



## **BARRINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**



The Barrington Fire Department headquarters and station are located at 100 Federal Road in the Town of Barrington Public Safety Building.

The Barrington Fire Department responded to 1,756 emergency calls between July, 2010 and June, 2011. There were 6 structure fires and 1,235 rescue responses during this period. The remaining calls were for auto fires, brush or trash fires, service calls including removal of water from basements, boat responses and false calls.

The primary responsibility of the Fire department is the saving of life and property from any catastrophic event. The department clearly recognizes this mandate and understands the expectations of the citizens of our community and in the past year continued to meet this challenge. The goals of the department are to provide the Town the best trained, best prepared, most courteous and highly skilled firefighting and rescue service possible.

Firefighter training is a daily requirement and continues to receive the utmost attention. The entire department is nationally certified in firefighting and other related subjects including the National Incident Management Systems. This year all department members continued receiving advanced training in Firefighter Entrapment. All Firefighters received training in many firefighting areas and skills in an effort to meet the newest of challenges. A changing world requires a highly skilled, professional fire department.

Fire Prevention also demands the attention of the department and in 1968 the State of Rhode Island adopted the first fire safety code for the state, this original code has been amended and changed many times over the ensuing years but none of these modifications reflect the major change that was adopted in July 2003 and made mandatory in February 2004 by the state legislature.

These changes will have some effect on every home, every building and every business in our community. In an effort to meet these changes the department has five members of the department certified as Assistant Deputy State Fire Marshals and continually attend many seminars and mandatory classes during the year. These classes help all members to become more familiar with the new code as the department continues an inspection

program through the year that requires each building and business to be inspected. The long standing grandfather clause in the fire safety code has been eliminated requiring all buildings to meet the current standards and codes. The department is prepared to assist any business or building owner with any questions regarding the RI Fire Safety Code.

The department continues to provide smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector inspections for all residential properties that are sold and require a certificate of compliance. These inspections are scheduled by calling the fire department at 437-3940 and are conducted on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Please remember that over 80% of all fire deaths in the United States occur in residences and fire safety begins in the home with properly placed and maintained smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

The fire department in cooperation with the office of Building Official continues to review all commercial building plans for renovations and new buildings and also for all building and renovations plans for private residences. In both cases the department is reviewing the building plans to ensure the building or residence meets the new fire safety code. This timely review should alleviate any discrepancies during and after the construction. The fire department is prepared to assist any and all residents during the planning stage for new construction. This service is available by contacting the office of Fire Chief at 437-3940.

The members of the Hampden Meadows Volunteer Fire Company located on Sowams Road were given an opportunity to attend the Firefighter Entrapment training and other training conducted by firefighting professionals. This was the first opportunity of this kind in many years and was accepted by many of the members. Through the efforts of the volunteers all members are now required to be certified as Firefighter Level I and II and are recognized nationally. H MVFC members continue to provide the Town with a valuable resource.