

# Bellbrook Fire Department

2020 Annual Report





# Bellbrook

To the Mayor, Council, and Bellbrook Community,

I am honored to present to you the Bellbrook Fire Department's 2020 Annual Report. The following report is a review of the activities of the organization. The content of this report is designed to provide an understanding into how our efforts are focused on providing the highest level of customer service delivery to all of those that we serve.

This past year has presented a set of unique challenges which required a collaboration of critical thinking and innovation to deliver emergency services to the community. During the early phases of the COVID-19 pandemic, the fire department was presented with more questions than answers. Working together with the Administration Team and Department Members, along with the guidelines set forth by Greene County Health Department, we were able to provide the highest level of service delivery without compromising the safety of the members or the citizens of Bellbrook.

As a result of the pandemic, the department was unable to provide several of the award-winning programs that we typically do. As we look forward into 2021, we are hopeful that those programs, along with some new ones, will come back bigger and better as we move into the new year.

One of the biggest changes of this past year, was the retirement of Chief Neidhard. Chief Neidhard, who retired after selfishly giving 35 years of service to multiple fire departments. Although only 7 of those years were with Bellbrook Fire, Chief Neidhard accomplished so much in a short period of time with us. He oversaw the passage of a new levy in 2018, which allowed for increased staffing. He was able to get the department to an ISO Class 2 rating, which put the department in the top 3% in the nation, just to name a few of the many accomplishments he achieved for the department in the short time he was with us.

I would like to again thank the Mayor, Council, and the community for your support during this past year. Our annual report cannot include every positive contribution, but we have stived to highlight the outstanding service that the Bellbrook Fire Department provides to those we serve. In addition, I would like to thank all the dedicated, exceptional, Fire Department professionals who made these improvements possible and continue to be committed to making the Bellbrook Fire Department a superior fire service organization.

Respectfully,

Anthony D. Bizzarro

Fire Chief



## **Year 2020 General Information**

The Bellbrook Fire Department is a combination department with 8 full-time employees, 12 part-time employees, and 1 resource members.

The fire services provided to the citizens of Bellbrook has a Class 2 Public Protection Classification (PPC), placing the community in the top 3 percent of those evaluated throughout the nation.

The department operates 2 Engines; 1 Ladder Truck; 3 Ambulances; and 3 Staff Vehicles.

The Department has 13 Paramedics, 7 Emergency Medical Technicians, 1 Medical Director.

We had 3 members complete their paramedic training. 2 new hires in the part-time program this past year.

The department completed the last purchase of 4 new SCBAs as part of the replacement plan. Hired an architect and had plans designed for a potential remodel of Station 22. Purchased new CO monitors for our first-in bags on each of the medic units. Replaced a 1988 rescue tool system with a new portable rescue system that can cut through the newest materials in the automobile industry.

After 7 years of grateful service to the City of Bellbrook, Chief Neidhard retired with 35 years in the fire service at the end of December 2020. Deputy Chief Anthony Bizzarro was named the new Chief and took over the reins at the beginning of January 2021.

