

"we never forget who we're working for"

FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT
BONITA SPRINGS

ANNUAL

REPORT

20



11



THE PULSE OF BONITA SPRINGS FIRE

WHY WE DO

WHAT WE DO



It is the mission of the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District to preserve life and property and promote public safety through strong leadership, management, professionalism, and integrity.

Our main goal: excellence in public safety. To go beyond the minimum requirements. To change the competitive landscape by not just striving to be better, but by taking quality to a whole new level. To make our service so exceptional, so valuable to our customers' piece of mind, that it becomes their most valued investment.

Our strategic plan: to behave in a boundaryless fashion. To be open to ideas from anywhere. To set and meet aggressive targets, always with unyielding integrity.

Our desire: to impact Bonita Springs in the most positive manner possible. To allow you to truly understand what our career means to us, our patients mean to us, your opinions mean to us. This isn't just a job, this is who we are. We are your Bonita Springs firefighters.

IN A FIREFIGHTER'S WORDS: "I Remember..."



"I remember the horrific anger that I felt in my gut as I entered the home of a drunk man relaxing on the couch as a three year-old boy greeted me with the words, "He stopped swimming" just before I found his one year-old brother drowned in the bath tub."
-Fire Chief P.H. Kinsey, Jr. from 1998



"I remember walking in the front door and greeting my wife and family, not having the heart to tell them that I nearly did not come back from the last call after the roof collapsed during a structure fire, crushing one of my Firefighters underneath it."
-Deputy Chief Frank Giuliano from 2007



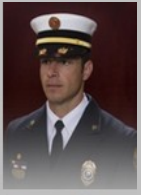
"I remember the selfless act of a woman who pulled a grandmother and a baby from a burning vehicle moments before our arrival, moments before it could have been too late. I remember thinking about her days after the call and thanking God for her character and her bravery."
-Lieutenant Steven Bunn from 2000



"I remember my feeling of obligation when I saw the smoke from the water. I remember hearing my fiance's frantic voice as I ran. I remember the heat under my bare hands and knees and the eerie silhouette of the elderly man as he laid helpless, consumed with smoke."
-Firefighter Jason Burgess from 2009



"I remember the children I worked to revive in the lanes of 41. I remember their Aunt hysterical with guilt; she didn't feel the need to put them in a seatbelt. I remember the picture I found as I cleaned up the wreck. She was wearing the same red dress with Santa as when she died minutes later."
-Lieutenant James Lamb from 2004



"I remember driving into a brushfire. I remember the day seemed to turn into night from the thick black smoke. I remember the immense wall of fire outside my window as flames devoured the 15 foot trees and ashes the size of logs flew in front of the windshield of my brush truck."
-Deputy Chief Joseph Daigle from 1994



"I remember the vivid and terrifying dreams I had after being burnt in a mobile home fire. I remember laying in my hospital bed exhausted from forcing myself to stay awake and dreading the painful procedure that awaited me."
-Lieutenant Jason Brod from 2008



"I remember pronouncing dead the beautiful eleven year-old girl who was found by her parents the morning she wouldn't wake up. I remember her mother who was twisted with agony and I remember realizing, she will never again say the words, "I love you Mommy." I remember getting into the cab of the engine and crying."
-Lieutenant Armand Calzadilla from 2009



"I remember searching at 2AM in a sea of pitch black for a young fisherman. I remember the intense wind as we searched for hours. I remember the crucial optimism I had just before we found him floating, frozen, but alive."
-Lieutenant Rich Scott from 2003



"I remember arriving on scene after a 800 pound tree fell on a landscaper. I remember assessing his injuries and hearing the sound of air escaping his body. I remember the sweat stinging my eyes as I tried to position the needle between a his ribs and into his collapsed lungs, saving his life."
-Lieutenant Ray Perez from 2006

THE PULSE OF BONITA SPRINGS FIRE

in critical condition

Your support is critical to continuing the delivery of lifesaving services to the community. We reflect on each and every commendation and complaint.

"Last Monday, my wife had an allergic reaction to insect bites outside our home at Village Walk, Bonita Springs. We were not at the time aware of how serious such a condition could be. However, after only a few minutes, it became clear that her condition was deteriorating rapidly. Being aware of the fire station at Bonita Grande Drive a few miles away I decided to go directly there, since the drive to the hospital might take too long.

I pulled into your facility. In no time, several personnel appeared and ran to our vehicle.

They learned her medical history, took her vitals, started an IV, and began administering the medication. I learned later she had a potentially fatal Anaphylactic episode. After stabilizing her, she was transported to NCH Hospital Emergency Center by ambulance.

The quick and appropriate action taken by the personnel at Bonita Springs Fire and Rescue, I believe saved her life.

Too often emergency personnel are taken for granted and remain anonymous. It takes a special person to perform these duties and we now know first hand how professional, compassionate, and competent they are.

I appreciated a firefighter saying to me just before my wife left in the ambulance, "You know we make house calls," meaning you didn't have to drive here since they are capable of providing timely response.

Thank you all and may God bless you and all those who are fortunate enough to come under your care."

Sincerely,
Jackie and Jim Mathias

The true job of a firefighter is to protect lives and property. Today, that involves a lot more than responding to fires.

Firefighters extinguish structure fires, high-rise fires, vehicle fires, vessel fires, and wildfires. As pre-hospital care specialists, firefighters perform procedures including, but not limited to, intubation and cardiac procedures. Each of the 69 Bonita Springs Fire District firefighters have specialized training in the following areas:

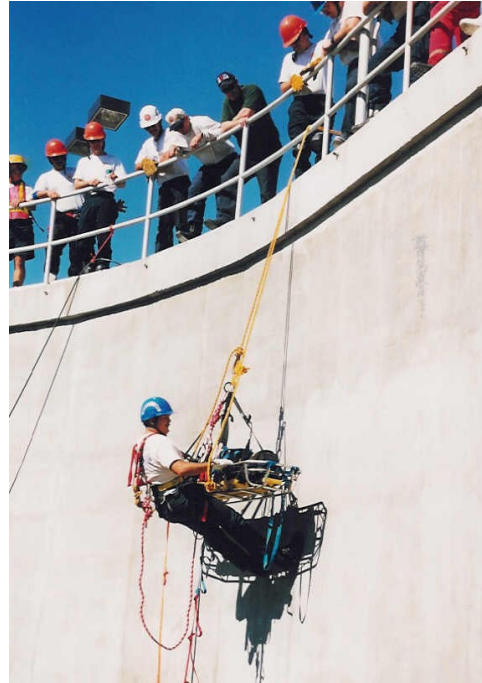
- > Structural Collapse
- > Trench Rescue
- > High-angle Rescue
- > Swift Water/Flood Water Rescue
- > Confined Space Rescue
- > Rapid Intervention Team
- > Hazardous Materials
- > Emergency Boat Operator

Years of experience, thousands of hours of training, and yearly recertification to prove to the State that Bonita Springs' firefighters are ready for even the most technical of rescues.

This was the case with two recent emergencies: a rescue on a 750-foot radio tower and the next day on a large boat fire.

The emergency involving Mr. Nick Rouskey, occurred after he was dangling from the

WHAT WE DO:



Deputy Chief Frank Giuliano

top rung and twisted in cords 750 feet off the ground.

It took a team of Bonita Springs firefighters with expertise in high angle/rope rescue 40 minutes to climb a distance comparable to the 70th floor of the Empire State Building. The tower, swaying in the wind a foot each way, allowed for a treacherous climb.

Mr. Rouskey was found unresponsive. Firefighters worked for 4 hours to bring his body down the narrow tower shaft in the most dignified manner possible.

This attempt was not solely for the sake of Mr. Rouskey, but for his grandson who was on-scene watching the rescue take place.

The following day, a boat fire occurred near Lover's Key State Park. A 36-foot boat caught fire with eight people aboard. For this emergency, the District's Boston Whaler Guardian fire-boat was deployed. All passengers made it off the vessel safely.

Day or night, firefighters are prepared for any type of crisis. Whether it's a technical rescue, hurricane, tornado, vehicle collision, medical, or fire emergency, Bonita Springs' firefighters are able and definitely prepared.

THERE IS A HERO IN ALL OF US

Pamela Jones-Morton was honored with Bonita Springs Fire District's first Medal of Valor for saving the lives of an infant and grandmother from a burning SUV after a Dec. 10 head-on collision on Hickory Boulevard.

Pamela reflects on the accident and how this experience has impacted her life, "I am so humbled. This experience has been so rewarding and humbling."

