City of Copperas Cove
Information Item
June 18, 2013

Fire Department Annual Report

Contact – Michael Fleming, Deputy Fire Chief/Fire Marshal, 547-2514
mfleming@copperascovetx.gov

SUBJECT: **Fire Department Annual Report for calendar year 2012.**

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Annual Report is a summary of activities of the Copperas Cove Fire Department prepared each year.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The Fire Department's Annual Report for calendar year 2012 has been prepared to better inform the City Council and Citizens of the functions and efforts of the Fire Department. In reviewing the report, aspects of the Fire Department may be discovered that many have not been previously aware of. It is the Department's goal to serve the Citizens of this community in the most professional, effective, and efficient manner possible.

3. FINDINGS/CURRENT ACTIVITY

The Fire Department Annual Report for 2012 is attached.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no direct cost or impact with the attached report.

COPPERAS COVE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

COPPERAS COVE FIRE DEPARTMENT
415 S. MAIN STREET
COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS 76522
(254) 547-2514
fire@copperascovetx.gov

On the front cover : Citizens of Copperas Cove learning to put out a fire during the Citizens Fire Academy conducted during the month of March, 2012.

Proudly Serving
The Citizens Of Copperas Cove

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Copperas Cove Fire Department is to protect and enhance the quality of life in the *City Built for Family Living* through a comprehensive program of services delivered by an excellent team directed towards providing education, prevention, and control in the areas of fire, rescue, medical emergencies, and disasters.

Values Statement

The Copperas Cove Fire Department will continually strive to exceed our citizen's expectations working within a healthy, safe and innovative environment that enhances the professional and efficient delivery of emergency services. We will strive to be an organization providing community safety education and information, keen to anticipate, influence and embrace change.

CORE VALUES

Professionalism
Respect
Integrity
Dedication
Excellent Service

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A Message from the Fire Department

[redacted]

It is with great pride and honor that the officers and members of the Copperas Cove Fire Department present this CY-2012 Annual Report. The data contained in this report serves as testament to the professionalism and dedication of our firefighters and staff.

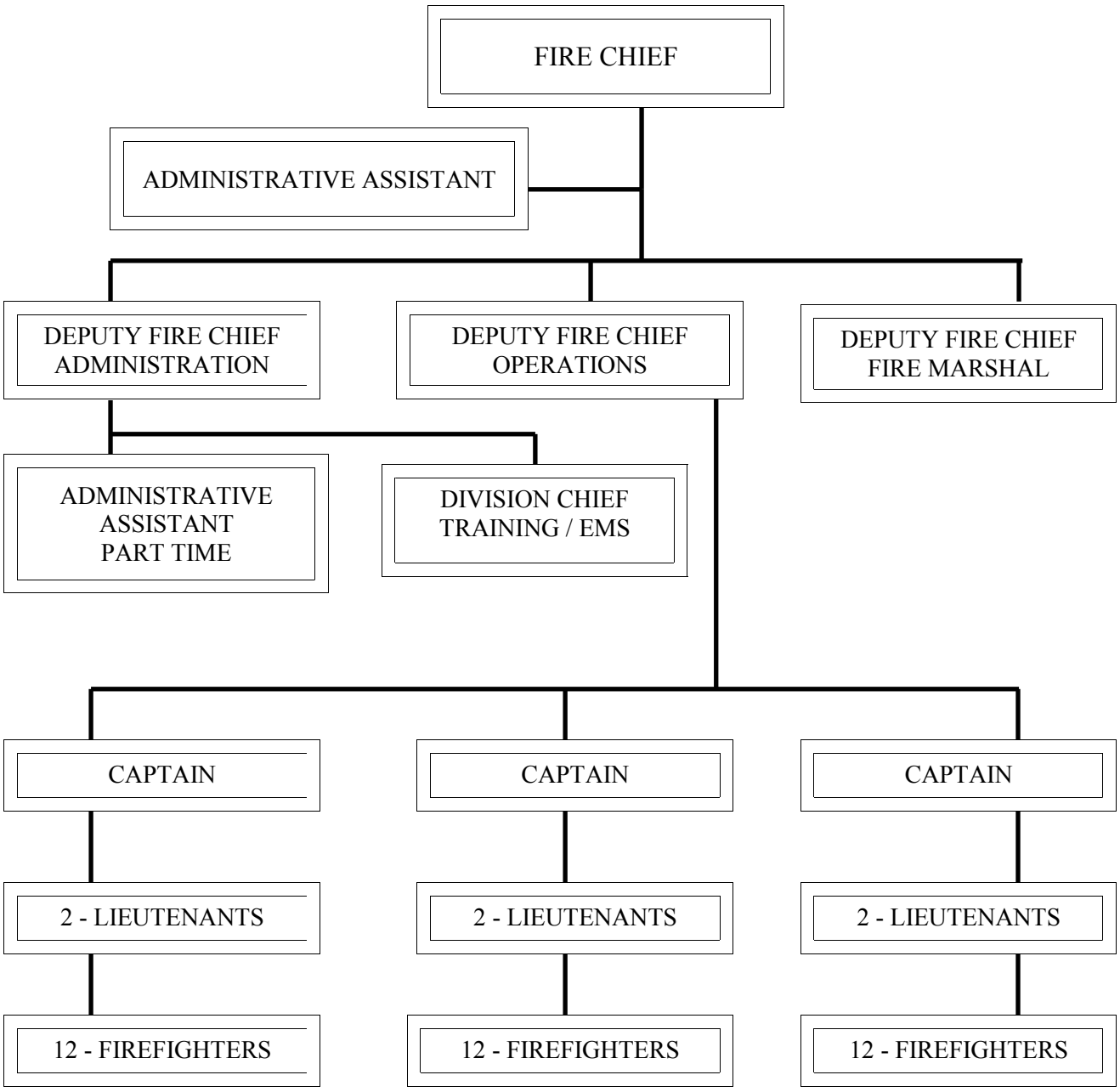
We are thankful for the tremendous support received from our citizens, City leaders, and the other departments we have worked alongside during the reporting period.