*"Your Department is the finest in the Nation! Many Thanks"*



# Bellbrook

***Bellbrook Fire Department  
Organization Chart  
January 1, 2021***



*"You "guys" are the best & we really appreciate you!"*

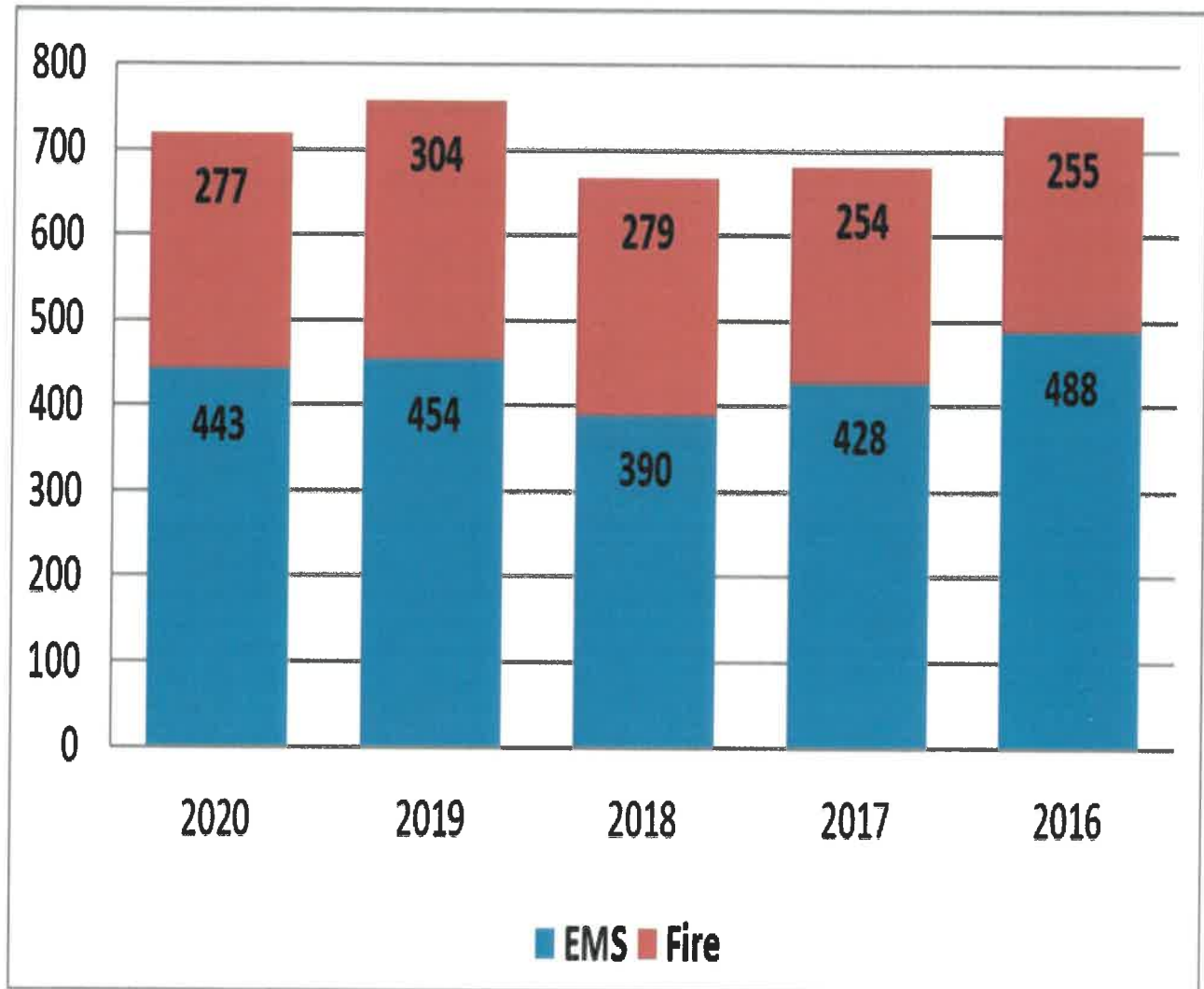
# Statistical Data







## 5-Year Run Analysis

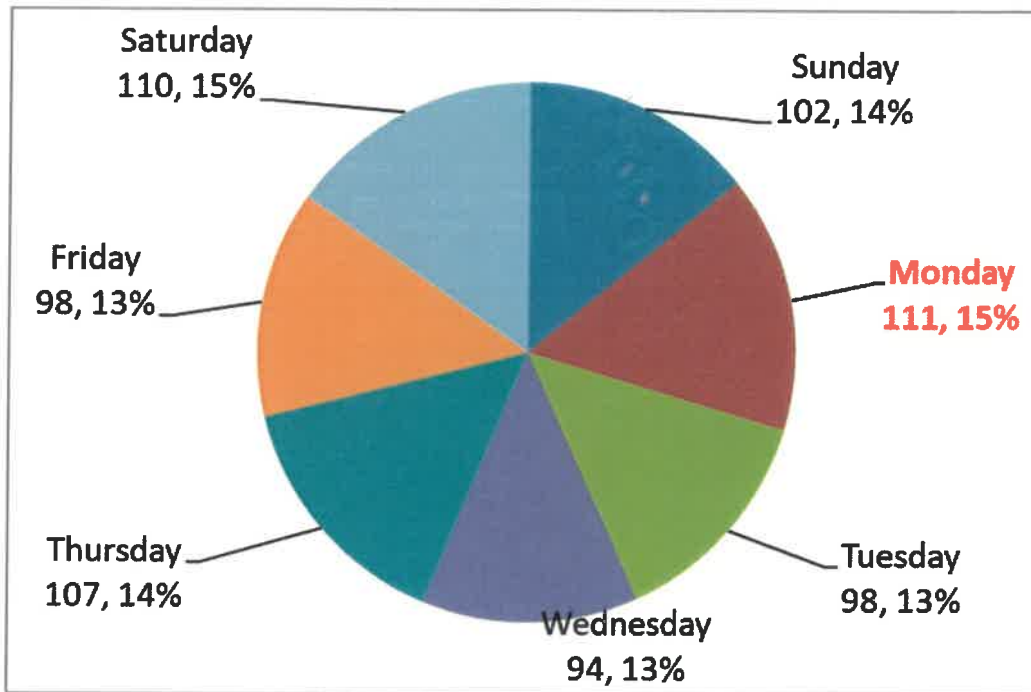


*“The Personnel were professional in every way. They helped me through a very tough moment. I commend them.”*