Men and women whose jobs mean risking their lives to protect others say they do it to



make a difference, to help others. The question then arises, what happens when it's not your job? LT Steven Bunn who arrived on scene shortly after Pamela pulled the family from the burning vehicle said, "There is no doubt, Pam's brave actions made a difference and saved two lives."

"There was somebody in need," Pamela said. "And I hope if I'm in need, somebody will help me. I believe that you pay it forward."

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

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Special thanks to Mr. Jim Kauffman for his assistance on the 2011 Annual Report.

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

OUR MISSION



It is the mission of the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District to preserve life and property and promote public safety through strong leadership, management, professionalism, and integrity.

OUR CORE VALUES...

To Residents:

We owe the residents of Bonita Springs the highest quality of service possible, characterized by responsiveness, integrity, and professionalism. We will continually strive for quality improvement.

To The District:

We owe the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District our full commitment and dedication. We will always look beyond the traditional scope of our individual positions to promote teamwork and safe organizational effectiveness.

To Each Other:

We owe each other a working environment characterized by trust and respect for the individual, fostering open and honest communication at all levels.

To Ourselves:

We owe ourselves personal and professional growth. We will seek new knowledge and greater challenges and strive to be at the leading edge of our profession.

OUR FOCUS...

The District will focus its efforts on responding rapidly and safely to emergencies, providing appropriate interventions, community outreach, and rigorous training to constantly improve our safety, skills, and readiness.

OUR GOALS...

Goal 1: All personnel and staff will do their best, enjoy their job, and promote safety for themselves, their coworkers, and the organization.

Goal 2: Develop or improve our organization to effectively administer and manage the resources of the District.

Goal 3: Develop or improve a system for minimizing the impact of fires, disasters, and other emergencies on life and property.

Goal 4: Provide an effective Emergency Medical Service to lessen the morbidity and mortality of the sick or injured.

Goal 5: Provide an effective Fire Prevention and Public Education System to improve the quality of the lives and safety of the citizens we protect.

Fire Chief P.H. Kinsey, Jr.

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

2011 Board of Fire Commissioners Steve Lohan, Chairman

It is my pleasure to present to you the Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District's annual report for 2011. Over the past year the Board has upheld its moral obligation, to protect the interest of the general public, and preserve the continuity of life safety operations.

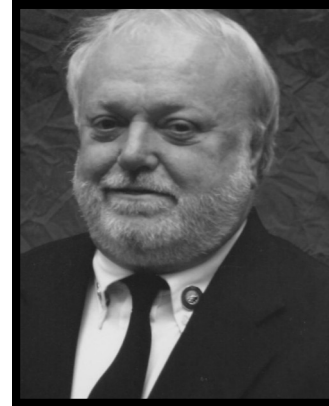
Your Fire District was responsible for protecting the lives and safety of between 45,000 and 80,000 residents and visitors and the protection of \$7,591,416,513 in taxable property assets. We have been proactive in fostering change in the organization while maintaining critical levels of service delivery.

Although, the District sustained an additional 3.25 percent reduction in gross taxable revenue, the agency continued to maintain a quality standard of coverage and service, focusing on customer satisfaction and economy of operation.

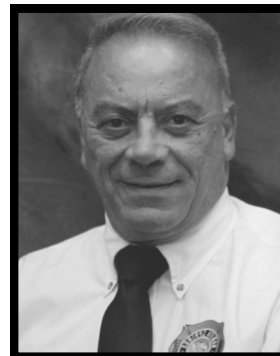
Within this report you will see steps that the Board has taken to reduce operating costs, future pension liabilities, and other post-employment benefit costs. Along with these initiatives, the Board authorized an additional workforce reduction during the year focused on reducing middle management and streamlining the agency.

The Board also authorized a substantial restructuring of the District by reshaping or eliminating non-emergency divisions and positioning the District to facilitate emergency medical transport should the County permit us to do so.

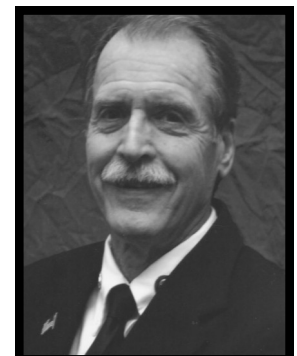
Steve Lohan,
Chairman of the Bonita Springs Fire Board



Steve Lohan
Chairman



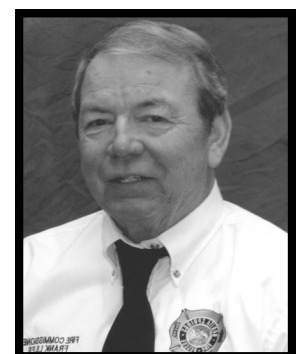
Evans Conforti
Vice Chairman



Wayne Edsall
Treasurer



Ed FitzGerald
Board Member



Frank Liles
Board Member

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

REVIEW OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS

The Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District is an independent special district. Special districts are a form of local government created by a community to meet a specific need. When residents or landowners want new services or higher levels of existing services, they can form a special district to pay for and administer them. Independent Special Districts are governed by a board of commissioners elected by the Districts' voters and appointed for a fixed term of office. These districts provide services like parks, police and fire protection, and libraries and rely overwhelmingly on property taxes to fund their operating budgets. Although some districts like parks and libraries may charge fees for some services, these fees generate very little revenue. Special districts are unlike municipal governments that have numerous revenue streams and numerous functions.

Special districts are fiscally responsible community-focused local government entities that have a clear and specific purpose in our communities. Special districts have strong levels of accountability to protect taxpayer dollars through board members who receive minimal to no compensation for their public service. Special districts are mission-critical entities that address specific community needs, and provide and maintain infrastructure and service needs that are important for area residents.

“Special districts are fiscally responsible, community-focused local government entities that have a clear and specific purpose in our communities. Special districts have strong levels of accountability to protect taxpayer dollars.”

Special districts exist because of specific needs in a community and are focused on delivering services to address these community needs. Special districts deliver these services more efficiently than any other form of government-local, state, or federal. With no other government unit focused on the services delivered through special districts, taxpayers can rest assured that the potential for duplicated services is eliminated. Importantly, only residents who directly benefit from the services provided by the Special District pay for the services or infrastructure.

With regards to oversight and accountability, Florida law treats special districts just like cities and counties, requiring great levels of transparency. Special districts are governed by a myriad of laws intended to provide oversight and accountability such as Florida's Sunshine Laws, public record laws, and standards of ethics for elected officials.

The vast majority of independent special districts are governed by board members elected by the residents and landowners within their district. Special district board members are ultimately accountable to the electorate for their public policy decisions and fiscal responsibility.

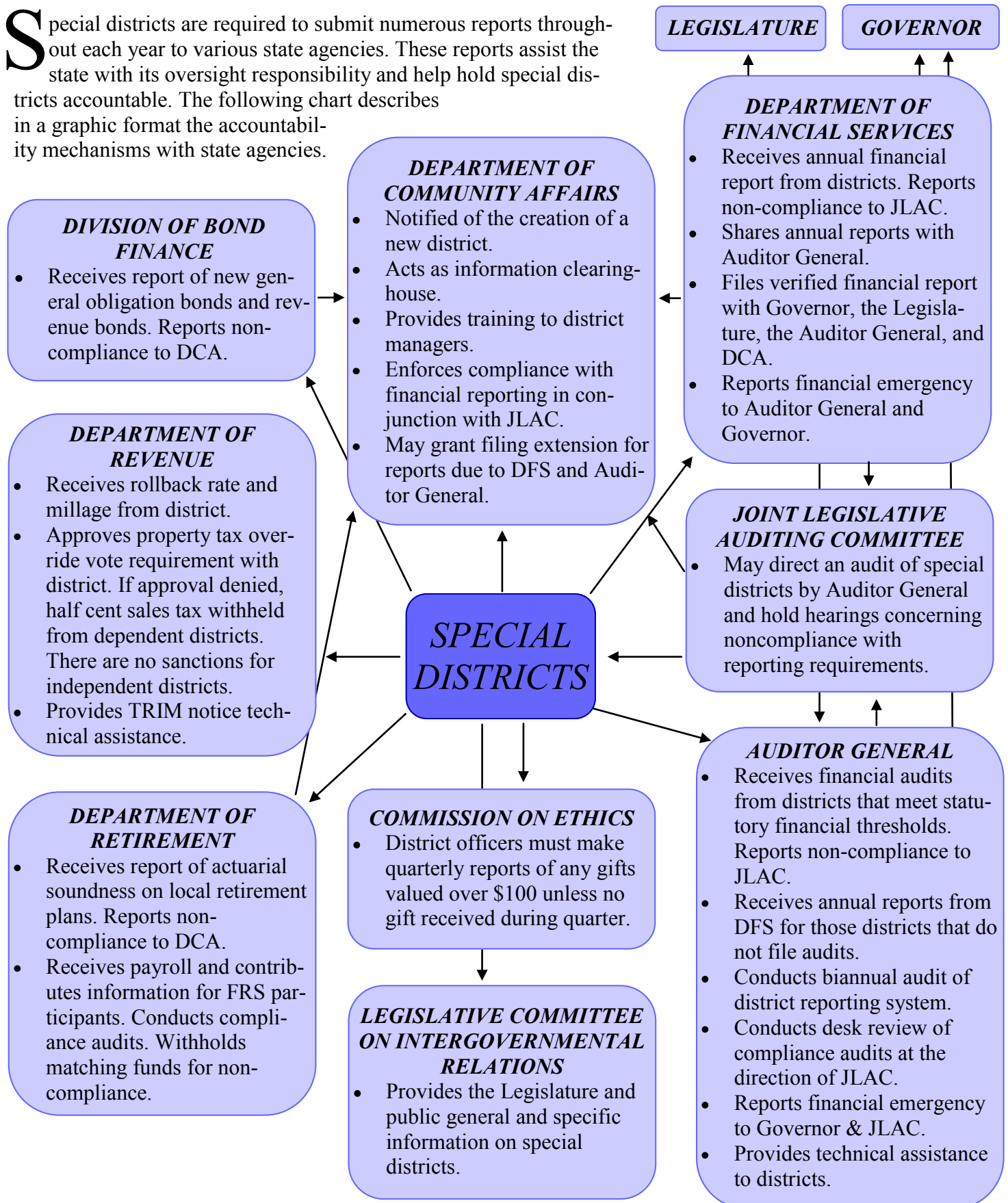
Both political parties have publicly stated in the past that the most effective government is closest to the people and serves the people the best; there is not a better description of a special district, or a statement that bridges all party lines and helps so many Floridians.



Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

REVIEW OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Special districts are required to submit numerous reports throughout each year to various state agencies. These reports assist the state with its oversight responsibility and help hold special districts accountable. The following chart describes in a graphic format the accountability mechanisms with state agencies.



Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

REVIEW OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS

The first special districts were created almost 190 years ago when Florida was a territory of log settlements scattered between the only two cities, Pensacola and St. Augustine. In 1845, the Legislature created the first special district by special act, providing authority to five commissioners to drain the “Alachua Savannah.” To finance the project, the first special assessments were made on landowners based on the number of acres owned and the benefit derived.

Early on, Floridians looked to special districts to manage the state’s transportation and growth needs. Many special districts were created to finance large engineering projects. During the first half of the 20th century, Florida’s growing population led to the creation of more specialized districts such as mosquito control districts. From World War II on to the end of the century, the continued influx of new residents led to further specialization such as aviation authorities and hyacinth control districts. Soon, beach erosion, hospital, and fire control special districts grew rapidly along with traditional road, bridge, and drainage special districts.

To reform and consolidate some of the laws relating to special districts, in 1989 the Legislature passed the Uniform Special District Accountability Act. This Act, among other things, provides for the definitions, creation, operation, financial reporting, taxation/assessments, elections, and dissolution of special districts. Other statutes provide for the creation and operation of specific types of special districts such as community development districts and drainage and water control districts.

Today, there are approximately 1,600 districts in Florida. These districts are categorized by numerous general functions, independent/dependent status, governance of special districts, and/or units of general-purpose government such as counties and municipalities. Special districts fall under units of special-purpose government, meaning they have the authority to accomplish only the tasks outlined in their creation document. A special district may be created by general law, special act, or by rule of the Governor and Cabinet.



Retired Firefighter Jeffrey Rowley



Bonita Springs, 1960's



Left to right: Retired Fire Chief Dan Gourley, Retired Firefighter Rick Reeby, and Retired Assistant Chief Roger Shelly

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 SUMMARY

History

The District, over the past five years, has taken a number of significant actions to reduce operating costs while continuing to maintain a quality of coverage. The steps taken, at the direction of the Board, have provided a means to respond to diminishing property values (-34.1 percent since 2008) without a significant increase in millage. The major areas that the District has addressed to this point have been staffing, comprehensive organization restructuring, pension reform, and post-employment insurance benefits.

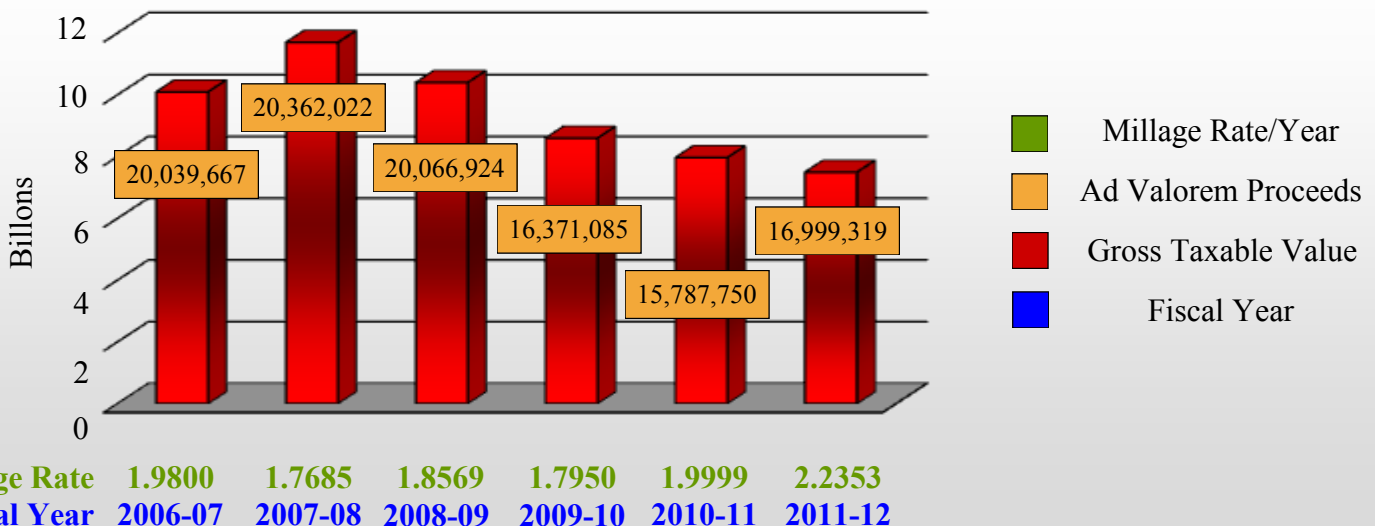
Since 2007, the District has reduced the total number of employees by twenty-nine percent. The majority of the reduction has primarily been accomplished by providing two early retirement incentive programs. In 2008, the District offered the incentive and thirteen employees opted out; this program has resulted in a savings of approximately 1.3 million dollars per year or a total to date of 5.4 million dollars. In 2011, the District initiated a second early retirement incentive capturing an additional eighteen employees, resulting in a projected savings of between 1.6 and 2.0 million dollars this fiscal year and facilitating significant restructuring of the agency.

The primary focus of the second incentive was to reduce middle management. The program effectively downsized the administrative, prevention, and training divisions by eliminating seven management and/or management related positions, between the three divisions. This initiative resulted in the dissolution of the forty hour training division, including the following positions:

- 1 Assistant Chief
- 1 Deputy Chief
- 1 Division Chief of Training
- 1 Assistant Fire Marshal
- 1 Public Educator
- 2 Administrative Assistants

The two retirement incentives combined have increased the District's pension liability by less than fifteen percent in total. The bulk of the cost increase has been attributed to poor investment return performance and past plan benefit improvements. Additionally, the early retirement incentives have expedited the normal expected organizational attrition rate. This will, accelerate the anticipated savings of the proposed tiered adjustments for new employees. Accelerated attrition will also precipitate any expected capital generated by modifications adopted by the Board to the firefighters' 175 pension system.

