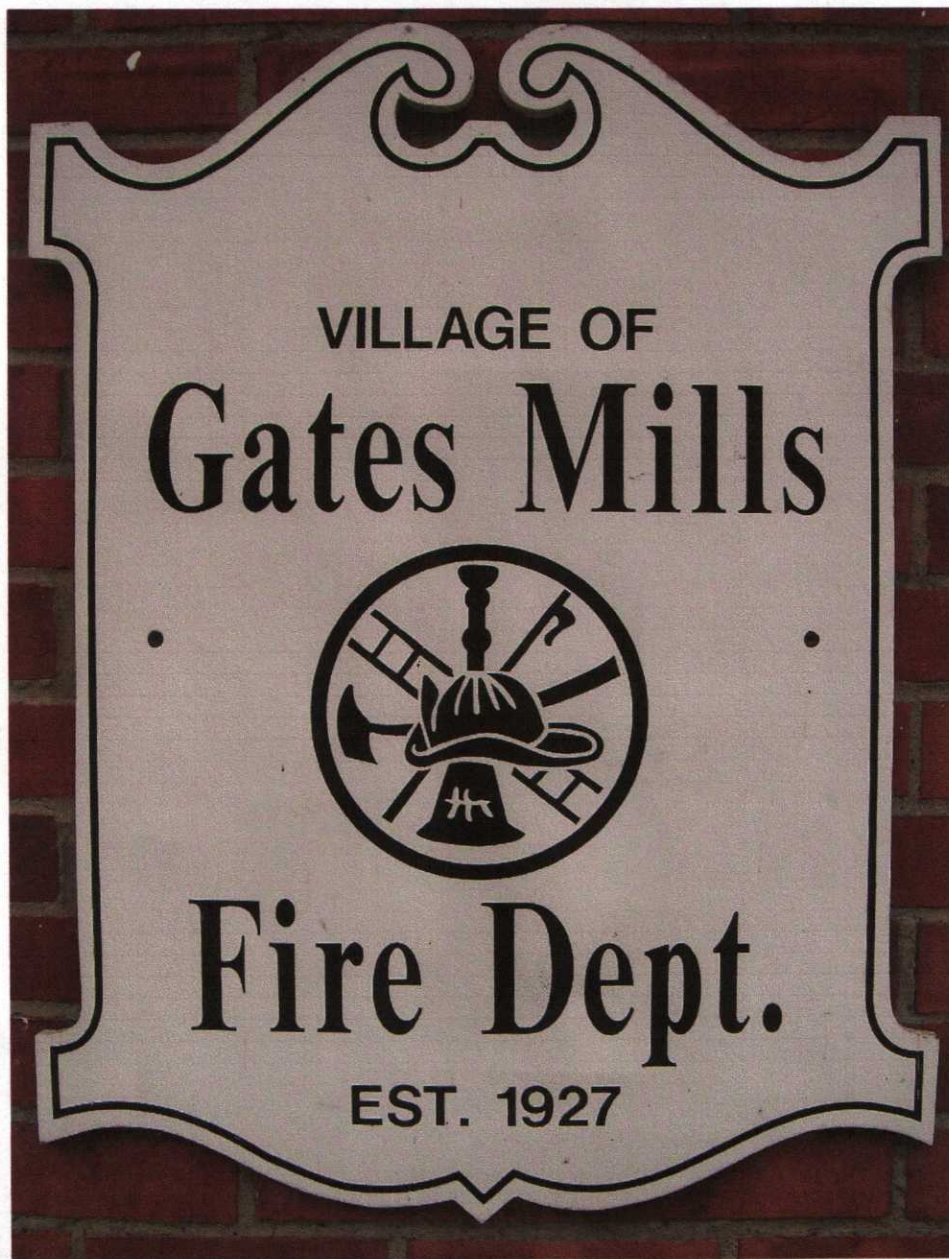


Fire Department

2012 Overview



P. Thomas Robinson, Fire Chief

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INTRODUCTION

The Gates Mills Fire Department was established in 1927 to protect the residents of the Village from the threat of fire. Over the years, the Fire Department has evolved into an "all hazards" emergency response agency, providing a wide variety of services and programs with a dedicated, well-trained and equipped staff. The purpose of this document is to provide an in-depth look into these services and activities.