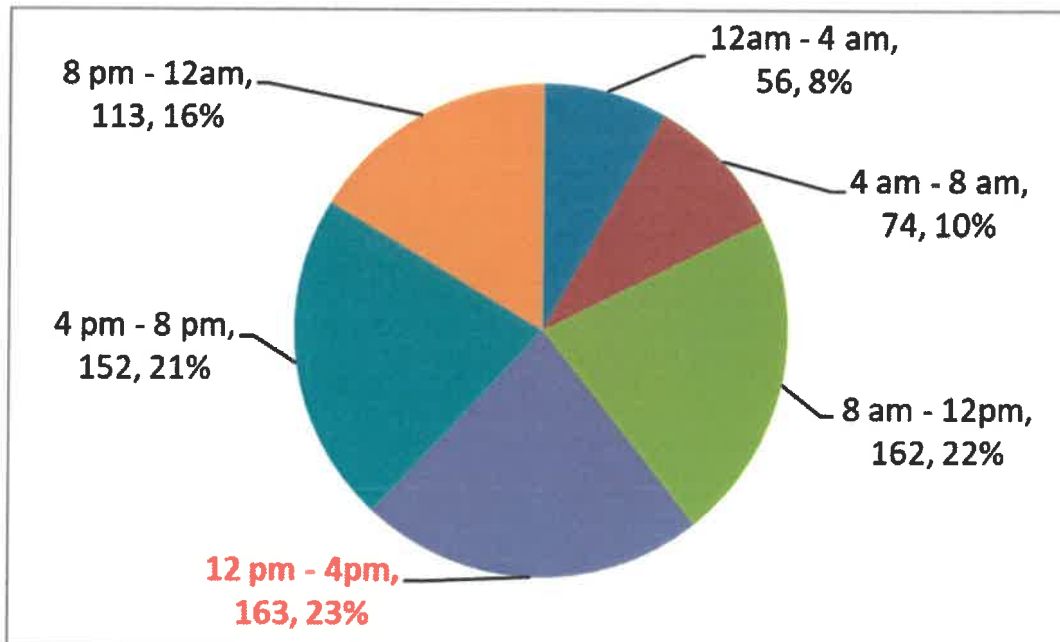


# Bellbrook

## Calls for assistance by Day of the Week



## Calls for assistance by Time of Day



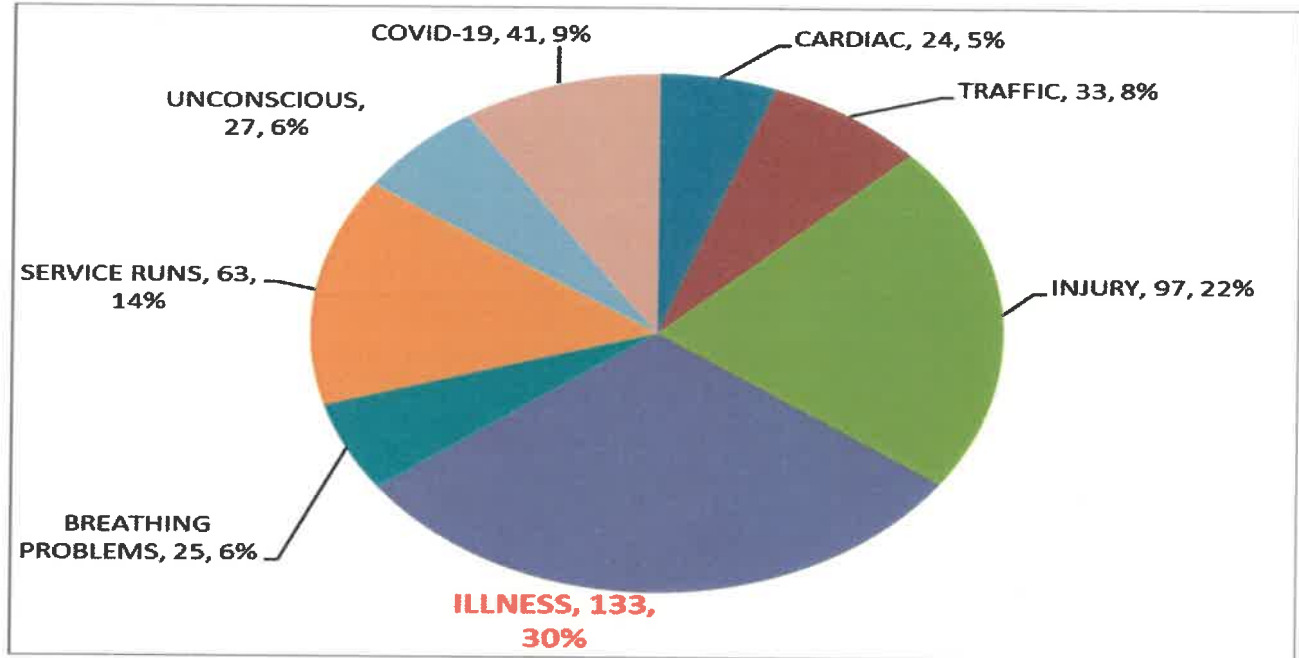
*"I called because my carbon monoxide alarm near the furnace went off. Very pleased with the prompt response!"*