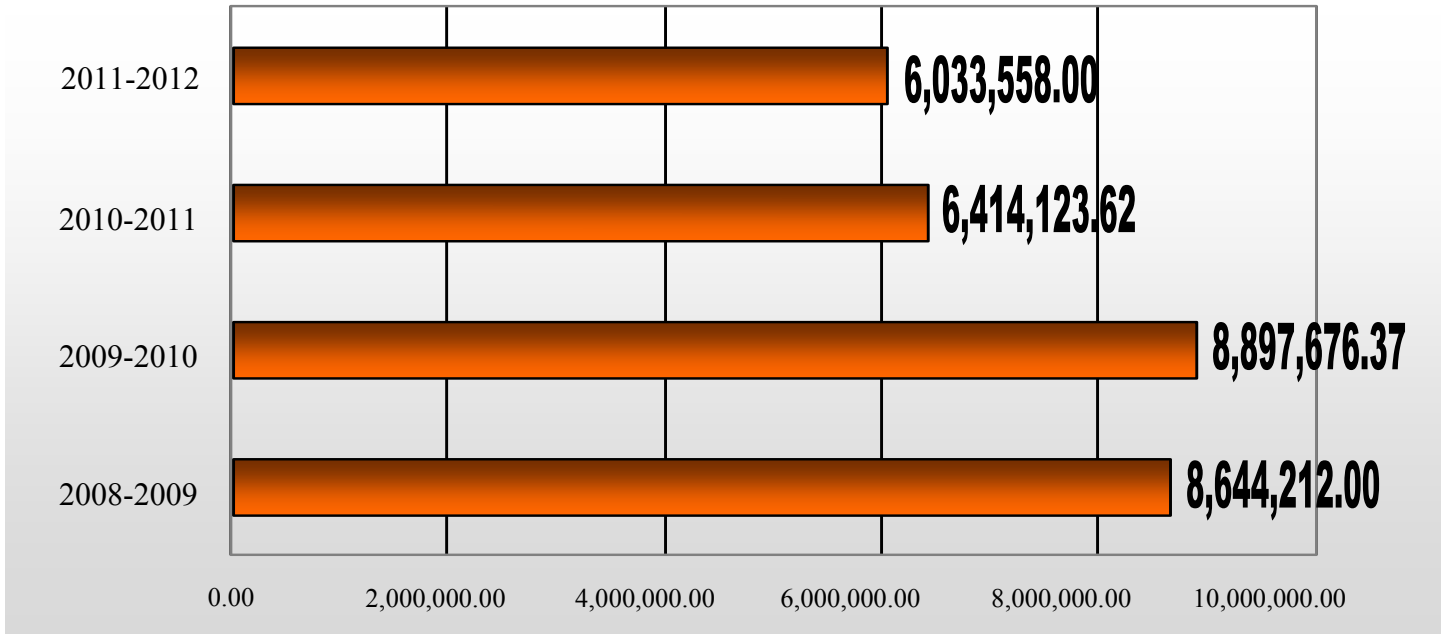
Gross Taxable Value Compared to Millage Rate and Ad Valorem Revenue



Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 SUMMARY

Reserves



In accordance with the “Amendment to the Collective Bargaining Agreement”, the District and Local 3444 have agreed to and have made the following changes:

- Amended the definition of “Salary” to include longevity
- Increased employee contribution from five to seven percent of salary
- Performed “Stop and Restart” to the 175 plan, thereby increasing the frozen State funding cap
- Ensured all premium tax monies in excess of the new cap to go to a share plan, guaranteeing no future unfunded improvements to the plan
- Reduced multiplier from 3.58 to 3.00 for new 175 employees
- Reduced post-employment cost of living adjustments from seventeen to twelve for new 175 employees.

These amendments have already been enforced in full on one employee that was transferred from prevention to suppression within the last fiscal year. As the number of new employees increase, more significant

savings will be realized. This directly correlates to attrition rates.

Post-employment insurance benefits have been addressed by the creation of a Voluntary Employee Benefit Association (VEBA). The parties agree that effective 30 September 2013, the VEBA will begin to provide benefits to retirees, relieving the District of nearly all Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) liabilities. At that time, the language will change in the collective bargaining agreement to reflect this. Along with the VEBA, all employee salaries have been reduced by two percent. The proceeds from this reduction will be considered employee contributions to be used for partial funding of the VEBA.

There have been a number of other operational adjustments made by the District that have cumulatively resulted in significant cost savings. The following page summarizes these.

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 SUMMARY



Abatements, Modifications, and Reductions

Workforce Reduction:

- Twenty-nine percent workforce reduction since 2008
- Restructured organization, reduced management and prevention divisions, and dissolved the 40 hour training division
- Early retirement incentive 2008, reducing the number of employees from 125 to 112, saving the District 1.3 million dollars per year, 5.4 million to date
- Early retirement incentive 2011, reducing employees to 89 in 2011, the anticipated savings to the District is between 1.6 and 2.0 million dollars this fiscal year

Pension Benefits Modifications/Reductions:

- Amended the definition of “Salary” to include longevity
- Increased employee pension contributions from five to seven percent
- Performed “Stop and Restart” to the 175 plan increasing the State premium monies cap to over 1.0 million dollars
- Reduced multiplier from 3.58 to 3.00 for new 175 employees
- Reduced cost of living increases from seventeen years to twelve years for new 175 employees
- Established a “Share Plan” to ensure that no future unfunded improvements will be made to the plan

Elimination of Post-Employment Health insurance:

- Established a VEBA that will relieve nearly all OPEB liability from the District for employee retirement health coverage; as of the 2011 audit that liability is estimated at 1.0 million dollars
- Reduced all employee salaries by two percent to be used as employee contribution to the VEBA

Austerity Measures:

- Five year wage and salary freeze for suppression personnel starting in 2008
- Eliminated one engine and eight staff vehicles
- Eliminated six take-home vehicles
- Eliminated ninety-three percent of emergency overtime in the 2010-2011 fiscal year
- Modified VFIS insurance calculations and adjustments in 2009 saving around 20,000 dollars per year
- Developed in-house emergency and staff vehicle maintenance program saving the District 185,000 dollars to date
- Fire Prevention has taken over plans for four Fire Districts and has developed a three year rate schedule for service. This rate schedule has been adopted by all of the participating agencies. The additional revenue stream is estimated based on current annual review numbers: 36,000 dollars at 50 dollars/review, 55,188 dollars at 75 dollars/review, and 80,942 dollars at 110 dollars/review.

“More significant savings will be realized; this once again, directly correlates to attrition rates...”

“All employee salaries have been reduced by two percent...”

“There have been a number of other operational adjustments made to the District that have cumulatively resulted in significant cost reduction.”

- Fire Chief P.H. Kinsey, Jr.
on some of the cost saving measures the District has enacted

Operations



“I just want to express my heartfelt thank you to your firemen. Over the last few years, my husband has fallen half a dozen times and cannot get himself up. Your firemen get him up and about and do so with the utmost respect and kindness which we really appreciate.”

— Teresa Hughes

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 OPERATIONS

Overview

The District responded to a wide range of emergency incidents, including all types of fires, medical and trauma emergencies, vehicle accidents, special operation incidents, and public service calls. Non-emergency duties included:

- Inspection of apparatus and equipment
- Training
- Public education
- Pre-fire planning
- Fire hydrant maintenance
- Minor repair of equipment
- Maintenance of fire stations
- Physical fitness training

Emergency Medical Services

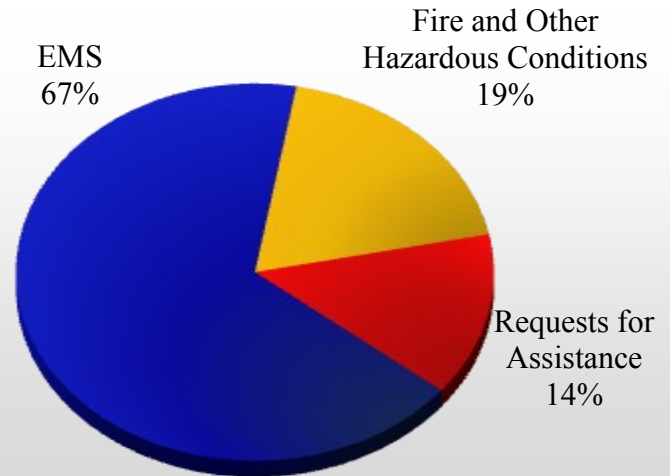
2011 marked the 11th year of providing non-transport advanced emergency medical care. Eight units serve Bonita Springs: four engines, three rescue units, and one ladder truck. All are staffed with firefighters trained as emergency medical technicians and paramedics. They are the first to arrive at a medical emergency.

Bonita Springs firefighter/paramedics perform advanced life support procedures such as cardiac monitoring, defibrillation, I.V. and drug therapy, often before the arrival of a county ambulance. Once a county ambulance arrives, patient care is transferred from firefighter/paramedics to county paramedics and the patient is transported to the hospital. Firefighter/paramedics on scene usually wait nearly three minutes for a county ambulance to arrive.

