



KENTWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018

ANNUAL REPORT



Brent Looman, Fire Chief

The Kentwood Fire Department is a combination career and paid on call department that responds to all hazards, including emergency medical, fire suppression, technical rescue, hazardous materials, fire prevention, fire safety education, and fire investigation services.

As the role of the fire department has changed from primarily fighting fires to trying to solve the diverse problems that our community experiences, additional training and planning for new challenges is required.

We have been successful because of the extraordinary efforts of the men and women of the Kentwood Fire Department and the support of the Mayor, City Commissioners, and citizens. Thank you!

The following review provides some of the highlights of 2018.



2018

BY THE NUMBERS

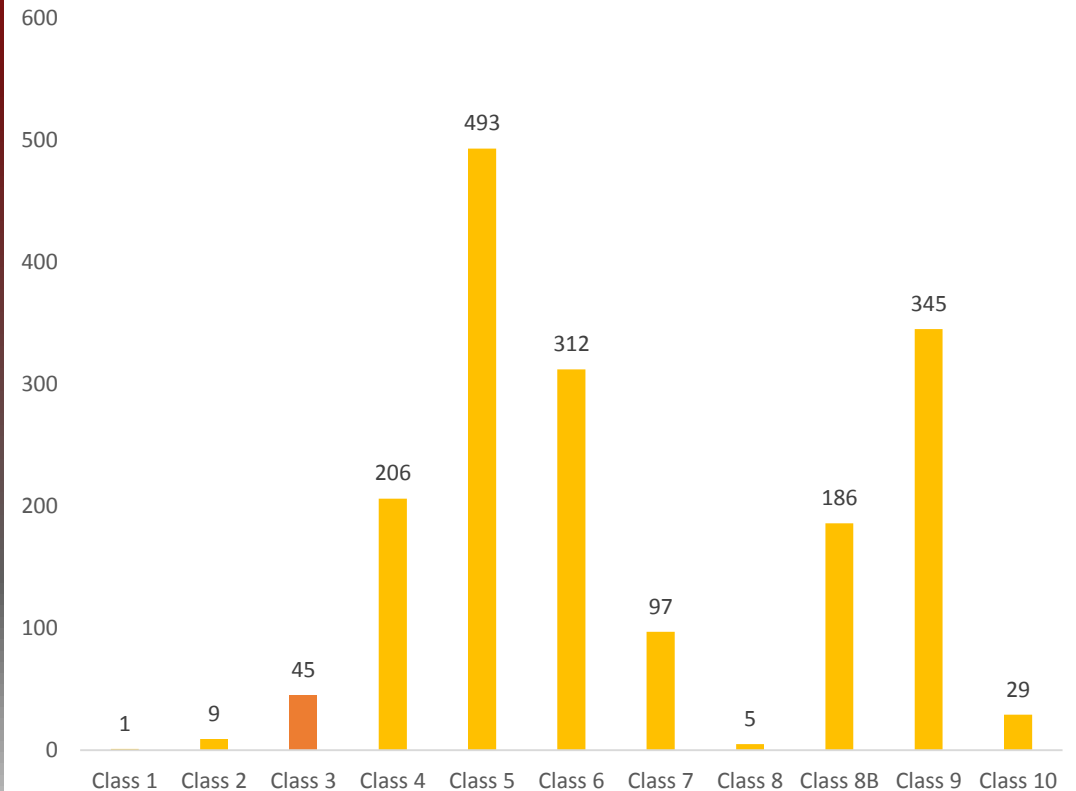


ISO PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASS 3

(effective February 1, 2018)