# Bellbrook

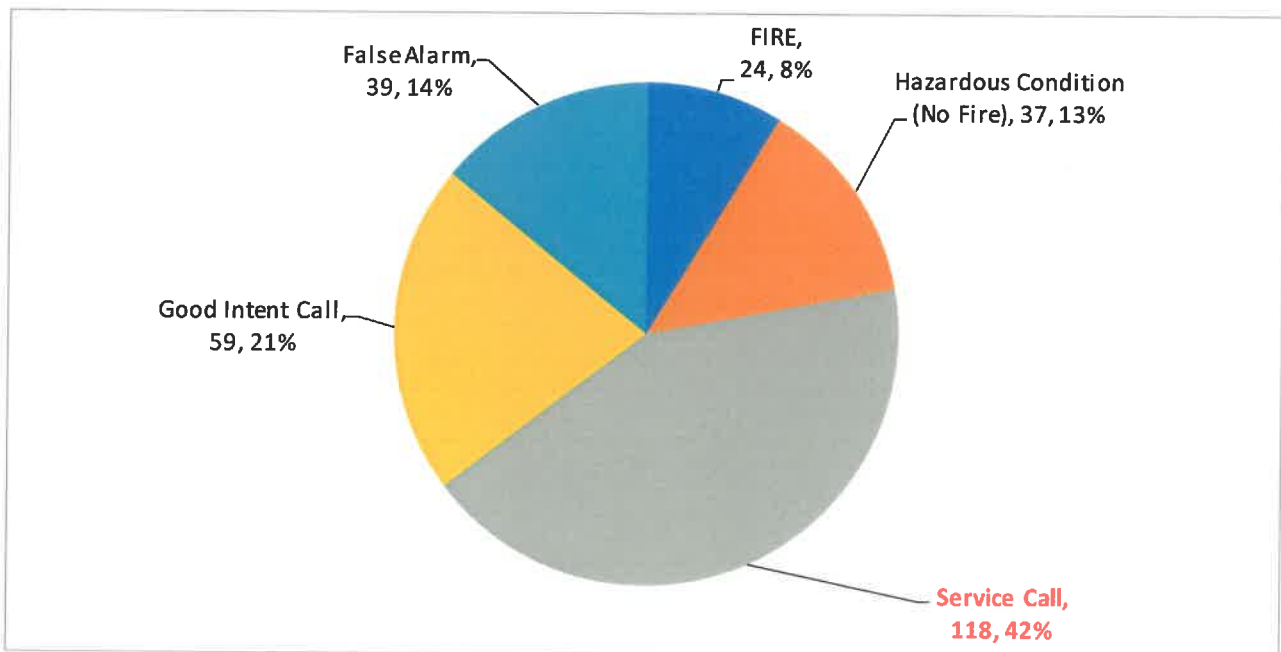
## EMS Runs by Incident Type

Total EMS Runs 443



## Fire Runs by Incident Type

Total Fire Runs 277

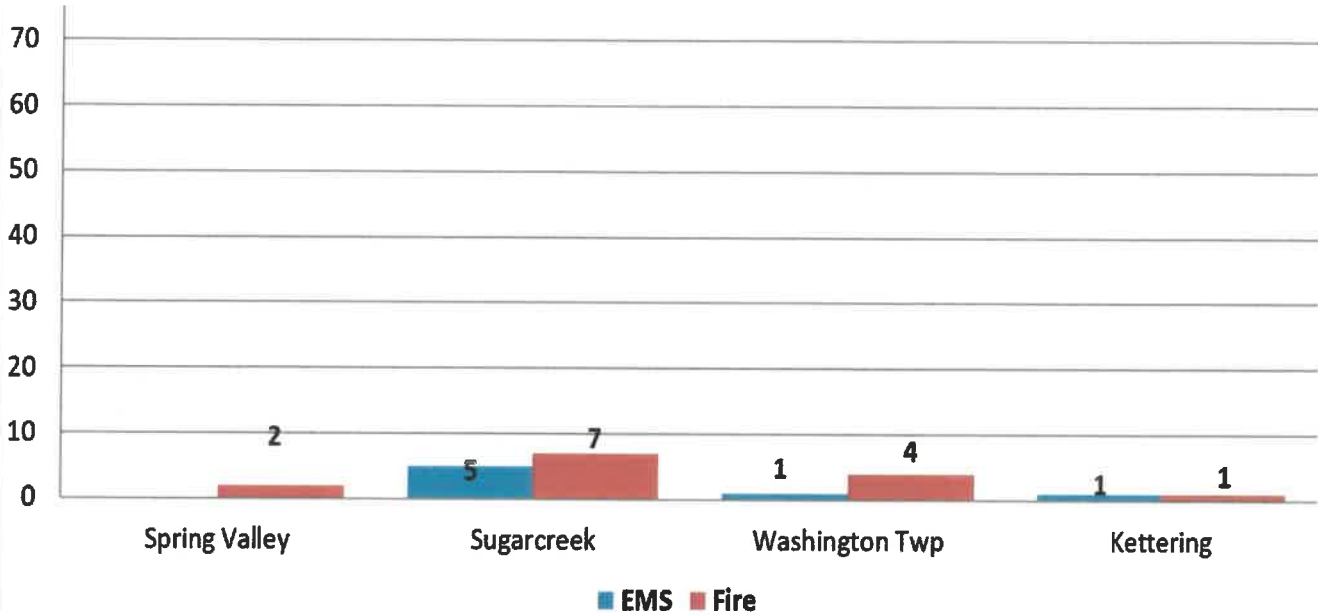