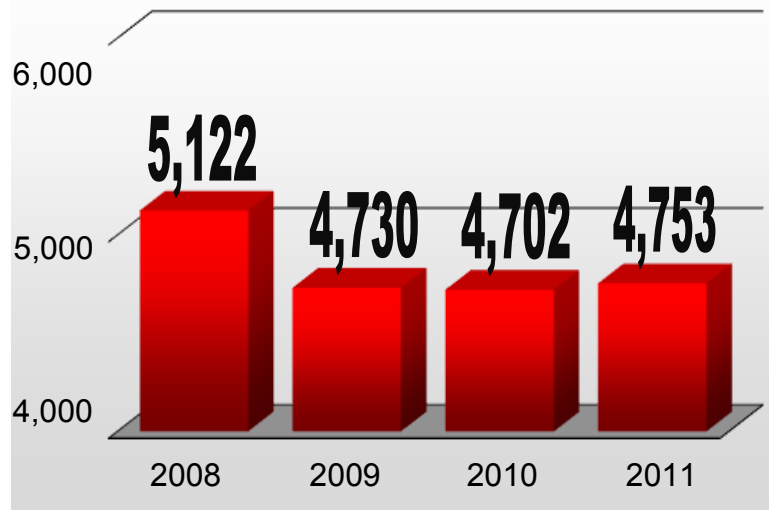
With the support of the local medical community and the District's Medical Director, the District feels that it can improve patient care by providing direct patient transport. This would shorten transport time to definitive medical care and streamline service delivery.

As the first step toward achieving this, in 2010, the District applied to the Lee County Board of Commissioners to provide fire-based ambulance transport. The goal is to enable district firefighter/paramedics to begin immediate medical transport instead of waiting for the county to arrive.

2011 Incidents by Type



Calls by Year



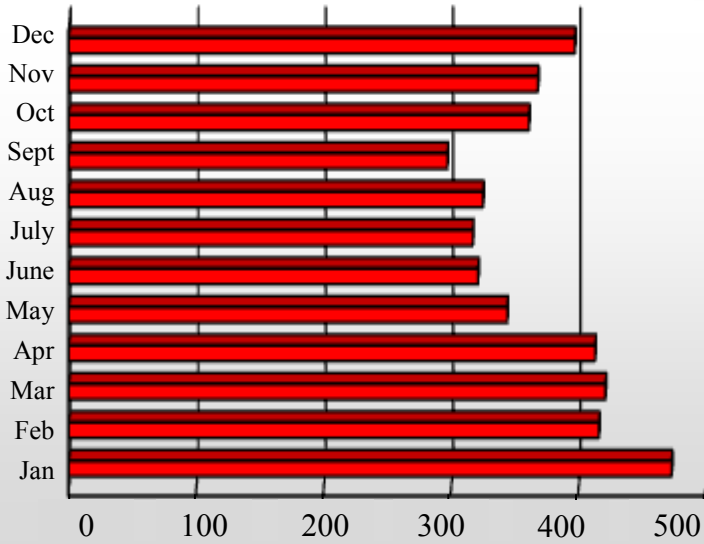
Incident Response

During 2011, the District responded to 4,753 incidents, a slight increase compared to 2010. EMS calls totaled 67 percent, fire and other hazardous conditions totaled 19 percent, and request for assistance totaled 14 percent.

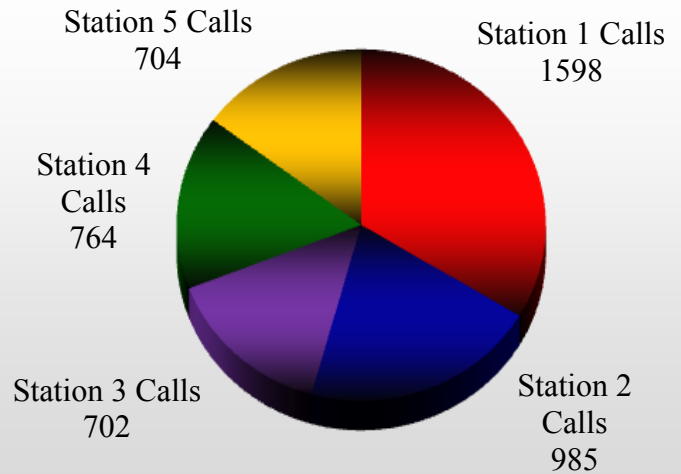
Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 OPERATIONS

2011 Monthly Response Profile



2010 Station Response Profile



Monthly Response Profile

In 2011, the months with the most calls were January, followed by March. The District typically experiences an increase in calls in the winter months when our seasonal residents visit Bonita Springs. Historically, March is the busiest month and June is the least active.

Closest Unit Response

The District completed its third year of *Closest Unit Response*, which dispatches the closest unit to an emergency regardless of jurisdiction. Currently in effect for Bonita Springs, San Carlos Park, and Estero; this has improved response times in all three districts.

Station Five

Station Five has been operational for a full year. Prior to this, a two-person rescue unit and a temporary trailer served as the protection for that area. The three-bay station was designed to house a ladder company, a two person rescue unit, and the new fleet maintenance facility. The in-house maintenance program is effectively reducing our maintenance budget.

Station Locations

Station One:

27490 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs, FL 34135
Completed in 1984, remodeled in 2007

Station Two:

28055 Mango Drive, Bonita Springs, FL 34134
Completed in 2005

Station Three:

25001 S. Tamiami Trail, Bonita Springs, FL 34135
Completed in 1993, upgraded in 2010

Station Four:

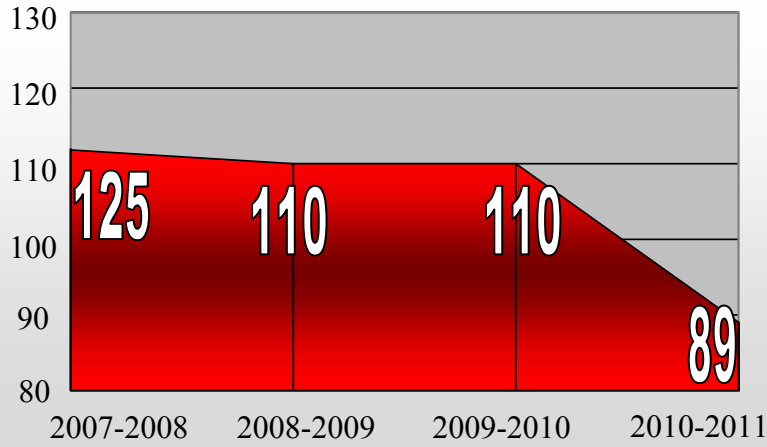
27701 Bonita Grande Drive, Bonita Springs, FL 34135
Completed in 2006

Station Five:

8850 W. Terry Street, Bonita Springs, FL 34135
Completed in 2010

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District 2011 OPERATIONS

Number of Employees by Year



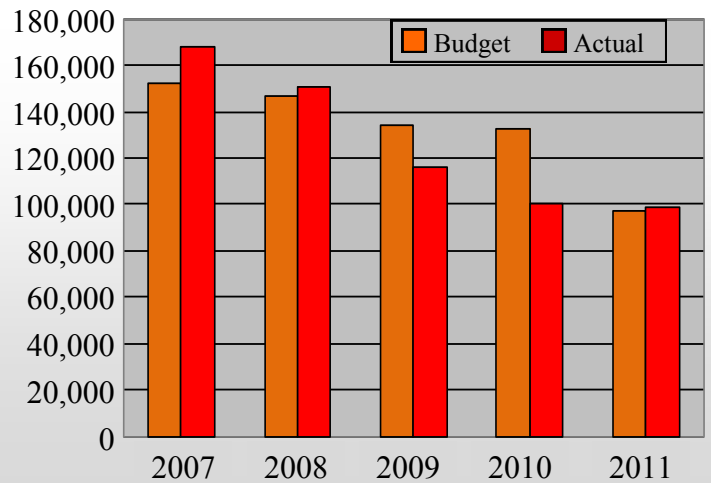
Personnel

The Suppression Division provides round the clock coverage with 3 shifts staffed by a total of 3 battalion chiefs, 18 lieutenants, and 48 firefighters. Of these 69 personnel, 34 are paramedics and 35 are emergency medical technicians. When training, administration, and fire prevention staff are included, the District maintained a total of 40 paramedics and 36 emergency medical technicians.