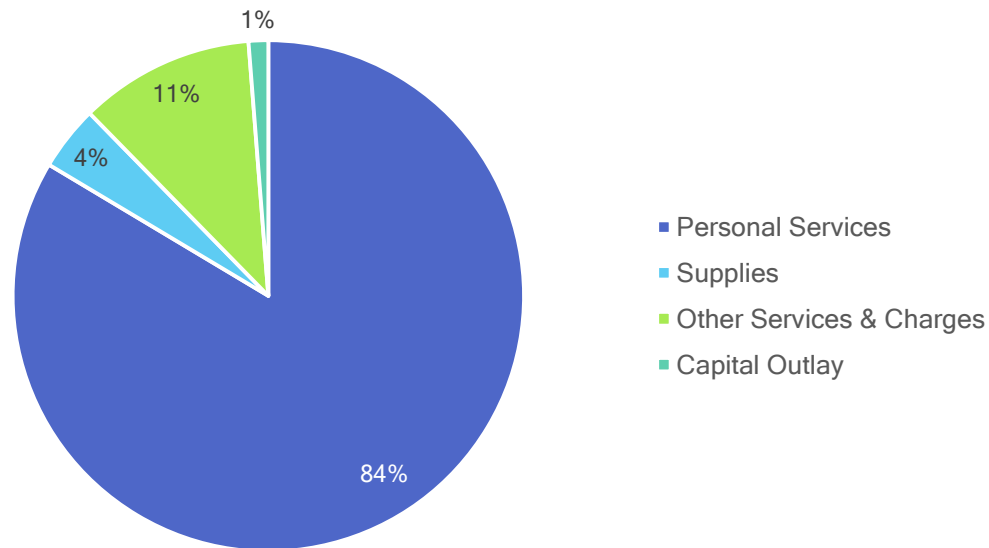
- The Insurance Services Office (ISO), an independent company, evaluates communities and provides information about risk.
- In general, the price of fire insurance in a community with a lower grade is less than one with a higher.

MICHIGAN COMMUNITIES



BUDGET

- \$6,136,300 Budget (2018-19)



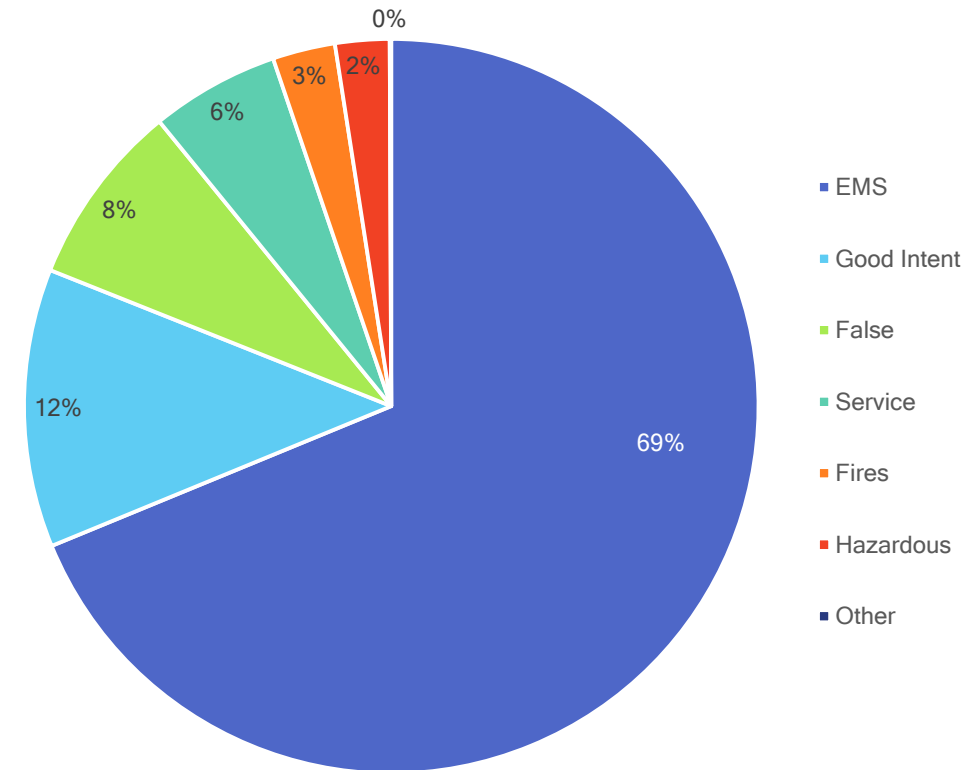
STAFFING

- .88 fire fighters per 1,000 population in Kentwood
 - 39 full-time suppression fire fighters
 - 5 additional full-time equivalents
- 1.67 fire fighters per 1,000 population average in United States (according to National Fire Protection Association)