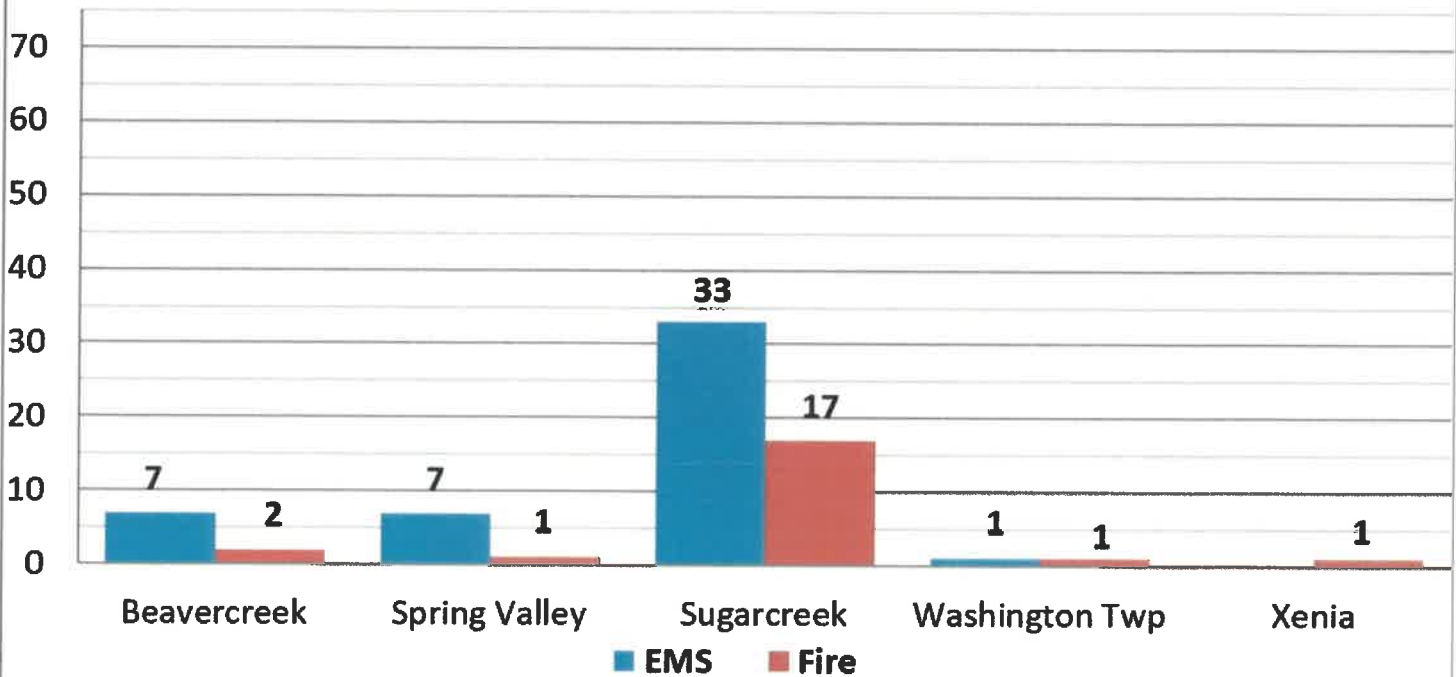


# Bellbrook

## Mutual Aid Received 21 Times



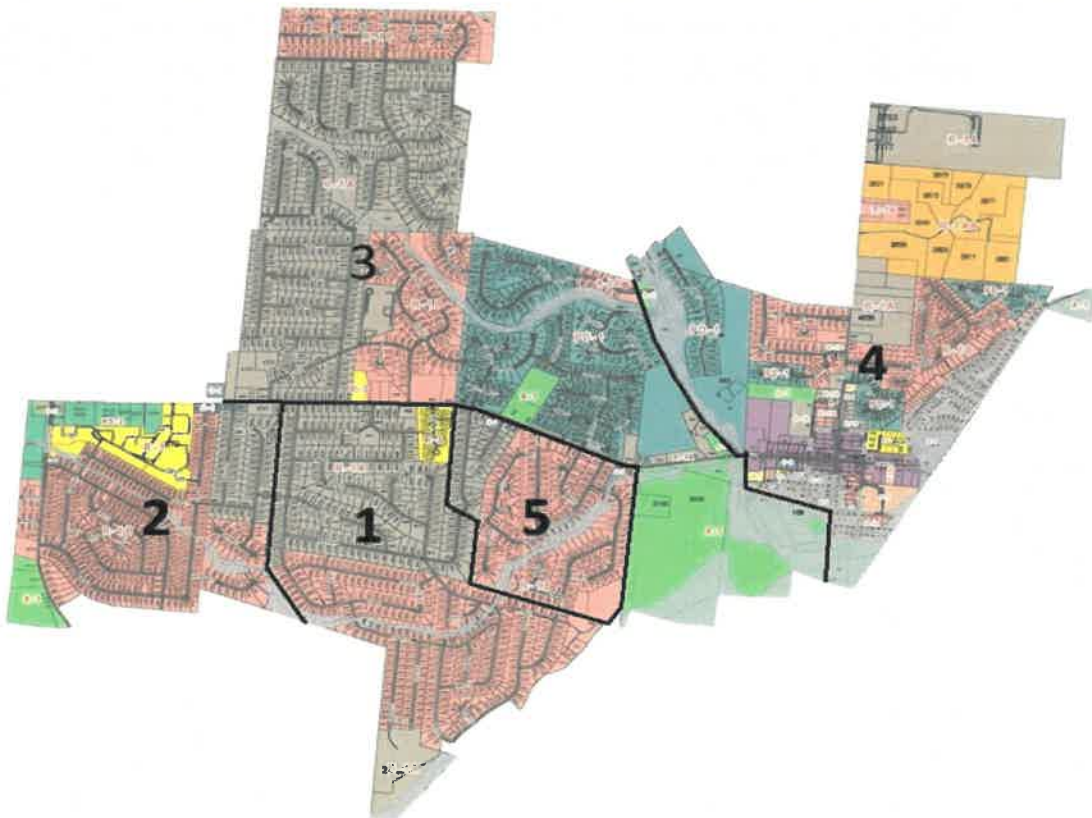
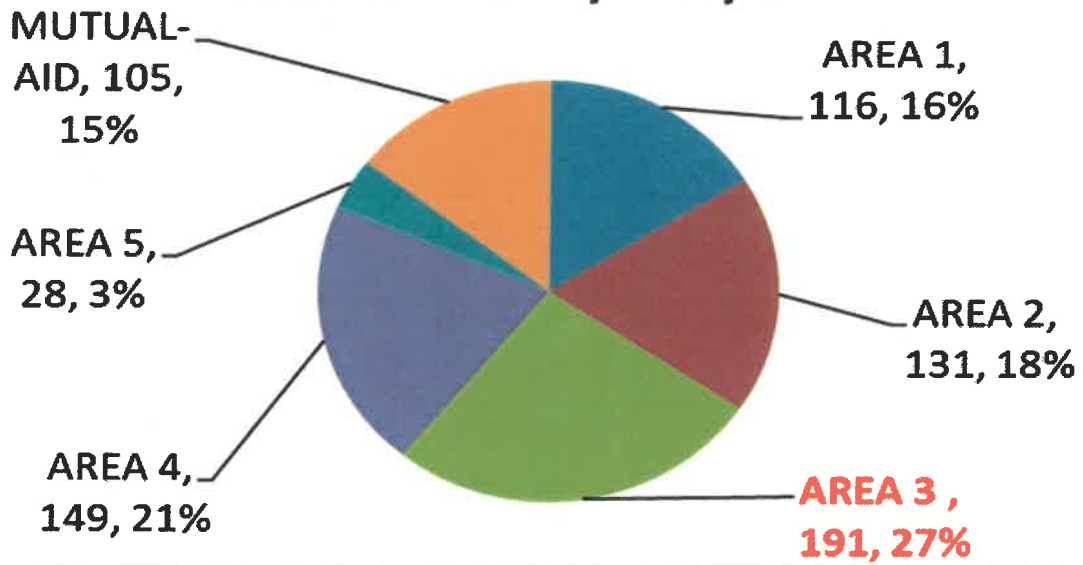
## Mutual Aid Given 70 Times