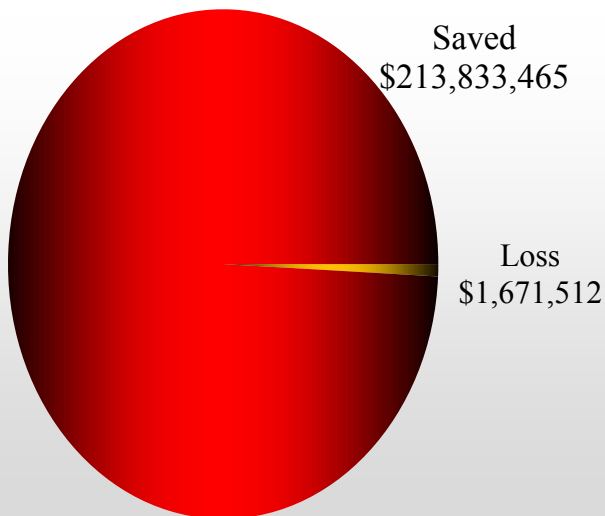
Vehicle Maintenance

The District's preventative maintenance program has dramatically reduced costs while improving reliability and safety. Relocating maintenance to Station Five has increased efficiency and established a functional maintenance and repair facility. In 2011, the Fleet Maintenance Division began assisting to maintain apparatus for Cape Coral Fire District, USAR, and San Carlos Park Fire District.

Vehicle Maintenance Comparison



Property Value Saved & Lost



Property Value Saved and Lost

In 2011, rapid intervention by Bonita Springs' firefighters saved over \$213,833,465 in property in immediate fire danger. This is compared to property losses of \$1,671,512. These dollar totals are collected from reporting date on fire emergencies including structure fires, wildland fires, vehicle fires, and vessel fires.

Training



“We want to commend your crew for their assistance yesterday evening. They arrived quickly and took care of the issue. You are fortunate to have such professional and pleasant firefighters in your employ. Keep up the great work.”

— Bob and Donna Hoeglen

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 TRAINING

Overview

All personnel received advanced training in medical care, fire suppression, and special operations. The District accumulated over 25,000 hours of fire, special operations, and EMS related training. This equated to an average of 238.63 hours per employee annually. Classes included:

- Driver operator
- Officer development
- Leadership
- Vehicle extrication
- Air management
- Rapid intervention
- Ventilation
- Live fire
- Enter and search

Training Highlights

Driver Training: The Training Division administered a driver training program in 2011 for six firefighters. It is a complex program that included maintenance, apparatus knowledge, equipment familiarization, emergency and non-emergency driving, and pump operator skill evaluations. The program had two important goals: 1) Determine the readiness of new driver/operators. 2) Ensure new department personnel are trained in pump and apparatus operations. The program was a success; all six firefighters passed the testing.

Live Fire Training: The live fire training center at Station Four became an important tool when training on interior and exterior fire operations. Personnel from various fire departments throughout Lee and Collier Counties, as well as international departments participated in more than 20 days of live fire burns.



Firefighter Daniel Platas participating in training on breaching a cinderblock wall to gain entry into a home which otherwise is blocked from entry.

EMT and Paramedic Training: The District's Medical Director, Dr. A. Rodi, Jr., conducted monthly in-service training sessions to include:

- Cardiac care
- Trauma emergencies
- Pediatric
- Orthopedic injuries
- Respiratory conditions
- Pharmacology

The Training Division conducted monthly instruction and practical evolutions. Along with this, paramedics attend specialized classes in:

- Basic Life Support
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- Basic Trauma Life Support
- Advanced Pediatric Life Support

Other programs to maintain competency in their field, such as the Health Stream

Interactive Web Based Training System, were utilized. Emergency Medical Providers received their renewal certificates and licenses from the State.

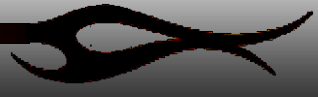
Special Operations/HazMat: In 2011, training in the following disciplines was provided to District personnel:

- Vehicle Extrication/Stabilization
- Water Rescue/Operations
- High and Low Angle Rope Rescue
- Confined Space
- Trench Rescue

An average of **20** hours per month, per employee was provided in 2011.

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 TRAINING



Citizens of the Bonita Springs Fire District,

My name is Dr. Alexander Rodi, Jr. I am the Medical Director for the Bonita Springs Fire District. My duties include training and credentialing your emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics, reviewing the quality of care your EMTs and paramedics deliver, and establishing and maintaining acceptable practice guidelines which we have developed in conjunction with Lee County Emergency Medical Service.



Our EMTs and paramedics come from the same training programs as the County's EMTs and paramedics. The difference, and greatest benefit to you, is that our EMTs and paramedics are also firefighters; they have dual certifications in both firefighting and medical care.

In addition your paramedics have multiple certifications in trauma care (ITLS), pediatric care (PEEP), basic life support (BLS), advanced life support (ACLS), and I provide monthly lectures on various medical issues related to patient care and treatment.

Our EMTs and paramedics are professionals, always striving to be the best in the county. Trained to think outside the box, they use their training and knowledge to deliver the best care possible to the citizens of Bonita Springs.



Firefighters from B Shift participated in Confined Space training at Bonita Springs Utilities. This training is used to extricate a patient from any space that has limited or restricted means, a potentially hazardous atmosphere, and is considered incapable of supporting life.

Since we respond to a large number of medical calls, it is important to understand that time is critical. From initiating a 9-1-1 call for chest pain, to arrival to the hospital, any unnecessary delay can mean the difference between life and death.

Your fire district strives to provide the very best pre-hospital medical care economically possible. We continue to work toward providing ambulance service on a local level to improve the current level of service and your quality of life.

Dr. Alexander Rodi, Jr.,
Medical Director

14,143

Fire and Special Ops related training hours

11,249

Medical related training hours

25,414

Total training hours

239

Hours of training per employee

Prevention



“Dear Hero, Thank you for helping save our students’ lives in the fire. What you did was really amazing. You walked right into that burning building without hesitation just to rescue a family. I think what you do is really cool.”

—Neil from Bonita Springs Elementary

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 PREVENTION

The Fire Prevention Division performs fire inspections, reinspections, and occupancy permit inspections within the community's business districts and multi-family housing complexes. The Division also provides plan review and inspection services for new construction and interior remodeling projects.

Overview

The Fire Prevention Division interacted with developers, builders, architects, engineers, and home owners in the process of applying the Florida Fire Prevention Code to commercial and multi-family residential buildings constructed within the District. The staff performed fire inspections, reinspections, and occupancy permit inspections within the community's business districts and multi-family housing complexes. Plan review and inspection services was provided for new construction and interior remodeling projects.

The District was involved with multi-family residential, commercial, and fire protection system permits by conducting plan review and fire inspections during construction. New construction inspections assured code compliance of individual components of construction throughout the building process. Staff also inspected the installation of fire alarm and fire sprinkler systems in single-family homes.

Occupancy/New Construction Inspections

It is our endeavor to provide timely, comprehensive, and accurate inspections for the District. These inspections reduce the potential for fire damage while increasing life safety for building occupants.

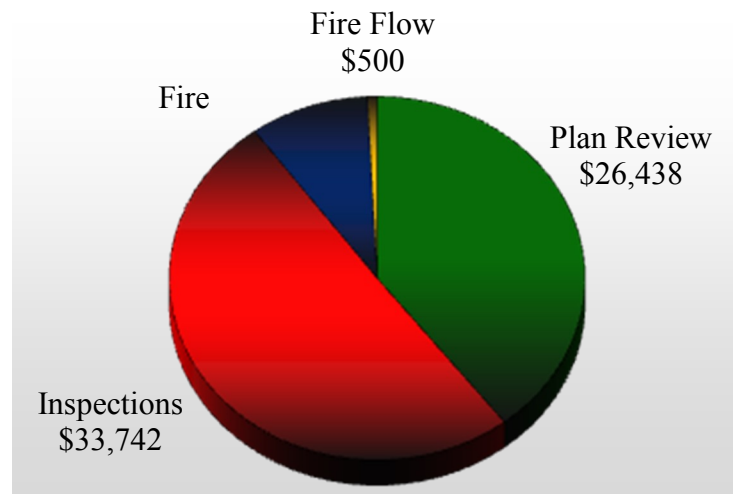
New construction inspections assured code compliance of individual components of construction throughout the building process. Examples of components include fire-rated walls, fire sprinkler piping, and liquid propane tanks and piping.

Revenue

The table above reflects revenue received by the Fire Prevention Division for fire flows, plan review, fire permits, and inspections. Also included is the

Based on calendar year 2011-2012

2011 Fire Prevention Revenue



revenue from our plan review for Estero, San Carlos Park, Fort Myers Beach, and South Trail Fire Districts. The District received 66,880 dollars of revenue for fire flows, inspections, plan review, and fire permits for new construction.

