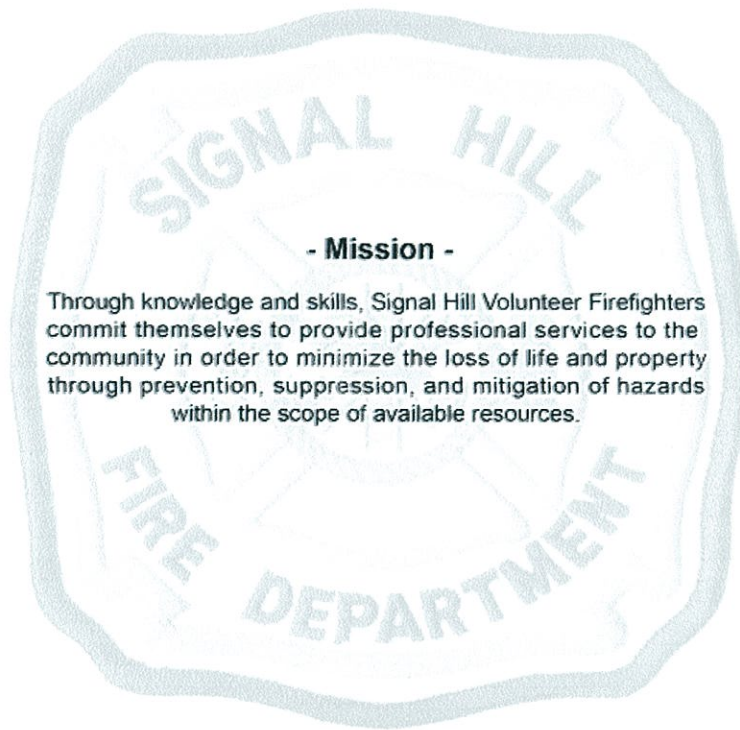


Signal Hill Fire Department 2011 Annual Report



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SIGNAL HILL Fire Department

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January 11, 2012

To: The Residents and Corporate Citizens of the Signal Hill Fire Protection District
Members of the Signal Hill Fire Protection Association, Inc.
Board of Trustees, Signal Hill Fire Protection District

It is my privilege to provide to you the Signal Hill Fire Department's 2011 Annual Report. The intent of this report is to summarize the Department's activities for the year. The statistical data, and analysis thereof, provides the occasion to monitor the service levels to our customers and contrast them with nationally accepted norms. The Department continually seeks opportunities to enhance its operations in order to better protect and serve.

The Fire Department's website (www.SHFD.net) has been redesigned and contains additional information. Therefore, most of the statistical information contained in previous Annual Reports will now be posted on the website. The website also contains a "member's only" section to better keep the Department's membership informed.

It is unknown what year Richard F. Smith began as volunteer firefighter. Fire Department personnel files were virtually non-existent back then. What is known is that for the better part of his adult life, Richard had a history of helping others. Richard worked as a custodian at both Signal Hill School, the United Methodist Church and volunteered with the local Boy Scout troop. He always had a story and time to listen. Richard died on October 11th.

The Fire Protection District's Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) fell by \$5,630,996 or about 5.95%. This is a result of the reassessment of Stookey Township. The largest decrease was in "residential" values, a \$4,951,358 reduction from 2009.

A drive-by survey suggests there are many vacant homes in the Fire District. No data is immediately available to determine exactly how many homes are unoccupied. What is apparent however is that there are vacant homes in almost every neighborhood within the Fire District.

Unoccupied and unkempt homes can negatively impact the value of adjoining properties. Another consequence of unoccupied structures is they are subject to vandalism. The Department responded to one structure fire in an unoccupied home in 2011. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

EMERGENCY – DIAL 911

New construction starts were up very slightly. Building permits were issued for three single-family and one two-family villa structures.

The Department responded to 137 incidents in 2011. (For comparison purposes, there were 155 incidents in 2010.) Six of these incidents were structure fires. Five of these fire incidents resulted in relatively little to moderate property damage. The sixth structure, an electrical fault ignited a dishwasher. The fire extended to the upper wall cabinets and melted a plastic water line that supplied the dishwasher, extinguishing most of the fire. Despite the limited fire spread, heat and smoke damage to the condominium unit were extensive.

Over three inches of rain fell on June 26th, which resulted in an unusual request for services. The rain run-off water rushed into a garage and knocking over open containers of gasoline, the vapors spread throughout the house making it uninhabitable. The home suffered significant damage due to water and the gasoline contaminated contents and wall board.

Volunteer firefighter retention was fairly stable. Two volunteers resigned citing lack-of-time. Volunteer recruitment initiatives placed four new volunteers on the roster. More importantly, the Department averaged 12 firefighters per structure fire incident, in-district. This exceeds a national accepted standard for structure fires.

