

2025
FIRE SERVICE
YEAR-END REPORT



Mission of the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company

The mission of this company is the protection of life and property, through the public education of our residents, prevention and suppression of fires, and to assist in the mitigation of all other emergencies to the best of our professional abilities, when called upon to do so.

Our Values

Professionalism

In application, appearance, attitude, and standards.

Compassion

Demonstrate kindness and empathy.

Respect

To each other, our company, our customers, the citizens and visitors of Lower Makefield Township & Yardley Borough.

Quality

We provide a quality service to the community; we are committed to continuous improvement.

Health and Safety

Personal and professional health and safety is paramount in fulfilling the mission of the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company.

Background

It was the fire at Cadwallader's Store, on the corner of Main and Afton, which prompted the meeting of concerned citizens on December 14, 1897. When the meeting finished, the Yardley Fire Company had been formed. The story goes that the Cadwallader fire was eventually put out and the town was saved by the gallant actions of two men, William Baird and James Casey. They rode to Trenton with four horses and brought back a steam pumper, with water from Lake Afton, the fire was quickly extinguished.



Starting in the 1950's the fields surrounding Yardley were being turned over to houses and the calls for service started to increase. Fire company members decided they needed to provide protection in the township and an engine was housed in a member's barn on Stony Hill Road, this station is called the Woodside Station. On January 16, 1961, the Yardley Fire Co. # 1 became the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company being it was serving both Lower Makefield Township and Yardley Borough.



The Yardley Borough Hall building served as the firehouse from 1897 until 1972 when the current firehouse at the corner of South Main Street and College Avenue was built. A lot of residents ask about the building on South Main Street which has a sign for the Yardley Fire Co. #2. In the mid 1930's a group of members separated themselves from the Fire Company and created the Yardley Fire Company #2. Two Fire Companies serving the residents did not last long and all the members and apparatus returned to one station.

In the late 1960's the need for more equipment at the Woodside Firehouse was needed, a new building was built where the current Giant Food store is today. This new building was big enough for an engine, a field truck and the additional manpower responding to that station. In the early 1980s the Fire Company was approached by the developer of the Edgewood Shopping





Center wanting to use the land the firehouse was on and offered to build a new firehouse where the current Woodside firehouse is located today. The firehouse was completed in 1986 and has gone through numerous renovations to keep up with the growing fire service.

Yardley Borough and Lower Makefield Township has gone through a substantial growth throughout the years. The Yardley-Makefield Fire Company coverage area consists of roughly 19.5 square miles, almost all of it being suburban and commercial developments. The population density for the densest part of the coverage area is 2,500 people per square mile. Our primary response area is also scattered with several “target hazards.” A target hazard from a fire company stance is defined as: “a more complex building or group of buildings that present a greater threat or potential problem than a single-family dwelling.”

Yardley-Makefield Fire Company is home to several small shopping centers, four apartment complexes, one 3- story hotel, 17 schools, six assisted living facilities, several 55 and older communities, a five mile stretch of Interstate 295, a four mile stretch of CSX/Septa Railroad, a five mile stretch of the Delaware River, a four mile stretch of the Transco Pipeline which transports natural gas from the gulf coast up to the northeast region, and a three mile stretch of the Sunoco Petroleum Pipeline which transports petroleum products from Marcus Hook up to Newark, New Jersey. The Yardley-Makefield Fire Company is dispatched by the Bucks County 911 Communications Center and assigned Company 0 (Yardley Borough Station) and Company 80 (Woodside Station) as its designation for radio transmissions and dispatches. It is assisted on an as needed basis by the Morrisville (Company 98), Upper Makefield (Company 71), Falls (Company 30), Newtown (Company 45), Fairless Hills (Company 31), and Langhorne (Company 21) fire companies.

Yardley-Makefield Fire Company Station 0 (Yardley Borough) Apparatus



**SS 0 – 2012 International
Water Rescue**

Utility 0 – 2020 F-550 Crew Cab



Engine 0 – 2025 Pierce Engine

Ladder 0 – 2021 Pierce 107' Aerial



Yardley Makefield Fire Company Station 80 (Woodside) Apparatus



Utility 80 – 2014 F-550 Crew Cab

Rescue 80 – 2018 Pierce Rescue Pumper



Engine 80 – 2023 Pierce Engine

SS-80 – 2000 High Water Vehicle



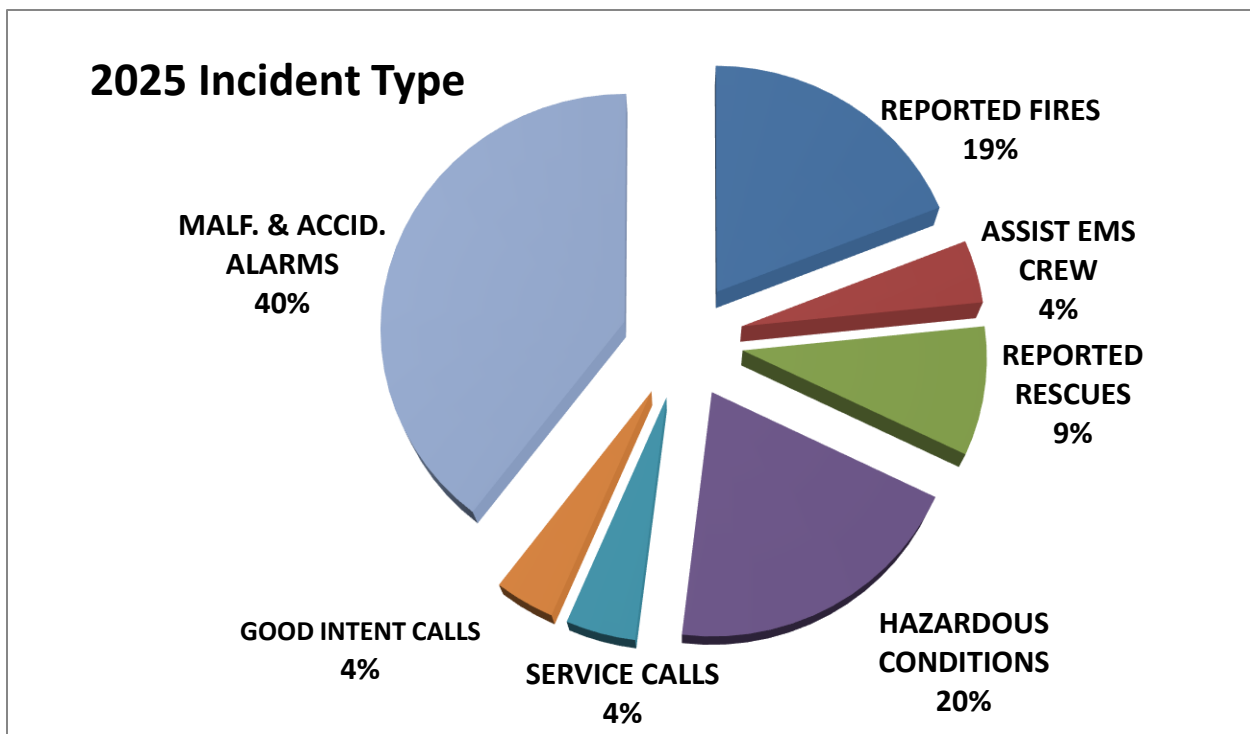
Yardley-Makefield Fire Company Fire Police Units

Traffic 0 – 2025 GMC 3500 w/custom box



Traffic 01 – 2024 GMC 3500





The Yardley-Makefield Fire Company received 639 calls for service requiring a response. The pie chart above breaks down the 639 incidents into categories based on the National Fire Incident Reporting Systems (NFIRS).

