Fire Department



John Cotter
Fire Commissioner

The East Haddam Fire Department protects lives and property from fire and hazardous incident damage and provides timely emergency medical services in for the town. The Fire Department incorporates up-to-date and efficient fire prevention, fire suppression, hazardous incident mitigation, and emergency medical technologies into its procedures, equipment and methods.

Staffing

CURRENT STAFFING			
Position	**Status**	**Budgeted Hours**	**Elected/Union/Non-Union**
Firefighters/EMT Full Time (4)	Hourly	42 hours per week each	Union
Firefighter/EMT Part or Full Time (2)	Hourly	86 hours per week total	Non-Union
Firefighter Volunteer (57)	Volunteer	As needed	n/a

Performance Measures

Description	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Calls for Service (does not include EMS)	291	213	226	234	227
EMS R-1 Services to supplement Ambulance Association	380	389	397	314	248

Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Major Service Level Accomplishments

- **Recruitment and Retention** – The department has added (4) new personnel to the roster with an additional (5) five other candidates currently in the process. The department has a total of 63 personnel: (57 volunteers and 6 career staff).

- **Public Relations Committee –** The committee is led by Captain Neil Mosig. The team has done an exceptional job in hosting or participating in the following events: Summer Palooza, Fire Department Open House, Project Safe Halloween, Easter Egg Hunt, Tree Lighting, Breakfast with Santa, Fire Prevention Week, Pasta Dinners, Car wash, Fathers Day / Mothers Day brunch, and Number sign campaign. Captain Myers handles the department's publicity exclusively through ads in local papers, Recruitment brochures, and posts bills for events.

- **Mutual Aid Events –** The department participated in multiple mutual aid departments events: including Colchester Fire Department's wet down and 50th anniversary for there company 2 building, Old Saybrook's 100th Anniversary Parade where East Haddam Fire Department was named Best Appearing Aerial Apparatus for Ladder 1-15 and Best Appearing Department in Coats, Lyme Department's Steak dinner fundraiser, and Marlborough's Holiday and fireworks parade.

- **Career Staff –** The career staff supplement the volunteer personnel base with the following make-up: 1 FT Captain and 1 Per-diem Lieutenant, 1 full-time firefighter/EMT, and 3 per diem firefighter/EMTs. The Career staff works Monday through Friday from 6am to 6pm or 8am to 4pm with typically (4) four staff on per day. These personnel answer calls for service for both fire and EMS.

- **Chain of Command –** The department currently has the following officers in place: Chief of Department, Deputy Chief of Department, Assistant Chief of EMS, (6) six Captains, and (6) six Lieutenants. All officers are assigned additional duties based on there skill set. The department functions as one cohesive unit with all information going through the Chief of Department.

- **Training 2024 –** Two Firefighters became certified in Firefighter One, Two Firefighters became certified Fire Instructor, Three Firefighters became certified in Fire Officer 1, 2 Firefighters became certified in Fire Officer 2, 1 firefighter became certified as a pump operator, 2 personnel became certified in Fire Police, 1 junior firefighter became certified in introduction to the fire service, 5 personnel became certified in pet CPR, and 10 personnel attended the national fire academy for officers weekend. The department maintains (3) three to (4) four in house trainings per month with (2) two mandatory live burn trainings, (1) annual physical, (1) hazardous materials refresher, and (1) one blood borne pathogens refresher.

- **EMS (Emergency Medical Services) –** The department continues to provide R-1 services to the town of East Haddam to supplement the East Haddam Ambulance. The fire department was dispatched to 380 R-1 calls in 2024 versus 453 calls in 2023 (- 73 calls). The department has a total of (11) eleven defibrillator devices on fire apparatus. The department currently has (3) three Lucas Devices in service.

- **SOPS (Standard Operating Procedures) –** The department continues to update operating procedures on a yearly basis to reflect the changing world of firefighting.

- **Apparatus –** A continued maintenance plan has been enforced by Captain Matt Swol and Lieutenant Ryan Miner. All aging apparatus and equipment are inspected yearly for defects through preventative maintenance inspections. This is to include pump testing, ladder testing, compressor inspections, hose testing, and routine maintenance.

- **Capital Expenditure –** The fire Chief and BOFC have prioritized equipment for replacement over the next (10) ten years. This will maintain fiscal responsibility with high-quality service for the residents of East Haddam. The Capital plan is a living, breathing document which is maintained in the Clear-Gov program.

- **ESO Software –** The department continues to utilize the newer ESO system to input fire department data for all emergency calls. The information from the call entered are tracked by NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting

System). All personnel (Volunteer and Career) are trained on data entry.

- **Vector Check Inventory Management Software –** This several year-old software is a database that personnel (Volunteer and Career) utilize during weekly / monthly inspections to include: inventory, mechanical defects, fuel management, and mileage.