COMMUNITY AND DEPARTMENT PROFILE

The Gates Mills Fire Department protects a predominantly residential community of 8.8 square miles. The overall population of 2,270 residents consists of sixty-two percent (62%) of the population between the ages of 21 and 64, with a median age of 47 years old. There are approximately 933 single-family homes and 37 commercial, institutional, and religious buildings within the Village. The terrain of the Village includes; hills, valleys, the Chagrin River, numerous ponds and streams, cliffs, large wooded areas, and secluded driveways and paths.

The Gates Mills Fire Department is categorized as a "pay-on-call" fire department, whereby members are paged to respond to the fire station and/or the emergency scene from their home or wherever they may be when the call comes in. During the work day hours in the week, fire-certified employees of the Gates Mills Service Department also serve as firefighters and respond to calls during these hours. As of July, 2013, there are 25 firefighters and 5 cadets serving on the Gates Mills Fire Department.

The firefighters of today spend time not only responding to calls, but preparing to handle emergencies through fire prevention activities, public awareness events, training drills, and checking and maintaining fire equipment and resources.

1. SECTION ONE: EMERGENCY SERVICES – INCIDENT RESPONSE

A. OVERALL INCIDENT TOTALS

The total number of incidents that the Fire Department responds to varies from year-to-year. The following is a five-year comparison of incident totals:

2012 = 143 incidents
2011 = 127 incidents
2010 = 127 incidents
2009 = 124 incidents
2008 = 172 incidents

B. TYPES OF INCIDENTS HANDLED: A 2012 BREAKDOWN

The Fire Department responds to a wide variety of emergency and non-emergency calls for assistance from the community, as well as an occasional call to assist a neighboring community. The following are examples of these calls shown in a breakdown of the 143 incidents that occurred in 2012:

59 Fire alarms	2 Trees down on a structure
20 Motor vehicle accidents	1 Assist Police Officer
13 Odor investigations	1 Fire (not in a structure)
8 Utility lines down	1 Alarm system malfunction
7 Carbon Monoxide alarms	1 Assist Bomb Squad
6 Provide Mutual-Aid	1 Natural Gas line rupture
5 Electrical distribution equipment on fire or arcing	1 Technical Rescue incident
5 Open burning complaints	1 Smoke in a structure (not a fire)
4 Hazardous material incidents	1 Flooded basement
3 Aid to person	1 Remove trees blocking the roadway
2 Assist EMS	

2. SECTION TWO: NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

A. FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS – COMMERCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL

State fire code requires annual inspections for all commercial and institutional facilities, and inspections twice a year for educational facilities. The Gates Mills Fire Department inspects 37 buildings and facilities annually, with 19 educational facilities being inspected twice annually.

Any violations that are discovered are written up for the property manager to make corrections. Follow-up inspections are performed within a timely fashion to ensure that the corrections are made according to the fire code.

In addition to the required annual fire inspections, all facilities with a fire extinguishing "Hood System" must be tested and inspected. Facilities that have these systems include: Sara's restaurant, Chagrin Valley Hunt Club, and Gilmour Academy. Depending on the amount of use and cleaning, inspections may be performed every six months.

B. HOME FIRE SAFETY SURVEY PROGRAM

On request, a state-certified inspector from the Gates Mills Fire Dept. will conduct a survey to help identify fire and/or safety hazards in the home. Placement of smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, fire alarm system components, and home fire escape plans are covered. The survey is completed with the homeowner and a list of suggestions is provided. The goal of the survey is to improve safety in the home, not to issue formal violations to repair.

