



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

ROSTRAVER CENTRAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

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ROSTRAVER CENTRAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

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TO OUR COMMUNITY

We are pleased to present this report on behalf of the dedicated members that make up our department. Calls for assistance have held near an average of 600 calls per year, nearly 2 per day. We continue to rely on the tremendous support of our community and the Rostraver Township Commissioners to fund our operational program. Our members completed a project to renovate the operational area of our Fellsburg station this year. 2023 has brought several opportunities through the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters grants program for us to further our Community Risk Reduction and operational goals.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Rostraver Central Volunteer Fire Department is to provide protection of life, property, and the environment from the effects of fires, medical emergencies, and hazards. We will maintain a constant state of readiness to respond to all requests for services through training, maintenance of equipment, and a desire to serve our community.

ABOUT US



WHO WE ARE

Our department is made up of over 40 personnel, professionally trained in fire, rescue, emergency medicine, and hazardous materials response.

WHAT WE DO

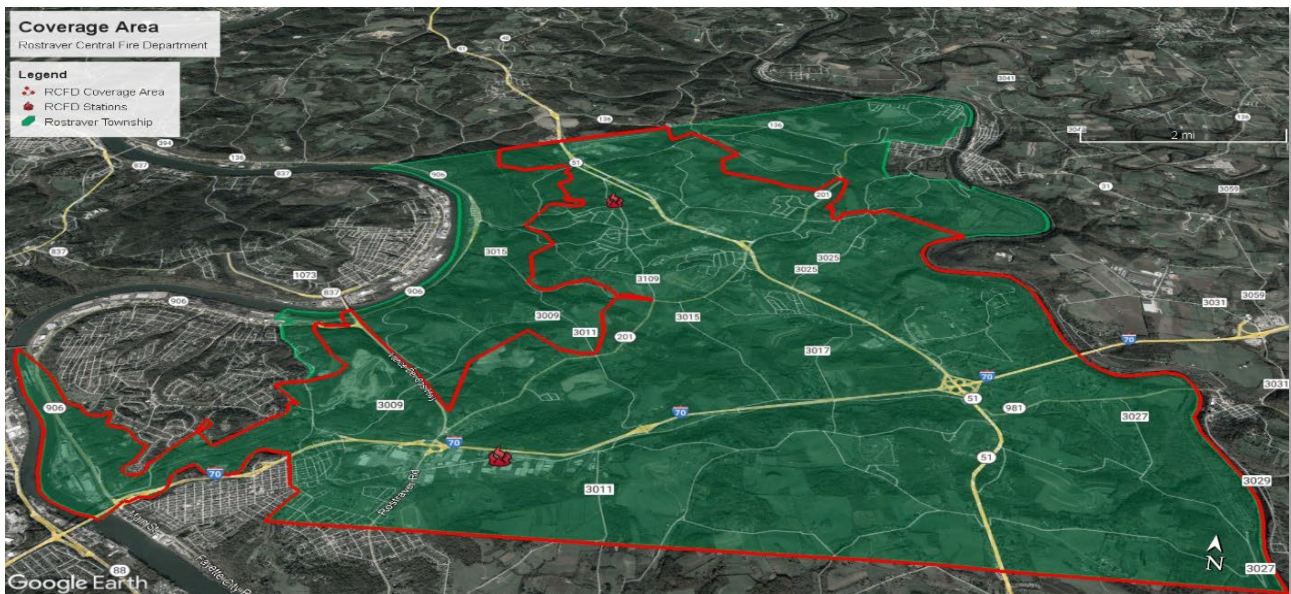
Our firefighters provide an “all-hazards” response to calls for assistance in Rostraver Township and surrounding communities. The organization places an emphasis on preventing emergencies before they occur via Community Risk Reduction. These efforts include fire & life safety education, and targeted risk reduction activities. As part of community outreach, personnel participate in community events and deliver educational content.

HOW WE DO IT

Our department operates out of two fire stations, located in Fellsburg and in the Finley Road business district. These stations house 4 fire apparatus including 2 engines, a tower ladder, and a utility vehicle, as well as a UTV. The Fellsburg station also houses a satellite vehicle of the Westmoreland County Hazardous Materials Response Team.