Category #1 (Reported Fires) are generally what most people think of when they picture a fire department. This includes all structural, wild land, rubbish, dumpster, train/truck/vehicle and heater fires.

Category #2 (Assist EMS Crew) includes all assistance given to EMS services such as during cardiac arrests, gaining access to residence or assistance in lifting patients.

Category #3 (Reported Rescues) includes any reported people trapped due to vehicle accidents, stuck elevators, building collapses, falls down steep hills/trenches, or stuck in household items such as stair banisters or furniture.

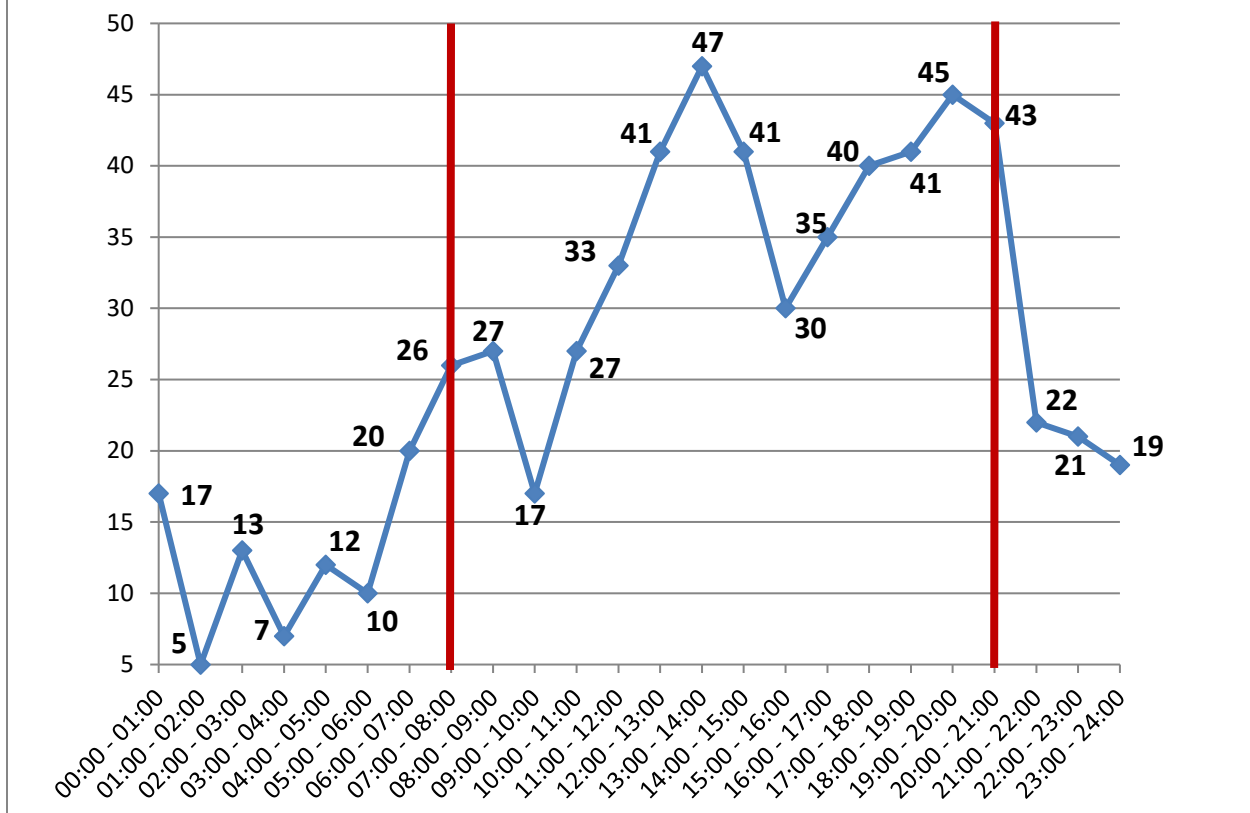
Category #4 (Hazardous Conditions) pertains to incidents including Carbon Monoxide incidents, hazardous material spills and leaks, and power lines down.

Category #5 (Service Calls) includes water and steam leaks, citizen complaints for open burning, assistance requested by Lower Makefield or Yardley Borough Police Departments, and public service requests of various nature.

Category #6 (Good Intent Calls) refers primarily to incidents received for odors of smoke that result in no problem found and incidents when the fire company is cancelled by another agency prior to arrival on scene.