C. FOSTER CHILD HOME INSPECTION

Any resident that is going through the process to adopt or take in a foster child has to have a one-time fire safety inspection by a Fire Department inspector prior to taking in a child.

D. HOME FIRE ALARM SYSTEM MONITORING AND KEY PROGRAM

Gates Mills is one of the few communities that offer alarm monitoring services at no charge to all residents. Monitored alarm systems insure rapid notification in the event of a fire.

The Village offers a key program whereby residents can leave a house key secured in the dispatch office to provide quick access in the event of fire alarm activation when no one is at home. This allows the Fire Department to access the house and thoroughly investigate the reason for the alarm, then properly secure the property.

E. HOME SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATION PROGRAM

Upon request, the Fire Department will install smoke detectors in proper locations for any resident who is unable to do so on their own. The Fire Department will also advise residents on the proper placement and type of device to purchase.

F. SMOKE DETECTOR LOANER PROGRAM

If a home fire detection / alarm system fails, the Fire Department will loan multiple smoke detectors to the resident until the alarm system is repaired.

G. CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR INSTALLATION PROGRAM

The Fire Department installs carbon monoxide detectors for any resident who is unable to do so on their own. The Fire Department will also advise residents on the proper placement and type of device to purchase.

H. SAFETY DEVICE PLACEMENT

The Fire Department assists residents and business owners with the proper selection and placement of fire extinguishers, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, etc.

I. IDENTIFICATION AND OPERATION OF UTILITIES

The Fire Department assists residents and business owners with locating and how to turn off water, natural gas, and electrical utilities in the event of an emergency.

J. HOME AND FAMILY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Fire Department offers assistance to residents in helping to prepare and plan for fires, severe weather, power outages, and public health emergencies.

K. FIRE CADET PROGRAM

Unique to the Hillcrest area, the Fire Department has a fire cadet program where individuals between the ages of 14 and 18 can attend training and participate in a limited manner at fire incidents. Under the supervision of fire officers and senior members of the department, fire cadets serve an invaluable purpose in that they provide extra assistance on calls while gaining knowledge and experience of the fire service at the same time. The program is also an excellent recruitment tool, in that many of the current firefighters on the department started as cadets in their high school years.

L. PUBLIC EDUCATION & RELATIONS

A main purpose of the fire department is to not only respond to fires and emergencies, but provide education to the general public to prevent fires and handle emergency situations. Fire Department personnel provide public education in the following ways:

1. Fire safety classes to elementary school children at Gates Mills Elementary, St. Francis School, and Gilmour Academy Lower School.
2. CPR Classes to Gilmour Academy staff and Gates Mills employees.
3. Community Public Safety Open Houses in conjunction with the Police Department.

In addition to these events, the Fire Department participates in many other public relations activities including:

The Independence Day Parade, St. Francis Festival, Halloween Bonfire, Fire Station Tours, and Gates Mills Day Camp.

M. FIRE HYDRANT MAINTENANCE

Gates Mills has 709 fire hydrants throughout the Village that require annual flushing and lubrication to ensure proper operation in the event of a fire. In addition, hydrants are routinely painted as needed to prevent corrosion and improve appearance. Reflective tape bands are applied to each hydrant to improve visibility in dark hours.

Under the supervision of the Assistant Chief, firefighters and some cadets are utilized to perform this maintenance during the summer months. The Fire Department spends in the range of 100 to 400 hours annually on the hydrant maintenance program, depending on the level and amount of maintenance needed.

The Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief also spend administrative time tracking hydrants that are out-of-service and following up with the Cleveland Water Dept. to track repairs. There is also time spent preparing the crew for hydrant maintenance by acquiring supplies and tracking progress.

N. ISSUANCE OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (U.S.T.) REMOVAL / CLOSED-IN-PLACE PERMITS

Ohio law requires that any petroleum Underground Storage Tank (UST) that is no longer in use or has not been used in the previous twelve months be permanently removed or "closed in place". This process begins with the homeowner or contractor applying for a permit from the Fire Department. After the permit fee (\$75.00) has been received, a Fire Department Inspector witnesses and documents the removal or close in place process to insure that all rules and regulations are followed.

