

# WHITE MARSH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY



# 2018 Annual Report



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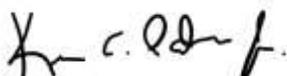
## President's Message

What comes to mind when you hear the word nonprofit? Charity, philanthropy, foundations, community, giving, volunteers are just a few keywords that define the word nonprofit. More than 1.5 million nonprofits exist in the United States. Would you ever think of a volunteer fire station as a nonprofit? Most don't; when in fact almost 20,000 volunteer fire departments exist in the United States, representing more than 70,000 volunteer firefighters and EMS providers. The White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company is no different. The WMVFC has been serving the community for more than 75 years, adapting to change to continue providing a sustainable service well into the future. Change is often difficult in any organization, especially the fire service; yet it is an absolute necessity to survive and meet the changing demands of our stakeholders – our community.

Several years ago, the leadership wanted to start functioning more like a nonprofit organization, something that has paid off significantly for the organization and the communities that we serve. Nationally, volunteer fire departments are struggling, largely due to funding issues, recruitment problems, and difficulty retaining qualified personnel. Fortunately, we continue to weather that storm, mostly due to our community's continued support as well as our dedicated group of volunteers. Additionally our community board members continue to bring a tremendous value to our organization. These members who live, work, and play in the community we serve are able to bring a tremendous amount of education, experience, and networking capabilities to our organization. Lastly, they are able to function as ambassadors to our community, adding a level of transparency and information sharing between the organization and our community.

I want to thank everyone who takes the time to review this report; it provides an in depth look into the White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company, breaking down any perception barriers that exists about the volunteer fire and EMS service.

With Gratitude,



Kevin C. Palmer Jr.

## Captain's Message

2018 will be remembered as one of the most exciting and purpose-filled years in the company's history. Hundreds of hours went into the design, build, planning, construction, and move-in to the new fire station. All of this was accomplished while being the busiest volunteer company in Baltimore County. Our community and stakeholders have a lot to be proud of – whether it be the thousands of personnel hours spent on emergency responses or the forward-looking planning of this organization. Our membership continues to grow at an outstanding rate. More importantly, our membership continues to answer the call of service to the community. While we do all of these great things for the people who we serve, in return the people who we serve show great support to us – whether it be financial support or otherwise. We are proud to continue the legacy of service, which has been in existence for the past 75 years, well into the future.



Rick Blubaugh

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## Board Chairperson's Message

The Board of Directors had a busy schedule for 2018. Some of our top-priority issues included seeing the new building project through to completion, review of our corporate constitution and bylaws, and expanding our ongoing goal of transforming the organization into a true non-profit environment.

The board also welcomed a new community member, Alyce Dailey, to our group. Alyce brings with her a wealth of experience in private-sector business management and we look forward to a long relationship with her.

Laura Connelly

## Community Board Members' Messages

### Les Richardson

It is a busy and exciting time to be part of the board of directors. Design and build are completed on the new station, the move-in has occurred, and the previous station property is nearly done being returned to the community as a grassy open space – just as it was prior to the donation of the land that allowed construction in the 1940's. The new station is fantastic and we look forward to creating more opportunities that brings our community to the station because it is the community's fire station. The leadership of this company is committed to managing an emergency response organization that uses a blend of historical management techniques and new ideas to better blend with today's technology and ensure the efforts of volunteers are consistent with the mission of the organization. The future here will continue to have groundbreaking "firsts" in the county that are just as important as the building of the first new station that combines fire companies together.

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### Robert Romadka

In my four years as a community board member with the WMVFC, I've never met a more professional, well trained, and passionate group of volunteers. Their commitment to helping their community and their passion for the fire and emergency medical services field is unparalleled. Any Fortune 500 company would be fortunate to have any of these professionals work for them.

## Company Information

White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to the citizens of White Marsh, Perry Hall, Nottingham, and other communities within Baltimore and Harford counties. WMVFC operates two engines, an advanced life support (ALS) ambulance, a four wheel drive brush truck, two utility vehicles, a rehab unit, and canteen unit.

WMVFC is an independent organization that falls under the auspices of the Baltimore County Fire Department. Members from the community dedicate their time training, responding to emergencies, fundraising, and performing public fire safety and health education and community details.

Members are professionally trained by the Maryland Fire Rescue Institute, which is part of University of Maryland. They are trained emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, and rescue technicians.

White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company and its members maintain a commitment to public safety education and outreach to the community to create a safer environment.

## Mission

White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company strives to safely respond to those in need of assistance with professionally trained personnel...every call...every hour...every day.

## Vision

To be highly-reliable, well trained emergency responders answering the needs of our community and country with long-range sustainability achieved through dedicated members, solid leadership, and effective planning.

## Our Core Services

### Fire Suppression

- Fire suppression
- Automobile crashes
- Hazardous conditions
- Emergency medical services first responder and operational support

### Emergency Medical Services

- Basic Life Support EMS ambulance transport
- Advanced Life Support EMS ambulance transport