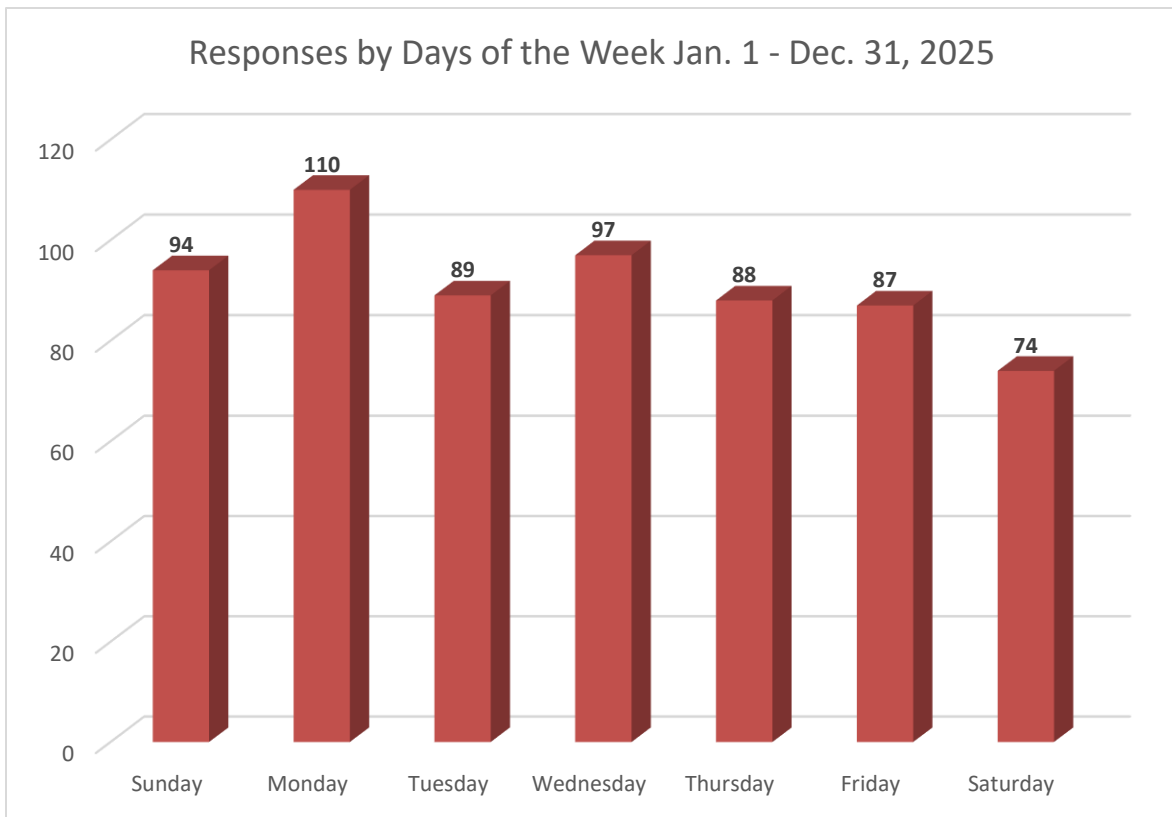
Category #7 (Malfunction & Accidental Alarms) includes all fire alarms responded to where no fire was found upon arrival. A breakdown of the alarms can be found on the next page.

Incidents by Hour of Dispatch Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2025



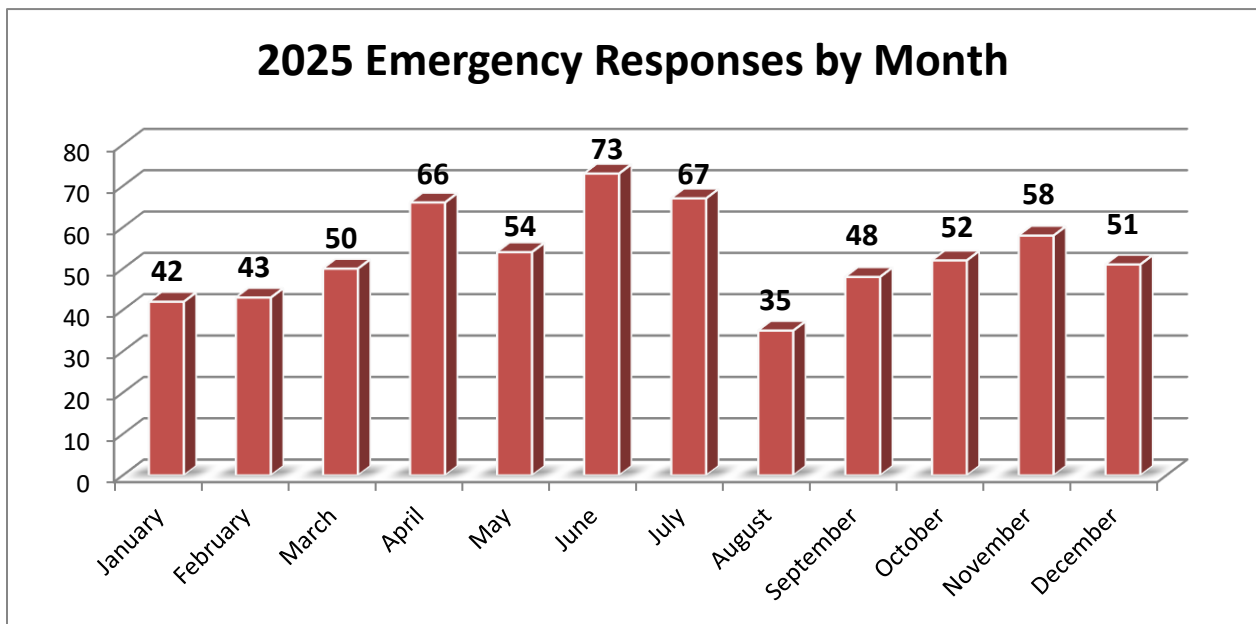
The chart above shows the number of calls handled each hour of the day for the entire year. You can see our busiest hours are between 7 AM and 9 PM (0700 – 2100 hours). There are several logical reasons for this such as more cars on the roads, more people awake and moving around, and more people in the township and borough during these hours for work. The important thing to realize is that our busiest hours also overlap many of the hours most people are at their full-time jobs.

This may seem trivial, but being a volunteer fire company, means most of our volunteers are also at work during these same busy hours, presenting a challenge for any volunteer fire company to maintain adequate responses. The tracking of staff availability via the “I Am Responding” computer system helps greatly with this challenge. The system is displayed on a screen in each firehouse and allows members to put their availability up electronically. With personnel schedules being displayed, it allows chief officers to know before an incident how many members are not available. The system is also capable of displaying names of personnel who are responding from home to the firehouse for an incident.



An emergency response is one that requires the use of lights and sirens due to the urgency of the incident. Not all fire company responses require an emergency response. Some responses are not deemed life threatening and can be handled in the non-emergency (without lights and sirens) mode.

The chart below displays all 639 calls for service broken down by month. Due to the number of days in a month, it is hard to see a pattern for the number of incidents per month. 2025-year average per month was 54 calls.