Our value to the community is measured directly by the services we provide. We pride ourselves on delivering the highest quality services to those who live, work and visit our community.

Our promise is to always try our best and to never stop trying. Some choose to see problems with every opportunity but we choose to see opportunity in every problem.

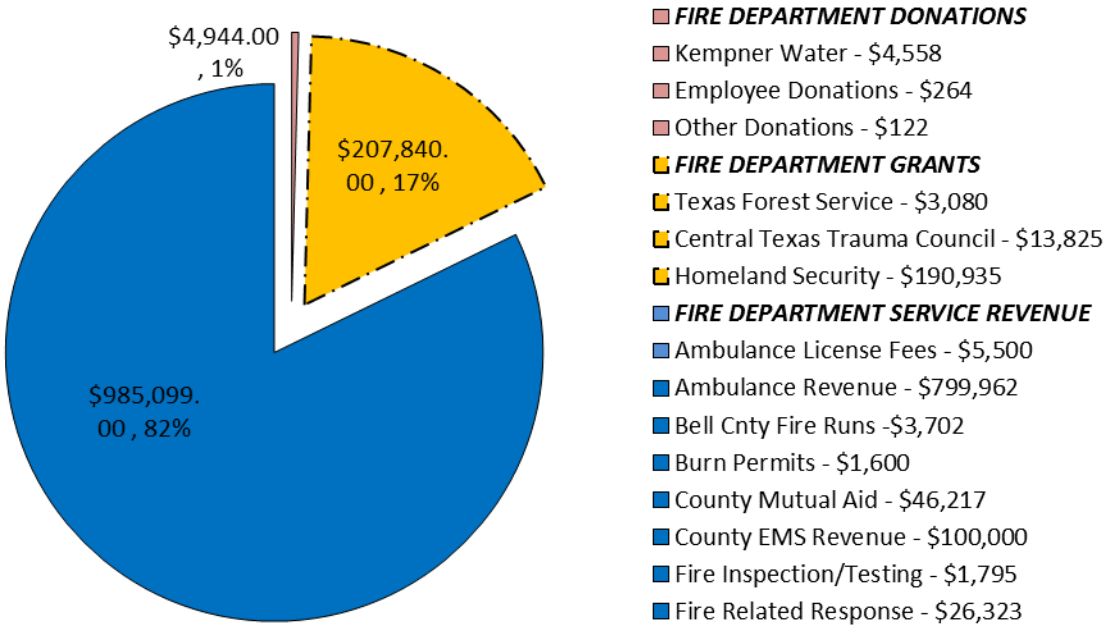
We invite everyone to visit the Copperas Cove Fire stations and meet the wonderful people who make it all happen.