FIRE SUPPRESSION DIVISION

- 4,642 TOTAL INCIDENTS
 - 3,193 Rescue & EMS
 - 569 Good Intent
 - 375 False Alarms/False Call
 - 263 Service Call
 - 128 Fires
 - 111 Hazardous Conditions
 - 1 Overpressure/Explosion
 - 1 Severe Weather
 - 1 Special Incident



FIRE SUPPRESSION DIVISION

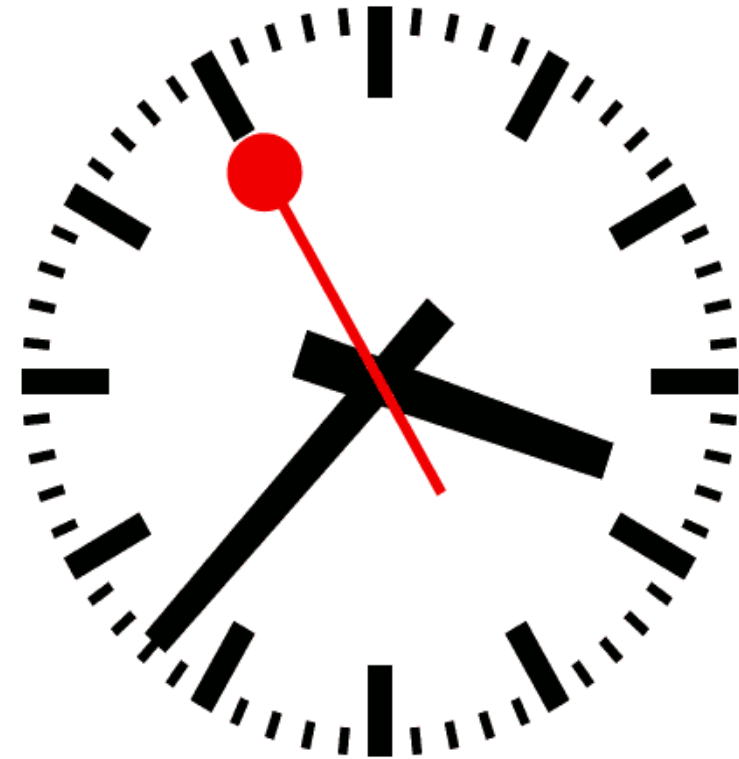
- RESPONSE TIMES

- GOAL

- 5:20 average for all emergencies

- ACTUAL

- 4:41 for all incidents
 - 4:21 for all fires
 - 4:15 for all building fires
 - 4:35 for medical incidents