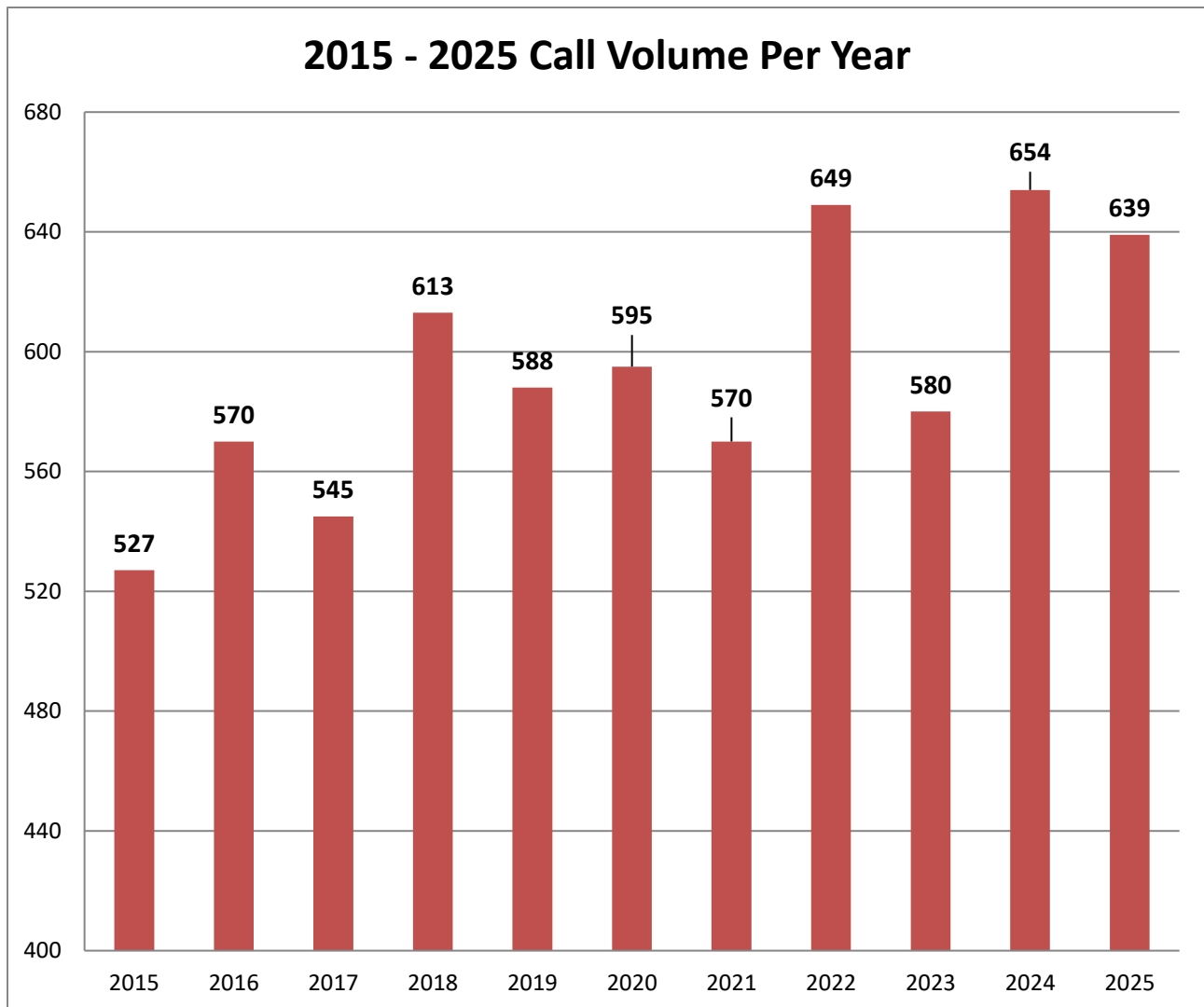
The Yardley-Makefield Fire Company responds to incidents that vary in degree from fire alarms at residential and commercial buildings to technical rescue incidents involving stuck elevators, vehicle accidents, rope, and water rescues. The company is sufficiently equipped to handle low angle rope rescues, vehicle accidents with entrapment, and structural fires of any degree.

We rely on mutual aid from County based taskforces and teams for technical rescues like confined space or trench as well as for hazardous material incidents.

While the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company has several members trained in technical rescue and hazardous materials, we do not carry enough equipment to handle these incidents without mutual aid support.



The 639 incidents last year resulted in an average of **2** incidents each day. The result is a staggering **7,624** man-hours volunteered by our staff of roughly **42** qualified personnel (firefighters & fire police). These are only the hours volunteered to answer emergency calls for service! The chart below shows our incidents on a yearly basis.



The increase in call volume over the years increases the need for manpower to be available more hours of the day. This puts a strain on the volunteers to have to leave their families more often. In the past families could survive off a single income or each partner working only one job to survive. In today's world families are working full time jobs and then picking up part time work so their availability to volunteer has drastically decreased.

YMFC vs. Others in Bucks County

Bucks County has 59 volunteer fire companies scattered throughout the county. The Yardley-Makefield Fire Company ranks 7th on the Primary Call Volume chart for the year 2025. This means that of all the dispatched emergency calls throughout all of Bucks County, Lower Makefield / Yardley Borough had the 7th most emergency calls for service. Below are the top 7 fire companies that answered the most calls within their own coverage area for 2025:

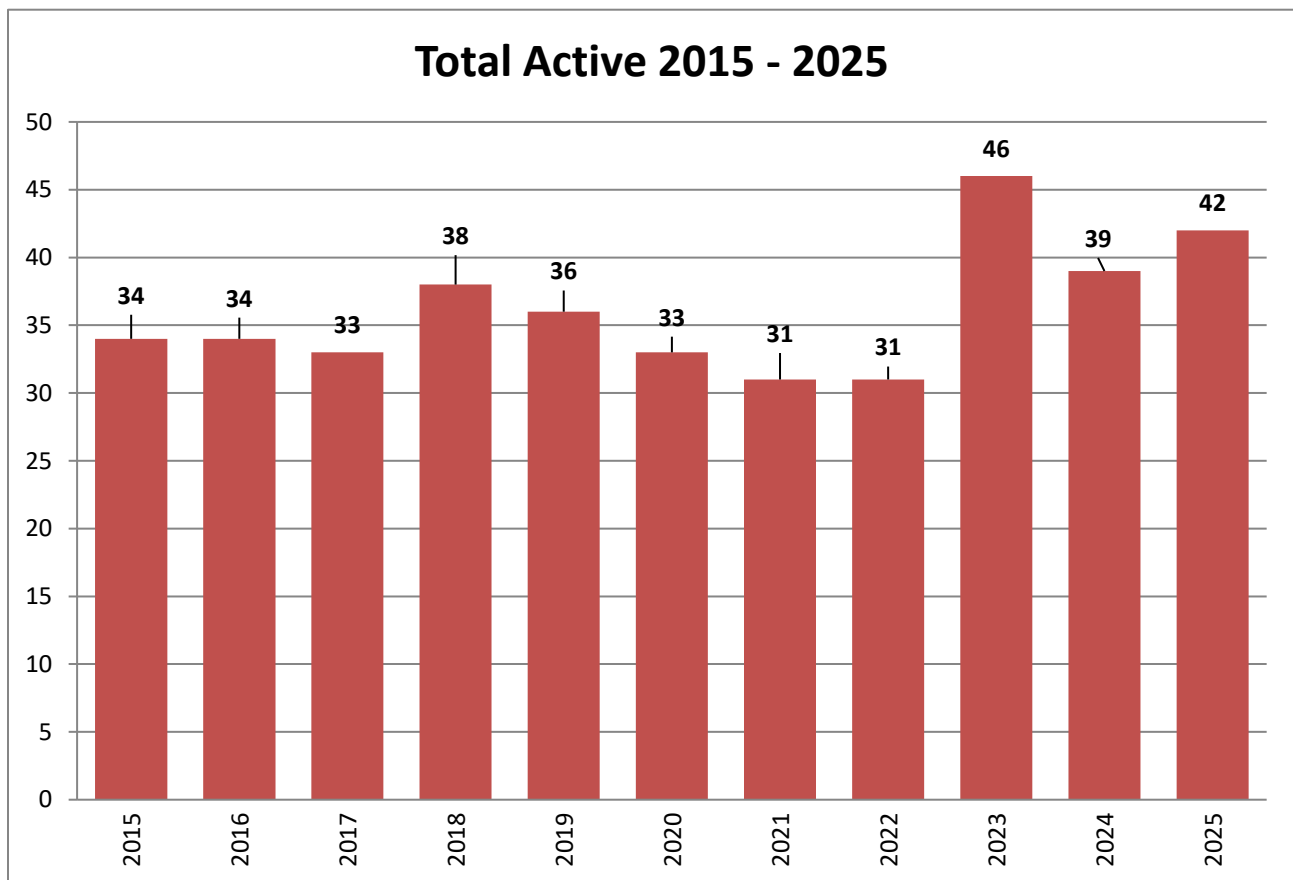
| Rank | Fire Company | 2025 Total calls | Est. Population | Area Sq. Miles |
|------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1 | Doylestown Sta. 19/79 | 713 | 34,865 | 26.79 |
| 2 | Langhorne Middletown Sta. 21/22 | 641 | 48,061 | 20.43 |
| 3 | Warminster Sta. 90/91/92 | 617 | 32,460 | 10.18 |
| 4 | Northampton Sta. 3/73/83 | 597 | 39,915 | 26.12 |
| 5 | Newtown Sta. 45/55 | 573 | 21,969 | 12.53 |
| 6 | Warrington Sta. 29/78 | 532 | 25,639 | 13.79 |
| 7 | Yardley-Makefield Sta. 0/80 | 525 | 35,781 | 19.3 |