O. ISSUANCE OF FIRE HYDRANT PERMITS

Whenever a contractor or resident wishes to use a fire hydrant to supply water, they must obtain a permit from the City of Cleveland Water Dept. and the Fire Chief of the Village.

P. GAS WELL ISSUES

Following the changes in state law (H.B. 278 Ohio 2004) regarding gas and oil well drilling in urban areas, Gates Mills became a popular location for drilling and extracting oil and gas. Since a gas well fire in 1984, Gates Mills had zero gas-well-related incidents for twenty-two (22) years. After H.B. 278 was enacted in 2004, the Fire Department has responded to thirty-three (33) incidents. There are currently 46 active gas wells in the Village.

The Fire Department has met this challenge in a number of ways. The Fire Chief continues to pursue improvements in legislation with both local and state officials regarding both drilling and production operations. These changes seek to increase safety for our residents, first responders, gas well company employees, and to protect the environment.

Even with the best efforts to prevent incidents, it is understood that fires, explosions, and spills will occur. To prepare for these incidents, the Fire Department implemented an aggressive training program specifically on fighting gas and oil well fires. As a result, fourteen (14) members of the fire department have attended actual "hands-on" training on fires at both gas and oil wells. No other fire department in this area has more firefighters trained to combat this type of threat.

Q. FIRE AND INCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

The State of Ohio Revised Code requires that any fire that occurs in the Village be investigated to determine the cause. Some incidents are fairly easy to establish cause, while others are more complex and require the assistance of the Hillcrest Fire Investigation Unit. The Fire Department has one member serving on this team.

R. COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (C.E.R.T.)

The Community Emergency Response Team is comprised of residents of Gates Mills and surrounding communities that are trained to provide assistance to Police and Fire during emergencies and disasters. Members receive training in large area searches, first aid, traffic control, and basic emergency preparedness. The Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief of the Gates Mills Fire Dept. manage this program and provide training to its members.

S. MASS INOCULATION – POINT OF DISPENSING (M.I.P.O.D.) PROGRAM

Under the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, communities in the Mayfield School District have formed a Mass Inoculation Point-Of-Dispensing (M.I.P.O.D.) group to aid in dispensing medication in the event of a public health emergency. The Fire Chief is active in this effort to recruit and train volunteer residents to participate in this service.

3. SECTION THREE: REGIONAL PARTICIPATION

A. MABAS SYSTEM

The Gates Mills Fire Department is an active participant in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (M.A.B.A.S.). This system provides for the organized calling for mutual aid assistance in the event of incidents exceeding the capabilities of a single fire department. Examples of these types of incidents include; structure fires, mass casualty and injury accidents and events, hazardous materials incidents, technical rescues, and grass/wildland fires. Gates Mills uses this system when calling for assistance for incidents within the Village, as well as when called to assist many other communities in the region. One of the benefits of this system is that there are no charges for one community assisting another. These resources are shared region-wide. In the fire service, the M.A.B.A.S. system is widely regarded as a fundamental example of collaboration and regionalism.

B. HILLCREST TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM

The Gates Mills Fire Department is an integral part of the Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team, a group of specially-trained firefighters that respond to unique rescue and hazard incidents. These types of rescue calls include; water, high-angle rope, confined space, trench, ice, and building collapse. One Gates Mills firefighter is a member of the team. Gates Mills has called out this team for five (5) high-angle rope rescue calls in the Village since the inception of the team, and all victims were quickly and expertly rescued. The team has also been called out numerous times to other communities in the region for rescue incidents. There is an annual cost share amount of \$5,000 to be a member community of this regional team. Currently 9 communities are members.

C. HILLCREST FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT

The Hillcrest-area communities operate a specialized fire investigation unit to respond to any incident scene in the area needing a thorough and comprehensive investigation. The team offers full fire investigative services, and issues final reports at the conclusion to the lead fire department in-charge of the incident. Members undergo extensive training and experience to provide this professional service. The Gates Mills Fire Department has one member serving on this team. There is an annual cost of \$500.00 to be a member community.