Copperas Cove Fire Department
Organization Chart

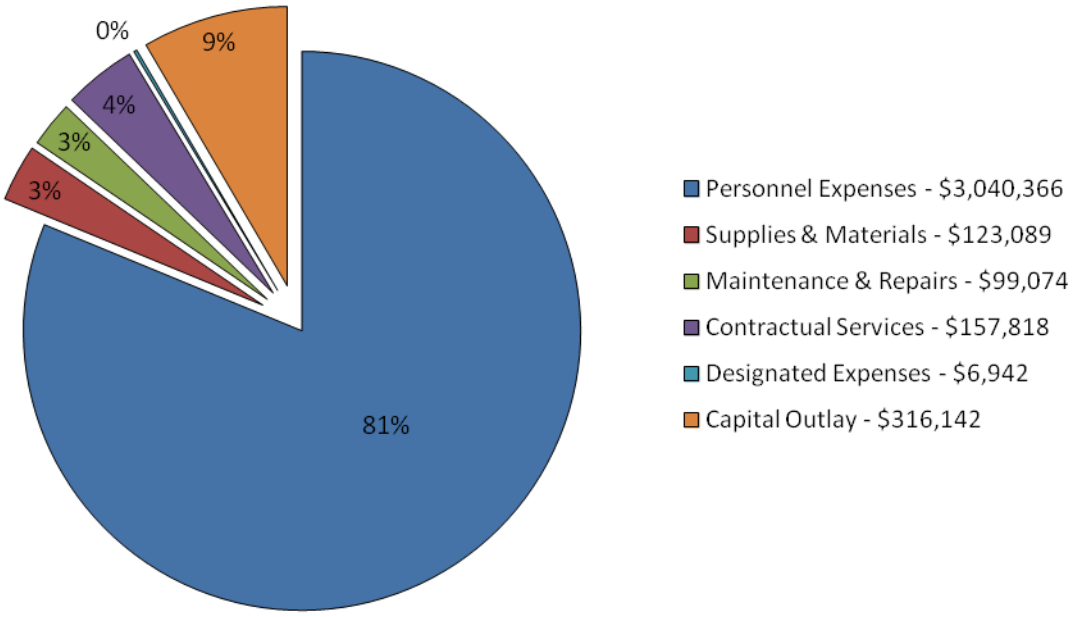


REVENUE & EXPENSES

COPPERAS COVE FIRE DEPARTMENT REVENUE
$1,197,883



COPPERAS COVE FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES
$3,743,431



ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Gary Young, Deputy Fire Chief

The Copperas Cove Fire Department Administration Division supports the department by providing administrative oversight to the entire fire department. The Administration Division is staffed with the Fire Chief, Administrative Assistant, Deputy Fire Chief of Administration/ Emergency Management Coordinator and a part-time Administrative Assistant.

The Administration Division provides strategic oversight to the department and supports the fire department staff as they provide the tactical resources necessary to fulfill the strategy. Additionally the Administration Division is responsible for the overall fiscal responsibility of the department and ensures that all financial matters are handled in an efficient and expeditious manner in accordance with City Policy and Local Government Code.

The Administration Division is also charged with the responsibility of ensuring regulatory compliance with the Texas Commission on Fire Protection and the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Texas Commission on Fire Protection

OPERATIONS DIVISION

Michael Ramminger, Deputy Fire Chief

The Operations Division of the Copperas Cove Fire Department is staffed by 47 members led by Deputy Fire Chief Michael Ramminger. With the exception of the Deputy Chief and administrative assistant, all department members work 24 hour shifts in a rotating 24 on/48 off manner. Fire department staff operate out of three fire stations strategically located in the city.

The Operations Division is responsible for emergency responses inside the city limits of Copperas Cove as well as over 100 square miles outside of the city limits. Responses outside of Copperas Cove include Bell, Coryell, and Lampasas Counties as well as Fort Hood.

The Operations Division is tasked with fire suppression, rescue, hazardous materials and emergency medical services responses. Other responsibilities include daily maintenance of all apparatus and equipment; daily maintenance of the facilities; and assuring preparedness levels of all personnel. Firefighters train daily on all types of life and fire safety procedures and policies, training topics include map districts, firefighter risk prevention and safety and medical protocols, fire department policies and city policies.