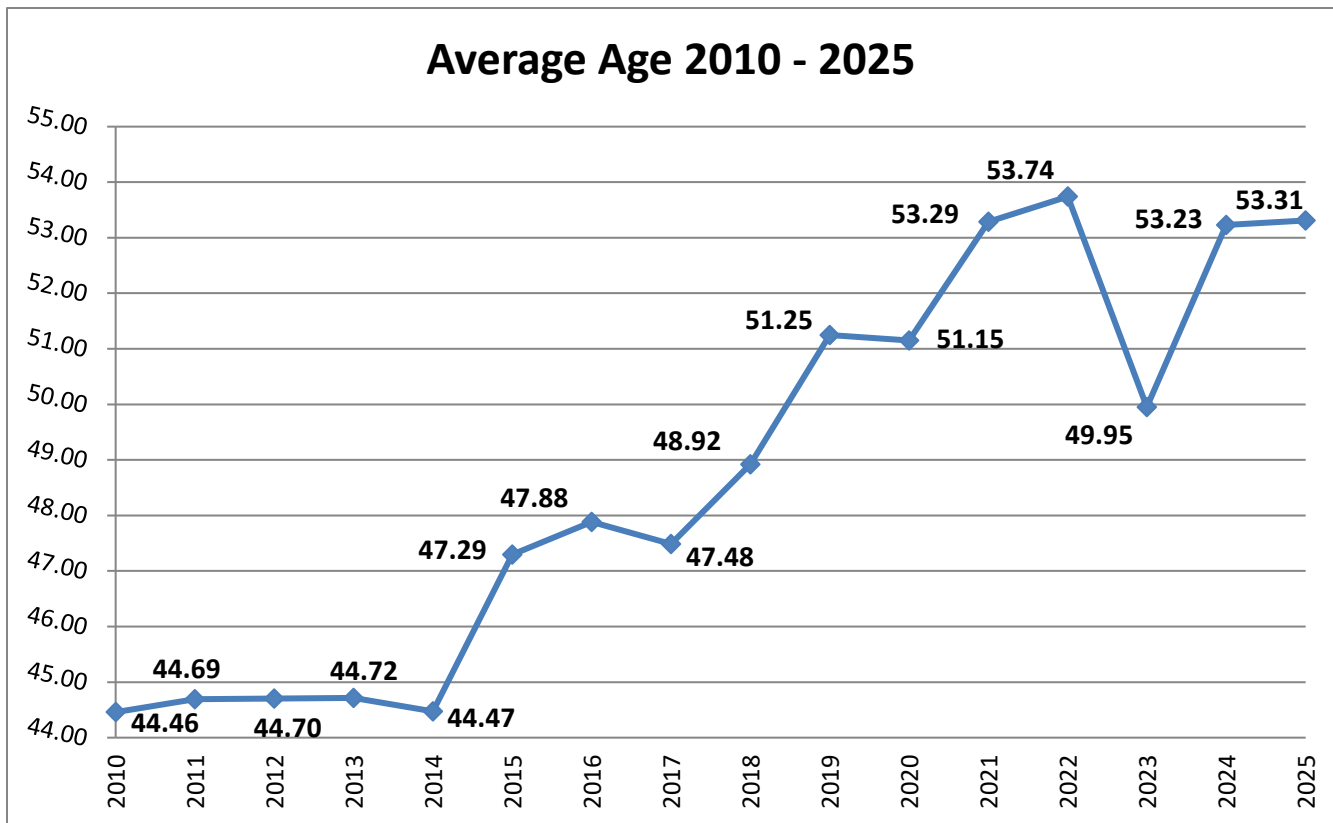
The charts below break down the calls for service between Lower Makefield Township and Yardley Borough over the past 7 years, along with the calls for service to our mutual aid companies in 2025.

| | Lower Makefield | Yardley Borough | Total |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| 2019 | 431 | 60 | 491 |
| 2020 | 447 | 57 | 504 |
| 2021 | 420 | 56 | 476 |
| 2022 | 452 | 61 | 513 |
| 2023 | 425 | 45 | 470 |
| 2024 | 475 | 48 | 523 |
| 2025 | 484 | 41 | 525 |

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Morrisville Borough | 30 |
| Falls Township | 29 |
| Middletown Township | 29 |
| Newtown Township | 12 |
| Upper Makefield Township | 10 |
| Ewing Township NJ | 2 |
| Langhorne Borough | 1 |
| Hamilton Township NJ | 1 |
| Total | 114 |

To be considered an active member of the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company a member must attend 25% of the total calls for service within a calendar year. For the year 2025, a member must have attended 160 calls to be considered active and receive the incentives set up by the fire company. The chart below shows the number of active members the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company has had each year from 2015 through 2025.





