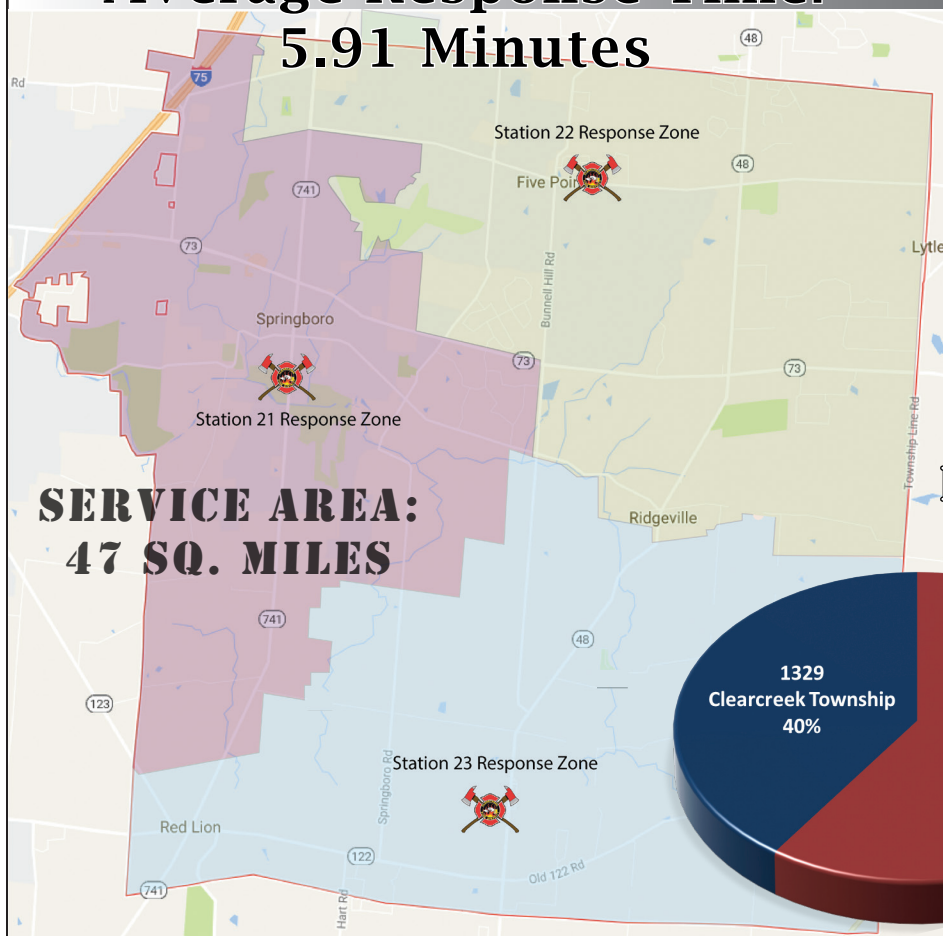
We face numerous challenges due to the ever-changing landscape of our industry, in trying to stay progressive in our services to the community. Modern construction technologies and building contents make our jobs as firefighters more difficult and dangerous. New technologies and methods for treating the sick and injured require extensive training and funding to stay on the forefront of emergency medical care. In short, we must constantly evolve for the safety of both our citizens and emergency responders.

Currently, the greatest challenge facing our organization is the lack of sustainable funding, caused primarily by the way our Fire District receives funds. Due to the structure of property tax levies, for the past few years, our expenses exceeded our revenue. Fortunately, due to fiscally responsible spending, we have reserve funds to make up for this deficit. However, these reserve funds are finite and will eventually run out, forcing us to make the difficult decision to either cut services provided by the Fire District or generate additional revenue.

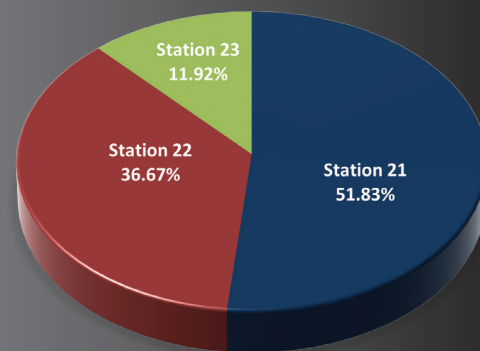
I want to thank the community, elected officials, and administrative staff for their continued support. I am honored to lead this great organization and serve the citizens of Clearcreek Township and the City of Springboro. Together, we can accomplish anything!