D. HILLCREST AREA TRAINING OFFICERS

Assistant Fire Chief Majeski chairs this group of fire training officers from each department in the Hillcrest area. The group works to standardize training practices throughout the Hillcrest region, and works to share training props and practices to lower training costs while standardizing operations. This group meets monthly, and more frequently as needed.

E. HILLCREST FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

Chief Robinson chairs this group of fire chiefs from the Hillcrest area communities. This group meets monthly to discuss regional issues, communications, training, shared resources and teams, and other topics.

F. HILLCREST EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY

All of the Hillcrest area communities are covered by a municipal water system with fire hydrant access. In the event of a water main break where a section of a community loses water supply to the fire hydrants, Gates Mills has been designated to respond to any incidents with Engine 1413 carrying 2,000 feet of large-diameter supply hose. This vehicle is the only vehicle in the Hillcrest area carrying this amount of supply hose, enabling proper fire protection for all communities in a time of need.

G. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS

All fire departments in the Hillcrest area have worked jointly for many decades in standardizing the radio communications systems shared by all of the communities. Most recently, these communities have obtained grant funds jointly for the implementation of the county "7X" and state-wide MARCS radio systems to ensure complete interoperability of communications during multi-agency incident responses.

H. HILLCREST AIR TRUCK AND AIR COMPRESSOR

Several large fires in the Hillcrest area on the same day in the 1980's prompted seven (7) fire departments to create a vehicle housing a breathing air refilling system to respond to all structure fires. This vehicle is currently housed in the Mayfield Heights Fire Department, and responds on the first alarm to all fires in Gates Mills. In the early 1990's, this vehicle was expanded to also carry some of the equipment of the Hillcrest Technical Rescue Team (H.T.R.T.) The \$5,000 annual fee paid for this team also covers the cost for the Hillcrest Air Truck, as well as the stationary air compressor at Mayfield Heights used to fill the air tanks on the truck.

4. SECTION FOUR: OTHER GENERAL FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

Many hours are spent each year performing administrative duties for the operation of the fire department. Some of these duties include; bi-weekly payroll, budgeting, expense and billing review and approval, answering inquiries from residents, personnel recruitment, training preparation, annual fit testing for self contained breathing apparatus, and overseeing all operations and scheduling of the department.

B. FIRE APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

Maintenance and repair of the Fire Department vehicles and equipment is an ongoing process to ensure a safe and properly operating fleet. Some of these activities include:

1. Preventative and scheduled maintenance of fire apparatus vehicles.
2. Repair of broken equipment or items not properly operating. These include; power equipment, hand tools, multi-gas detectors, thermal imaging cameras, radio equipment, water delivery appliances, self-contained breathing apparatus, lighting equipment, auto extrication equipment, etc.
3. Annual inspection and testing of all ground ladders.
 - There are 9 ground ladders ranging from a 3-section 35 ft. ladder to an 11 ft. folding attic ladder that are inspected and tested.
4. Annual fire hose testing.
 - There is a total of 8,550 ft. of fire hose to test including:
 - 1900 feet of 1-1/2" attack hose
 - 900 feet of 1-3/4" attack hose
 - 1300 feet of 2-1/2" supply/attack hose
 - 350 feet of 3" supply hose
 - 4350 feet of 5" large diameter supply hose
5. Annual pump testing of all three (3) apparatus.
6. Annual testing and inspection of all self-contained breathing apparatus.
7. Calibration and sensor replacement in all seven (7) gas detectors.
 - a. (4) Multi-gas detectors.
 - b. (2) Hydrogen cyanide detectors.
 - c. (1) Carbon monoxide detector.
8. Automated External Defibrillator (A.E.D.) testing and battery replacement.
9. First aid medical kit and oxygen kit supplies replacement and stocking.