A breakdown of the 42 active members from 2025 and their roles on the emergency scene:

- 8 active members are Fire Police
- 4 active members are Chief Officers who respond directly to the scene to complete a size up and coordinate operations.
- 13 are Driver/Operators or Deputy Fire Marshals only (no interior firefighting).
- 17 Interior Qualified Firefighters:
 - 7 are over the age of 50.
 - 5 respond to the Woodside station that are under the age of 50.
 - 4 respond to the Borough station that are under the age of 50.

Membership

From 2017 – to the end of 2025 the Fire Company has had **70** new members accepted into the company.

- **44** have resigned or are inactive due to not having the time to dedicate due to work, family, etc.
- 9 are currently responding Fire Police Officers
- 12 are currently active interior firefighters
- 1 joined as a social member
- 4 are currently exterior firefighters (have not completed the basic fire academy)

In this same time frame, we have lost **23** Senior Members due to retirement or moving.

- 16 interior firefighters, 4 Driver/Operators, and 3 Fire Police Officers



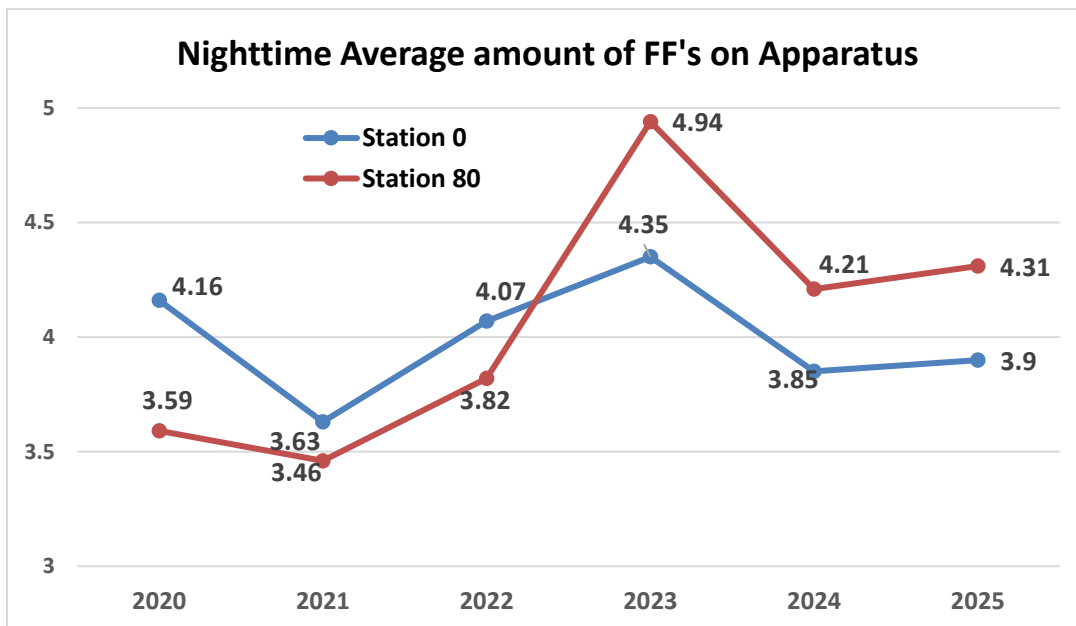
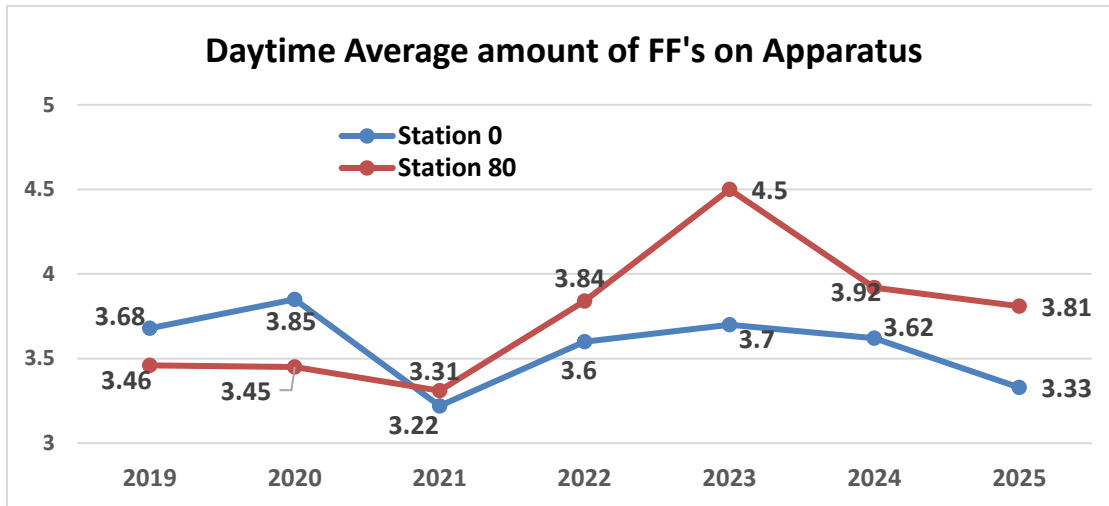
The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) provides the minimum requirements that volunteer, and combination fire departments must meet, including their organizational structure and how they operate. These requirements are found in the NFPA 1720 Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Departments.

According to NFPA 1720, volunteer fire departments should have the capability to safely begin attacking the fire within two minutes once firefighters arrive at the scene with all the equipment they need to fight it, at least 90% of the time. Why not 100% of the time? The NFPA recognizes the many difficulties volunteer departments face, including lack of trained firefighters who are available and can be summoned in the event of a fire, and budget issues that can hamper their ability to repair or replace equipment needed quickly. The chart below is from NFPA 1720 and breaks down the area of coverage and the minimum number of firefighters needed and the amount of time they should arrive in. On this chart Lower Makefield Township/Yardley Borough is considered an Urban Area.

