

PERRY TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

NEWSLETTER

1980

To The People of Perry Township:

We, the members of Perry Township Fire Department, have put together this newsletter for you. It will tell you a little about the Fire Department and give you some ideas to help you in case of an emergency. The purpose of the Fire Department is to give all possible assistance at every alarm of fire, medical problem, or other emergency in Perry Township or areas adjacent to or outside the city limits of Evansville.

The primary job of a fireman is to save lives, save property and, most of all, to prevent fires and injuries. Please take the time to read the newsletter. If you have any questions, just contact any member of the Perry Township Fire Department for help.

Thank you,

The Members of Perry Township Volunteer Fire Department

ITEMS OF INTEREST

FIRE DEPARTMENT RATING CLASSIFICATION:

Recently, County Commissioners requested a survey to determine whether public fire protection facilities qualify your Township for an improved fire insurance classification. Perry Township Fire Department received a Class 6 rating for property within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant and a Class 9 for property beyond that distance. Farm property in this Township is eligible for a Class A farm credit. These rating classifications became effective on June 1, 1980.

What this means for you is a possible savings on your fire insurance rates. The change from Class 10 to Class 9 for a typical owner/occupied single family farm dwelling, insured for \$25,000, is a premium decrease of \$26 per year for a homeowners policy and \$41 per year for a dwelling policy. A change from Class 10 to Class 6 means premium decreases of approximately \$66 per year for a homeowners policy or \$74 per year for a dwelling policy.

Depending on the type of building construction, hazard of occupancy, and other rating features, the change from Class 10 to Class 9 can save you 7% and about 36% for a change from Class 10 to Class 6 on your fire insurance policy.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

In the past year we have had a tremendous increase in Medical Emergencies. Because of this increase, we need more members who are available for daytime hours. If you are interested and are available, please contact Dale Floyd at 985-3705 or John Barr at 985-3248 and they will answer any questions. There are several instructors in Emergency Medical care that will train you for these runs.

BLUE LIGHT:

The State of Indiana has appointed the blue flashing light to Volunteer Fire organizations. When you see an automobile with a blue light flashing, the driver is a volunteer fireman on his way to a fire or a medical related emergency. Please grant this vehicle the right-of-way. He could be on his way to your home.

PHONE STICKERS:

Attached to the newsletter you will find phone stickers to be placed on your phones in case we are needed. The five different suburban Fire Departments have each been assigned a different colored phone sticker. Please note the color of the attached phone sticker. It is orange which is the color assigned to Perry Township. In case a member of your family does not know his township, all he needs to do is tell the Sheriff's Department the color of the phone sticker and the dispatcher will know which department to send.

If more phone stickers are needed, just contact any member of the Perry Township Fire Department.

HOUSE NUMBERING:

We are in the process of upgrading the house numbering system in the county. If you have a Rural Route number and a Box number, we are asking you for your cooperation. Contact the Area Planning Commission for a house number. All you need is a copy of the legal description or a copy of the deed to your property. Getting a house number will enable Fire, Sheriff, and Ambulance personnel to easily find your home in case any of these services are needed. Those extra minutes saved could mean a life!!!

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES:

Medical emergencies are constantly on the rise. Already this year, we have made over 100 more medical runs than at this same time last year. To help with getting immediate emergency care to the sick or injured, Perry Fire Department is constantly upgrading our emergency first aid equipment. We have several Emergency Medical Technicians and First Aiders and are planning to have another EMT class later this year.

The first care given at an accident or serious illness can be the most important. With this in mind, we are being dispatched on medical emergencies along with an ambulance from a private company. This way, we can give immediate care and have vital information available for paramedic personnel upon their arrival and assist them in any way.

OPERATION "EDITH":

What is Operation EDITH? What does it do? Operation EDITH stands for "Exit Drills in The Home" and it helps train families to escape injuries and even death caused by fire.