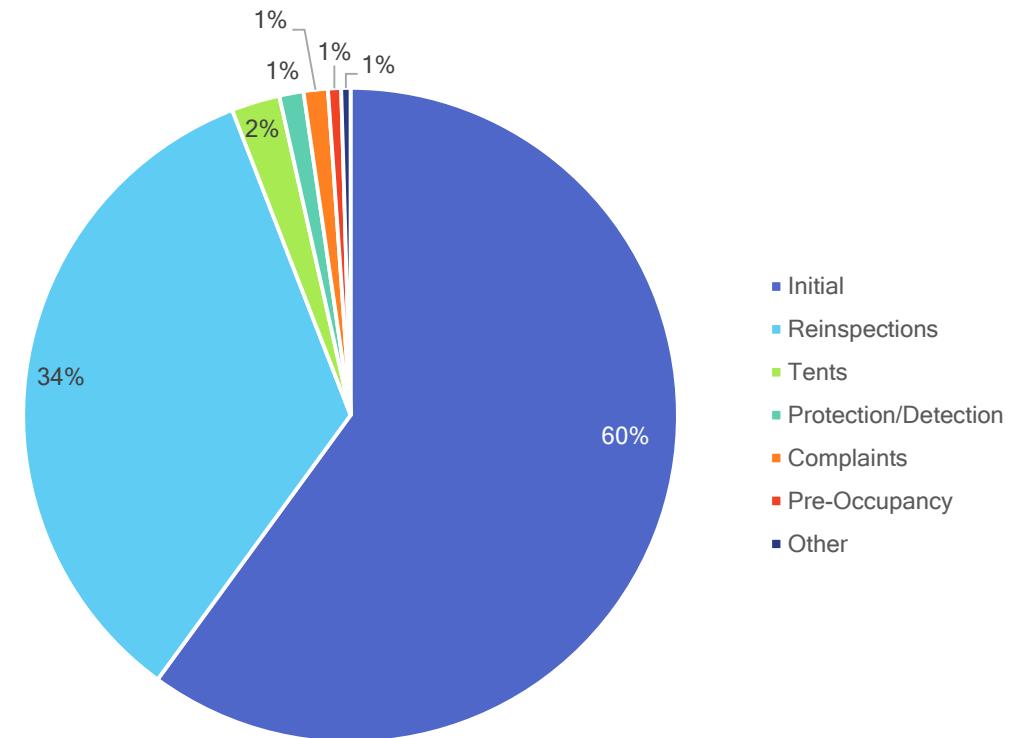
FREQUENT RESPONSES

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>STATION</u>
Greentree (Kalamazoo)	145	1
Summer Haven (Breton)	98	1
Breton Woods (Breton)	78	1
Woodland Mall (28 th)	66	2
Wellington Woods (N. Breton Ct.)	51	1
Azpira Place (Breton)	45	1
American House (Eastern)	38	3
Breton Ridge (Pfeiffer Woods)	35	1
Clark (Forest Hill)	33	2
Knight's Inn (28 th)	31	2



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

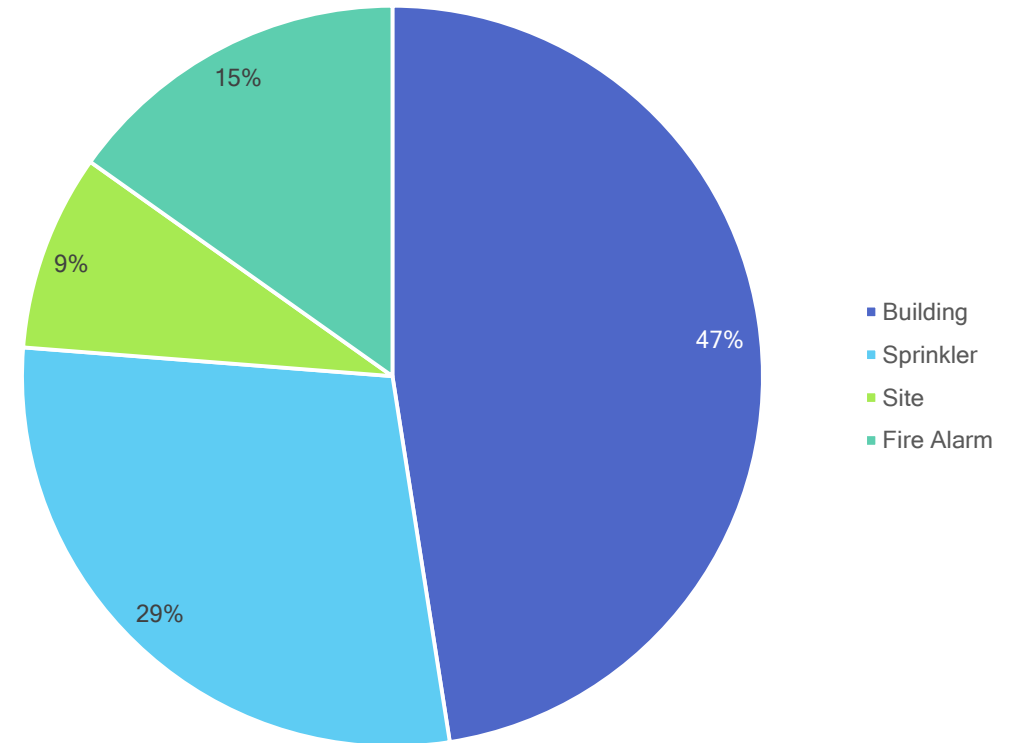
- 1,086 INSPECTIONS
 - 652 Initial
 - 370 Reinspections
 - 26 Tents
 - 13 Protection/Detection
 - 13 Complaint Investigations
 - 7 Pre-Occupancy
 - 5 Other