WHERE WE SERVE

Rostraver Central provides primary service to neighborhoods including but not limited to Fellsburg, Larson Plan, Shawnee Point, Sweeney Plan, Willowbrook Farms, Willowbrook Ridge, Willow Links, Ann-Jon Estates, Renaissance Heights, Oak Ridge Estates, Marian Woodlands, Cedar Creek Estates, Port Royal Village, Concord, Van Meter, Todd Manor, Cedar Hills, Rosemont Plan, Clair Manor, Rostraver Estates, Allen's Crossroads, Woodland Acres, Pricedale, and Lynnwood. Rostraver Central also provides primary service to the Rostraver Township portions of Route 51 and Interstate 70.



2023 HIGHLIGHTS



HOME KEY BOX PROGRAM

The department was awarded a 2021 FEMA Fire Prevention & Safety (FPS) grant to establish a no-cost Home Key Box program for Rostraver Township residents. This program utilizes secure key vaults from the Knox Company that fully integrate with the township's commercial key box program. To date, more than 30 key boxes have been distributed to township homes.



SMOKE ALARM PROGRAM

Aligning with the Home Key Box program, a 2022 FPS grant was awarded for a smoke alarm distribution program. The goal of the initiative is to install working smoke detectors on every livable floor of all township homes. The grant also provides funding for specialized alarms for hearing impaired residents. Nearly 150 homes will receive free smoke alarms in 2023 through the program.



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION GRANT

Rostraver Central has identified, through annual needs assessments, that better compliance with NFPA 1720-Rural, the standard for organization and deployment of fire suppression operations, is a cornerstone of service improvement to our community. To build upon that goal, we received a 2021 FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) grant. This award has allowed us to begin a four-year program to recruit and retain active, trained firefighters. The components include an on-duty/on-call stipend program, physicals and personal protective equipment for new members, tuition and training reimbursement, and funds for marketing.

FIRE COMMISSIONER VISIT

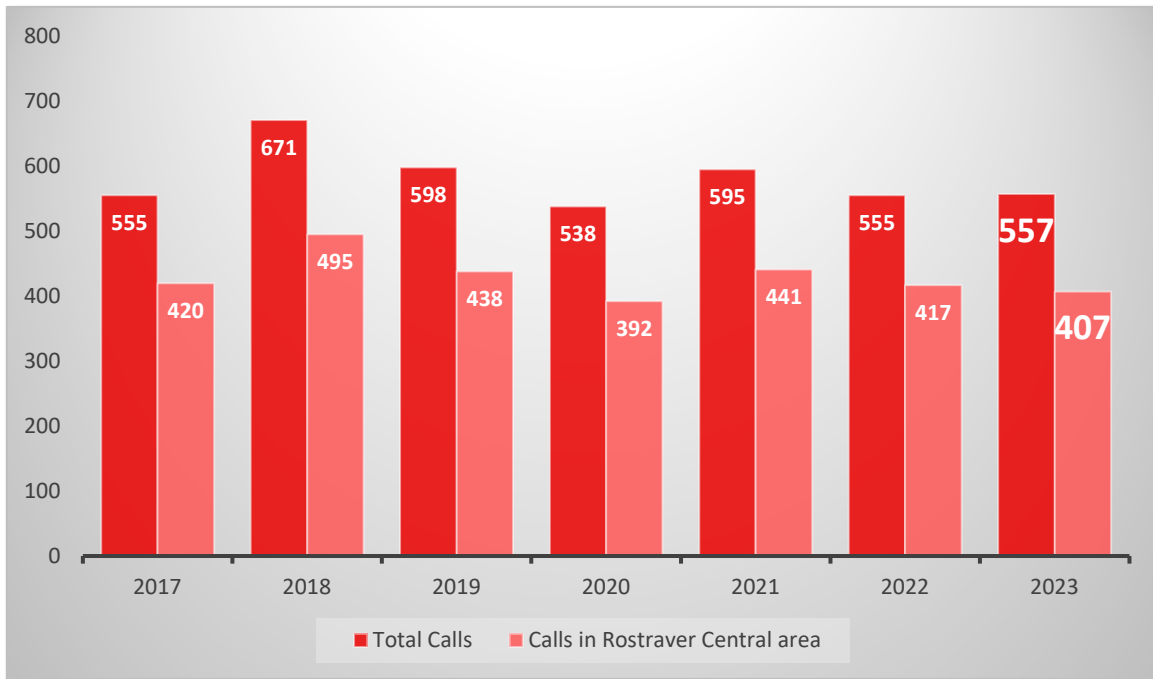
In September, Pennsylvania Fire Commissioner Tom Cook visited Rostraver Central Fire Department. Commissioner Cook is the first appointee to serve in the Office of the State Fire Commissioner as a cabinet-level position. He was invited to the area by Pennsylvania Representative Eric Davanzo. He delivered information on initiatives underway for the benefit and advancement of emergency services in Pennsylvania and fielded questions from fire departments in the 58th Legislative District that attended.