The members of the Operations Division stand ready to respond 24 hours a day 365 days a year. The professional women and men who staff this division work very hard to keep the trust of the citizens by providing rapid responses, fast solutions to problems, and to treat each person with the dignity and respect that they deserve during what most consider to be one of the worst moments in their lives.

The fire department responded fire apparatus to 1,320 calls for service and responded ambulances to 3,102 calls for service. Top three fire responses were 726 Rescue & Emergency Medical Service which includes motor vehicle collisions, 177 Hazardous Conditions which include arcing power lines, gas leaks and chemical spills, and 152 Fires including in homes, businesses, vehicles and grass/brush and 177 Hazardous Conditions which include arcing power lines, gas leaks and chemical spills. We transported 2257 patients to a hospital.

A-Shift Personnel

Officers

Captain Scott Howard

NOT PICTURED
Lieutenant Walter Munsel

Firefighters

Dwane Cummings
Jay Foster
Shelli Miller
Matthew Harper
John Moser
Kristopher Hurst

NOT PICTURED
Charles Johnson
Matthew Musick
Monte Priest
George Romfh

B-Shift Personnel

Officers

Captain Eric Watson
Lieutenant James Bednar
Lieutenant Alan Mainville

Firefighters

Trevor Barclay
Mark DiGiacomo
Jeremy Lydon
Tanja Martin
Jamie Stayton
Matthew Thomas
Brandi Wolfe

NOT PICTURED
Cody Bible
Michael Brazill

C-Shift Personnel

Officers

Lieutenant Steve Clendenen
Lieutenant Robert Hicks

NOT PICTURED
Captain Carla Polidoro

Firefighters

Carol Ballesteros
Mike McGuire
Cody Scaff
Marcus Waechter
Ethan Westbrook

NOT PICTURED
Heather Frink
Zachary Avants
Carlos Mariduena

TRAINING DIVISION

James Piper, Division Chief of Training/EMS

The Training Division supports the training and education requirements of the fire department employees. Every uniformed member of your fire department holds, at a minimum:

- Basic Firefighter (Texas Commission on Fire Protection)
- Emergency Medical Technician (Texas Department of State Health Services)

The Texas Department of State Health Services and the Texas Fire Commission offer various levels of advanced certification, as well as require many hours of continuing education to keep the levels of certification currently held.

Texas Commission on Fire Protection:
Intermediate Firefighter (4yrs as a Firefighter and several advanced classes)
Advanced Firefighter (8yrs as a Firefighter and additional advanced classes)
Master Level Firefighter (12yrs as a Firefighter & 60 hrs of College with focus on Fire Service)
Fire Instructor
Fire Investigator
Fire Inspector

Texas Department of State Health Services:
EMT- Intermediate
EMT- Paramedic (1 yr intensive training program)
EMS Instructor

The Training Division works very diligently to meet the needs of fire department employees and more. It also serves as the logistical and administrative hub for all Emergency Medical Services (EMS) operations. The Training Division works intently to ensure continued smooth operation and outstanding medical care for the citizens of Copperas Cove.

In 2012, the Training Division offered numerous certification classes to our firefighters and officers. We also partnered with neighboring fire departments to offer this training to their members as well to increase the knowledge base of the entire area and to ensure continued smooth operations with our mutual aid departments.

