

DISTRICT PROFILE



Orchardville Fire Protection District



Location

1721 County Highway 13 - Xenia, IL

Board of Trustees

- Larry McCormick, President
- Don Sharp, Secretary
- William Lowery, Treasurer

Fire Chief

- Jerry Ridgeway

Assistant Chiefs

- Vince Sharp
- Steve Hays

The Orchardville Fire Protection District was founded in 1979 in a partnership with the Xenia Fire Protection District. They remained a joint district until 1998 when Orchardville split forming their own district in northwestern Wayne County. The district's current Chief Jerry Ridgeway has held the position of chief for 40 years.

District Facts

- Size: 92 square miles
- Population: 1,500
- EAV: 5.9 million
- Annual Operating Budget: \$29,500
- Annual Calls: 50-60 per year Non-Transport Ambulance Service

Emergency Services

- 80% of call volume
- Non-transport ambulance

Personnel

Of the 22 volunteers at the district, 20 have EMS training. The volunteers include:

- 1 Chief
- 2 Assistant Chiefs
- 1 Captain, Training Officer
- 1 Lieutenant, Safety Officer
- 17 Firefighters

Firefighters train twice each month in Orchardville, using in-house options along with the Illinois Fire Service Institute.

The station also has a junior firefighter program for kids 16-18 years old. There are varying degrees of training and certification among the firefighters, but the force does have 10 certified structural firefighters with several others nearly qualified. Also according to the Chief, the district has the only four certified grain bin rescue personnel in the county.

Apparatus

- 2,000 gallon Engine
- 500 gallon front-mount Engine
- 1,000 gallon Engine
- 2,000 gallon Tanker
- 1,800 gallon Tanker
- Suzuki UTV
- Grass Fire Truck
- Front mount Engine
- Non-transport Ambulance

Facility

The district has two buildings. The first building was built in 1980 and houses under half of the district's vehicles. The other building was built in 1998 when Orchardville split from Xenia and is located across the road from the first building. The newer building is approximately 3,500 square feet and houses the remainder of the station's trucks.

Accomplishments

Orchardville FPD is very proud of their Chief, Jerry Ridgeway and the many developments he has lead and accomplished in his XX years of dedicated service to the department. One recent achievement is the district has successfully lowered their ISO Rating from 10 to 6, which is very good for a small, all volunteer department.

Over the years Orchardville has amassed over 415 trophies from various firefighter competitions. One competition that Orchardville has competed in on a regular basis is a national competition called the Combat Challenge. Although they have never won this competition, in two consecutive years Orchardville has made it to the finals going toe to toe with big city, full-time fire departments from across the country.