### First Responder Rehab and Canteen Services

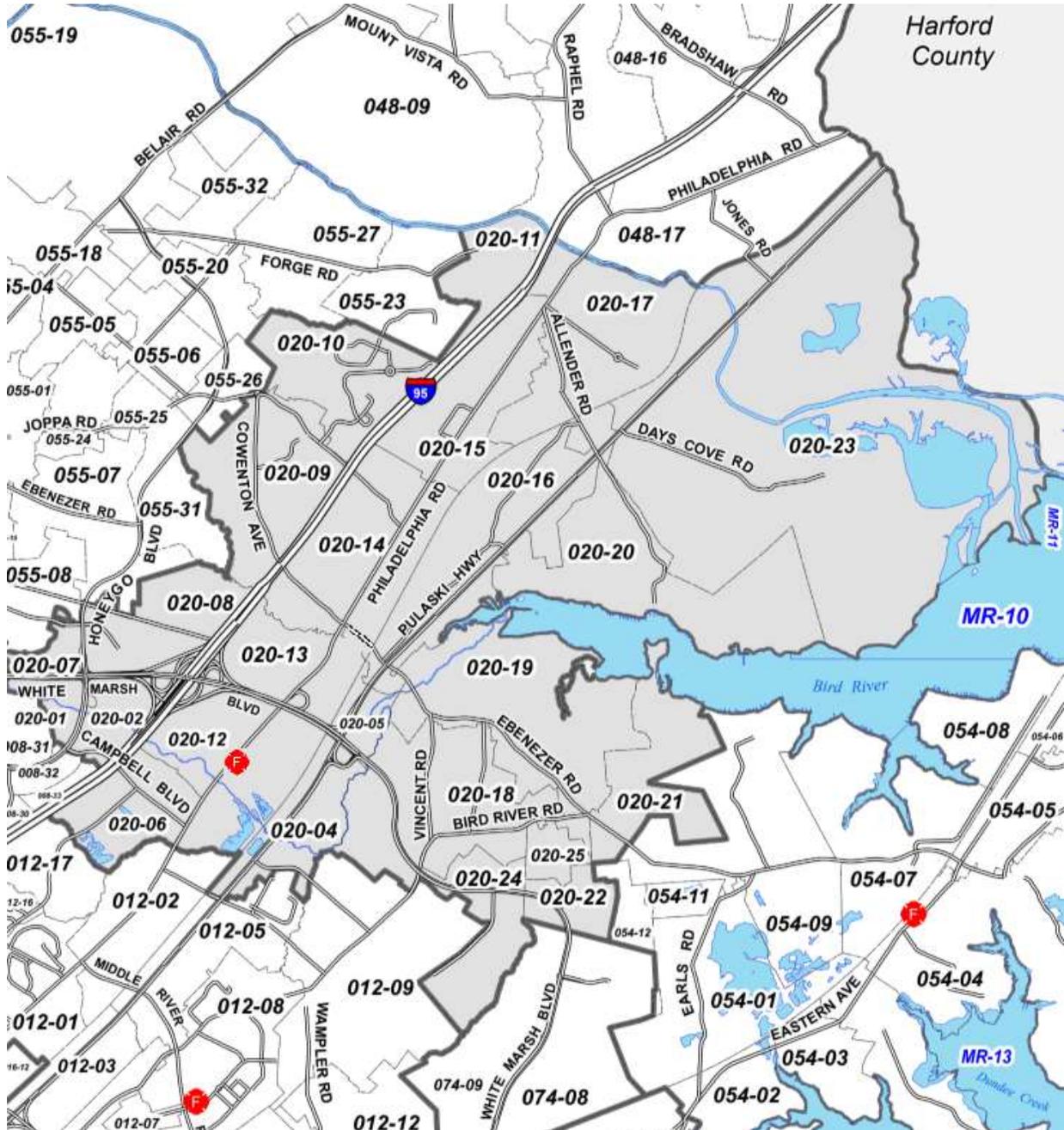
- Rehab (heating, cooling, toilet) services for ongoing emergency operations
- Canteen (food and drink) services for ongoing emergency operations

## Our Constituents

- Financial supporters
- In-kind supporters
- Volunteer members
- Community board members
- Residential community members
- Business community members
- Commuters and travelers
- Community leaders
- Suppression service recipients
- EMS ambulance transport patients
- First responder partners

## First Due Coverage Area

- Volunteer: White Marsh (20), Kingsville (48), and Middle River (74)
- Career: Fullerton (8), Middle River (12), Chase (54), and Perry Hall (55)



## Nonprofit Credentials and Awards



### GuideStar

As a 2018 gold-level participant of GuideStar, the world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations, we have demonstrated our commitment to transparency.

GuideStar Seal of Transparency indicates that a nonprofit has provided key information in its nonprofit profile. By providing up-to-date information, nonprofits allow potential donors and funders to make educated decisions about the work they do to make the world a better place.

On our GuideStar profile, you will find information on our:

- Programs (Fire and rescue response, EMS ambulance transport, community outreach, and public safety education)
- Financials (Revenue and expenses, balance sheet, IRS 990 filing forms)
- Operations (Board of directors and officers)

<https://www.guidestar.org/profile/52-6050771>

### Great Nonprofits

Great Nonprofits is the leading platform for community-sourced stories about non-profits. These stories are submitted by those who have experienced firsthand the impact of our nonprofit work. As a 2018 top-rated nonprofit, we have been endorsed by stakeholders, donors, community members, and local businesses as well as our own volunteers.