In April, the Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluated the Fire Department for conformity to its Public Protection Grading Schedule. As of December 31, 2011, the Department is still awaiting the results of this review.

Three grants were received in 2011. A grant from the Illinois-American Water Company was used to replace Education & Training manuals. An Illinois Public Risk Fund grant funded personnel accountability control point cones and air cylinder staging tarps.

A State of Illinois grant, via St. Clair County, funded reshaping of the drive on the west end of the training building to improve drainage, a concrete training pad. A new sidewalk at the rear of the firehouse was added along with epoxy floor covering. The total amount of this grant was \$25,000.

The Department completed acquisition of several 800 megahertz radios under the auspices of a regional grant awarded to the Belleville Fire Department in 2010. These radios are for improvement of a regional plan to improve interoperability.

The Signal Hill Fire Department's success is a tribute to the extraordinary women and men who support our community on a daily basis. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Respectfully,

Greg

Greg L. Render, E.F.O.

Administrator/Chief of the Department

January 3, 2012

In 2011, the Signal Hill firefighters invested 2359.95 hours in training for the community. This amount was comparable to 2010, but slightly down from the previous couple of years. With the number of persons anticipated to take the basic firefighter classes at Southwestern Illinois College, there should be a rebound in store for 2012.

While most of the year was spent working towards refining our skills, the fall of 2011 became very challenging to schedule. In October, the Illinois Fire Service Institute from the University of Champaign presented a class on propane fires. This class was conducted jointly with the Northwest, Villa Hills and Fairview Fire Departments.

Also in October, our firefighters joined Villa Hills and Northwest at the Southwestern Illinois College Fire Science Training Center for training in a multi-story building. This training consisted of working with the other agencies for hose line advancement, and search and rescue.

Then in November, we worked with Villa Hills and Northwest with auto extrication procedures. This was a new focus for the firefighters working with other departments for extrications. Primarily in the past, we have done structural firefighting training with other departments.

Firefighter Sandra Jones completed all of her state testing and received her certificates in 2011 for Firefighter II, Technical Rescue Awareness, and Hazardous Materials Operations. Mark Bagby completed classes and was certified in Confined Space Rescue Operations and Rescue Specialist - Confined Space, and Ann Ellis became an Emergency Medical Technician – Basic. After taking the Hazardous Materials Operation Class in 2001, Jace Wilderman completed all of the testing and received his certification in 2011.

Improvements were made on the firehouse grounds which added a concrete pad for training purposes. This pad was utilized for auto extrication training this year and created a cleaner more realistic environment for the scenarios. Special thanks go to former State Representative Tom Holbrook for obtaining the grant for the department which provided funding for this project.

As always, thank you to everyone who assisted with teaching duties throughout the year, and special thanks to the firefighters for their efforts to attend not only the regular training sessions, but also the extra classes and sessions that were set up in 2011.

Tom Elliff

Assistant Chief/Training Coordinator

Signal Hill Fire Department
 NFPA Fire Experience Survey

01/01/2011 to 12/31/2011

Part III: BREAKDOWN OF STRUCTURE FIRES AND OTHER FIRES AND INCIDENTS

A. FIRES IN STRUCTURES BY FIXED PROPERTY USE	Number of Fires	Civilian Casualties		Property Damage
		Deaths	Injuries	
1. Private Dwellings	9	0	0	108,000
2. Apartments	3	0	0	80,500
3. Hotels and Motels	0	0	0	0
4. All Other Residential	0	0	0	0
5. TOTAL RESIDENTIAL FIRES	12	0	0	188,500
6. Public Assembly	0	0	0	0
7. Schools and Colleges	0	0	0	0
8. Health Care/Penal	0	0	0	0
9. Stores and Offices	0	0	0	0
10. Industry/Utility	0	0	0	0
11. Storage in Structures	0	0	0	0
12. Other Structures	0	0	0	0
13. TOTAL STRUCTURE FIRES	12	0	0	188,500
B. OTHER FIRES AND INCIDENTS				
14a. Highway Vehicles	2	0	0	8,800
14b. Other Vehicles	0	0	0	0
15. Non-Structure/Non-Vehicle	1	0	0	0
16. Brush/Grass/Wildland	1	0	0	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
17. Rubbish/Dumpsters	2	0	0	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
18. All Other Fires	0	0	0	0
19. TOTAL FOR FIRES	18	0	0	197,300
20. Rescue/Emergency Med	6	XX		
21. False Alarms	26	XX		
22. Mutual Aid (Given)	47	XX		
23a. Hazmat Responses	5	XX		
23b. Other Hazardous Responses	18	XX		
24. All Other Responses	17	XX		
25. TOTAL FOR ALL INCIDENTS	137	XX		
		Number of Confined Fires	Number of Nonconfined Fires	
5. Residential Fires (line 5 above)	5		7	
13. Structure Fires (line 13 above)	5		7	

