



The Extinguisher



**DEPARTMENT
UPDATES
04/07/23-04/14/23**

It has been a busy week in the area with brush fires. Earlier this week, we had back to back days of brush with the largest topping out at approximately 3 acres. With the dry conditions and unseasonably warm weather prior to the green leaf cover coming out, the fire weather index has been very high. Great work by all on the calls that we have had this week, quick attack and extinguishment kept them both relatively small. The Harris St. Fire required mutual aid from Paxton, Rutland, WBFD, Sterling and Boylston with Leicester EMS providing EMS coverage for the afternoon. The fire moved very quickly across the dry leaves but luckily did not burn that deep. Staffing is an important part of the mitigation of these fast moving brush fires so if you are available, please come in for the callbacks.

On 4/26/23, FF/Medic Trevor Olson will work his last tour of duty for the department. He will be leaving to take a position with the Westborough Fire Department. Trevor has worked for HFD since his hire under the SAFER grant in 2019 and still continues to serve in the military. We wish him well in his next chapter.

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, we are looking closely at year end spending. If you have an idea for a piece of fire/ems equipment that needs to be replaced (within reason), training equipment or new equipment, please let us know as soon as possible. It will be much easier for us to plan if we have the necessary information sooner rather than later.

STILL LOOKING FOR MEDICS TO COVER 5/20, PLEASE EMAIL WITH AVAILABILITY. FF Ryan Pescaro's wedding is on that date and we are looking for coverage. There will be multiple shifts available, so any career or call member who is cleared to work shifts that has availability, please email me to be put on the list. We will need medics, EMT's and an Officer. I would like to get coverage for Group 1 well before the wedding date.

Rutland has updated their alarm cards. In summary, Engine 4 will be auto aid for any reported structure fire in their town, regardless of the district.

Fire Prevention

- 1. Jefferson Mill Project – the project is progressing rapidly- Floors 2 and 3 are generally enclosed with Sheetrock- Currently installing wood floors/ tiling. Sprinkler system still not active. Temp fire alarm system is still active. Gas is on throughout the building. Still be cautious for holes in the walls/ floors that are part of the construction. Installation of permanent water and electric systems in the building is currently on going. Phase 2 building closest to Main Street is showing more activity with crews analyzing the structure/ conditions for the final design. This building is still considered dangerous but there will be construction/ design crews working in it.**
- 2. The new Greenwood II Subdivision on Union Street is starting to be occupied. Familiarize yourselves with the where it is and how to access the homes.**

Vehicles

- 1. Car 3 – The parts and equipment have been delivered to the dealers location in Framingham and the upfit of the vehicle begins on Monday.**
- 2. Car 2 – Body work is complete, vehicle is back in service**

3. Ambulance 4 – We were notified this week that construction of the new Horton ambulance is scheduled to begin on 4/18. This would project for a delivery date in July.

Training

1. District 8 Fire Instructor/Fire Officer Training – The fire district is hosting both a Fire Instructor and Fire Officer training program. These programs will be taught by Chief Officers in the district and will mirror those put on by the MFA. Because department's are having difficulty getting FF's into any MFA programs, the local delivery model is being utilized around the state. The Fire Instructor program will start on 5/2 and run for 5 consecutive Tuesdays from 8a-4p. The Fire Officer program will start on 9/7 and run for 4 weeks 8a-4p. Those who take the Instructor program will get first preference on the Officer program. Anyone interested, please contact me prior to signing up or to get the application.