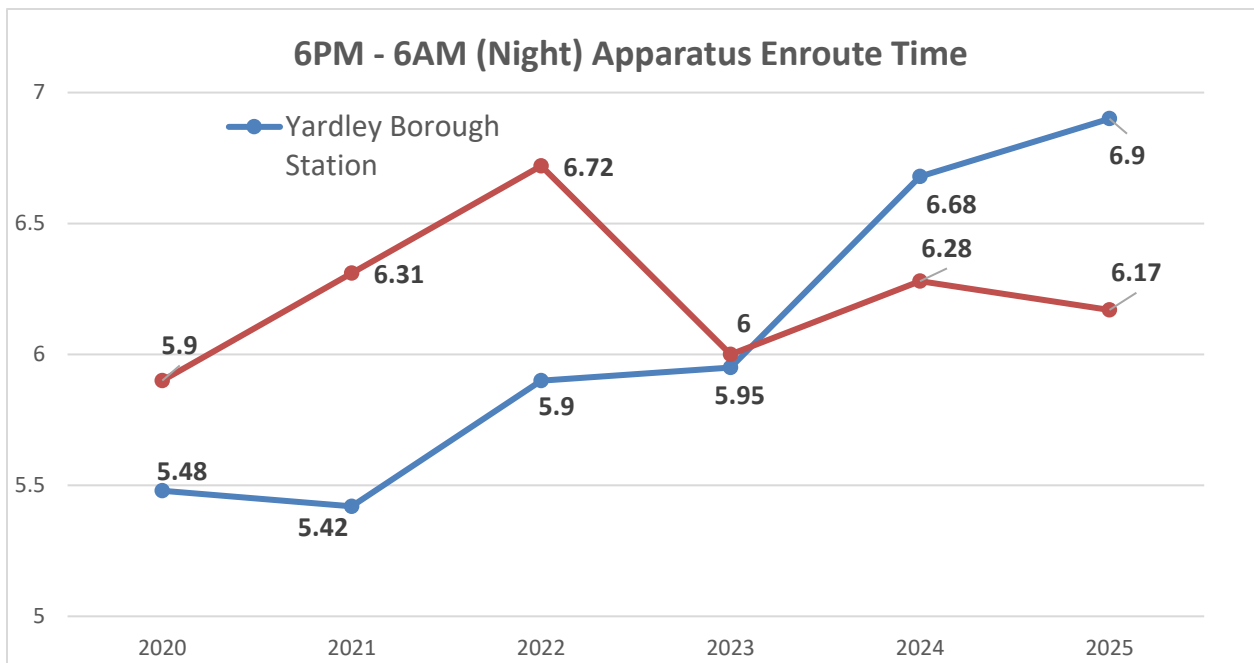
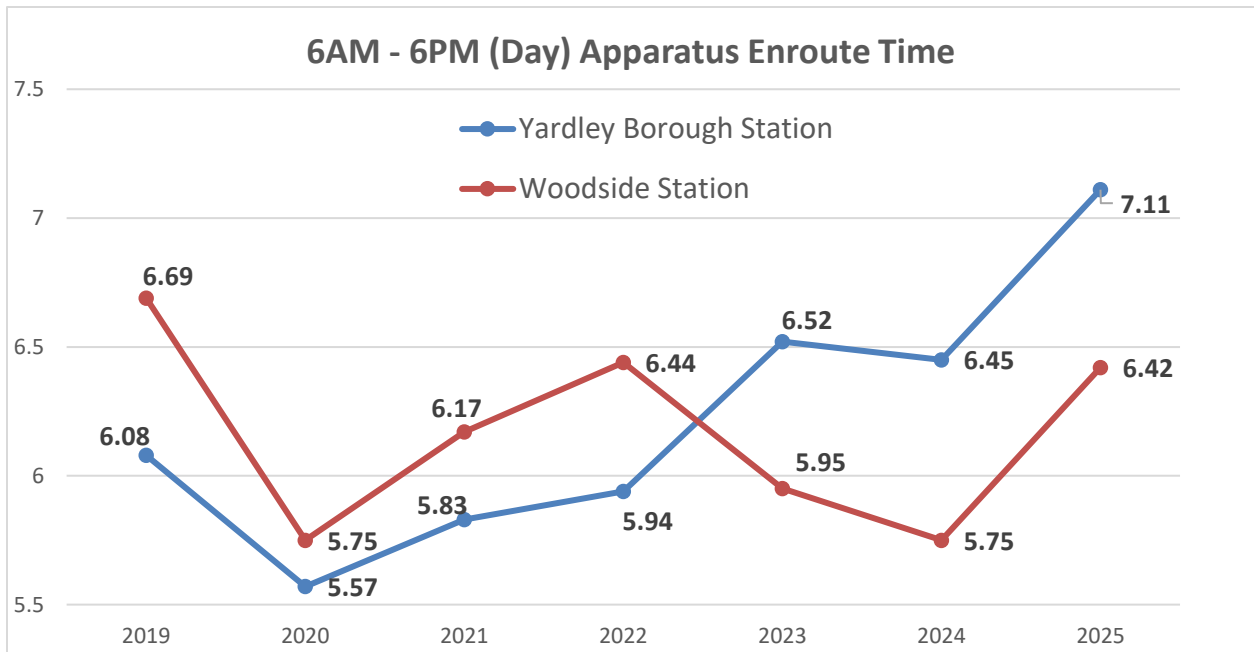
| Demand Zone | Demographics | Minimum Staff to Respond | Response Time in Minutes |
|---------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Urban area | More than 1,000 people per square mile | 15 | 9 |
| Suburban area | Between 500-1,000 people per square mile | 10 | 10 |
| Rural area | Less than 500 people per square mile | 6 | 14 |
| Remote area | Travel distance of 8 miles or more | 4 | Depends on travel distance |
| Special Risks | Determined by the AHJ | Determined by AHJ based on risk | Determined by the AHJ |

*Minimum staffing includes the members responding from the volunteer department and any other fire departments (volunteer or otherwise) that have agreed to work together for immediate joint response on first alarms (known as "automatic aid"). **Response time begins from the minute the dispatch notification is delivered.

The chart below shows the average size of the apparatus crew for each station that is broken down from daytime (6AM-6PM) to nighttime (6PM-6AM). Looking at the chart on the previous page you can see that we should have at least 15 interior firefighters responding to an emergency for our demand area. These numbers include the driver/operator in which the average age is 60 years old. In 2025 the top 4 driver/operators averaged an age of 69 years old.



The charts below show the average response time for the first responding apparatus from each station broken down from daytime to nighttime. Looking at the chart from NFPA 1720 on page 17 you can see that we should arrive within 9 minutes of dispatch, so consider the time it takes for fire apparatus to leave the station from the charts below and add travel time around the community, often times the first arriving fire apparatus arrives after the 9-minute recommended time.



Company Training



The training requirement for a new volunteer coming into the fire service includes a minimum of 212 hours. These classes are hosted at the Bucks County Community College Public Safety Training Center on nights and weekends and helps new volunteers understand the necessities of the job. An additional 88 hours of training is

required to learn how to remove people from car accidents, 60 hours is required to learn how to operate and rescue victims in moving water situations and 50 hours to operate each of the apparatus. Countless other classes are available to hone and perfect the skills of our personnel. **In 2025, personnel volunteered 4,545 man-hours to attend 56 different training classes that were hosted at the station, at community colleges, and throughout the state and country.**

In-house training sessions provide a review of skills to include extinguishing fires, removing injured people from vehicle accidents, operation of saws and power tools, search tactics to look for missing occupants at fires, and rescue procedures to remove trapped occupants from burning buildings. Our personnel also spend a considerable amount of time better learning the response area and hydrant locations as well as performing building walk-throughs to pre-plan commercial buildings in the area.