Notable Events:

- East Haddam Fire Department's Assistant Chief of EMS Jennifer Reynolds was named Volunteer of the year by East Haddam Community Foundation. Well deserved Chief Reynolds, you continue to make us proud everyday.

- Captain Neil Mosig, Captain Kyle Mosig, Firefighters Michelle Forbes, Firefighter Eric Walker, Firefighter Noah Kagel, and Firefighter Matt Lutton all volunteered to respond to Berlin for there extended brush fire. This is a clear example of the dedication of the volunteers of the department. I am extremely proud of every one of you

- East Haddam Fire Department's Auxiliary has been reignited with 11 personnel and following officers name: President Nancy Smith, Vice President Breeanna Miner, Secretary Chris Parkus, and Treasurer Cheryl Siegmann. The Auxiliary often times works behind the scenes for the fire department is fundraising activities and providing refreshments during major incidents. The auxiliary is a valuable part of the fire department and im proud to have them back stronger then ever.

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Major Service Level Goals

- Continue to increase our volunteer base by building a more effective recruitment campaign (15 personnel goal)
- Continue to increase and maintain our department training as stated above.
- Continue to maintain the Capital working document in cleargov to reflect changes and updates for future apparatus and equipment purchases with input from all staff and BOFC.
- Continue to maintain and expand on the working relationship with Volunteer and Career personnel thorough consistent touch bases, drills, and supportive leadership
- Continue to research and apply for federal grants in order to reduce town spending on large ticket items: I.E., fire apparatus, appliances, gear, etc.

STATS
2024 - 2025

• The East Haddam Fire Department is a combination department which provides fire protection for all 56.6 square miles of East Haddam.
• The budget for this year was collectively created by volunteer, career staff, and fire commissioners
• The East Haddam Fire Department is composed of:
- 3 FIREHOUSES
- 17 TOTAL APPARATUS
- 57 VOLUNTEER FIRE PERSONNEL
- 4 PERSONNEL WERE RECRUITED AND RETAINED IN THE 2024 YEAR
- 5 NEW PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN RECRUITED IN THE 2025 YEAR
- 6 CAREER FIREFIGHTERS (2 FULLTIME / 4 PARTIME)
- 32 FIREFIGHTERS ARE MEDICALLY TRAINED EITHER EMR / OR EMT
- WHICH BRINGS US TO A TOTAL OF 63 FIRE PERSONNEL

• IN 2024 THE DEPARTMENT RESPONDED TO
- A TOTAL OF 671 CALLS FOR SERVICE VERSUS 719 IN 2023 (- 48)
- 291 CALLS WERE FIRE RELATED VERSUS 266 IN 2023 (+ 25)
- 380 CALLS WERE R-1 EMS VERSUS 453 IN 2023 (- 73)

OUR APPARATUS:
• WE HAVE A FLEET THAT INCLUDES:
- 3 PUMPERS
- 1 PUMPER MINI PUMPER
- 1 LADDER
- 2 TANKERS
- 1 RESCUE
- 1 BRUSH TRUCK
- 2 UTILITY TRUCKS
- 1 ATV
- 4 MARINE UNITS
- 1 COMMAND
• TOTALLING 17 APPARATUS

• PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE TRUCKS – FLUCTUATES ESPECIALLY WITH AN AGING FLEET
- NFPA LIFE EXPECTANCY = 20 YEARS
- ADD 5 YEARS FOR RESERVE
- **ENGINE 1-15** – 2008 (NEWEST PUMPER / **17 YEARS OLD**) / FOUR GUYS / 750 GAL. / 2,000 GPM
- **ENGINE 2-15** - 1997 (**28 YEARS OLD**) / FOUR GUYS / 750 GAL. / 2,000 GPM
- **ENGINE 4-15** - 2003 (**22 YEARS OLD**)/ FERRARA / 1,000 GAL. / 2,000 GPM
- **TANKER 1-15**- 1996 (**29 YEARS OLD** / TANK REFURBISHED IN 2016)/ FOUR GUYS / 2,500 GAL. / 500 GPM PUMP
- **TANKER 2-15**- 2016 (**9 YEARS OLD**) /FOUR GUYS / 2,000 GAL. / 500 GPM PUMP
- **LADDER 1-15**- 2021 (**4 YEARS OLD**) SUTPHEN SLR75 LADDER – 500 GALLONS / 500 GPM PUMP
- **RESCUE 1-15**- 2014 (**11 YEARS OLD**) FORD F-550 RESCUE BOX – **00S – MAJOR ELEC ISSUES**