5. SECTION FIVE: STAFF AND TRAINING

A. STAFF

The backbone of all fire departments are the people that serve as members of the organization and the training certifications they hold. The following is a chart of all current members of the Gates Mills Fire Department as of August 1, 2013:

NAME	HIRE DATE	GMFD YEARS	FIRE SERV. TOTAL	FIRE CERT.	MEDIC CERT.	FIRE INSP.	FIRE INSTR.	GAS WELL FIRE TRNG.
BERCHECK, ALEX	8/2004	9	9	FF-A	CPR/FA			YES
BROWN, MOLLY	8/2004	9	9	FF-A	EMT			YES
DICKSON, DAN	7/2002	11	11	FF II	PARA.			YES
FEIG, MICHAEL	7/2006	7	7	FF-B	CPR/FA			YES
CAPTAIN JAMIESON, ROB	12/1991	22	22	FF II	EMT			YES
KLEIN, LEE	7/2006	7	7	FF II	CPR/FA			YES
CAPTAIN LENTZ, WILLIAM	8/1981	32	32	FF-B	CPR/FA			YES
MACKEY, RYAN	7/2009	4	4	FF II	PARA.			YES
ASST. CHIEF MAJESKI, TOM	4/1995	18	40	FF II	PARA.	INSP.	INST.	YES
MASTRANGELO, DREW	7/2002	11	11	FF-A	PARA.			
NEMASTIL, C.J.	6/2007	6	6	FF-A	CPR/FA			
NEMASTIL, NICK	6/2011	2	2	FF II	CPR/FA			
LIEUTENANT NEMASTIL, PAUL	9/1995	18	18	FF II	EMT			YES
REDA, ANDREW	8/2005	8	8	FF II	CPR/FA			
CHIEF ROBINSON, P. THOMAS	11/1996	17	38	FF II	EMT	INSP.	INST.	YES
SWINEY, KEVIN	6/2013	1	1	FF II	EMT			
THOMPSON, RICK	12/2004	9	18	FF II	EMT			YES
DAY CREW STAFF:								
LIEUTENANT BIGGERT, DAVE	1/1998	15	15	FF II	EMT			
MAGOCH, SCOTT	2/1988	25	25	FF-B	CPR/FA			
MURFELLO, TREVOR	5/1990	23	23	FF-B	CPR/FA			
ZALEWSKI, TED	6/1991	22	22	FF-B	CPR/FA			
PESUIT, BEN	9/1997	16	16	FF-A	CPR/FA			
PATA, JOHN	6/2000	13	13	FF II	EMT			
MACKIE, JEFF	6/2002	11	11	FF II	CPR/FA			
BYRNE, TIM	12/2004	9	9	FF II	PARA.			
		325 YRS.	377 YRS.					

** The last name of Gates Mills residents appear in **bold**.

Out of these 25 members of the Fire Department, the following training levels are represented:

- 15 are certified as Firefighter Level 2 Professional Firefighters
- 5 are certified as Firefighter Level 1-B Intermediate Firefighters
- 5 are certified as Firefighter Level 1-A Basic Firefighters
- 5 are certified as Paramedics (PARA))
- 8 are certified as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)
- 12 are certified in CPR and First-Aid (CPR/FA)
- 2 are certified as Fire Safety Inspectors
- 2 are certified as Fire Instructors
- 1 is certified as a Hazardous Materials Instructor
- 1 is certified as a CPR Instructor, Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor, and Continuing Medical Education Instructor.

In addition to the training levels listed, members of the fire department must hold and maintain federal and state mandated certifications including multiple levels of Incident Command System (ICS) training, National Incident Management System (NIMS) training, and Hazardous Material Operations training. Many members have attended further optional training classes and programs at the local and state levels.

Four (4) members of the department are current residents of the Village of Gates Mills.

In total, the current membership of the Gates Mills Fire Department represents 325 years of service to the Village, and 377 overall years in the fire service.