# Bellbrook

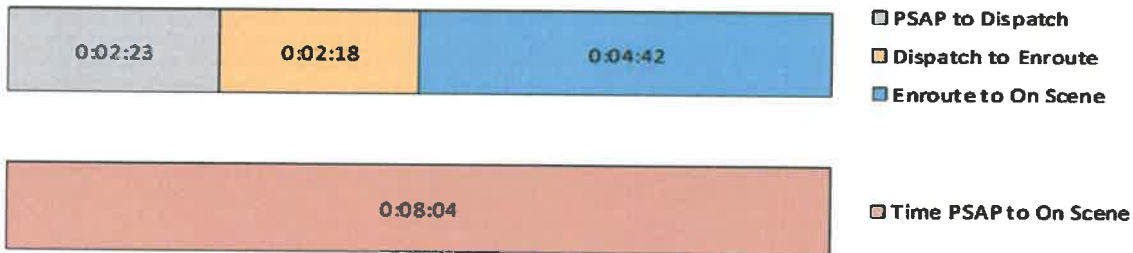
## 2020 Run Analysis by Area





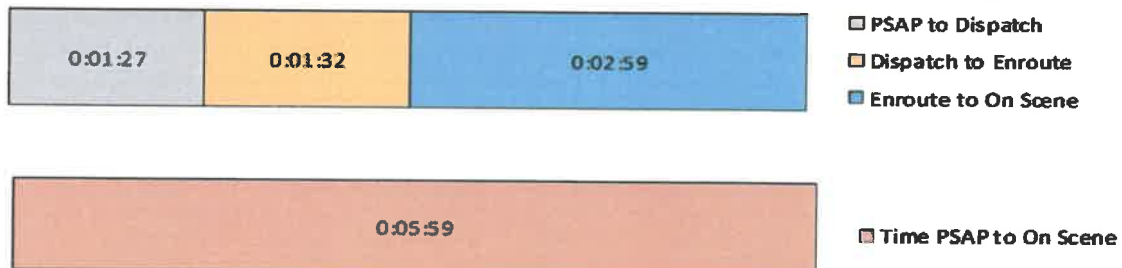
## 2020 Average Response Times by Area

AREA	1	2	3	4	5
PSAP to Dispatch	0:02:37	0:02:17	0:02:34	0:02:05	0:02:45
Dispatch to Enroute	0:02:14	0:02:22	0:02:17	0:02:24	0:02:05
Enroute to On Scene	0:04:26	0:03:55	0:04:59	0:04:45	0:04:47
Time PSAP to On Scene	0:07:44	0:07:48	0:08:01	0:08:11	0:08:52



## 2020 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Response Times by Area

AREA	1	2	3	4	5
PSAP to Dispatch	0:01:32	0:01:27	0:01:31	0:01:19	0:01:39
Dispatch to Enroute	0:01:29	0:01:37	0:01:32	0:01:31	0:01:32
Enroute to On Scene	0:02:53	0:02:31	0:03:06	0:03:27	0:02:48
Time PSAP to On Scene	0:05:54	0:05:34	0:06:09	0:06:17	0:05:59



*"Thank you all for the outstanding job you all do!"*

# Operations







## **FIRE OPERATIONS**

This year has been anything but a normal year for all of us. Nevertheless, the Bellbrook Fire Department pushed forward and continued to progress in many ways. This year we purchased new hydraulic rescue tools. Unlike the tools of the past, these are battery operated. Being battery operated untethers our crews from a hydraulic pump, thereby increasing the portability of our tools and our crew. These tools are also significantly lighter in weight than their predecessors, increasing the overall effectiveness of the tool and making performing an extrication much easier.

We also purchased a new set of Kodiak Stabilization Struts. These are an important part of performing extrication of a vehicle that has overturned. Prior to the purchase of these struts, we had no way of properly stabilizing a vehicle and had to rely on a mutual aid engine company to assist. These struts allow us to safely operate on a scene and operate more effectively. These tools can also be used to shore up a building that is in danger of further collapse, giving us a safe area to operate in.

In addition to rescue tools and struts, we also purchased a hose roller from Roll n Rack. This hose roller assists us in our annual hose testing and picking up hose after structure fire responses. Prior to this purchase, we had to manually drain the water from the hose which weighs approximately 600 pounds when fully charged with water. Once the water had drained, we would have to roll the hose to remove all the air, before placing it back on the apparatus. This process is labor intensive and time consuming, often requiring multiple crew members to be involved. The hose roller performs all these tasks in one motion and works like a push lawnmower. This helps prevent potential injuries, and saves time, increasing our efficiency as a department.