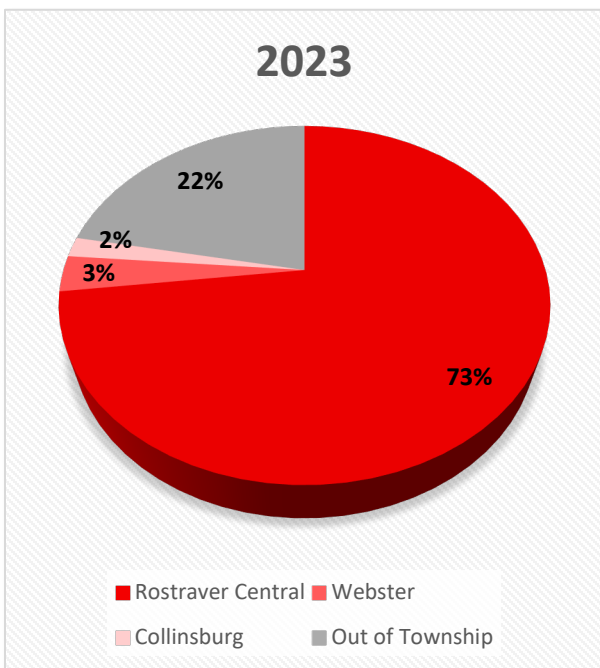
RESPONSE STATISTICS

Rostraver Central has seen consistent call volume over the last five years, where approximately **3/4** of the requests for assistance are in the Rostraver Central primary response area of Rostraver Township.