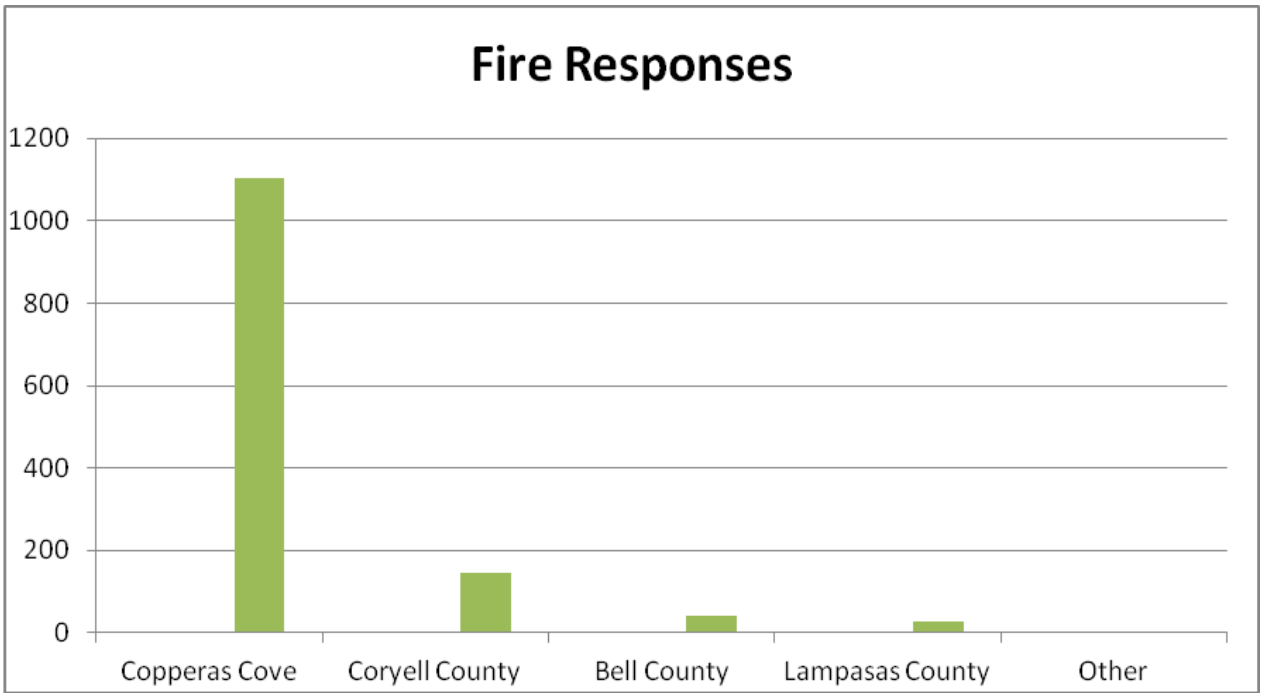
Driver/Pump Operator, 80 hrs (3 different offerings)
Fire Instructor 1, 40 hrs
Fire Officer II, 40 hrs

With certifications obtained from the classes listed above, many of our members were able to increase the level of their Structural Firefighter certification to Intermediate and Advanced levels.

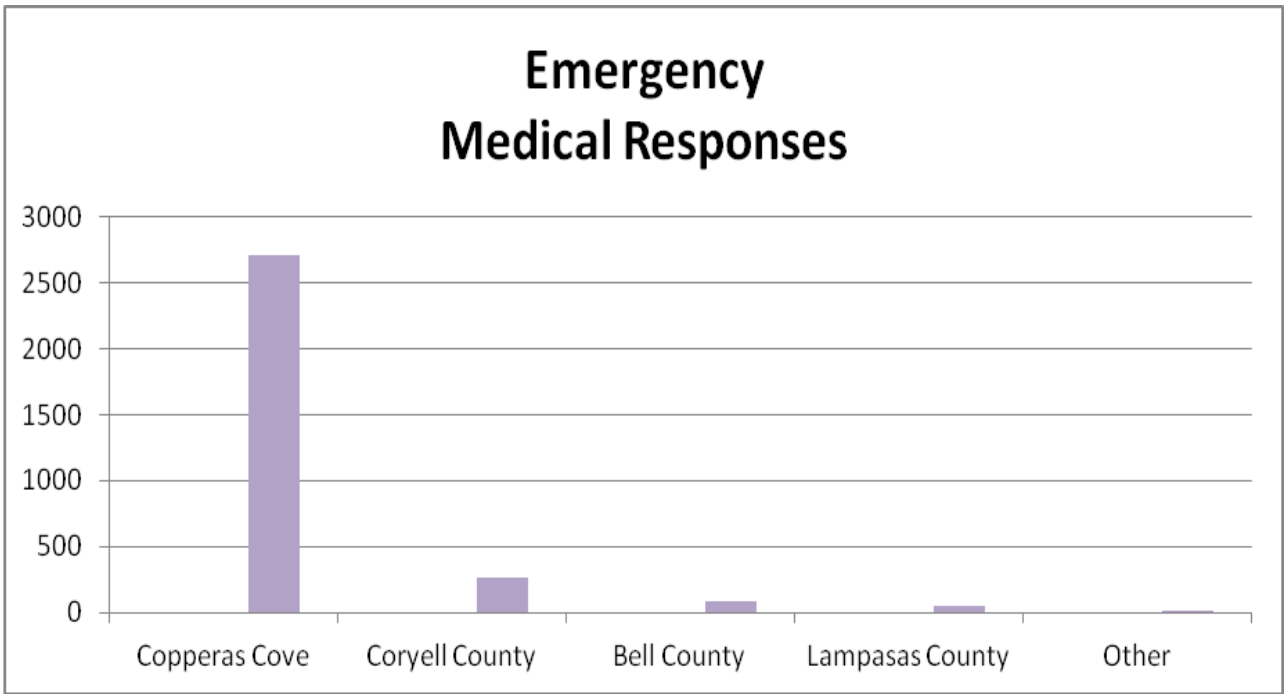
In 2012 five students graduated from the Central Texas College Paramedic Program. This very intensive one year program is a significant accomplishment and helps add to the response capability that the Copperas Cove Fire Department provides through our EMS Division. In August of 2012 two more staff began paramedic school and we anticipate the graduation of Firefighter Matt Harper and Lieutenant Alan Mainville in the summer of 2013.