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

- 303 PLAN REVIEWS

- 144 Building
 - 19 New
 - 125 Remodel
- 87 Sprinkler
- 46 Fire Alarm
- 26 Site



TRAINING AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 5,592 TRAINING HOURS
 - 20 Major Training Categories
 - 133 Specific Training Codes
 - 244 TIMES MEDS GIVEN
 - 34 SMOKE AND CO ALARM DEVICES INSTALLED
 - 33,928 FEET (nearly 6.5 miles!) OF HOSE TESTED
 - 3,947 HYDRANTS CHECKED
- PUBLIC EDUCATION EVENTS
 - 4,000 school children attended fire safety and fire chemistry programs
 - 800 children and adults toured fire stations
 - 100 senior citizens attended life safety programs
 - 50 people participated in inclusiveness courses



**MORE
INFO**



PERSONNEL

The biggest factor in maintaining a safe community is the people who work to protect it. Alan Brunacini, former Phoenix, Arizona Fire Chief, termed them “liveware”—noting that employees are at least as critical to an organization as hardware and software.

The full-time, paid-on-call and volunteer members of the Kentwood Fire Department serve with professionalism, integrity, compassion, pride and honor. Daily they demonstrate their passion and commitment to our city.



PERSONNEL

Fire Fighter of the Year

- Engine Operator Jeff “Buck” Bouwkamp was selected as 2018 Fire Fighter of the Year.
- The nomination stated that he is eager to learn and eager to teach. “Jeff is a very confident and knowledgeable firefighter and an important part of the Kentwood Fire Department and its future.”



PERSONNEL

KCEMS Awards



- LT Brandon DeHaan, FF Eric DeGroot, EO Phil Verburg, FF Andy Biederman, and FF Gary Post received life-saving awards from Kent County EMS.
- DC Gregg Ginebaugh was also recognized for his efforts in active assailant training.



PERSONNEL

(retirements/resignations)

- In 2018 some key personnel retired or resigned, providing opportunities for promotions and new hires.
- The Kentwood Fire Department lost a combined total of 61 years of knowledge and experience.



GREGORY S.
GINEBAUGH

- 11/9/82: Paid-on- Call Fire Fighter
- 8/26/85: Full-Time Fire Fighter
- 2/14/86: Fire Inspector/ Fire Marshal
- 10/6/89: Fire Fighter
- 5/11/96: Lieutenant
- 9/27/97: Captain
- 1/26/13: Deputy Chief
- 12/7/18: Retired



PERSONNEL

(retirements/resignations)

- 5/6/98: Full-Time Fire Fighter
- 8/14/00: Fire Inspector
- 6/9/08: Fire Marshal
- 12/21/18: Retired



TIMOTHY S.
MADAY



BRANDON KRAUSS
Paid-on-Call Fire
Fighter
9/29/15-7/1/18



HANNAH SWEHLA
Office Assistant
6/13/16-8/24/18



PERSONNEL

(promotions)

Bryan Lynch was promoted to Fire Inspector on 4/28/18.



He had previously served as Fire Fighter (1/18/02) and Engine Operator (7/23/06).

Kevin Tammens became an Engine Operator on 6/9/18. He had been a Fire Fighter (7/18/11) and Acting Officer (1/1/17).



PERSONNEL

(new hires)



Andy Biederman joined the Kentwood Fire Department as a full-time Fire Fighter on 6/9/18. He had been a Sault Ste. Marie Fire Fighter.



PERSONNEL

(new hires)

On 11/15/18 six people were hired as paid-on-call Fire Fighters.



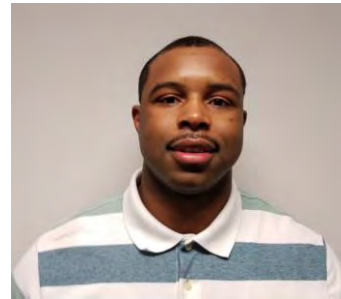
Donnovan
Druart



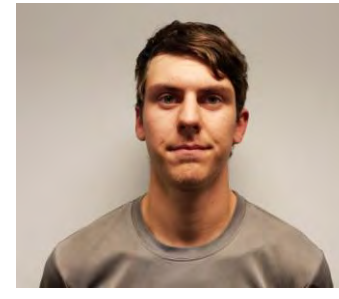
Handsome
Henderson



Ben Kurakazu-
sampson



Otis
Moore



Hayden
Straw



Ryan
Westenburg

VEHICLES & APPARATUS

- The Kentwood Fire Department has developed a long-range vehicle/apparatus replacement schedule to facilitate planning and funding for new units.
- Two staff vehicles and one fire engine were purchased in 2018.