Operation EDITH was formed because of the high number of deaths and serious injuries caused by fire due to people not knowing how to escape. It was formed because over 10,000 persons die each year from fire. More than half of these people are children and senior citizens. The majority of these deaths are home fires. Even though fire drills are required in schools, hospitals, and many businesses, they are neglected in the home. Also, it is proven that exit drills reduce chances of panic and injury in fires and that trained and informed people have a much better chance to survive fires.

EDITH will help you plan ahead before the emergency arises. Know what to do in case of fire. Appoint a "fire chief" in your family. Go to each bedroom and figure out two escape routes from each. Plan how each member of the family can reach the ground using the emergency exit. Decide on a specific meeting place outside the house. Make a diagram of each floor and mark the regular and emergency escape routes as well as the location of windows, doors, stairs, and halls. Place copies of the diagram where they will be a constant reminder. Finally, have fire drills. Make sure each member of your family knows each escape route and what to do in case of fire.

If you practice fire drills with your family in your house and know these basic rules, you can help EDITH save your life. If you need more information on Operation EDITH, contact Elmer Bruck at 423-3901 or John Barr at 985-3248.

HOME FIRE ALARMS:

Most home fires start between midnight and 6:00 AM. Usually most people are asleep. Smoke, not fire, is the major cause of death in a home fire; therefore, you need to be alerted before you are overcome by smoke. The best way to prevent this is to install some type of warning device.

Smoke detectors are the best warning device since they respond to fire rapidly. This is because they can sense smoke particles in even small concentrations. The detector then sounds an alarm that will alert your family to evacuate the premises and alert the Fire Department.

The detector needs to be positioned between you and the most probable source of fire and high on the wall or on the ceiling. There is a dead space where the wall and ceiling meet, so place the detector 6" from this dead space. Test these units frequently and be sure the type you use has been tested by a nationally known organization such as Underwriters Laboratory.

HOME FIRE EXTINGUISHERS:

You should never try to fight a fire unless it is quite small. It is advisable to keep a fire extinguisher in a convenient place such as the kitchen, basement, or garage to combat small fires.

Fire extinguishers are rated by the kind of fire they are most effective in containing. Type A is to be used on materials such as wood or paper. Type B is for flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil or paint. Type C is to be used for electrical fires. An extinguisher rated A,B, & C is the best since it may be used on all types of fires.

After getting a fire extinguisher, read the instructions carefully. Know how to use it and when it needs to be recharged. If you need information on the use of any fire extinguisher, just contact any member of your Fire Department.

CAN YOU FIND YOUR FIRE HYDRANT??:

If there is a fire hydrant near your home, can you see it?

Proper maintenance of a fire hydrant is important for proper fire fighting. Do yourself and us a favor and help keep weeds cut and trash picked up around hydrants. It is important for us to be able to have easy access to these fire hydrants in case of fire.

IN CONCLUSION:

We are a volunteer organization doing a professional job. The members are certified by the State of Indiana as fire fighters. New members are being trained to obtain this same certification. With your cooperation and your participation, we can be proud of the men and women who give their all in protecting the Township where we live.

Thank you,

The Members of Perry Township Volunteer Fire Department

Thomas M. Anderson, Treasurer, Captain	1526 Reiter Drive	425-0727
John P. Barr, Chief	7624 Syls Drive	985-3248
Elmer G. Bruck, Board Directors	701 N. Boehne Camp Road	423-3901
Robert F. Doerr, Board Directors and Captain	601 S. Peerless Road	425-9975
N. Dale Floyd, President, Captain	712 Agathon Drive	985-3705
Larry Krack, Board Directors, Captain	3309 Edgewood Drive	425-2099
Paul Kuester, Board Directors, and Assistant Chief	4801 Broadway Avenue	424-2316
Stephen Schneider, Secretary	518 Coffee Tree Lane	985-3135
Jerry R. Wilson, Board Directors	Box 219 Eichoff Road	985-5028
Harlon Ziliak, Vice President and Assistant Chief	2024 Koring Road	423-5988