



PERRY TOWNSHIP
Volunteer Fire Department
 5201 Middle Mt. Vernon Rd.
 Evansville, IN 47712

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Current Resident Or

Fall/Winter 2022 Newsletter

Thank you!

We appreciate your donations! If you haven't made a donation and would like to please use the attached envelope. The envelope can also be used if you want to order an address sign.

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Address	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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PERRY TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Serving the Residents of Perry & Union Township Since 1959!

LUCAS Device for CPR

Medical runs account for almost 80% of the incidents that we respond to each year. Many of these require the performance of Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). While the performance of high-quality CPR by fire department members has been the standard, it requires significant manpower on scene. Perry Township FD would like to acquire a LUCAS device to assist in performance of CPR.

The LUCAS device is a mechanical system that wraps around the patient's torso and performs the chest compression portion of CPR. It will never get tired, is battery operated, reusable, and would be available for 100% of our runs. Using the LUCAS device would free up our members on scene to help with other life saving measures.

We would like to raise \$15,000 for the purchase of one LUCAS device. We attempted to get \$40,000 of the \$35 million dollars in American Rescue Plan of 2021 money given to the county after the COVID pandemic but were unsuccessful with the County Council in receiving any funding. As a result, we are asking for donations to allow us to purchase our first LUCAS device. We would like to target training of our staff and get the device in service by Thanksgiving.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to allow us to increase our service capabilities, with this important piece of lifesaving equipment.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO KEEPING YOU SAFE...AND APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT OF US

OUR NEW LG HEAVY DUTY WASHING MACHINES

Thank You!

Thank you, donors! With funds from last year's newsletter, we were able to purchase 2 LG direct drive clothes washing machines. Our turnout gear gets sweaty on the inside liner and heavily contaminated on the outer shell. We will use two machines to prevent cross contamination as one machine is only for liners while the other is for shells. In the past the shell may have been sprayed down to remove the large visible contaminants,



and when the gear was nasty it was taken to a commercial cleaner to be laundered. Cancer research on firefighters and PPE has shown that the dangers of firefighter exposure to carcinogens and other hazardous materials is a serious problem. Having these machines in house and our new PPE cleaning policy will allow us to thoroughly clean our PPE as needed, helping to keep our firefighters healthy and safe.

FIREFIGHTER EQUIPMENT SPOTLIGHT FIRE HOOD

When entering a fire, a firefighter needs to wear a flame-retardant hood. The hood looks much like a ski mask, but with a wider facial opening. The large facial opening allows mask to hold in place and then goes over the top of it. The hood then protects anything not covered by the mask, like the ears, face, and neck for both thermal injury and particulate exposure. The hoods we wear are made of Nomex.

Based on NFPA standard 1851, a Nomex hood should be replaced every 10 years, or when sufficiently soiled. In recent years, several studies have come out showing that the hood retains many of the carcinogens that are given off by fires. The result of this, it is recommended that a hood be washed after every fire exposure to remove carcinogens. Unfortunately, washing reduces the life of a hood, but may increase the life of the firefighter.

While many pieces of our protective clothing are very expensive, hoods are more reasonably priced at about \$30 each. With roughly 50 members on PTVFD though, this cost adds up quickly.



SMOKE DETECTOR

A great time to replace smoke detector batteries is with the time change on Sunday, November 6th. The battery should be tested monthly to ensure they are in working order. Smoke alarms should be replaced 10 years after their manufactured date. Do you have enough and properly located smoke detectors?

We recommend:

- Install smoke alarms inside each bedroom.
- Install outside each sleeping area, on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Basement smoke alarms should be installed on the ceiling at the bottom of the stairs.
- Smoke alarms should be installed at least 10 feet from a cooking appliance to minimize false alarms when cooking.
- Mount smoke alarms high on walls or ceilings (smoke rises) Wall mounted alarms should be installed not more than 12 inches away from the ceiling.
- Do not install near windows, exterior doors, or heating/cooling vents. Drafts can interfere with proper operation of detector.
- If you have ceilings that are pitched, install the alarm within 3 feet of the peak but not within the apex of the peak (four inches down from the peak).

COLD WEATHER CHECKLIST

Here are some reminders of common hazards associated with the return of colder temperatures. Basic routine maintenance could save your home from damage and keep your family safe.

- A qualified provider should annually inspect furnaces and all fireplaces.
- Replace smoke detector batteries every 6 months, even on hard wired devices.
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors have a life expectancy of 10 years. After that they are unreliable and be replaced.
- Check your home's exhaust venting for leaks or damage. Carbon monoxide leaks are often found here.
- Wood burning chimneys must be cleaned of soot and creosote buildup. Ignoring this maintenance could cause total loss of your home to fire.
- Space heaters should only be used in accordance with the manufacture stated proper use.

All these common maintenance items result in our fire department responding to emergencies every year. Don't let this happen to you and your loved ones.