<https://greatnonprofits.org/org/white-marsh-volunteer-fire-company>

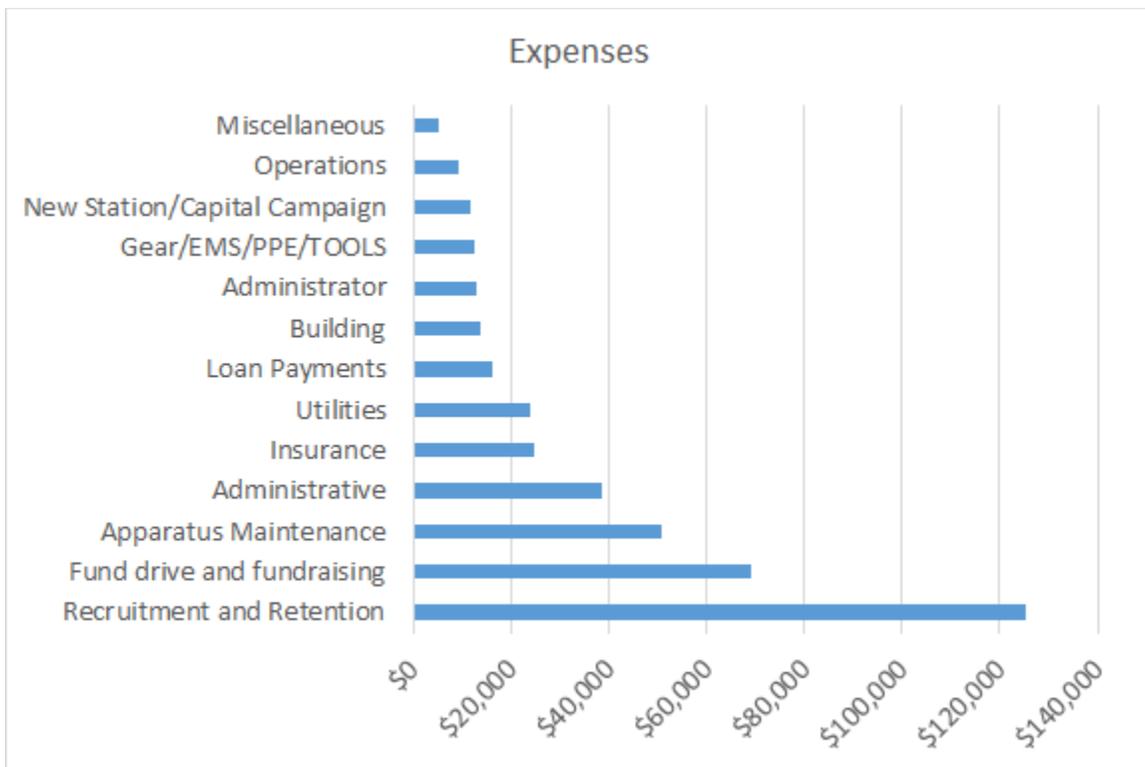
## Financial Summary

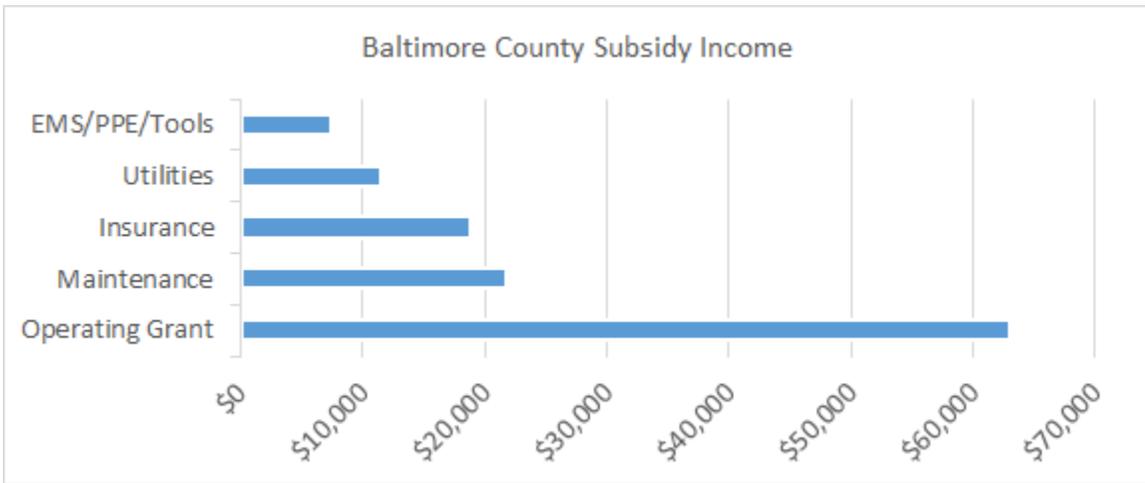
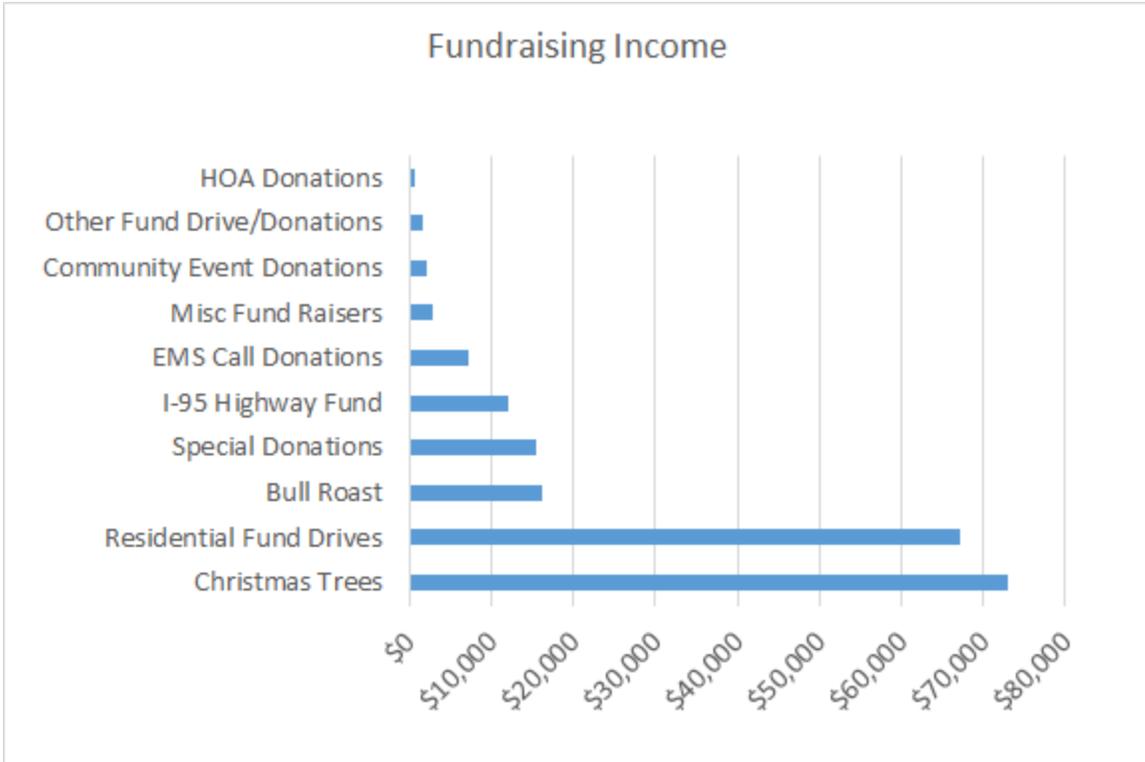
As a non-profit organization, we rely heavily on donations and fundraising events to help cover our operational costs. Major expenses include loan payments, building maintenance, apparatus maintenance, and utilities.