If you would like to learn more about the Fire District, I welcome you to visit our website at www.clearcreektownship.com or follow us on Facebook at Clearcreek Fire District, Springboro, OH.

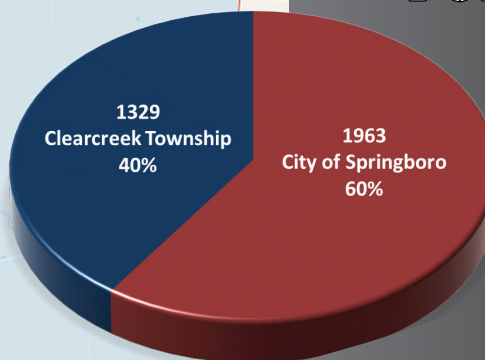
Average Response Time: 5.91 Minutes



STATION RESPONSE PERCENTAGES

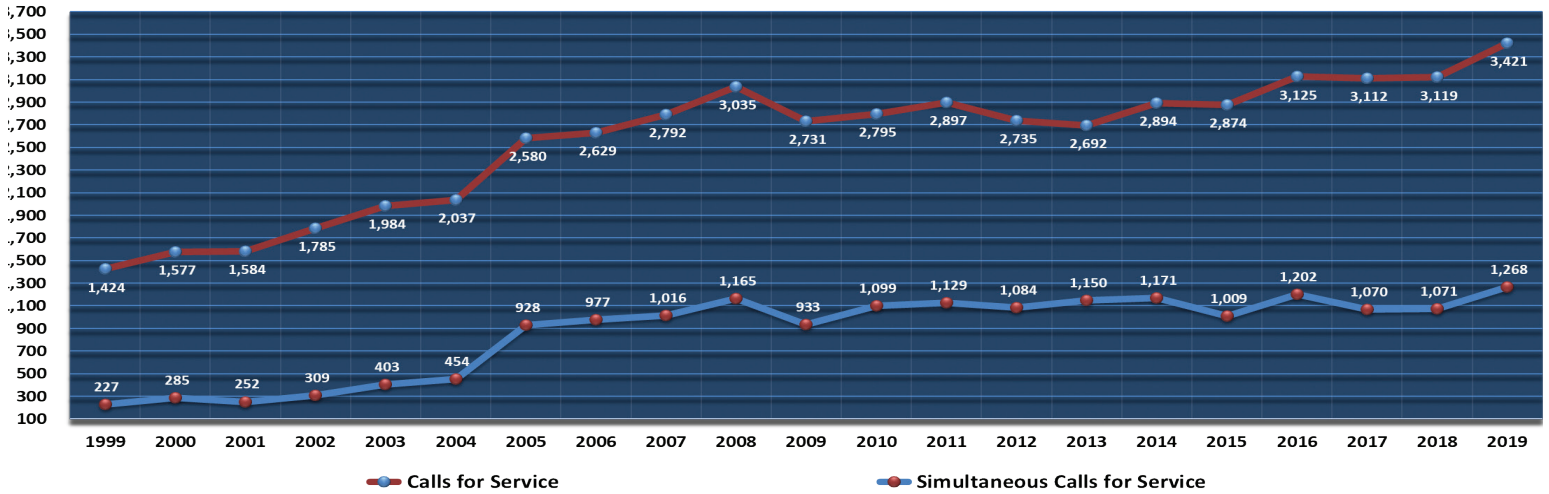


RESPONSE BY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION



Community Response

20-YEAR SERVICE TREND



TOTAL POTENTIAL PROPERTY LOSS

\$6,786,966

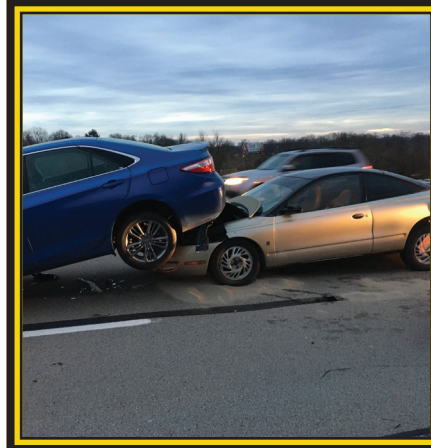
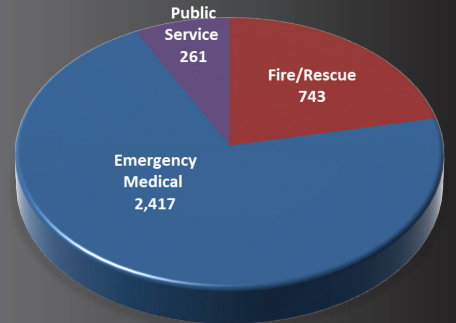
TOTAL PROPERTY LOSS AS A RESULT OF FIRE

\$1,124,440

TOTAL PROPERTY SAVED FROM FIRE DAMAGE

\$5,662,526

CALLS BY SERVICE TYPE



Training

All uniformed personnel must maintain the following certifications:

- Firefighter II
- Fire Safety Inspector
- Paramedic or EMT
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support

During 2019, employees completed **7,707 hours** of documented trainings.

Each Shift Training ranged from one to four hours in length and established a higher level of expectation among all operations personnel.



Continued training and education of our employees is paramount to meet our mission. The 2019 Training Program accomplished the following:

- Increased Fire and EMS Core Competency expectations to ensure a high level of competency with both cognitive and psychomotor functions related to first response
- Continued Fire Apparatus Operator training
- Continued Aerial Tower Operator training
- Experienced an exceptional year for professional development with 121 approved training requests.

This year, the Clearcreek Fire District hosted First in Last Out, a fire training and equipment company, to provide our crews an off duty training opportunity at the Warren County Career Center. Firefighters received intense training on advanced hose line operations, search and rescue, and forcible entry.



HONORING COMMITMENT



In 1992, FF/EMT Mark Gerspacher joined our family. At the time, we had one station, a full-time chief, two full-time Captains, and a staff of part-time firefighters who lived in the community. In 1995, Mark earned his Paramedic Certification and became a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic. During his career, Mark helped steer this organization through some good times and some tough times, always sticking with us. Working four, ten-hour days, he served as an in-house mechanic, payroll clerk, scheduling coordinator, and dispatcher, in addition to his emergency response duties. Mark is the first person to spend his entire career with, and retire from the Clearcreek Fire District, accomplishing something nobody has ever accomplished before, or will ever accomplish again.