In addition to the regular firefighters on the department, there are currently five (5) cadets age 14 to 18.

B. TRAINING PROGRAMS (Fire, Rescue, EMS and First Aid)

1. INTERNAL TRAINING

The Fire Department provides a comprehensive annual internal training program with state-certified instructors for all firefighters and cadets in order to prepare for incident response and public service. This program covers a wide variety of topics in the fire and rescue service, as well as topics specific to Gates Mills. Drill topics rotate in order to meet state and National Fire Protection Association (N.F.P.A.) recommendations, as well as provide variety to keep members interested and involved.

The main method of delivering this training to members of the department is through drills provided on two (2) Mondays each month. Each drill is given in the morning for the Service Dept. firefighters and repeated in the evening for the remainder of the department.

2. EXTERNAL TRAINING

Department staff attends training classes outside of the department at area regional or state programs. These classes provide training for:

- a. Certification and required continuing education for EMT, Paramedic, Fire Inspector, Fire Instructor, Haz-Mat Technician, CPR Instructor, etc.
- b. Specialized fire and rescue classes.
- c. National Incident Management System classes.

Outside classes are provided at the discretion of the Fire Chief.

6. SECTION SIX: STATION FACILITY, APPARATUS, AND EQUIPMENT

A. FIRE STATION FACILITY

The Fire Department operates out of a single fire station location consisting of two buildings. These facilities provide the following:

Main Station Building:

- Three (3) apparatus bays storing two fire engines and one command car.
- Storage for all turnout gear for firefighters.
- Office for the Assistant Fire Chief.
- Training / multi-purpose room. Radio-equipped to function as a command and coordination post during large scale incidents and weather events.
- Bunk room to staff four (4) firefighters at the fire station during storm events as needed. Restroom and shower facilities are also provided.
- Shared day room facility with the Service Dept. Kitchen, seating, tables, etc.
- Storage space for training equipment, supplies, records, and files.
- This station is part of a building shared with the main Service Dept. garage.

Second Station Building:

- One apparatus bay for storing one fire engine.
- Storage for fire hose, fire training supplies, and spare equipment.
- This station building is the last bay of the Service Dept. large truck garage.

B. FIRE APPARATUS

1. ENGINE 1411 – 1991 Ford/Saulsbury Midi-Pumper

This vehicle is a mid-sized pumper that is the first-out primary fire attack vehicle for structure-based and grass/brush fire calls in the Village. This vehicle is smaller than a full-sized pumper and it carries a large amount of supply hose in order to travel up the long and difficult driveways found in the Village to attack fires. It has the following features:

- a. 400 gallons of water.
- b. 750 gpm pump.

- c. 1000 feet of 5" large diameter supply hose.
- d. Drafting hose and fittings.
- e. Two pre-connected attack hoselines, several "dead lay" hoselines for fire attack.
- f. Truck-mounted winch.
- g. Thermal Imaging Camera.
- h. Assorted engine company equipment.

2. ENGINE 1412 – 1997 Spartan/Darley Pumper

This fire apparatus is a full-size class "A" pumper that is designated the second-out engine for structure fires and the first-out for motor vehicle accidents. This engine is a low-profile vehicle specially designed to fit up narrow driveways and handle hilly streets.

Features of this engine include:

- a. 1000 gallons of water.
- b. 1500 gpm pump.
- c. 1350 feet of 5" large diameter supply hose.
- d. Drafting hose and fittings.
- e. Three pre-connected attack hoselines, several "dead lay" hoselines for fire attack.
- f. Class B on-board integrated foam system.
- g. Thermal Imaging Camera.
- h. Auto extrication equipment.
- i. First responder medical jumpkits.
- j. Assorted engine company equipment.

3. ENGINE 1413 – 1987 Pierce Arrow Pumper

This fire apparatus is a full-size class "A" pumper that is designated the third-out engine for structure fires and the first-out for Mutual aid fire calls. Features of this engine include:

- a. 750 gallons of water.
- b. 2000 gpm pump.
- c. 2000 feet of 5" large diameter supply hose.
- d. Drafting hose and fittings.
- e. Four pre-connected attack hose lines, several "dead lay" hose lines for fire attack.
- f. Thermal Imaging Camera.
- j. Assorted engine company equipment.