Some expenses are reimbursable from Baltimore County while others are provided for free (such as training through the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute).

Our major annual fundraisers are:

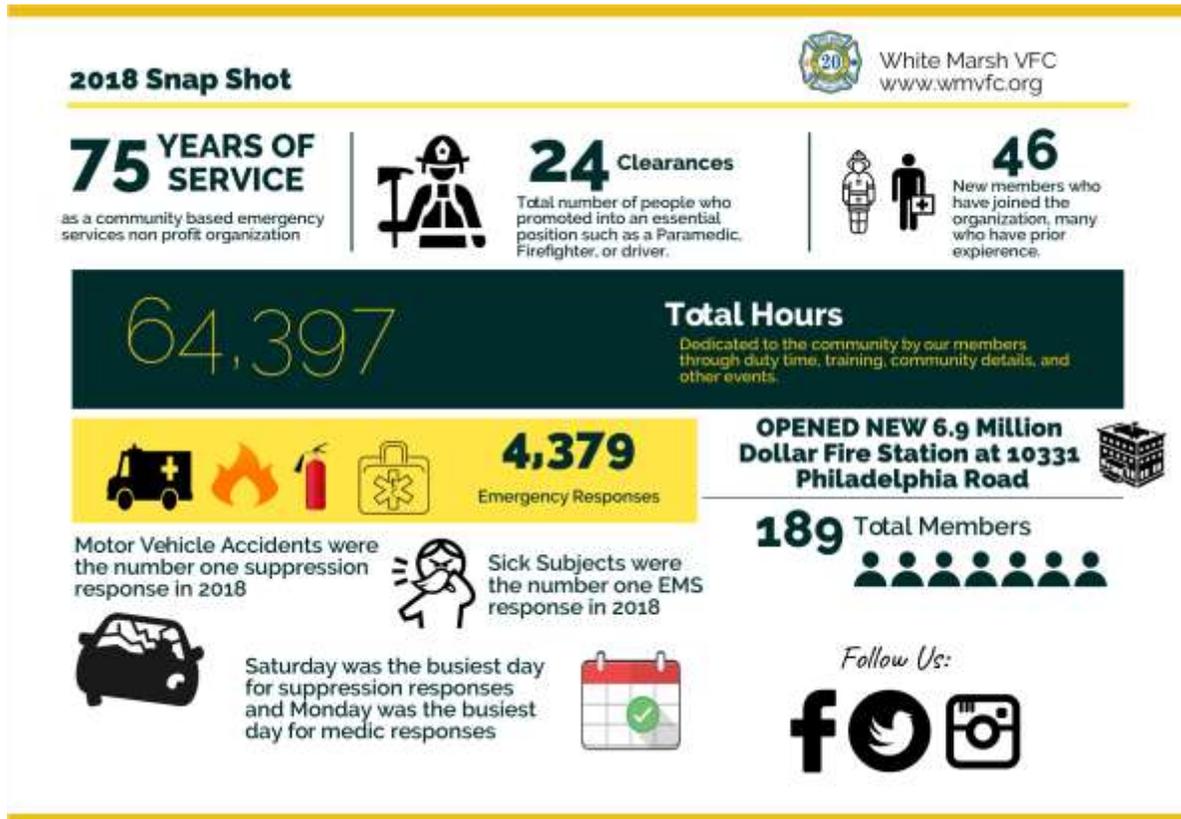
- EMS and fire direct mailers
- Christmas tree sales
- Bull and shrimp feast





## Key Statistics

2018 provided for another year of increased response volume. As our community continues to grow, our responses increase proportionally. Both our fire and EMS units increased their responses to just under 4500 emergencies. Our new facility assists us with meeting these demands. Vital, as well, is maintaining a modern fleet of emergency apparatus.