On November 20, 2019, we held a retirement ceremony to celebrate the career of FF/PM Mark Gerspacher. It was an emotional day for family, friends, and coworkers as we gathered to honor Mark's contributions and wish him a long and happy retirement. Always the first one to help anyone in need, Mark spent years mentoring his fellow first responders, providing us all with valuable lessons to pass on to others. In that respect, even in retirement, we can proudly say that Mark will continue serving the people of this great community. We will greatly miss having Mark at the stations. We are forever indebted to, and grateful for Mark's unwavering dedication and service to Clearcreek Township and the City of Springboro.

As Winnie-the-Pooh said, "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard". Good Luck in your retirement Mark, you will truly be missed!

Community Risk Reduction & District Engagement

Public Education Events

Residents of the community often request our presence at many different types of events, including school visits, festivals, block parties, and birthday parties. Scout and youth groups are also welcome to visit the fire station for tours and safety presentations.

Firefighters attended the annual Springboro Business Expo on March 9, 2019, to distribute fire and life safety brochures and answer questions. Sparky the Fire Dog also attended to teach children and their parents about the Clearcreek Fire District. Firefighters provided fire extinguisher training and also featured special programs including blood pressure checks and the Rural Address Locator signs.

On August 6, 2019, we supported the Clearcreek Police Department in hosting "National Night Out". This annual event, held at Patricia Allyn Park, focuses on bringing the community together for crime prevention and learning more about township services. Firefighters provided tours of the apparatus, answered questions, and provided fire safety information. Firefighters also held a mock auto extrication where they simulated a patient being cut out of a crashed vehicle.