- **ENGINE 6-15**- 2006 (**46 YEARS OLD BOX** / RECHASSISED IN 2015/ **19 YEAR OLD**) FORD F-550 / GOWANS KNIGHT / 250 GAL. refurb from 1979
- **BRUSH 15**- 2006 FORD F-350 (**19 YEARS OLD**) / FIREMATIC / 250 GAL
- **UTILITY 1-15**- 2022 FORD F-350 CREW CAB (**3 YEAR OLD**)
- **UTILITY 2-15**- 2006 FORD F-350 EXT. CAB (**19 YEARS OLD**)
- **RANGER 15**- 2012 POLARIS RANGER (**13 YEARS OLD**) / PURCHASED NEW THROUGH DONATIONS
- **CAR 15**- 2022 POLICE EXPLORER (**3 YEAR OLD**)
- **MARINE 1-15**- 2018 ROBALO (**7 YEARS OLD**)
- **MARINE 2-15**- ZODIAC 9 HORSE JOHNSON – **OOS – TRANSOM HAS FALLEN OUT**
- **MARINE 3-15**- JON BOAT 25 HORSE POWER EVINRUDE (**8 YEARS OLD**)
- **MARINE 4-15**- 2003 SKI DOO / DONATED BY EH POLICE (**22 YEARS OLD**)

Expenditures by Expense Type

Name	Account ID	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Budgeted	FY2026 Budgeted	FY2026 Budgeted ($ Change)	FY2026 Budgeted (% Change)
Expense Objects							
REGULAR EMPLOYEES	10542030-51510	$191,821	$245,746	$303,463	$519,480	$216,017	71.2%
Firefighter/ENT Full Time Cptn	*10542030-51510*	*$0*	*$0*	*$62,331*	*$76,440*	*$14,109*	*22.6%*
PT Lieutenant	*10542030-51510*	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*	*$37,128*	*$37,128*	*N/A*
Public Safety Director	*10542030-51510*	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*	*$39,000*	*$39,000*	*N/A*
PT EMT	*10542030-51510*	*$0*	*$0*	*$0*	*$96,096*	*$96,096*	*N/A*
Firefighter/EMT Full-time	*10542030-51510*	*$0*	*$0*	*$168,517*	*$209,664*	*$41,147*	*24.4%*
Firefighter/EMT Part-time (several per diem)	*10542030-51510*	*$0*	*$0*	*$71,114*	*$61,152*	*-$9,962*	*-14%*
Extra DutyHours	*10542030-51510*	*$0*	*$0*	*$1,500*	*$0*	*-$1,500*	*-100%*
OVERTIME	10542030-51530	$25,486	$23,076	$15,000	$15,000	$0	0%
PHYSICALS	10542030-53080	$4,184	$4,907	$6,400	$6,400	$0	0%
IN SERVICE (TRAINING)	10542030-53220	$17,804	$17,384	$18,000	$25,000	$7,000	38.9%
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	10542030-54300	$77,721	$77,449	$80,000	$95,000	$15,000	18.8%
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	10542030-54301	$27,184	$48,605	$25,000	$25,000	$0	0%
TELEPHONE/CELL PHONE	10542030-55305	$3,608	$4,030	$3,300	$3,300	$0	0%
CABLE TELEVISION	10542030-55520	$123	$134	$135	$200	$65	48.1%
SUPPLIES	10542030-56010	$7,820	$9,246	$3,000	$4,000	$1,000	33.3%
ELECTRICITY	10542030-56220	$16,770	$16,924	$17,000	$17,000	$0	0%
BOTTLED GAS	10542030-56230	$4,313	$4,649	$4,800	$4,800	$0	0%
GASOLINE/DIESEL	10542030-56260	$14,142	$8,661	$12,000	$12,000	$0	0%

Name	Account ID	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Actual	FY2025 Budgeted	FY2026 Budgeted	FY2026 Budgeted ($ Change)	FY2026 Budgeted (% Change)
HEAT	10542030-56270	$16,341	$11,712	$16,000	$16,000	$0	0%
UNIFORMS	10542030-56299	$11,574	$14,281	$12,000	$12,000	$0	0%
OTHER SUPPLIES	10542030-56900		$5,736	$7,000	$7,000	$0	0%
FIRE PONDS	10542030-57100		$2,605	$8,000	$8,000	$0	0%
EQUIPMENT (GEAR)	10542030-57300	$72,654	$51,948	$50,000	$50,000	$0	0%
COMMUNICATIONS (PAGERS AND RADIOS)	10542030-57705	$9,286	$8,576	$10,000	$10,000	$0	0%
DUES AND FEES	10542030-58100	$595	$370	$800	$800	$0	0%
Total Expense Objects:		**$501,427**	**$556,037**	**$591,898**	**$830,980**	**$239,082**	**40.4%**