Public Education / Special Details

The Yardley-Makefield Fire Company's first due area contains 17 schools ranging from Elementary to Middle School, and several daycares. There are 4 elementary schools and 3 middle schools that are part of the Pennsbury School District which is the 18th largest district in the state. We have two private schools that consist of children from Pre-K through the 8th grade. Daycares are a mixture of commercial and residential daycares scattered throughout our response area.



The Yardley-Makefield Fire Company along with the assistance of the Lower Makefield Township Fire Service Director provides fire safety and public education throughout the year. Trainings occur mostly in the month of October (in conjunction with the National Fire Protection Agency's Fire Prevention Week) to any school, organization, or daycare that makes a request. Personnel take the time to don all protective gear worn by a firefighter for a fire. This allows the kids to meet firefighters in a controlled situation so that in an emergency, they know what sights and sounds to expect from a firefighter searching for them. We feel this offers the kids a chance to familiarize themselves with firefighters before they truly need the help of one. We have had very positive feedback from teachers and kids alike about the program's effectiveness.

The Yardley-Makefield Fire Marshal's Office along with the Lower Makefield Township Fire Service Director continuously strives to make an appearance in every school during fire prevention in October. Personnel and fire apparatus are also sent to any event throughout the year that are deemed beneficial to informing the public about their local fire company. **In 2025, personnel volunteered 2,097-man hours to display, educate, and honor the public and surrounding communities at numerous events.**

Lower Makefield Fire Directors Office

The Office of the Fire Service Director is comprised of one full-time Fire Director, two part-time fire inspectors and four volunteer deputy fire marshals from the Yardley Makefield Fire Company. Members of the office work closely with the volunteer fire company to reduce the frequency and severity of fires and other life safety incidents.



Members of the office work with residents and business owners on a variety of instances including inspections, permits, licensing, smoke detector installations and community outreach/education.

Fire Marshals are a resource for on-site fire and emergency planning for business, light industry and other commercial locations when consulted. The office maintains comprehensive and recurring inspection programs for schools, day cares, assembly, mercantile and other occupancies all subject to the currently adopted fire code provisions.

Fire and Life Safety awareness programs focus on fire prevention, life safety issues and hazards in the home and workplace. Programs are targeted to age-appropriate audiences for the material being presented. The office offers a wide array of programs throughout our community. Classes are held for day care and businesses on emergency action plans and fire safety. Staff attends many community events throughout the year providing important safety information. During the month of October, which is fire prevention month, we have an annual Open House at the fire house located on Stony Hill Road, which is open to the public.



Inspections

In 2025, there were **744** fire safety inspections completed on approximately 567 properties. These inspections ensure compliance with the 2018 International Fire Code which was adopted by the township as the township fire code.

Storage in electrical room blocking access to electrical panels.



Along with the annual fire safety inspections **165** fire safety plan reviews were completed to ensure all fire and life safety code requirements were being followed. These reviews resulted in **28** Use & Occupancy Inspections along with **46** Oil Tank Removal/Install inspections.

Fire door propped open which would allow smoke to travel.



Open and unsecured electrical junction boxes.

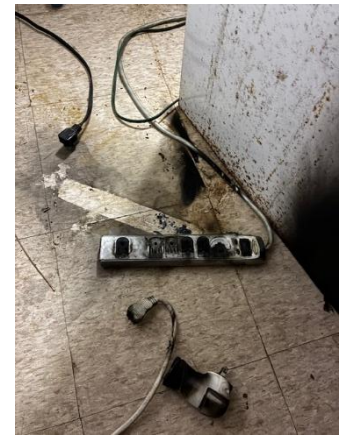
Investigations / Code Violations

Of the 639 emergency calls the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company answered in 2025, 119 of those calls required some type of involvement from a fire marshal.



- **48** Code Violations (Open Burning/Fire Code, etc.)
- **4** motor vehicle fires
- **10** outdoor fires
- **26** indoor fires that did not involve the structure
- **31** fires that did involve the structure.

Surge protector burned up in basement after a flood.



Fire started on the back deck from an unknown source, resulting in a total loss of the home. Homeowner was rescued by fire personnel.

E-Scooter Lithium-Ion Battery Fire located in Macclesfield Park.



Public Outreach

In **2025**, the Fire Directors Office conducted:

46 – Smoke detector checks (2024 - 48) which included installing over 150 new smoke detectors.



15 – Child Safety seat checked and educations (2024 - 17)

81 – Knox Box installations or updating the keys (2024 – 65)

8 – Carbon monoxide detector installations or checks (2024 – 11)

19 – Public education classes (2024 – 11)

- 315 Pre-Schoolers
- 770 Children under 11
- 350 Adults



Conclusion

The personnel of the Yardley-Makefield Fire Company have volunteered more than 14,266 hours throughout the year on emergency incidents, public education, training, and staffing the firehouses. This does not begin to account for the unlogged hours of personnel attending fire company committee meetings, township meetings, inputting fire reports, ordering equipment, paying bills, and handling day-to-day office administration.

The personnel of the Lower Makefield Township Fire Directors Office completed almost 1,000 life safety inspections, and plan reviews, over 100 investigations and code enforcement during incident scenes, and installed over 150 new smoke detectors in residential homes.

The volunteer fire service is constantly changing and the demand for the service is increasing due to development, society, and technology. The fire company, along with the support of the fire director, are continuing to recruit new members and are looking at many creative ways to retain these members for years. Unfortunately, the emergency services field of work is a very labor-intensive high stress job at times, and many people today do not like to do this style of work. Thank you for your support all throughout the years and we look forward to continuing to improve the fire service for the community!

Yardley-Makefield Fire Company 2026 Officers

Chief 0: Glenn M. Chamberlain

Deputy Chief 0: Timothy J. Chamberlain

Assistant Chief 0: Adam Keister

Assistant Chief 80: Billy Kanzler

Battalion 0: Kevin Campbell

Captain 80: Tim Heasley

Lieutenant 0: MacKennzie Crain

Lieutenant 01: Jason Feyko

Lieutenant 80: Owen Zawacki

Lieutenant 801: Sean Herbert

Safety Officer 80: Arnie Roma

Deputy Fire Marshals: Wilford Richards, Jeff Goldberg, Joe Devaney, Kevin Campbell

President: Larry Newman

Vice-President: Michael Husla

Controller: John Kingham

Treasurer: James Gray

Financial Secretary: Laurie Stiles

Recording Secretary: Matt Campbell

Membership Secretary: Sean Herbert

Trustees: Kevin Campbell, Karl Coppola,

Jeffrey Goldberg, Tim Heasley, Kirk Kelly,

Frank Rotella