The Training Division is looking forward to 2013 as we have numerous certification classes scheduled to help enhance the knowledge and ability of our firefighters and officers to perform for our citizens. The classes already scheduled for 2013 are:

Fire Inspector, 160 hrs
Fire Instructor I, 40 hrs
Fire Officer I, 40 hrs
Incident Safety Officer (3 different offerings)
Driver/Pump Operator, 80 hrs
Arial Apparatus Operator



- 1320 Total Fire Responses
- Other includes Burnet County and other areas we do not have specific agreements with and requests for intrastate mutual aid during disasters like hurricanes and wildland fires



- 3102 Total EMS Responses
- Other includes Burnet County and other counties we do not have specific agreements with and requests for intrastate mutual aid during disasters like hurricanes

FIRE PREVENTION

Michael Fleming, Deputy Fire Chief / Fire Marshal

The Division of Fire Prevention receives its authority from the adopted 2009 International Fire Code and from City Ordinances, and is responsible for three (3) main support areas of the fire department.

- Fire Code Development and Enforcement
- Fire Investigations (Origin and Cause)
- Public Education and Community Safety

Fire Code and Development - Fire Inspectors work closely with the City Building Official to ensure that all buildings meet the requirements of the 2009 International Fire and Building Code, and the City Code of Ordinances. This includes:

- Plans review for new construction and alterations/remodeling
- Inspections of all new buildings
- Routine inspections of existing buildings
- Plans review and inspection of fire protection systems
- Enforcement of applicable codes
- Development and communications of fire codes.

Fire Investigations – Fire Investigators are charged by city charter to investigate the cause of all fires within the city limits of Copperas Cove. If the fire is determined to be intentional (arson) the investigator(s) will closely work with the police department to identify the perpetrator(s) and to pursue criminal charges.

Public Education and Public Safety – The Division of Fire Prevention (with the assistance of the entire Fire Department) is responsible for spreading the message about fire and life safety throughout the City of Copperas Cove. The division develops and implements programs that teach children and adults about fire and life safety, and emergency prevention. This is accomplished through public appearances, demonstrations, and station tours. Fire Prevention Week is the pinnacle of public education with assemblies in every elementary school. Department personnel also participate in health and safety fairs, career days, witnessed fire drills, and fire extinguisher training for the public.

The Fire Prevention Division can be reached by calling 254-547-2514. You may also visit the Fire Station 1 at 415 South Main Street. Hours of operation are 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Sparky the Firedog – Sparky is the official Copperas Cove Fire Department mascot making several appearances at many different community events. Sparky is known nation wide and when children see him they relate him to fire safety. Sparky is a registered trademark of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Fire Prevention Statistics	2011	2012
Total Inspections	430	160
Violations Found	276	120
Corrections	137	81

Station Tours & Public Presentations	2011	2012
Adults	712	1373
Children	2317	4527

SPARKY THE FIRE DOG REMINDS YOU THAT FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2013 WILL BE OBSERVED OCTOBER 6-12

Office of Emergency Management

The City of Copperas Cove's Office of Emergency Management is charged with maintaining the City's Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan. Included in these duties are maintenance of the plan documents, security of the plan, and training on and dissemination of the plan. The City currently has an Advanced Level Plan. This plan was updated in 2011 in accordance with State requirements and approved by the Texas Department of Emergency Management.