4. COMMAND CAR 1472 – 2010 Ford Explorer Utility Vehicle

This vehicle is utilized for several purposes in departmental operations. The vehicle serves as the command post at incident scenes, transports personnel to and from incidents and training classes, and functions as a staff vehicle for traveling to meetings and fire inspections.

The vehicle carries radio communications equipment, a command board and workspace at the rear of the vehicle, and EMS first-responder gear.

5. UTILITY CAR 1471 – 1999 Chevrolet Blazer Utility Vehicle

This vehicle is used primarily for the fire hydrant maintenance program, in that it is old and fairly well worn. It also can act as a back-up for Command Car 1472, as a transport vehicle for training classes out of the Village, and for general utility use.

The current ages of fire engines in Gates Mills are:

Engine #1411, 1991 Ford/Saulsbury, 22 years old

Engine #1412, 1997 Spartan/Darley, 16 years old

Engine #1413, 1987 Pierce Arrow, 26 years old

7. SECTION SEVEN: BUDGET

The following chart shows a five-year breakdown of the annual budget for Fire Department operations, as well as the amount actually spent in each given year.

YEAR	BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDITURES
2008	\$207,200.	\$204,750.
2009	\$219,200.	\$198,525.
2010	\$206,500.	\$176,678.
2011	\$219,600.	\$177,835.
2012	\$184,500.	\$159,427.

This budget chart includes funds for *some* capital improvement purchases such as radios, turnout gear, etc. Larger cost capital purchases such as fire engines and vehicles, multiple SCBA air packs, and thermal imaging cameras do cause an escalation in budget within the fiscal year in which they are made.

8. SECTION EIGHT: LEGAL REQUIREMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

A. THE OHIO REVISED CODE AND OHIO FIRE CODE

The operation of all Ohio fire departments revolves around legal authority granted under the Ohio Revised Code and the Ohio Fire Code.

B. NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (N.F.P.A.) STANDARDS

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is the organization that sets professional standards for the fire protection industry. NFPA standards are useful in determining the acceptability of installations, procedures, equipment or materials with the entity having the ability to base acceptance on compliance to these NFPA standards. These standards cover all aspects of fire protection operations. All actions made regarding fire services in Gates Mills are based on NFPA standards.

C. INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE, INC. (I.S.O.) STANDARDS

ISO is a company that provides information about property/casualty insurance risk to insurance companies through their Public Protection Classification Service by utilizing the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule.

The Fire Suppression Rating Schedule is the manual that ISO uses in reviewing the fire fighting capabilities of individual communities such as Gates Mills. This schedule measures the major elements of a community's fire suppression system and develops the numerical grading system called a Public Protection Classification. A Public Protection Classification number is then assigned to the community from class 1 to 10 with a class 1 representing superior fire protection and a class 10 indicating that the community does not meet minimum ISO criteria. Gates Mills currently has

a Class 6 overall ISO rating. This classification will directly affect the rate of the homeowners'/business owners' property and casualty insurance premiums. Communities are re-evaluated every 5 years and by request if major improvements are made in the fire service delivery.

IN CONCLUSION

The Gates Mills Fire Department and the fire service in general, have evolved into an "all-hazards" service provider. The traditional roles of fighting fires and performing rescues are only a part of the work of the modern fire department. Today, services that include hazardous materials response and mitigation, large area search capability, and technical rescues are part of the fire department responsibilities.

In addition to the emergency response services that are provided, the Gates Mills Fire Department prides itself on the personalized non-emergency services that are offered to our residents. No matter what your needs or concerns are, the Gates Mills Fire Department will offer our assistance whenever called upon.

P. Thomas Robinson, Fire Chief
Village of Gates Mills