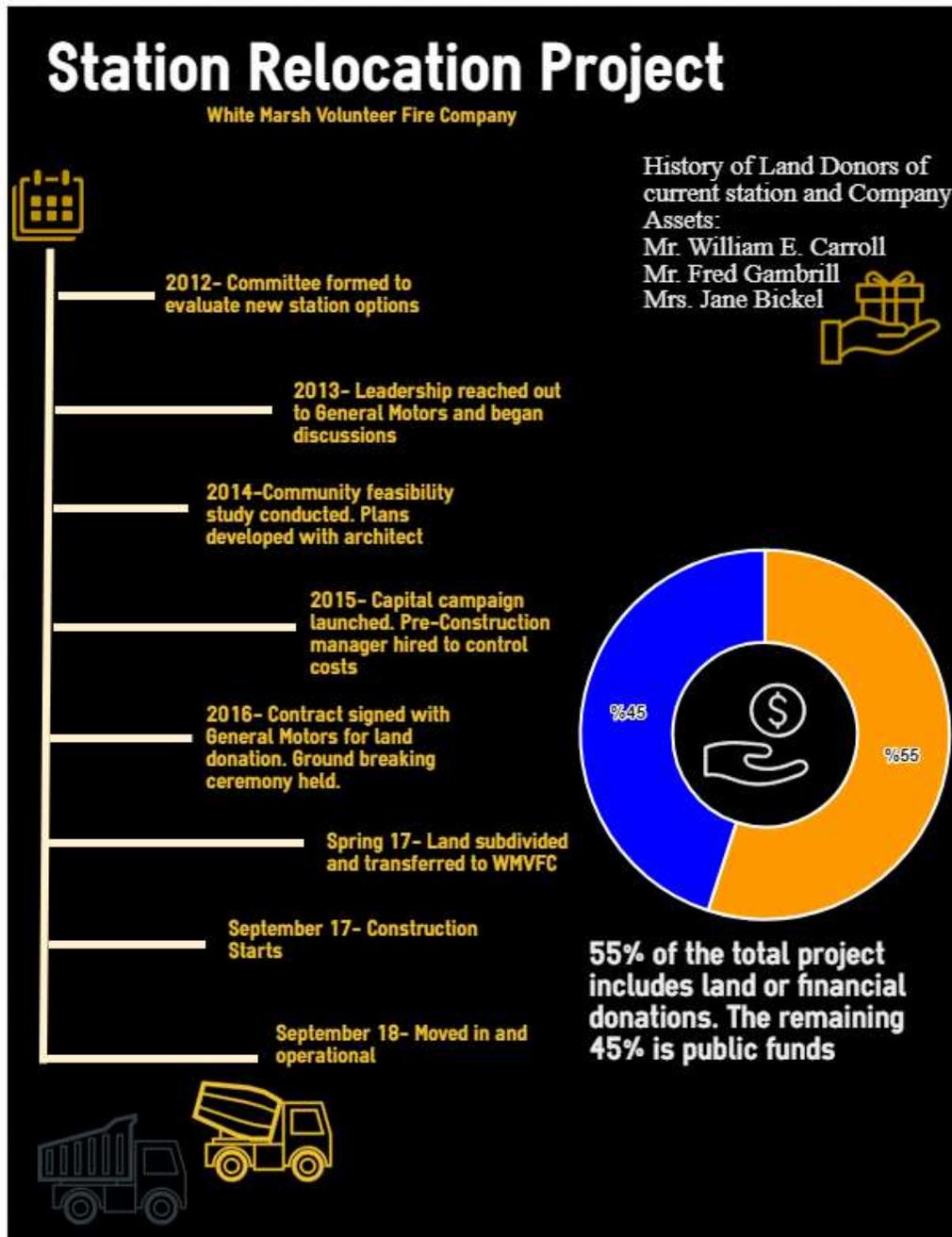
**Working Fires: 20 | Working Rescues: 9**

**Member duty hours: 62,263 | Member training hours: 2,134 | Average hours per member: 340**

	Responses	Busiest Day	Busiest Hour	Top Call Type	Busiest Area
<b>Suppression</b>	1,929	Saturday	1-2 p.m.	Vehicle accident	20-16
<b>Medic</b>	2,342	Monday	3-4 p.m.	Sick person	20-2
<b>Rehab</b>	108	Saturday	11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Working fire	Multiple
<b>Total</b>	4,379				

## Station Relocation Project

Our new facility is the result of the overwhelming support of our community members and businesses. The support we received was a mix of notable one-time donations and multi-year donations. We depended on both of these types of donations to make the new facility a reality.



## New Station

Our new station's formal grand opening was October 6, 2018. Many of our constituents – financial supporters, community members, current and past volunteers, elected officials, other first responder partners, and others – joined us for the ceremony and tour.



Our new facility delivered exactly what we as an organization and a community needed. The new station will serve well into the years ahead.

Some of the highlights include infrastructure designed to keep our volunteer personnel in the station, available for immediate response 24-hours a day. This is critical because of our continually increasing call volume and it is what the community deserves – immediate response to an emergency call. These features include a large modern kitchen and dining facilities, private bunk rooms, a fitness center, and built-in training areas.

Another notable feature includes a community room, which was designed to accommodate events such as homeowner association meetings and other community events.







## New Station Donors and Sponsors



# Thank You!



## Old Station and Property

The prior station was demolished under a hazard mitigation grant program available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency. The project was eligible due to history of flooding that the property has experienced. The property was restored to green space at the end of 2018 and will be donated to the Baltimore County Government. The property will remain green space, thus giving back to environmental conservation in eastern Baltimore County. No development will ever be permitted under the provisions of the hazard mitigation grant program. We are forever grateful to the families of Jane Bickel, Fred Gambrill, and William E. Carroll.