*"Personnel was extremely kind & reassuring. Their courteousness, efficiency, & professionalism made the situation much easier & less frightening for our family. Thank you!"*





## EMS Operations

The delivery of Emergency Medical Service to the citizens of the City of Bellbrook continues to be one of the Fire Department's highest priorities. Comprising of more than 62 percent of all requests for emergency service in our community, our personnel work hard each day to provide the spectacular and professional care the public has grown to expect of the department. Despite the growing training requirements, our membership continues to remain dedicated to the patients they serve. Our goal is to treat each member in the community as if they were one of our own family members. Our crews responded to 443 EMS requests for service in 2020.

The Bellbrook Fire Department is a member of the Greater Miami Valley EMS Council allowing members to operate under "state of the art" protocols. The benefit of this partnership is instrumental in the cohesive relationship with the State of Ohio requirements.

EMS operations continued the development of our online EMS and Fire reporting system Imagetrend ELITE, meeting the state of Ohio requirements. This EMS software allows us to record and store critical patient information and medical history for future calls, creating a quicker, more efficient service. In keeping up with today's technological demands, we purchased two new Toughbook computers for our front-line medic units, to aid our crews in easier, faster, and more productive patient documentation. Our quality improvement program continues to evaluate how crews performed during EMS calls and help with improving future incidents. This year was also a trying time for our community with the COVID-19 pandemic. Our department strives to keep the community safe by providing full Personal Protective Equipment to our members and by providing each patient with a mask during transport to the hospital.

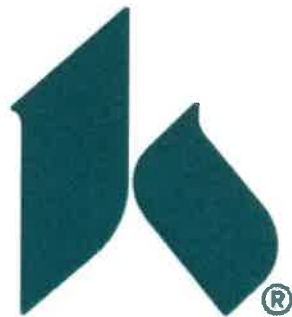


*"Thank you for your service on 11/13/20. Our 3.5 year old son quickly improved that afternoon at Children's Hospital. We are very grateful for your speed and highly skilled care!"*



## **TRAINING OPERATIONS**

In 2020, the Bellbrook Fire Department strived to provide tangible continuing education to all its members. During the year plagued with restrictions, we were able to provide 19 in-person trainings covering a wide array of topics for both EMS and Fire. The Bellbrook Fire Department partnered with surrounding hospitals to supply these in-person trainings, providing congruency to better long-term care. Department members were able to obtain their ACLS certification during this training cycle. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Department had to navigate a new route in obtaining hours of continued education. Premier Health began providing a weekly distance learning webinar, having many department members participate to achieve required continued education for recertification. The training schedule for 2020 bestowed time dedicated to hands on fire training that is necessary to maintain fire certifications. Fire trainings on Hybrid cars, forcible entry, and cooking fires created safe teachable settings for department members to hone their skills. The goals that were set forth prior to the start of the year were, to provide a means to obtain continuing education hours required to maintain EMS and Fire Certification in the State of Ohio. We were able to achieve that in 2020 and look forward to building our knowledge and skills through our training in 2021.



*“The young lady was excellent. Gave orders for the gentlemen to do certain things. Was very positive with me.”*



# Bellbrook

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS

The Bellbrook Fire Department Special Operations Platoon continues to undertake the responsibilities of the Inspection Bureau, the Fire Investigation Unit, Bellbrook TV, prevention, education, and charities. The mission of the Inspection Bureau is to assure a safe environment for both businesses and citizens of our community. The bureau consists of eleven state certified inspectors. The Bureau performed commercial and business inspections along with follow-ups throughout the year. During the inspection process, we are able to meet and maintain a positive relationship with business owners within our district. We had one commercial fire with a dollar loss of \$500. This year our Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating remains at a class 2, which is an outstanding accomplishment for our small department. This year we welcomed at least nine (9) new businesses to our area by working with Greene County Building.

The Bellbrook Fire Department Investigation Unit's duty is to determine the origin and cause of fires. This year we had three (3) residential fire incidents within the city that had a total dollar loss of property and contents totaling approximately \$28,000. All three of the fires were able to be investigated by our members. The department also responded to one (1) auto fire with a loss of \$10,000.

### **"Serve Up Fire Safety In The Kitchen"**

That was the theme for this year's Fire Prevention Week which ran from October 4 – 10. The focus on cooking fire safety comes in response to home cooking fires representing the leading cause of U.S. home fires, with nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; unattended cooking is the leading cause of these fires.

This year's focus on cooking safety is particularly timely. With the pandemic, the public may continue to avoid restaurants for some time and opt instead to do more cooking and entertaining at home, the potential for home cooking fires will likely increase as well. This year's key messages to better educate the public about where potential cooking hazards exist and basic but critical ways to prevent them include the following:



- Keep a close eye on what you are cooking; never leave cooking unattended.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels, or curtains — at least three feet away from your stovetop.
- Be on alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, do not use the stove or stovetop.

Normally, the week prior to Fire Prevention, the Bellbrook Firefighters would visit all the students from pre-school to fifth grade spreading the word about fire safety. Unfortunately, with the COVID-19 pandemic all fire prevention week activities were cancelled.

*"They were in and out of our house quickly and were efficient. Thank you for your help!"*



# Department Programs





# Bellbrook



The Bellbrook Fire Department takes great pride in our involvement with local charitable organizations. Our members donate a lot of time and effort to supporting these great causes. The COVID-19 pandemic again caused changes in the way our department raised funds through our MDA Fill-the-Boot campaign. Since 1995 our members have been giving up their holiday weekend to pound the pavement in front of Station 22, but this year our efforts went to fully on-line asking for donations through multiple social media platforms. This year we were able to raise \$300.00 virtually. This raised our total monies donated to MDA over the last 26 years to the sum of \$104,305.