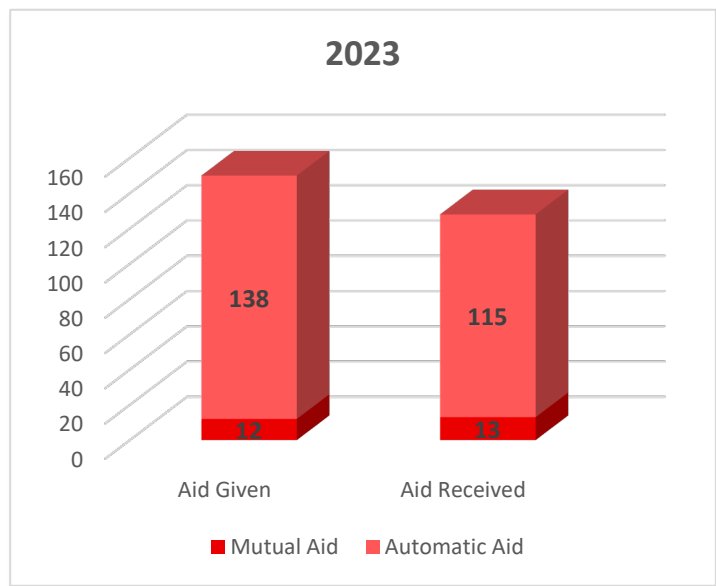
CALL VOLUME BY YEAR



CALLS BY AREA



AID RESPONSES

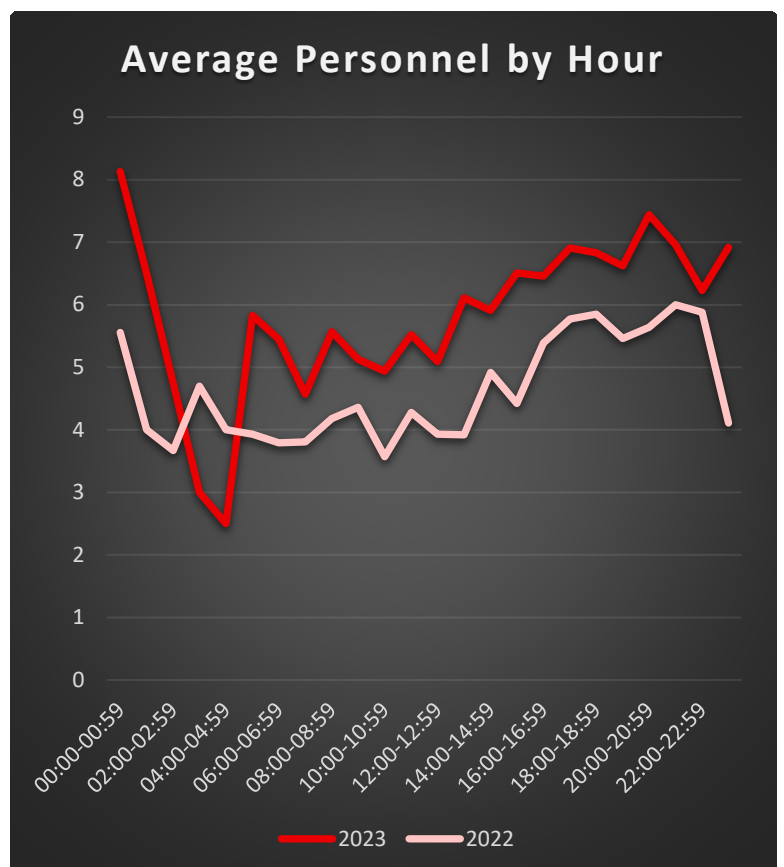
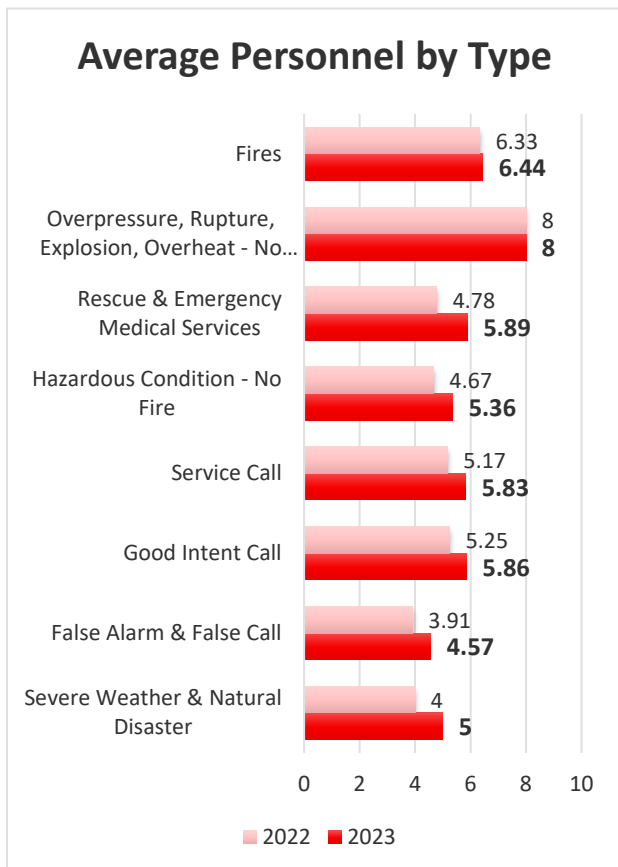


CALLS BY INCIDENT TYPE



RESPONSES BY PERSONNEL

In 2023, our members provided 3,415 individual responses to incidents, totaling over 1,815 personnel-hours on scene. Average time from dispatch to scene was 6 minutes 1 second, including 1 minute 13 seconds turnout time and 4 minutes 48 seconds from station to scene. On-duty staffing and on-call stipends provided by the SAFER grant program have improved personnel response and turnout time from the previous year.



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION



Rostraver Central conducts a robust Fire & Life Safety Education program that reaches K-6 students annually during Fire Prevention Week as well as community and youth groups throughout the year. In 2023, we recorded over 3,000 contacts via our life safety education program.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The fire department serves as one of the anchors of the community. Not only does that provide a platform to promote safe living initiatives, but Rostraver Central encourages our members to participate in neighborhood events to build stronger relationships with the community. Throughout the year, our members attended more than 20 community events, including parades, National Night Out, and our annual Christmas Eve tour with Santa Claus.



KNOX BOX PROGRAM



The Rostraver Township Commissioners adopted Ordinance 751 of 2022 requiring all new commercial occupancies as well as existing buildings with fire protection systems to install Knox key boxes to allow rapid entry by the fire department in the event of an emergency. Since voluntary implementation of the program in 2014, more than 30 commercial buildings have installed key boxes. Our department continues to work with Township Code Enforcement to increase adoption and code compliance. Introduction of a home key box program in 2023 has expanded availability to residential properties across the township.