

DISTRICT PROFILE



St. Anne Fire Protection District

The St. Anne Fire Protection District was founded in 1951 in the Southeast section of Kankakee County, 75 miles south of the City of Chicago. The District covers 35 square miles in this largely agricultural community with a population of approximately 3,500 citizens. The St. Anne FPD is a proud member of MABAS Division 7.

The staff consists of 3 trustees, 25 paid-on-call officers and firefighters, and 6 cadets. St. Anne FPD responded to a total of 153 fire and rescue related incidents, 92 of which were Mutual Aid or Auto Aid, and 681 emergency medical calls in 2007. Due to the high demand of providing Emergency Medical Services, St. Anne FPD has an agreement with Riverside Medical Center to provide full-time EMS staff 24/7. This staff also provides EMS services to three surrounding communities.

The members of the St. Anne FPD are very involved in the community they serve. During Fire Prevention Week, the members conduct fire drills at all the local schools. They also provide free smoke detectors to all the Kindergarten students, and teach Fire Safety to the elementary students. They sponsor and host a Pinewood Derby at the fire station during their annual community festival. Throughout the year they are requested to conduct smoke and carbon monoxide detector inspections.

Recognizing the challenges of recruitment, a Fire Cadet program was started 1988. This program is for youths in the District between the ages of 14 and 18 to train and work with the firefighters. Currently 15 of the 25 firefighters

and officers started their careers from the Fire Cadet Program. After 20 years, this continues to be a successful recruitment program for the District.

The St. Anne FPD was able to purchase a new engine in 2003. This unit replaced a 1975 engine and is utilized for all district structure fires and Auto-Aid and Mutual Aid responses. The District also operates a 1998 Spartan Engine/Rescue unit, two tenders, and one brush truck.

Over recent years, the St. Anne FPD has completed many station improvement projects. This includes a two bedroom sleeping quarters for the full time EMS staff in 2002. Then in 2003, a 900 square foot addition was finished. This new space has been utilized for meetings and trainings, administrative offices, and storage. A remodel and update to the dayroom, kitchen and radio room was completed in 2004. The Trustees continue to evaluate the needs of the department and staff to plan for future station projects.

Looking ahead to upcoming needs, a tax referendum was passed in 2007 with the support of the community. The increased revenue will allow the District to continue to maintain and update equipment. It will also provide the necessary funds for future vehicle acquisitions.

The St. Anne FPD continues to meet and exceed its community's expectations. Through careful planning the District has been able to meet the challenges of providing fire protection services to St. Anne and the surrounding communities.

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Editor's Note: If you would like to have your district featured in *The Fire Call*, please contact us at 800-524-6620 for more information or visit www.iafpd.org.