## Apparatus

WMVFC operates with eight emergency response units.

### Engine 201



- 2001 American LaFrance
- 1250 gallons per minute pump
- 500 gallon tank

### Engine 202



- 2007 KME
- 1250 gallons per minute hale pump
- 1000 gallon poly tank
- 8 person cab
- Hydraulic rescue tools

### Medic 203



- 2015 International/Demers
- BLS and ALS equipped

### Brush 204



- 2003 GMC/Knapheide 2500 Crew Cab 4x4
- 150 gallons per minute pump
- 200 gallon tank

## Utility 205



- 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 4x4

## Utility 206



- 2015 Chevrolet Suburban
- EMS first responder and support

## Rehab 20



- 2002 Ford E350/Superior Bus
- Full service rehabilitation capabilities for first responders at the scene of an emergency
- Heating and cooling
- Toilet
- Seating

## Canteen 20



- 2012 Ford E450
- State of the art full service mobile kitchen to provide food and drink to first responders at the scene of an emergency

In May 2018, Rehab 153 and Rehab 155 were renamed as Rehab 20 and Canteen 20, respectfully, to better reflect the specific services these units provide. This gives incident commanders the ability to identify the specific services required to meet their operational needs.

## Officers and Staff

The following were the 2018 officers, support staff, committee chairs, and board members.

### Board of Directors

- Laura Connelly, Board chair
- Daniel Dietrich, 1st vice chair
- Richard Breach Sr, member
- Les Richardson, community member
- Robert Romadka Jr., community member
- Alyce Dailey, community member

### Operations

- Rick Blubaugh III, captain/VP of operations
- Brian Yingling, 2nd vice president of operations
- Jerry Ertwine, 2nd vice president of operations
- Dave Hepner, 1st Lt. fire
- Alex Dillon, 1st Lt. EMS
- Jim Goulden, 1st Lt. rehab
- Zach Wiedeck, 2nd Lt. fire
- Bob Oerman, 2nd Lt. fire
- Barry Betts, 2nd Lt. fire
- Harrison Burch, 2nd Lt. EMS
- Jason Moore, 2nd Lt. EMS
- Jeanette Kempske, 2nd Lt. rehab
- Deonte Terry, training director

### Administrative

- Kevin C. Palmer Jr., president
- Michael Connelly, VP of administration
- Victoria Davidson, VP of finance
- Jennifer Corridon, VP of recording
- Scott Koogle, VP of human resources
- Mark Lundin, webmaster
- Tyler Rivers, public relations
- Shannon Connelly, recruitment coordinator
- David Cole, recruitment coordinator
- Alyssa Mooney, new member transition coordinator
- Tiffany Marchant, new member transition coordinator
- Ben Oliver, health and wellness coordinator
- Kelly Murphy, capital campaign
- Candice Lee, marketing
- Richard Breach, honor guard
- Mike Connelly, pipes and drums
- Heather Blubaugh, LOSAP and statistics
- Ken Hughes, grants
- Kevin Palmer Sr., administrator

## Human Resources

2018 was a great year for the Human Resources Division at WMVFC. One of the division's main responsibilities is membership; the following snapshot demonstrates the dedication of our members:

- At the end of 2018, we had 189 members (all membership categories)
  - 15 administrative
  - 78 active operational (firefighters, EMTs, paramedics)
  - 24 active rehab
  - 3 community board
  - 17 life (active and inactive)
  - 51 who were, as of the end of the year, in the initial membership process working on getting cleared to ride the apparatus or become administrative members
- Members logged 62,263 duty hours and 2,134 hours of training

WMVFC received 217 applications for membership in 2018, and we saw a steep increase in applications directly after the opening of the new fire station. Of these 217, 80 new members were admitted into the company. Of the 80 processed, 23 members completed their initial membership requirements and were referred to the training staff to become cleared to respond to emergencies in the community.

The division underwent a reorganization that yielded many positive outcomes.

The New Member Unit, led by five coordinators, was created to facilitate the lengthy process that runs between receiving an application to that applicant being ready to ride a fire engine, medic unit, or rehab unit.

The new Recruitment Unit features two coordinating members whose goal is to attend public events and encourage potential applicants to apply.

The brand-new Health and Wellness Unit, which is managed by two members with backgrounds in physical fitness, seeks to improve and oversee the physical and mental wellness of WMVFC members through planned workouts, critical incident stress management, and other tactics.

The Statistics and LOSAP Unit, led by one member, directs the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) and various statistics for WMVFC members.

## Training

Training is conducted throughout the year to maintain proficiency in fire suppression, rescue, and EMS skills.