Station 21 hosted approximately 500 people at the annual Clearcreek Fire District Open House on October 6, 2019. Activities included a vehicle extrication demonstration, a kid's agility course, a CareFlight medical helicopter, and a visit from Sparky the Fire Dog. This event is always held on the first Sunday in October.

Commercial Safety Inspections

The Fire and Life Safety Inspection program focuses on collaborating with business owners to ensure the safety of their employees, customers, and property.

Residential Safety Inspections

Any family wishing to foster or adopt a child must undergo a fire safety inspection in their home. These inspections help identify and eliminate common fire hazards. We provide in-home fire safety inspections for any citizen who requests one.

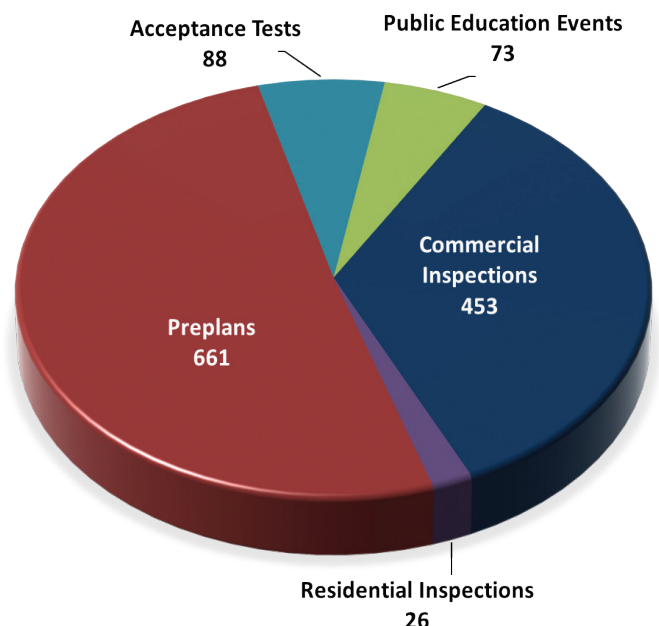
Pre-Incident Planning

Pre-Incident Plans (Preplans) contain information, such as structural diagrams, allowing crews to anticipate the interior layout of a building prior to performing search and rescue operations. Preplans enable the fire officers to make safe and effective tactical decisions.

New Construction Plans Review and Acceptance Testing

The Clearcreek Fire District works diligently to ensure that new buildings constructed within the response district are in accordance with the governing codes. Our prevention officers work with local building, zoning, and planning commission officials to review and test fire safety equipment in new construction.

2019 PREVENTION DATA



Demographics & Finance

The biggest challenge currently facing the fire district is funding. For a number of years our expenses have exceeded our revenues. Fortunately, due to fiscally responsible spending, we have built up a reserve fund that we can draw from. However, this fund will not last much longer and a tough decision will have to be made. We will need to decide on whether to cut services or increase revenue.

In 2018, we worked with the University of Dayton on a project with three primary goals: (1) understand the citizens' perception of the fire district, (2) gauge the overall service satisfaction, and (3) determine the possibility of support for an increase in the level of service/funding.

The results of the survey showed that the community is overwhelmingly satisfied with our services and did not want a reduction. In fact, the majority of the citizens surveyed stated they would support an increase in services to meet the demand created by community growth, with 83% of respondents leaning towards or likely to support a levy if proposed.

The results of this study allowed us to understand what the community thinks of their fire department and what they expect as we move the organization forward. We are honored to know that there is such a high level of trust and satisfaction for the job we do. As we look to the future, we will work diligently to decide what the best course of action is moving forward. Whatever is decided, it is important for the community to understand that we take our fiduciary responsibilities seriously and work hard to maximize our return on tax payer dollars.

Population: 33,292*

FY 2019 Operating Budget: \$7,897,135

Households: 11,429**

FY 2019 Operating Expenses: \$7,611,206

Service Area: 47 sq. miles

FY 2019 Operating Revenue: \$6,454,134

Reserve Funds Utilized: \$1,157,072

**US Census Bureau 2018 estimate for Clearcreek Township & City of Springboro combined*

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