- Chevrolet Tahoes were purchased for the Fire Marshal and Fire Chief.



ENGINE 51

- The fire engine that was ordered from Spartan ERV in April 2017 at a cost of nearly \$500,000 was delivered in March 2018 and placed in service at Station 1 (Walma) in July.
- Detailed inspections were made to ensure compliance with specifications. Staff went to production facilities in Charlotte, Michigan to verify work on the cab and chassis and to Brandon, South Dakota to inspect final body assembly and witness the fire pump test.



ENGINE 51

SPARTAN ER, CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN



ENGINE 51

SPARTAN ER, BRANDON, SOUTH DAKOTA



ENGINE 51

KENTWOOD FIRE STATION 1, KENTWOOD, MI



FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

- The City of Kentwood enforces the 2015 Michigan/ International Codes (with amendments).
- Some of the issues found by Fire Department personnel during safety inspections of commercial and industrial occupancies are illustrated.



Storage too close to sprinkler system



Obstructions in the fire lane



Improper disposal of rags

Fire door blocked open





Unapproved decorations



Blocked exit



Improperly stored chemicals



Unapproved spray painting

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

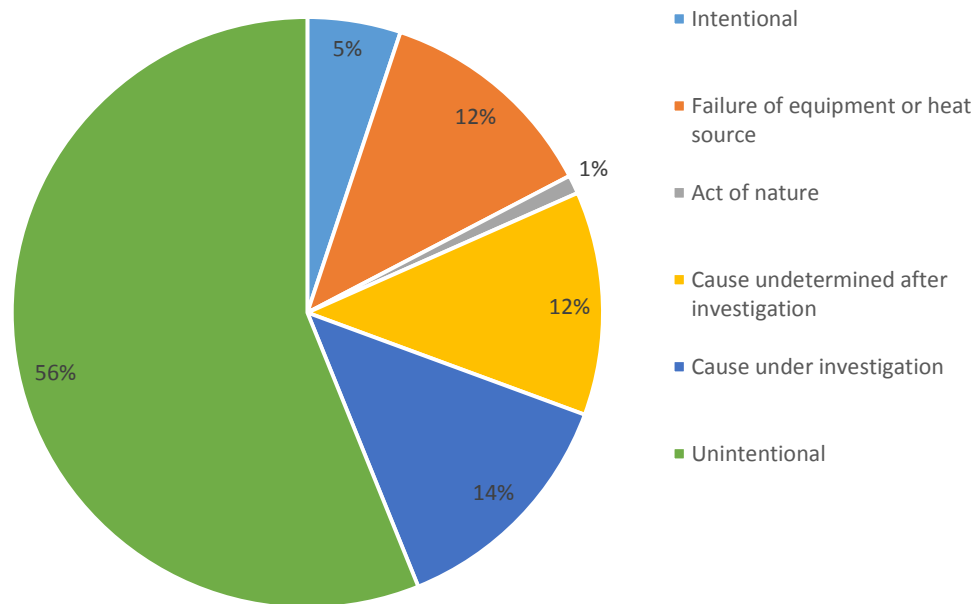
- The Fire Marshal, Fire Inspector and Fire Chief have received specialized training in identifying fire cause and origin and arson investigation.
- After the fire is out, they continue digging for more information.