Plan Review and Permitting

Fire Prevention performs plan review for all permits issued, including multi-family residential, commercial buildings, fire protection systems, and hazards. The District issues a permit for fire protection systems and hazards, and conducts ongoing inspections during construction.

Plans are reviewed through an inter-local agreement with the City of Bonita Springs, Estero, San Carlos Park, South Trail, and Fort Myers Beach to ensure fire code compliance prior to issuing a building permit. Staff also reviews plans through an inter-local agreement with Estero Fire Rescue. An agreement between Lee County and the District was established in 1980 for plan review.

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 PREVENTION

Plan Review and Permitting

The number of plan reviews increased 14 percent in 2011. The number of fire permits decreased 21 percent. The totals are as follows:

Fire permits: 254

Total plan review: 1,163

Bonita Springs Fire District plan reviews: 469

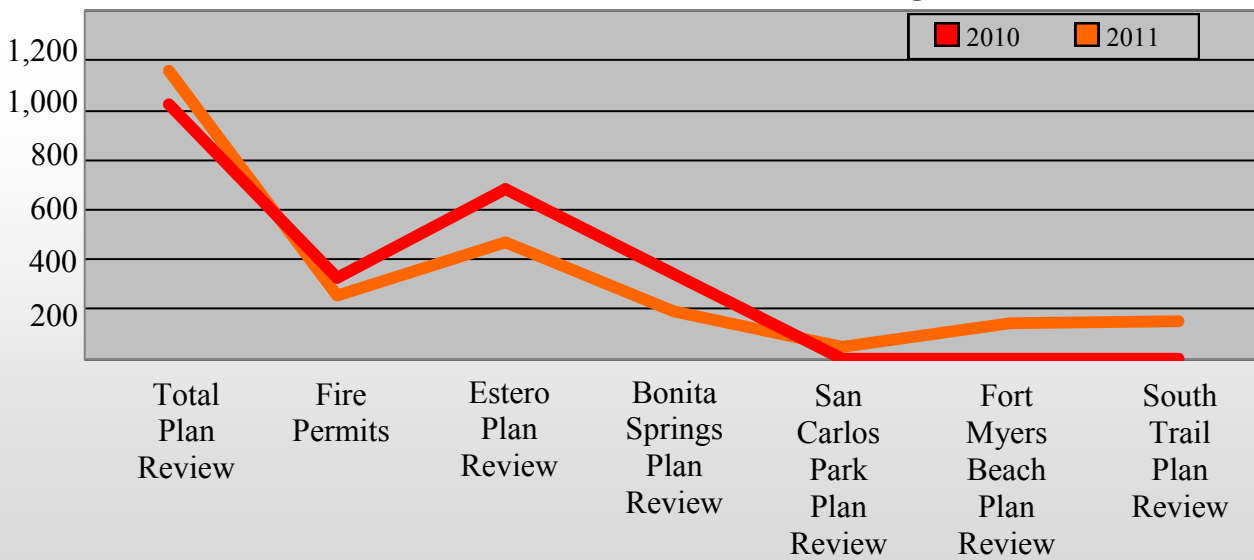
Estero Fire District plan reviews: 195

Ft. Myers Beach Fire District plan reviews: 143

San Carlos Park Fire District plan reviews: 50

South Trail Fire District plan reviews: 154

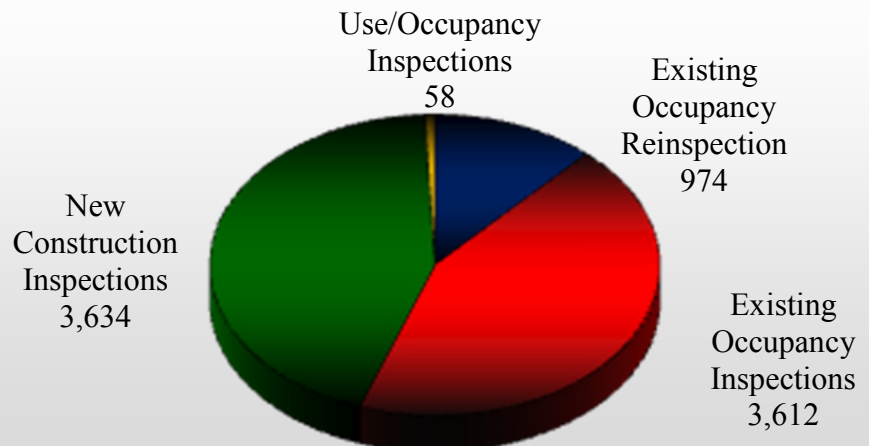
Plan Review and Permitting



Inspections and Reinspections

8,278 Total Inspections

In 2011, 3,612 existing occupancies were inspected. 974 occupancies were reinspected. 3,634 new construction inspections were completed. 58 use/occupancy inspections were conducted. The total was 8,278.



Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 PREVENTION



Fire and Life Safety Education

By the end of 2011, the District had educated or interacted with approximately 26,861 participants through more than 30 Public Education Programs.

During 2011, the District participated in numerous community events, including children's educational events, seasonal festivals, and parades. These events attracted thousands of people, and provided a unique opportunity to foster positive community relations.

Fire Prevention Month 2011

In support of National Fire Prevention Month, fire safety and prevention practices were promoted through public education programs. Throughout October and November, fire safety presentations were made to each classroom in Bonita Springs, from kindergarten through fifth grade along with classrooms in 13 pre-schools. An average of 5,000 children were taught.

Victim Assistance Program

Twelve years ago, the District realized a need that wasn't fully met on emergency scenes – emotional first aid. This program delivers additional support to victims beyond the emergency response, such as coordinating with the American Red Cross and other agencies for assistance with lodging, clothing, food, and emotional first aid.

Child Car Seat Inspection and Installation

Under the instruction of the Lee County Safe Kids Coalition, the Bonita Springs Fire District became certified in 2008 to safely install child restraint seats.

The Fire District can also provide car seats to families in need for a small donation. In 2011, 71 families received car seat installation assistance.

Community Emergency Response Team

The Bonita Springs Fire District began offering the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) class program in 2007. To date, there are 141 members on the team. Students are instructed in Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety, Extinguisher Training, Disaster Medical Operations, Search and Rescue, Disaster Psychology, and Terrorism. The Basic Training course consists of a total of 16 hours of instruction.

SAFE Home Project

2011 marked the 16th year of the Smoke Alarms For Every (SAFE) Home Project. By raising funds throughout the year, free smoke alarms were distributed to nearly 650 kindergarten students. The program is funded with approximately \$4,500 per year in donations.

Media Relations

The Department's Public Information Program continues to enjoy an exceptional relationship with the media. The media serves as an invaluable vehicle for bolstering the community's knowledge of the District's events, safety presentations and classes, and informing residents of hazards in their neighborhood such as wildfires.

Educational Programs for the Community

The District continued its educational programs for the community in 2011 by offering fire and life safety presentations on over 30 different topics such as:

- CPR
- Safe babysitting
- Fire extinguisher
- Water/pool safety
- Fire station tours
- Fire safety puppet shows
- General home and office fire safety
- Fire safety lessons for children
- Juvenile Firesetter intervention
- Severe weather education

7,041

Citizens educated in classroom or presentation setting

19,670

Public attendance at community events with District involvement

26,861

Total estimate of residents & visitors interacting with the District

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 AWARDS

Annual Awards

Bonita Springs Fire District's employees were recognized for their outstanding efforts.

Civilian of the Year	Administrative Coordinator Iris Roman
Firefighter of the Year	FF Paul Devan
Officer of the Year	LT Jeffrey Millican
EMT of the Year	Division Chief Donn Cleland
Paramedic of the Year	LT Donald Wilkinson
District Employee of the Year	Public Education Specialist Nicole Hornberger
EMS Crew of the Year	BC Frank Giuliano, LT Jason Brod, LT Barry Brown, LT Donald Wilkinson, FF Paul Devan, FF Thomas Harrison, FF Adam Hughes, FF Gary Sheffield, FF Grant Wells, FF Leo Willette

The crew was awarded for their actions on an MCI call on Jan 23, 2010. The initial call came in as a response to a fall. While responding, the call was upgraded to a possible deck collapse with multiple patients. Upon arrival, the crew was met with chaos, 30 inebriated individuals roaming the scene, and several injuries. A second story deck had collapsed with eight people on it during a party. It was quickly determined that there was no possibility of a secondary collapse and paramedics started to work on two PT's still lying on the debris and triage was accomplished. Tasks were accomplished superbly in very difficult circumstances and with the utmost professionalism.