Signal Hill Fire Department

NFPA Fire Experience Survey

01/01/2011 to 12/31/2011

Part IV: BREAKDOWN OF FALSE ALARM RESPONSES

Type of Response	Number of Incidents
1. Malicious, Mischievous False Call	1
2. System Malfunction	11
3. Unintentional	13
4. Other False Alarms	1

Part V: INTENTIONALLY SET FIRES IN STRUCTURES AND VEHICLES

	Number of Fires	Civilian Casualties		Property Damage
		Deaths	Injuries	
1. Structure Fires Intentionally Set	1	0	0	65,000
2. Vehicle Fires Intentionally Set	0	0	0	0

Part VI: FIRE SERVICE EXPOSURES AND INJURIES

Total Number of Infectious Disease Exposures.....:	0
Total Number of Hazardous Condition Exposures.....:	0
Total Number of Nonfatal Firefighter Injuries.....:	0

On-Duty Fire Fighter Injuries (Nonfatal) by Type of Duty, and Nature of Most Serious Injury

Nature of Most Serious Injury	Respond/Return	At Fire Ground	Non-Fire Emerg	Train.	Other On-Duty
1. Burns	0	0	0	0	0
2a. Smoke or Gas Inhalation	0	0	0	0	0
2b. Other Respiratory Distress	0	0	0	0	0
3. Burns and Smoke Inhalation	0	0	0	0	0
4. Wound/Cut/Bleeding/Bruise	0	0	0	0	0
5. Dislocation/Fracture	0	0	0	0	0
6. Heart Attack or Stroke	0	0	0	0	0
7. Strain/Sprain/Muscle Pain	0	0	0	0	0
8. Thermal Stress	0	0	0	0	0
9. All Other	0	0	0	0	0
10. TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0

Fire Ground Injuries (Nonfatal) By Cause

1. Exposure to Fire Products	0	2. Exposure to Chem./Radiation	0
3. Fell, Slipped, Jumped	0	4. Overexertion	0
5. Stepped on/Contact With	0	6. Struck By	0
7. Extreme Weather	0	8. All Other	0

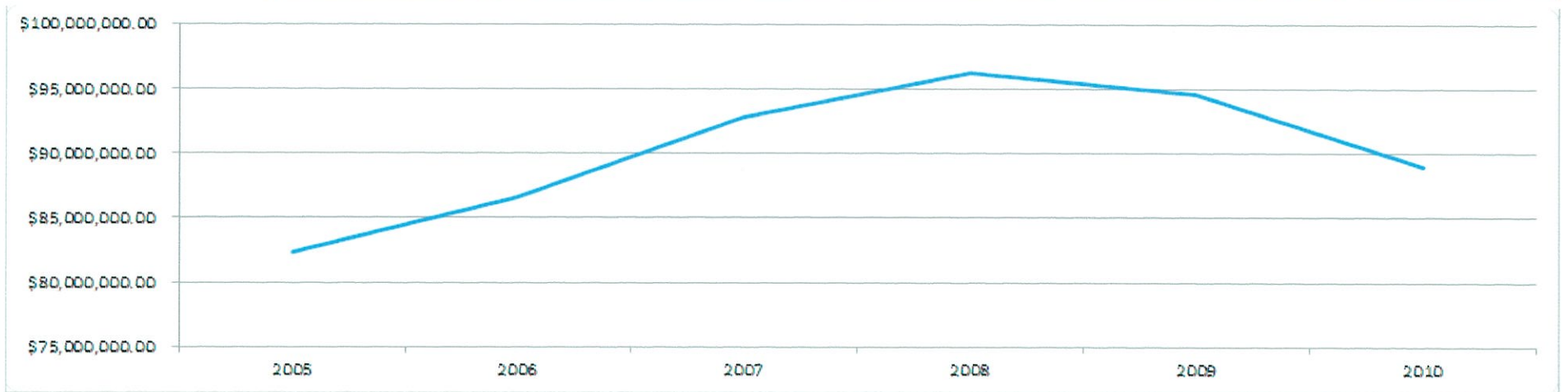
Number of Injuries Resulting in Lost Time: 0
 How many shifts were lost as a result of these injuries: _____

Fire Department Vehicle Accidents

Accidents involving fire department emergency vehicles: _____ Resulting injuries: _____
 Accidents involving firefighter's personal vehicles...: _____ Resulting injuries: _____

The Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) for the 2010 tax year is .