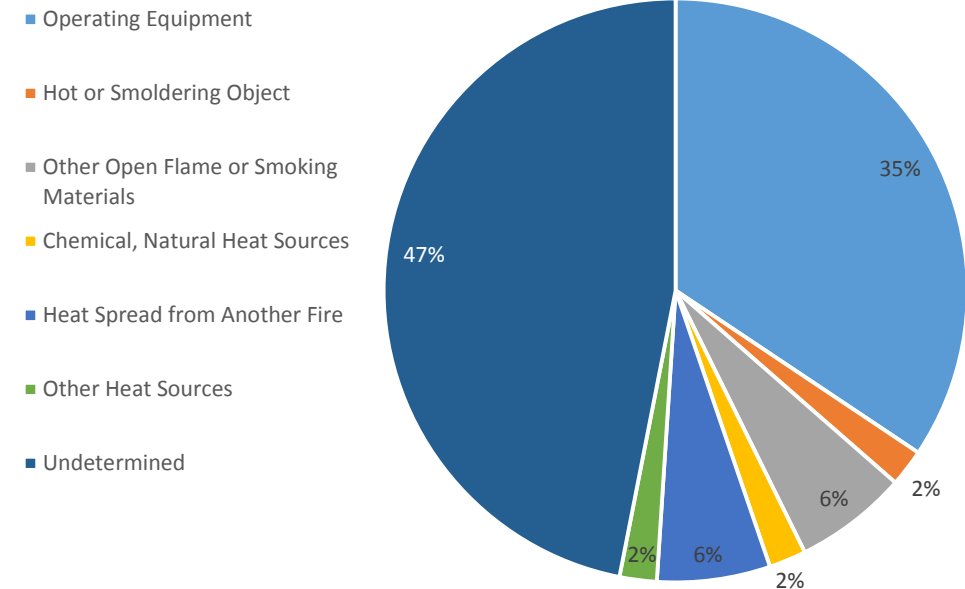
5593 East DeBlaay

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

Cause of Ignition

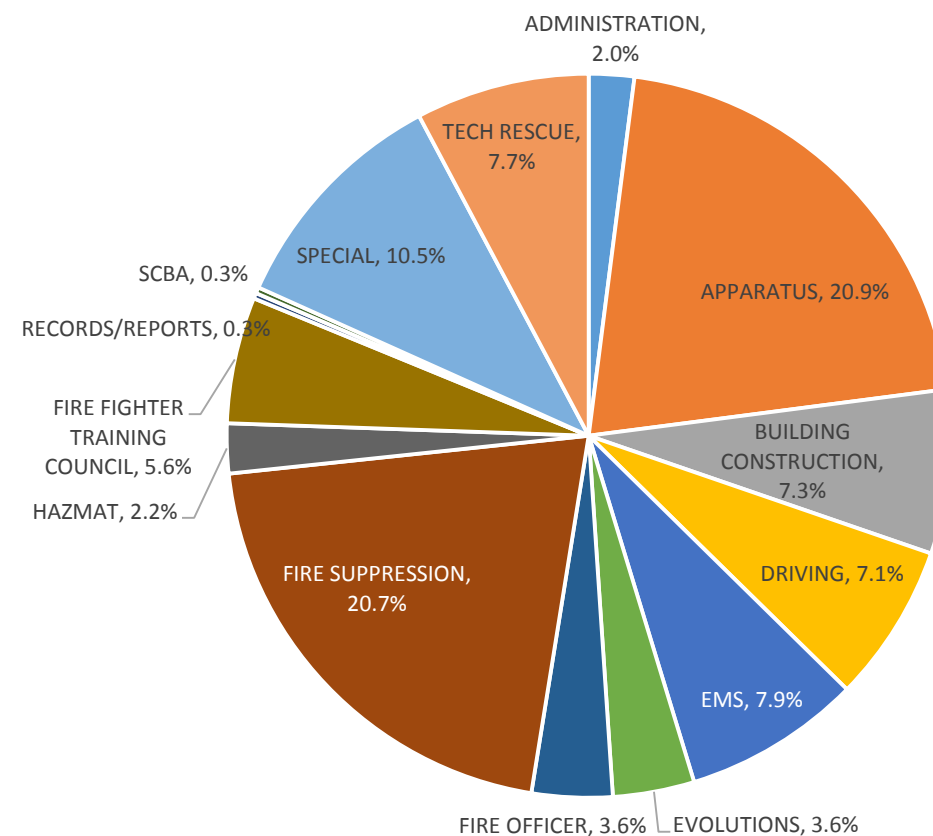


Major Heat Source



TRAINING

- After responding to emergencies, training is the most important activity undertaken by fire fighters.
- Training is designed to ensure that all fire fighters are prepared to respond safely to all hazards and provide effective service to Kentwood citizens.



DRIVER TRAINING



ACTIVE ASSAILANT/ VICTIM RESCUE



TECHNICAL RESCUE



AREA PEER SUPPORT



REGIONAL FIRE OFFICER COURSE

(Funded with fireworks money; taught by KFD)



TEN WAYS TO LIFT A CAR



TORCH WORK



RING REMOVAL



RESCUE



EXTRICATION



LADDER OPERATIONS



PUBLIC EDUCATION/ PUBLIC RELATIONS

- The Kentwood Fire Department participated in several city-sponsored events, such as Touch A Truck, July 4TH, National Night Out, Trunk or Treat, Holiday Light Parade.
- Fire Department personnel attended safety days at local businesses, job fairs, hosted car seat safety checks, read at schools, and others.
- Fire Prevention Month (fall) and Chemistry of Fire (spring) programs in area schools are annual events.
- In cooperation with Kent County partners, the inclusive preparedness training series for people of all abilities was a highlight for participants and presenters.