Fire-Rescue Crew of the Year	DC Dan Ryan, DC Donn Cleland, BC Frank Giuliano, LT David Brewer, LT Barry Brown, LT Richard Scott, LT Donald Wilkinson, FF Paul Devan, FF David Glen, FF Mark Harris, FF Thomas Harrison, FF Adam Hughes, FF Michael Mendez, FF Fredrick O'Donnell, FF Ramon Perez, FF Fredrick Plocinski, FF Andrew Riggerbach, FF Gary Sheffield, FF Randy Werstien, FF Ernest Williams, FF Leo Willette.
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The firefighters and officers on this fire scene assisted to accomplish an immense feat on September 14, 2010 at a church fire off Rosemary. Upon arriving to the scene, the crew encountered heavy smoke conditions with no visible flame coming from the building. The door was dead-bolted and forcible entry was utilized. Significant heat patterns were noted at the ceiling level. A second locked door was located and the crew forced entry on it as well. Once they reached the seat of the fire, it was attacked with a straight stream pattern and darkened down, at this time the roof over the fire room collapsed and a rear door opened. Ventilation via positive pressure fan at the front door was activated. A primary search of the building was performed and no occupants were found.

Special Recognition	DC Donn Cleland, LT Eddie Bradford, LT David Brewer, LT William Clemens, LT Paul Phillips, FF Wayne Day, FF Gary Sheffield, FF Anthony Valentino, FF Randy Werstein, Maintenance Supervisor Michael Burkard
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Phoenix Awards

Twelve employees were awarded the Phoenix Award in 2011. This award is presented to those who exhibit expertise on an medical emergency or fire scene while restoring life to a victim. The Phoenix is recognized as a symbol of excellence and also a mythical bird said to have risen from its ashes. The following received the award:

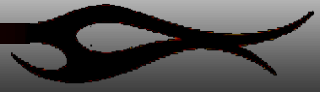
September 17: LT Eric Madden, LT Keith VanGelder, FF Terry Bonnell, FF Jeffrey Rowley, FF Anthony Valentino

September 20: LT Eric Madden, LT Keith VanGelder, FF Terry Bonnell, FF Jeffrey Rowley, FF Anthony Valentino, FF Gary Sheffield



LT Eric Madden, FF Terry Bonnell, and FF Anthony Valentino are part of the crew that revived FF Juvert Calero on Sept 20 after he collapsed in cardiac arrest in the gym at Fire Station Five.

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District



“You have helped my children to have a Merry Christmas! If you could have seen my children’s eyes light up when they opened their gifts, it would have brought tears to your eyes just like it did mine.”

—Wanda Chirila

“I have the utmost faith that I will get the best treatment from your units.”

—Kim Hendrickson

“You have truly been an angel to our house. For the past two years you have been the extension of God’s ever providing hand..”

—Shon, Theresa, Daniel, Christina, and Evan



Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 RESPONSE PROFILE



INCIDENT TYPE COUNT	2009	2010	2011
FIRE			
Fire, other	12	1	2
Building fire	11	21	15
Fires in structures other than a building	3	1	2
Cooking fire, confined to container	8	5	12
Fuel burner/broiler malfunction, fire	0	1	1
Incinerator overload or malfunction, fire	1	0	0
Trash or rubbish fire, contained	1	0	2
Fire in mobile home used as a fixed residence	1	4	1
Fire in portable building, fixed location	0	1	1
Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	6	0	1
Passenger vehicle fire	20	18	13
Road freight or transport vehicle fire	1	0	3
Water vehicle fire	1	4	2
Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1	1	1
Camper or recreational vehicle (RV) fire	2	1	0
Natural vegetation fire, other	3	4	6
Forest, woods or wildland fire	24	7	39
Brush, brush and grass mixture fire	23	18	24
Grass fire	13	7	10
Outside rubbish fire, other	11	10	4
Outside rubbish, trash/waste fire	9	9	13
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle	1	2	1
Outside stationary compactor/compacted	1	0	0
Special outside fire, other	5	1	1
Outside storage fire	1	1	0
Outside equipment fire	4	2	3
Sub-total	163	119	157
OVERPRESSURE RUPTURE, EXPLOSION, OVERHEATED			
Overpressure rupture of steam pipe	2	1	1
Overpressure rupture from air or gas, other	0	1	0
Excessive heat, scorch burns, with no ignition	2	1	2
Sub-total	4	3	3

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 RESPONSE PROFILE



INCIDENT TYPE COUNT	2009	2010	2011
HAZARDOUS CONDITION			
Hazardous conditions, other	4	5	3
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	10	11	6
Gas leak, natural or (LPG)	10	13	4
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	5	1	2
Chemical hazard, no spill or leak	1	2	2
Chemical spill or leak	3	2	1
Carbon monoxide incident	1	3	3
Refrigeration leak	1	0	0
Heat from short circuit, wiring	3	8	6
Overheated motor	5	6	6
Breakdown of light ballast	1	1	2
Power line down	7	18	9
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	20	17	30
Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected	1	1	0
Building or structure weakened or collapsed	0	0	1
Vehicle accident, general cleanup	9	4	3
Sub-total	81	92	78

RESCUE & EMS MEDICAL SERVICE INCIDENTS			
Rescue, EMS incident, other	74	66	42
Medical assist, assist EMS crew	562	378	352
EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injuries	2249	2491	2480
Motor vehicle accident with injuries	139	93	124
Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident	12	26	22
Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	214	160	148
Lock-in	2	0	1
Search for person in water	3	4	1
Extrication of victims from vehicle	2	2	1
Removal of victims from stalled elevator	2	3	2
High-angle rescue	0	0	1
Water & ice related rescue, other	1	0	0
Swift water rescue	1	1	0
Watercraft rescue	1	5	1
Rescue or EMS standby	2	6	0
Sub-total	3264	3235	3175

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 RESPONSE PROFILE



INCIDENT TYPE COUNT	2009	2010	2011
SERVICE CALL			
Service call, other	23	12	7
Person in distress, other	8	16	13
Lock-out	6	2	4
Ring or jewelry removal	0	0	1
Water problem, other	1	2	2
Water evacuation	1	0	0
Water or steam leak	2	5	2
Smoke or odor investigation, removal	14	29	24
Animal problem, other	1	1	0
Animal rescue	1	0	0
Public service assistance, other	60	74	68
Assist police or other governmental agency	5	5	6
Police matter	1	0	1
Public service	40	0	53
Assist invalid	16	29	57
Defective elevator, no occupants	5	7	5
Unauthorized burning	8	7	7
Cover assignment, standby, move-up	4	6	1
Sub-total	196	195	251
GOOD INTENT CALL			
Good intent call, other	41	53	28
Dispatched and canceled en-route	244	305	279
Dispatched and canceled on-scene	197	207	291
Fire units sent to wrong location	1	2	1
No incident found on arrival at dispatch location	49	42	72
Prescribed fire	2	3	0
Authorized controlled burning	4	5	3
Smoke scare, odor of smoke	4	3	5
Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	1	2	4
Smoke from barbecue, tar kettle	1	0	2
EMS call, party transported by non-fire	1	0	3
Hazardous materials release investigation with no hazardous materials	3	5	1
Sub-total	548	627	689

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District

2011 RESPONSE PROFILE



INCIDENT TYPE COUNT	2009	2010	2011	
FALSE ALARM AND FALSE CALL				
False alarm or false call, other	127	97	54	
False alarm/no response, fire alarm	24	17	11	
Malicious, mischievous false call, other	9	10	7	
Municipal alarm system, malicious false call	1	1	1	
Central station, malicious false alarm	0	2	3	
Local alarm system, malicious false alarm	0	4	3	
Bomb scare, no bomb	2	3	0	
System malfunction, other	47	36	22	
Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	3	1	1	
Extinguishing system activation due to malfunction	0	0	1	
Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	36	29	45	
Heat detector activation due to malfunction	2	4	1	
Alarm system activation due to malfunction	50	56	74	
Carbon monoxide detector activation due to malfunction	0	1	2	
Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	31	21	30	
Sprinkler activation, no fire	4	3	5	
Extinguishing system activation	1	0	0	
Smoke detector activation, no fire	24	33	32	
Detector activation, no fire	13	17	16	
Alarm system activation, no fire	92	87	91	
	Sub-total	466	422	399
SPECIAL INCIDENT TYPE				
Special type of incident, other	6	2	0	
Citizen complaint	2	0	0	
	Sub-total	8	2	0
SEVERE WEATHER AND NATURAL DISASTER				
Severe weather or natural disaster, other	0	1	0	
Wind storm, tornado/hurricane assessment	0	1	0	
Lightning strike (no fire)	0	5	1	
		0	7	1
	GRAND TOTAL	4730	4702	4753