Tax Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Farm	\$2,446,812.00	\$2,579,424.00	\$2,778,289.00	\$2,676,048.00	\$ 2,685,821.00	\$ 2,709,492.00
Residential	\$72,803,725.00	\$77,407,130.00	\$83,424,099.00	\$86,290,906.00	\$ 84,664,873.00	\$ 79,713,515.00
Commercial	\$6,837,945.00	\$6,285,838.00	\$6,241,391.00	\$6,831,204.00	\$ 6,728,802.00	\$ 6,000,644.00
Industrial	\$40,575.00	\$42,763.00	\$45,878.00	\$48,009.00	\$ 48,053.00	\$ 46,355.00
Mineral	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Railroad	\$235,748.00	\$305,022.00	\$341,266.00	\$402,886.00	\$ 503,852.00	\$ 530,553.00
Local Railroad	-	-	-	\$4,637.00	\$ 4,637.00	\$ 4,483.00
Total	\$82,364,805.00	\$86,620,177.00	\$92,830,923.00	\$96,255,698.00	\$ 94,636,038.00	\$ 89,005,042.00



Number of public fire hydrants 147

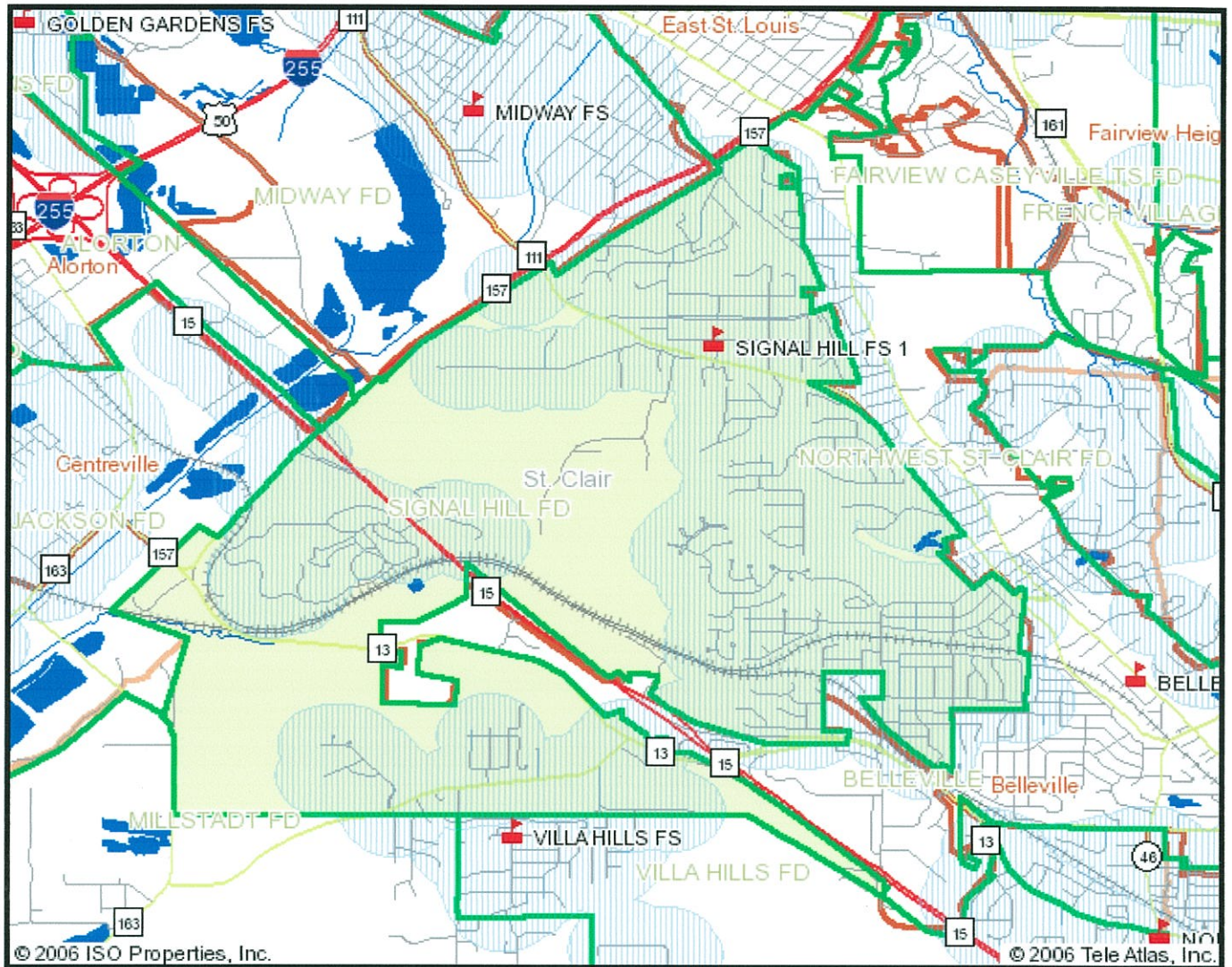
Number of private fire hydrants 22

* The Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for St. Clair County indicates that the average population per household in St. Clair County is 2.59 persons compared to the State of Illinois average of 3.13/household.