4TH OF JULY

TRUNK OR TREAT



BACK TO SCHOOL



TOUCH A TRUCK



CAREER EXPO



FIRE PREVENTION MONTH



CHEMISTRY OF FIRE



PREPAREDNESS



- With graphics from the U. S. Fire Administration/FEMA and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), fire safety tips were posted on the City's social media.



UNION ACTIVITIES

- The Kentwood Professional Fire Fighters Union (KPFFU), IAFF Local 3174, donates to the local community each year.
- In one project members contributed funds to provide 45 complete ham dinners to Southeast Kelloggsville families at Christmas time.



UNION ACTIVITIES

- The KPFFU held the first Kentwood Fire Fighters Ball in 2018.
- This is planned to be an annual event during which personnel will receive awards and commendations earned during the year.



INTERESTING INCIDENTS



Sweet Express 3060 Breton SE March 24, 2018

Alarm Time: 3:28 AM

First unit on scene reported heavy smoke from all sides of the commercial building. Fire fighters entering the building found fire in the mezzanine, with heavy smoke and heat throughout the building.

Grand Rapids and Cascade Fire Departments provided mutual aid.

Kentwood DPW assisted with heavy equipment.

Estimated Loss: \$1,800,000









Wingate Apartments 3133 Creek Dr. February 10, 2018

- Alarm Time: 4:45 AM
- One person suffered smoke inhalation at this blaze. Units en route could see a column of smoke from 44th and Shaffer, and the Police Department on scene reported full involvement of an apartment building.
- Grand Rapids provided mutual aid. The Red Cross assisted with relocating and providing support to displaced residents.
- The fire began in a third floor bedroom and extended into the attic.
- A citizen video illustrates the scene.
- Estimated loss: Over \$1 million. Most residents were uninsured.



Residence

1924 Andrew SE

March 24, 2018

At 4:21 AM, while all Kentwood personnel were committed to the Sweet Express fire on Breton, Kent County Fire advised that there was a structure fire on Andrew. Chief Looman left the Breton fire and arrived on Andrew with Wyoming, Cutlerville, and Grand Rapids fire units.

Fire on the back deck had extended into the living room.

The fire's cause was undetermined.

Estimated loss: \$145,000



Residence

1756 Riva Ridge SE

August 26, 2018

The Kentwood Fire Department, with automatic aid from Grand Rapids and mutual aid from Cascade, responded to a well involved fire in a residence at 3:55 AM.

The origin of the fire is believed to be under the deck in the proximity of the air conditioning unit.

Estimated Loss: \$520,000





4200 PATTERSON SE
January 25, 2018
Stabilization struts for extrication



436 44th ST. SE
February 17, 2018
Car versus utility pole



2502 BLUFF MEADOWS March 7, 2018 Vehicle Fire



PATTERSON & BROADMOOR (Cascade Township) April 11, 2018 Victim Extrication



5068 BRETON

April 5, 2018

Dump/plow truck fire



225 SORRENTO DR SE
(Automatic Aid to Cutlerville)
May 12, 2018
RV/Structure Fire



36TH & EAST PARIS
May 17, 2018
Motor Vehicle Accident



MOBILE HOME FIRES

544 PRINCE ALBERT SE
July 13, 2018



3044 SLATER SE
July 29, 2018



4175 WALNUT HILLS DR SE
July 23, 2018
Cooking Fire



4447 EASTERN SE
July 13, 2018
Power Line Down



3305 S. CREEK DR. SE

August 2, 2018

Underground Water Leak (6" of water in apartment building)



5438 PINEBROOK SE
September 20, 2018
House Fire (extreme fire load in basement)



KALAMAZOO & SUNNY CREEK
October 24, 2018
Complex patient extrication



4910 KRAFT SE (Cascade Township)
December 13, 2018
Warehouse Fire



THANK YOU