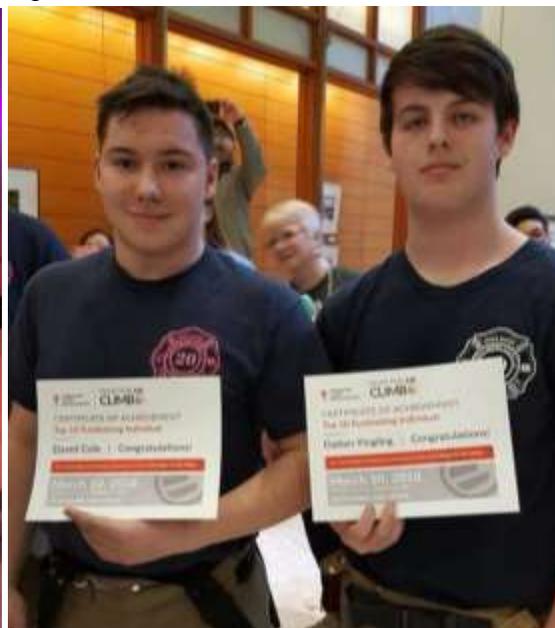


## Promotions and Clearances

- Alex Dillon, paramedic
- Alyssa Mooney, BLS attendant and medic driver
- Ben Oliver, BLS attendant and medic driver
- Brianna Hamburg, medic driver
- Chris Karolenko, firefighter
- Crystal Weaver, medic driver
- Dalton Yingling, firefighter
- Dan Purdie, firefighter
- Jason Moore, paramedic
- Mark Oliver, BLS attendant and medic driver
- Monib Fakheri, firefighter
- Nathan Stewart, firefighter
- Sam Garriques, BLS attendant, medic driver, and IV technician
- Stacey Hosenfeld, BLS attendant and medic driver

## Membership Spotlight

- Tiffany Marchant, David Cole, and Brianna Hamburg received awards through Abundant Life Church.
- David Cole and Dalton Yingling received certificates of achievement for fundraising and participating in the American Lung Association Fight for Air Climb.



## Public Relations and Community Outreach

- Perry Hall White Marsh Business Association Town Fair
- The Avenue at White Marsh Holiday Parade
- First Annual Santa Stops Here event at the new Station 20 with more than 500 children
- Multiple Boy Scout and Girl Scout station tours and training
- Williams Fields neighborhood chili cook-off
- Baltimore Ravens meet and greet at Station 20
- Perry Hall homecoming parade
- Glenside Farms Halloween parade
- Kingsville Independence Day parade



## Community Center

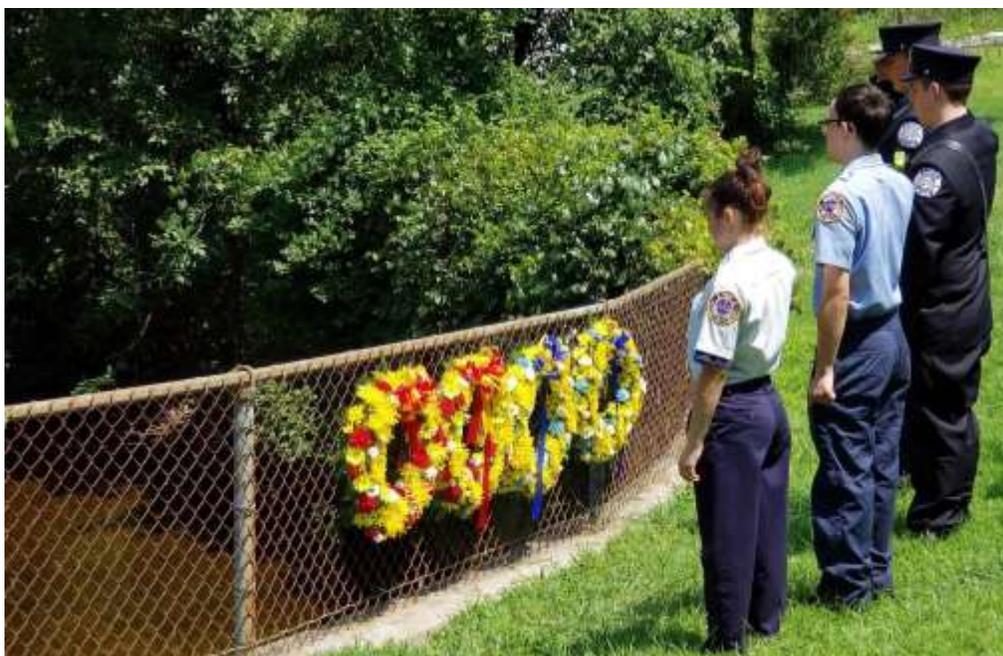
White Marsh Station 20 includes a multi-use room, sponsored by the Rosedale Federal Savings and Loan Association, which can accommodate 60 people for:

- Public fire and life safety education
- Community meetings (homeowner, community, and business associations)
- Small parties and fundraising events
- WMVFC general membership and board meetings
- Member training



## Notable Events

- Moved into the new station
- Rescued a lot of ducks from storm drains
- Rob Powell, Deonte Terry, and Theresa McLucas graduated the Baltimore County Fire Department Academy
- Dan Purdie graduated the Baltimore County Police Department Academy
- John Becker, Dalton Yingling, and David Cole completed a stair climb in turnout gear for the American Lung Association
- Participated in the Line of Duty Death (LODD) ceremony of Firefighter Flynn
- Members completed a department wide Active Threat Program
- Rehab/canteen responded to an Active Shooter Incident in Harford County
- Rehab/Canteen/M203 responded to Officer Caprio incident
- Station participated in Officer Caprio funeral
- Baltimore Ravens visited the station
- Governor Larry Hogan visited the station
- Responded to 25 calls during our first 24 hours at the new station
- MIX 106.5 awarded a Papa John's Pizza lunch to Mark Lundin and the station
- Purchased new rescue tools
- Alyce Dailey was brought onto the Board of Directors as a community board member
- Mark Lundin and WMVFC were featured in Honeygo Living Magazine
- Zachary Wiedeck received the Hometown Hero Award
- Ty Rivers received the Hometown Hero Award through the Baltimore County Police Department
- Alex Dillion and Brianna Hamburg received a Life Saving Award for a cardiac arrest survival patient
- FOX45's Traffic Jam Jimmy broadcasted live from the new station
- Five first due working fires
- 1971 LODD Remembrance Ceremony