The Fire Department maintains a Fire Protection District address data base for mailing purposes. Currently, the data base has 2350 addresses. The data base does differ between residential – non-residential. In addition, the data base does not reflect whether or not a specific residential address is occupied.

** The aggregate EAV total is \$89,005,042 This adjusted total reflects Tax Increment Financing District totals.

State Railroad or state-assessed railroad refers to working track. Local railroad may refer to local assessments placed on property, buildings, other improvements, or non-working track owned by the railroad.



The Signal Hill Fire Department as earned an ISO Fire Suppression Rating Schedule of a 3/9 by the Insurance Services Office. Structures within 5 road miles of a first due engine company and within 1000 of a fire hydrant are a Class 3 Rating. There are no structures within the Fire Protection District that are more than 5 road miles from a first due engine company.

The properties indicated with hash marks on the ISO map indicate those properties within 1000 feet of a fire hydrant.

A Class 9 Rating applies to those properties beyond 1000 from a fire hydrant. There are 62 structures within the fire protection district that are beyond 1000 feet of a fire hydrant.

Signal Hill Fire Department

Aid Responses by Department (Summary)

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}

Type of Aid	Count
ALFD Alorton Fire Department	
Mutual aid received	1
Mutual aid given	2
	<hr/>
	3
BFD Belleville Fire Department	
Mutual aid received	1
Automatic aid received	1
Mutual aid given	2
	<hr/>
	4
FVFD French Village Fire Department	
Mutual aid given	1
	<hr/>
	1
FVHFD Fairview Heights Fire Department	
Mutual aid given	1
	<hr/>
	1
MWFD Midway Fire Department	
Mutual aid given	3
	<hr/>
	3
NWFD Northwest Fire	
Mutual aid received	1
Automatic aid received	18
Mutual aid given	1
Automatic aid given	12
	<hr/>
	32
VHFD Villa Hills Fire Department	
Automatic aid received	2
	<hr/>
	2

Signal Hill Fire Department

Overlapping Incidents

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}

Incident-Exp#	Alm Date	Alm Time	Clr Date	Clr Time	Overlaps (at least)		
					Incident-Exp#	Alm Date	Alm Time
11-0000066-000	06/19/2011	03:21:00	06/19/2011	03:45:00	11-0000065-000	06/19/2011	03:04:00
11-0000077-000	07/18/2011	08:45:00	07/18/2011	09:10:00	11-0000076-000	07/18/2011	08:02:00
11-0000101-000	09/22/2011	21:28:00	09/22/2011	21:49:00	11-0000100-000	09/22/2011	21:17:00
11-0000111-000	10/28/2011	18:48:00	10/28/2011	19:27:00	11-0000110-000	10/28/2011	18:46:00

Total Incident Count 137

Total Overlapping Incidents 4

Dollar Value Saved & Loss Analysis

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}

a

Incident Type	Count	Total Values	Total Losses	Total Saved	Percent Lost	Percent Saved
111 Building fire	5	\$2,129,000	\$213,500	\$1,915,500	10.03%	89.97%
131 Passenger vehicle fire	2	\$8,800	\$8,800	\$0	100.00%	0.00%
Grand Totals	7	\$2,137,800	\$222,300	\$1,915,500		

Total Percent Lost: 10.40%

Total Percent Saved: 89.60%

Primary Action Taken Report (Summary)

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}

Type of Action Taken	Count	Percent
10 Fire control or extinguishment, other	1	0.72 %
11 Extinguishment by fire service personnel	17	12.40 %
12 Salvage & overhaul	1	0.72 %
23 Extricate, disentangle	1	0.72 %
31 Provide first aid & check for injuries	3	2.18 %
45 Remove hazard	4	2.91 %
50 Fires, rescues & hazardous conditions, Other	3	2.18 %
51 Ventilate	3	2.18 %
57 Provide light or electrical power	1	0.72 %
63 Restore fire alarm system	3	2.18 %
73 Provide manpower	1	0.72 %
76 Provide water	1	0.72 %
78 Control traffic	7	5.10 %
84 Refer to proper authority	3	2.18 %
86 Investigate	55	40.14 %
91 Fill-in or moveup	4	2.91 %
92 Standby	4	2.91 %
92A Staged	3	2.18 %
93 Cancelled en route	22	16.05 %

