

DISTRICT PROFILE

MORRIS FIRE PROTECTION AND AMBULANCE DISTRICT

Location: 50 miles southwest of Chicago at I-80 and Rte. 47 in Grundy County

Trustees: Charles "Pete" Muffler – President
Mark Jorstad – Secretary
William Smith – Treasurer
Brad Baker
David Bonomo

Attorney: Diane Yohnka Jorsted

Chiefs: Robert H. Coleman – Chief
Robert Wills – 1st Asst. Chief
Tracey J. Steffes – 2nd Asst. Chief



Editor's Note: The following column is intended to be used as an educational tool in acquainting fire protection district administrators with the services and programs provided by others around the state. The editorial staff will be featuring additional fire protection districts of various sizes throughout the state in future editions of *The Fire Call*.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

The district is in the process with ISO in an attempt to lower its rating. Through responsible spending and fair taxing the district is in a strong position to purchase state-of-the-art apparatus and improve its buildings. The district has a planning committee made up of trustees and the fire chiefs. This committee is responsible for future planning of the district.

PERSONNEL:

45 paid on-call firefighters
18 full-time EMS

DISPATCH:

Morris Police, Fire, EMS 911 Public Safety
Answering Point

APPARATUS:

3 Engines
2 Engine/Tankers
1 100-foot platform
2 Brush trucks
1 Heavy rescue
2 ALS Ambulances
1 BLS Ambulance
1 21-foot rescue boat
1 14-foot utility boat
1 Chief car
1 Asst. Chief car

FACILITIES:

121 W. Main Street
2301 Ashton Rd. (Future Site)

DISTRICT FACTS:

- Size - 140 square miles
- Population 18,000
- The district is very diverse, ranging from single-family homes to 6-story senior homes, with light manufacturing to large heavy industrial chemical plants and agricultural areas.
- Morris is home to one of the largest inland exporters of grain located on the Illinois River.
- 2004 EMS calls 3,900
- 2004 Fire calls 400

CHALLENGES:

Morris is no different from other areas around us. We are experiencing rapid growth in both residential and commercial areas. Continuing excellent service to our area is a top priority. We continue to improve our position in the district to provide these services. ■