## Notable Incidents

In 2018, our company responded to more than 1,700 fire suppression calls, 3,000 EMS calls and 60 calls for rehab services. Some of these calls included non-emergency fire alarms, non-emergency sick persons, standbys, and car accidents. Most of these calls are not big fires, rescues, or other major incidents that we focus on and train for regularly. Let's face it, fire prevention is pretty good these days! Cars are also much safer, and it seems some day's traffic is moving much slower due to construction and congestion. However, our company did experience some fires, rescues, and a few other calls where we put our training to work:

- Jan. 7: Engine 202 and Utility 205 responded mutual aid to a reported house fire on Avendon Court in Joppa, Harford County. Initial crews had water supply issues due to extreme cold. Our crew secured a water source with the assistance of Kingsville Volunteer Fire Company. After removing a fence, crews stretched two hand lines to the dwelling, and a supply line was from Engine 202 supplied an engine in the front of the structure. Our crew knocked down the fire with the assistance of the other companies on scene.
- May 28: Engine 202 and Ambulance 203 responded to a reported vehicle accident with rescue at Ebenezer Rd. and Pulaski Hwy. Units found a car that had struck a large metal sign, trapping a person inside. Crews performed engine operations by pulling a hand line and stabilizing the vehicle. With sufficient personnel on the engine, the crew switched to rescue operations. Using hydraulic rescue tools, the passenger door was removed to gain access to the patient who. The patient was then transferred to the care of the medic units on scene.
- June 22: Engine 202 was alerted for a non-emergency animal rescue (one of many). A passerby witnessed several ducklings fall into a storm drain along Campbell Blvd. With the abundance of waterfowl in our "marsh" areas and increasing construction of new developments, these calls seem to becoming more frequent each year. Our crew removed the drain cover, rescued all of the ducklings that had fallen in, and reunited them with their mother.
- Sept. 20, Rehab 20, Canteen 20, and Medic 203 responded to an active shooter incident in Aberdeen, Harford County. Medic 203 stood by, while the rehab and canteen were on scene for several hours, providing food, drink, and other services to many local, state, and federal agencies.



- Oct. 13: Engine 202 responded to a reported house fire on Winding Way in White Marsh. Our crew set up on the hydrant and assisted in the attack of the fire. Ambulance 203 responded to provide standby EMS services. Rehab 20 and Canteen 20 responded providing rehab services to units on the scene. Utility 205 and Brush 204 also responded with additional personnel.

## Honor Guard

The WMVFC Honor Guard has grown to 11 members. Prior to the move to our new station, training took place in the behind the old fire station. We now have the opportunity to train inside the bays of the new fire station regardless of freezing temperatures or inclement weather.

The honor guard led WMVFC units in a number of events, including the Kingsville Independence Day Parade and Avenue at White Marsh Holiday Parade.

Seven members also teamed up with seven Baltimore County Fire Department honor guard members to represent the entire county at the joint Volunteer/Career Memorial Service at the Towson United Memorial Church.

The team, carrying a lot of pride in the representation of the entire company, was proud to be the flag-bearing honor guard unit to kick off and conclude the opening ceremonies of our new station.



## Conservation in our Community

Our new station was designed with conservation in mind, including reuse of excavated dirt, trees and other greenery, LED lighting, occupancy sensors, drinkable water bottle filler, single stream recycling, energy efficient appliances, and more.

### Conservation in our Community

How the new station project assists in our communities commitment to environmental conservation.

#### \$230,000



Site work included \$230,000 in storm-water management and bio-retention facilities required by the local government. All excavated dirt was re-purposed on site and not hauled off to a landfill.

#### New Trees



On site we have added 106 new trees, 187 new shrubs, and over 700 plants.



#### LED

All light fixtures throughout the building are LED. Many are programmed on occupancy sensors.

#### Water Bottle Filler

Filtered water bottle filler is installed on the water fountains to reduce overall plastic bottle use.



#### 1000 pounds

We recycled over 1000 pounds of cardboard produced from shipping of furniture and fixtures.

#### Single Stream

The fire station will participate in single stream recycling offered by Baltimore County.



#### Appliances

A majority of the appliances are either energy efficient or water savers.



White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company  
10331 Philadelphia Road White Marsh, MD 21162  
[www.wmvfc.org](http://www.wmvfc.org)  
[Facebook.com/wmvfc](https://www.facebook.com/wmvfc)



## Ember the Firehouse Dog

Ember, our resident firehouse dog, has proven to be a morale booster for our volunteers who spend countless hours at the station.



## Contact Information

### Physical Address

 10331 Philadelphia Road  
White Marsh, Maryland 21162

### Mailing Address

 P.O. Box 309  
White Marsh, Maryland 21162-0309

### Email

 pr@wmvfc.org

### Phone

 410-933-0100 or 410-887-5770

### Emergency

 911

### Web and Social Media

 Website: [wmvfc.org](http://wmvfc.org)

 Facebook: [facebook.com/wmvfc](https://facebook.com/wmvfc)

 Twitter: [twitter.com/wmvfc](https://twitter.com/wmvfc)

 Instagram: [instagram.com/wmvfc](https://instagram.com/wmvfc)

 Pinterest: [pinterest.com/wmvfc](https://pinterest.com/wmvfc)

 YouTube: [youtube.com/wmvfc](https://youtube.com/wmvfc)

 LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/wmvfc](https://linkedin.com/company/wmvfc)

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