Total Incident Count: 137

Signal Hill Fire Department

NFPA 1720 List by Alarm Date/Time

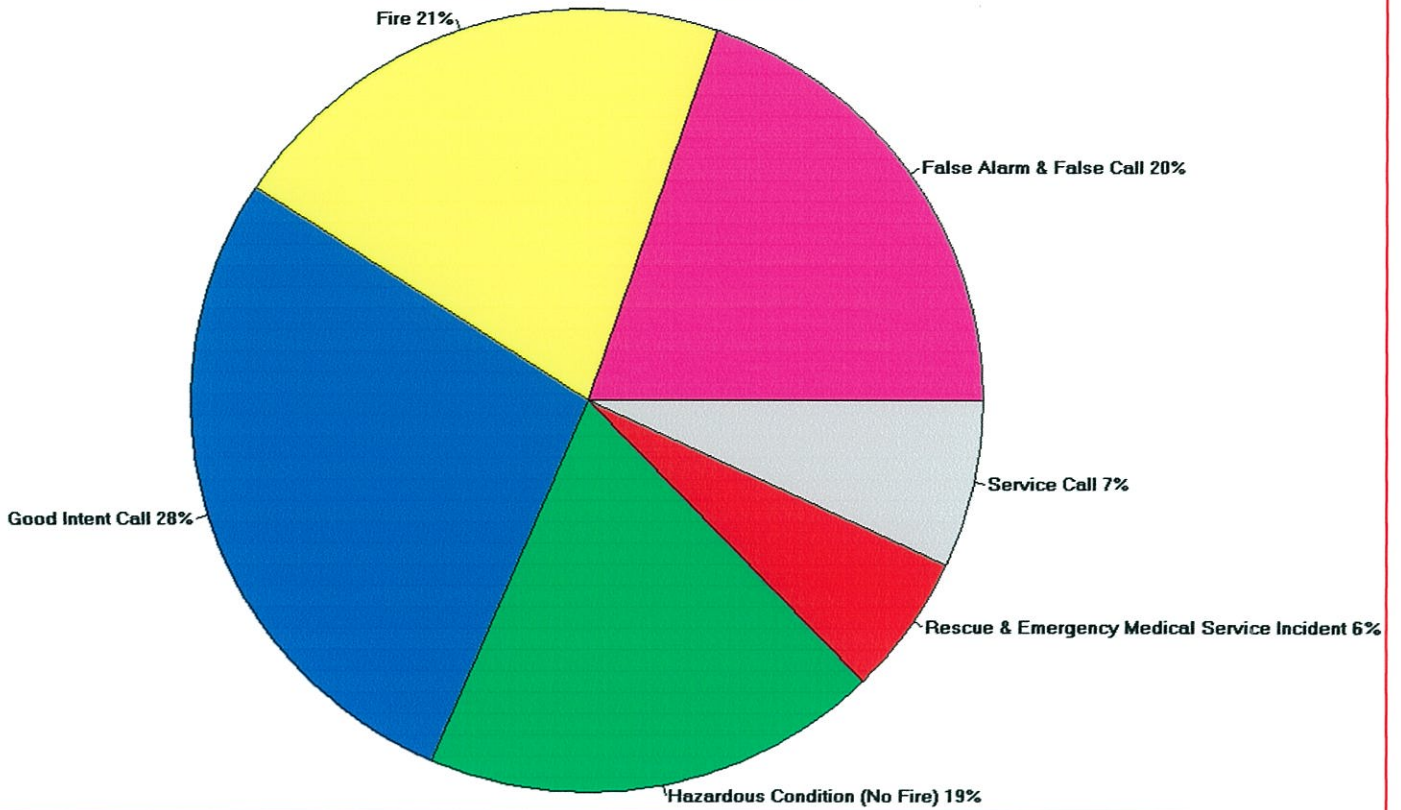
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}