The goal of Emergency Management is to provide preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery to our community in the event of disaster. Emergency Management staff conducted a local discussion-based exercise and participated in a regional disaster exercise to test and evaluate various aspects of meeting that goal. The department also participated in regional events through our mutual aid agreements. These included assisting with the wildfires in north Texas and in our surrounding communities.

Additionally, during the year, preparedness information provided by FEMA's *Ready Campaign* and by Texas' *Ready or Not* program was provided to the public on a daily basis using various means of distribution. This information is provided to the public on the City's government access television channel, the City's Facebook page and website, and is available in printed materials that can be picked up at the Copperas Cove Fire Department located at 415 South Main Street.

We will continue to deliver preparedness information and training for the community and staff. To find out what you can do to be prepared or about trainings that might be available to you, visit any of the sources listed above.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

A new emergency back up generator was purchased and installed at Station 3. It replaced a 12 year old generator that had quit working and was unable to be repaired due to lack of the availability of repair parts. The Generator supplies limited power to the Fire Station to ensure that vital systems continue to function when commercial power mains are without power.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The department received a Bauer Mini Unicus air compressor and air storage system. The air compressor and storage system is used to fill firefighter air packs (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)). The Bauer unit replaced a Bauer Mariner compressor that was about 18 years old. The Bauer Mariner provided almost two decades of service to the department before it was retired.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Wildland Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was purchased for all firefighters. The Wildland PPE is the most suitable protective apparel for firefighters who are engaged in extinguishing wildland fires. The Wildland PPE is different than the traditional structural PPE that fire departments are most commonly known for. The wildland environment is very different than a structural environment thus the reason why each member now has wildland and structural PPE.

Community Service

Citizens Fire Academy

The Citizens Fire Academy is a public education class offered annually to the public . Each year the class accommodates 15 students as they learn about the services the Copperas Cove Fire Department provides. The goal of the course is to increase fire and life safety awareness, as well as to promote a positive image of the department to the community.

The Academy is an eight week program consisting of classroom and hands-on participation with rescue tools, hose lines, and fire extinguishers. Participants ride-out with firefighters to experience first hand the responsibilities and capabilities of their firefighters in a real world setting. The highlight of the academy is a Saturday "play day" where attendees experience actual firefighting of a car fire while wearing full protective equipment. They also use rescue tools to cut doors and roofs off of cars and perform a search for victims in a smoke-filled environment with a thermal-imaging camera.

Mentoring Industrious Minds and Educating Students (M.I.M.E.S.)

Each year the Copperas Cove Fire Department sponsors the M.I.M.E.S. camp which selects 7th grade students from Copperas Cove Junior High School and S.C. Lee Junior High School for a week long glimpse into the fire service.

The students spend five full days at the fire station interacting with firefighters and learning how math and science skills apply in the working world. They are also mentored in leadership roles by serving as a "Company Officer" of the day. Firefighters reinforce character and conduct standards such as honor, integrity, honesty, and professionalism. The students also learn about basic first aid and CPR; city government and how it applies to the structure of the fire service; fire science; math; and many other subjects.

The week ends with the history and traditions of the fire service. Students wear full protective clothing and breathing apparatus to search a smoke filled room, fight a car fire, and extinguish a liquid hydrocarbon fire. It is a very educational and exciting week for both the students and the firefighters that participate!

Stations

Station 1
415 S. Main Street

Engine 1	Pumper Truck
Engine 11	Pumper Truck (Reserve)
Engine 111	Pumper Truck (Reserve)
Medic 1	Ambulance
Medic 11	Ambulance (Reserve)
Battalion 1	Command Vehicle

Station 2
1208 West Avenue B

Engine 2	Pumper Truck
Medic 2	Ambulance
Medic 22	Ambulance (Reserve)
Booster 2	Brush Truck

Station 3
1050 W. Hwy 190

Ladder 3	Ladder Truck
Booster 3	Brush Truck
Medic 3	Ambulance

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Flag Pole Dedication Ceremony September 11, 2012

COPPERAS COVE FIRE DEPARTMENT
415 S. MAIN STREET
COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS 76522
(254) 547-2514