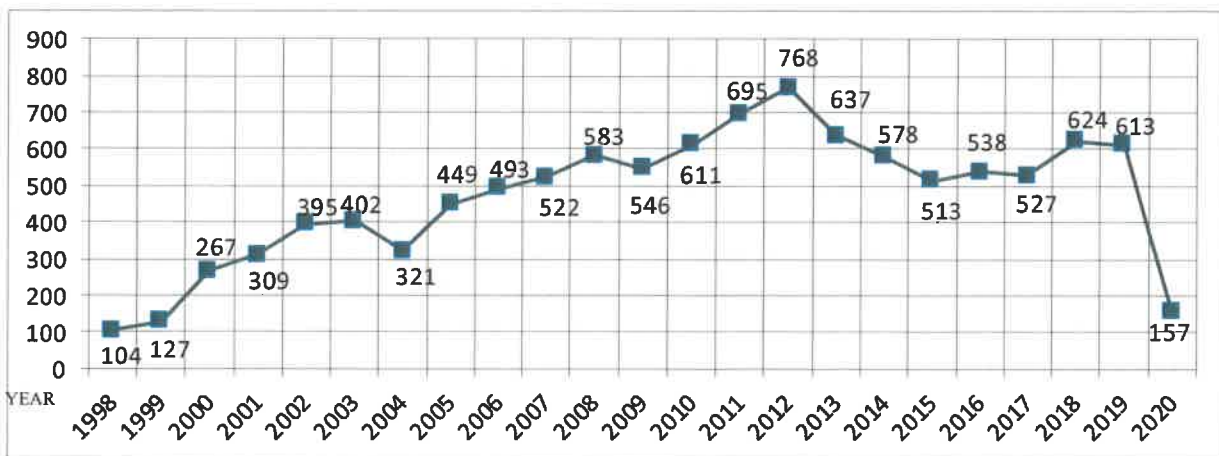
We also teamed up with the Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Family Resource Center by adopting a family of five for the Christmas season. Several members from the Firefighters' Association went shopping and bought gifts/presents for the three children and two parents who were less fortunate and came on hard times this holiday season.

## **Bellbrook may be a small community, but it has a large heart.**

The Bellbrook Community TV project continues to be a great way to get information out to the community, especially with the COVID-19 pandemic that struck this year. Programs that we broadcast this year included: Rebroadcast of Council Meetings, Fire Prevention & Safety Messages, Public Service Announcements, and safety messages about the pandemic.

The number of requests to have information placed on the Community Bulletin Board decreased to 157 this year due to all the cancellations because of the pandemic. The many organizations that use the bulletin board to get their message out had to cancel all activities causing the bulletin board to not be utilized much this year.

The chart below reflects the number of slides placed on the Community Bulletin Board since we started doing the Community Access Channel in 1998:







The Bellbrook Fire Department has an atmosphere focused on community outreach and safety. We are proud to serve our community by offering Car Seat inspections and installations as well as CPR, HeartSaver, First Aid and ACLS. New to 2020, we became able to provide PALS certification. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, we were only able to offer these services between January and March.

Often children and infants are secured in seats that are not secured to their vehicle they are placed in appropriately, allowing the child to be in danger if an accident were to occur. Our Car Seat service educates parents, grandparents, guardians, and many other caregivers of the proper way to install seats safely and efficiently. The focus is on the safety of the child but the caregivers and others who attend the appointments leave feeling more at ease and calm about their situations and safety.

For Car Seat services, we were able to help 13 families with their installation and inspection needs with 3 of those being from our very own community. Though we were not able to provide these services after March, there were an abundance of people calling in over the year asking for assistance, informing the call taker they had either been there before or were recommended to come to Bellbrook Fire Department from someone who had been assisted before and was happy with our service.

The Bellbrook Fire Department in working with Dayton Children's has been able to refer people and assist them in getting car seats when they are not able on their own. Car seats can get expensive and it is a privilege to be able to help in all aspects of the job.

Many parents, especially first-time parents, come into the appointment nervous and not fully aware of how to even work their seat. This service brings peace of mind, ensuring parents have one less thing to worry about, and best of all, knowledge of not only how to install the car seat but also how to use all the basic functions. I look forward to this service resuming so we can continue helping those in need.

For 2020, we were able to provide 3 ACLS classes, 6 BLS classes, 3 HeartSaver classes and 3 HeartSaver/First Aid classes.

The Bellbrook Fire Department would like to thank Premier Health Network for allowing us to instruct CPR and ACLS through them. We would also like to thank Dayton Children's Hospital for allowing us to become a PALS instructor and the opportunity to educate through them.



*"I am deeply appreciating the care & professionalism of the crew. I am alive and getting healthier thanks to them, with our deepest gratitude."*

# Apparatus





# Bellbrook

## **BELLBROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT INVENTORY OF EQUIPMENT**

### **STAFF VEHICLES**



COMMAND VEHICLE  
2014 Ford Expedition



COMMAND VEHICLE  
2019 Chevy Tahoe

### **SUPPORT VEHICLE**



SUPPORT STAFF VEHICLE  
2016 GMC 1500



# Bellbrook

## FIRE APPARATUS



**ENGINE 22**  
2012 International / KME



**ENGINE 21**  
2003 International / KME



**LADDER 22**  
1995 International/Smeal 75' Aerial





# Bellbrook

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE



**MEDIC 22**  
2015 Ford McCoy/Miller



**MEDIC 21**  
2012 Chevy McCoy/Miller



**MEDIC 23**  
2000 Ford McCoy/Miller