a

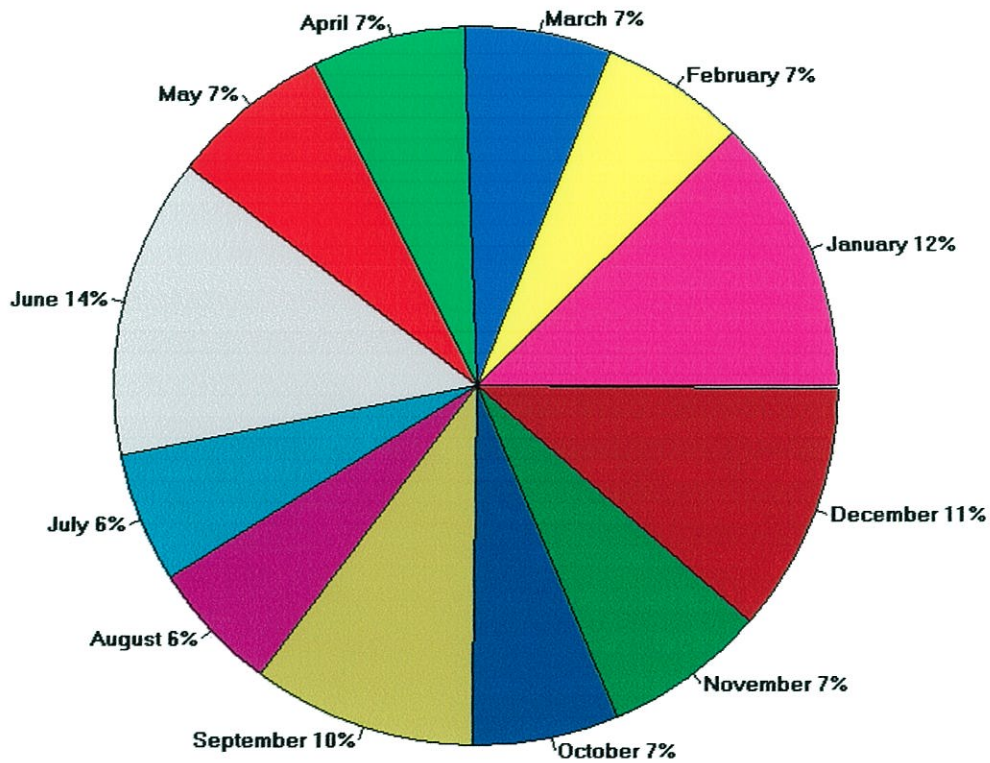
Incident	Alm Date	Alm Time	Inci Type	Req'd Volunteer Response	Resources Assembled		Capability to Attack	
					Date	Time	Date	Time
11-0000003	01/09/2011	17:41:00	111	Yes	01/09/2011	17:48:00	01/09/2011	17:48:00
11-0000045	05/06/2011	18:54:00	111	Yes	05/06/2011	18:56:00	05/06/2011	19:00:00
11-0000052	05/26/2011	00:07:00	111	Yes	05/26/2011	00:13:00	05/26/2011	00:13:00
11-0000078	07/28/2011	23:57:00	111	Yes	07/29/2011	00:06:00	07/29/2011	00:06:00
11-0000118	11/16/2011	13:27:00	111	Yes	11/16/2011	13:29:00	11/16/2011	13:29:00
11-0000136	12/31/2011	15:36:00	111	Yes	12/31/2011	15:41:00	12/31/2011	15:41:00

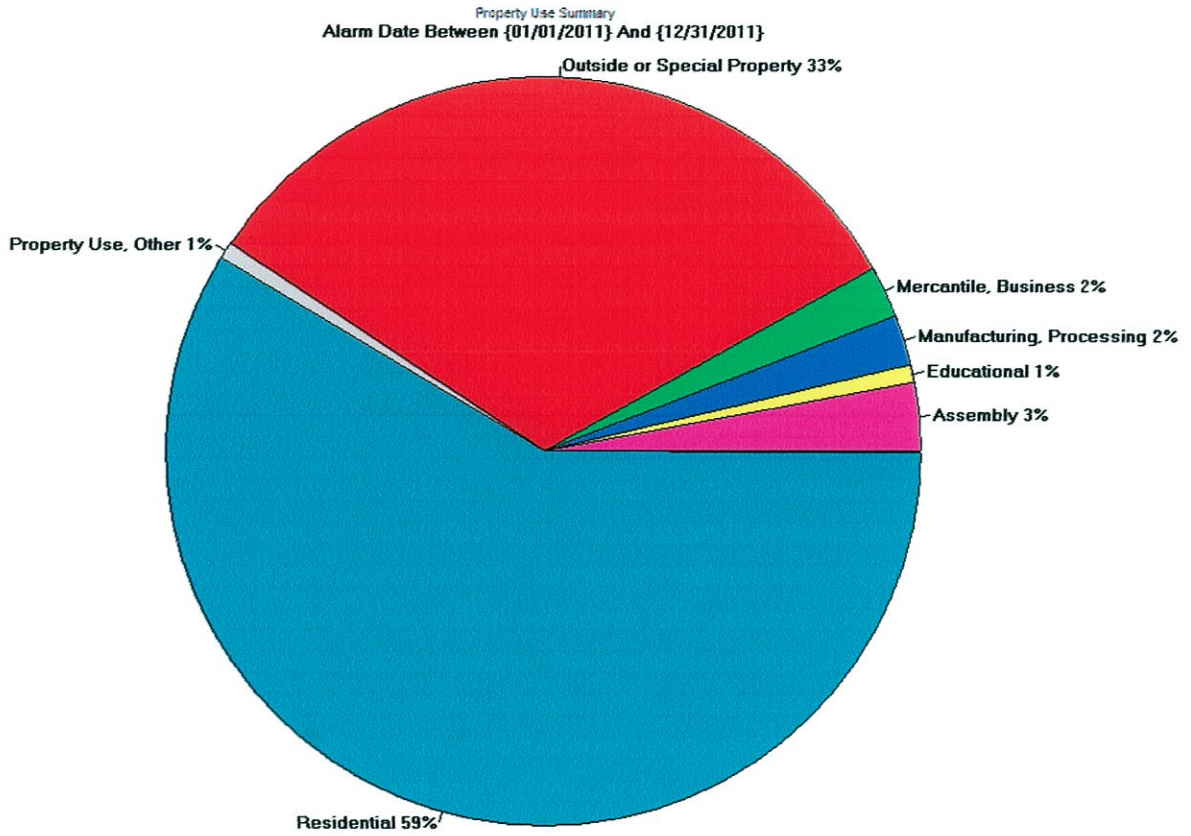
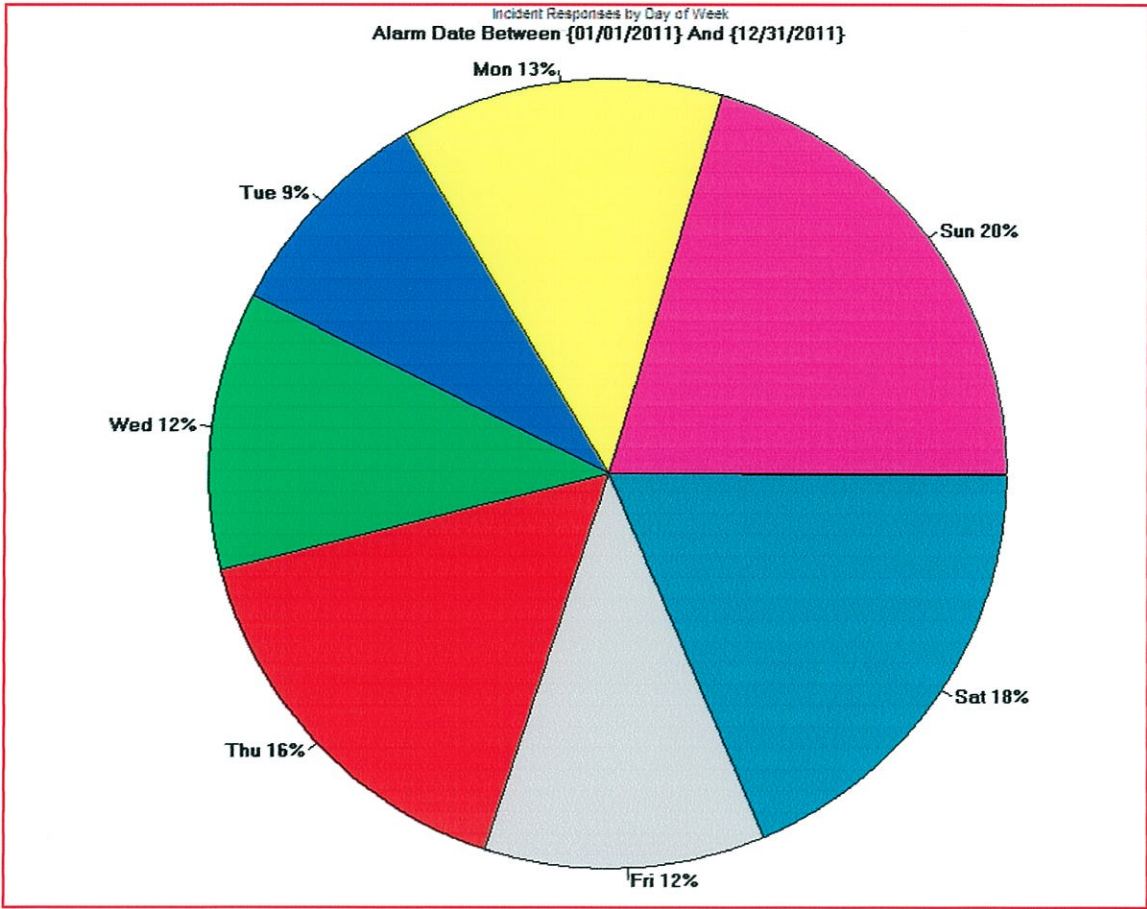
Total Incident Count 6

Incident Type Summary
 Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}



Fire vs EMS by Month
 Fire Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}
 EMS Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}





Average Minutes on Scene by Incident Type
 Alarm Date Between {01/01/2011} And {12/31/2011}

