

Who we are:

The Northmoreland Volunteer Fire Co. located at 1618 Demunds Rd. Dallas, provides coverage to both Franklin and Northmoreland Townships. We boast an active membership of over 72 members ranging from the ages of 14 to Life Members that respond to emergencies, handle administrative duties, conduct fundraisers or the many other tasks that are necessary to manage and run a fire company. We have a Cadet Program that fosters youth to become involved in the community, especially the fire company that is younger than 14 years of age. We have one of the few fire companies that continue to grow in membership, even though the national trend in volunteerism is declining. We have living quarters for members to stay in to ensure rapid response to emergencies and our members live throughout both Franklin and Northmoreland Townships. We are always recruiting membership and our members would be happy to at least show you our station, apparatus and equipment, so you have a better understanding of what we have available to you. Who knows, maybe it will spark interest, and you will become involved with us in protecting your communities.

What we do:

We provide all hazard response to both Franklin and Northmoreland Townships, and respond as Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid to other municipalities as needed in multiple counties. Our state of the art apparatus and highly trained personnel are tasked to provide assistance in a vast array of different types of emergencies that you may encounter. We have a fleet of apparatus that can act independently or with other apparatus. Our Engine carries the needed equipment to extinguish the initial stages of a fire of any type and carries hydraulic extrication equipment in the event someone is trapped in wreckage. Our Ladder carries out the same functions as the Engine and also has a 75ft. elevated ladder and master stream, to reach higher places and is able to apply water and foam to elevated structures. Our tanker functions the same as our engine and ladder, however it carries more water in place of the hydraulic tools. The tanker is our mobile hydrant. Our rescue is equipped similar to the other apparatus with the addition of 4 wheel drive for inclement weather, limited access or rough terrain. The rescue is scaled down to fit in tighter spaces. Our Command Car is equipped with computers, meters, and other tools to effectively run any type of incident. Also with the addition of natural gas pipelines throughout the area, this apparatus is the focal point on calls to organize and identify hazards and needs in those types of incidents.

Common Questions Asked:

How does having the Northmoreland Volunteer Fire Co. providing fire protection to us affect our fire home fire insurance?

Home Fire Insurance coverage is regulated by an entity called ISO. ISO is the organization that rates the ability to provide fire protection by its Primary or Contracted Fire Co. (Northmoreland in this case) to certain areas such as municipalities. The ratings are determined by equipment, water supply, staffing,

training, maintenance on apparatus, record keeping and 911 facilities. Living in a rural area without fire hydrants usually result in ratings of 10 (greater than 5 miles from the fire station that provides coverage) or a rating of 9 (less than 5 miles from the fire station that provides coverage). Before we were contracted by Franklin Twp. the municipality was either rated at a Class 9 or 10, depended on your location. Once we were contracted by Franklin Twp., we pursued a reevaluation of coverage for Franklin Twp. and were awarded a Class 8B (will be enacted in 2019), which is a great improvement for a municipality with no fire hydrants. We prided ourselves with this challenging feat that is not common to rural fire companies. Please make sure that your homeowners Insurance Policy states that you live in the Northmoreland Fire Protection District to ensure your reduction in costs to your policy.

We live 7 miles away from your fire station, what will happen if there is a fire emergency at our residence?

We are contracted with Franklin Twp. to provide fire protection to all of Franklin Twp. We understand that fire doubles in size every minute and lives and property are very valuable to everyone. That is why we took the initiative to enact an Automatic Aid Agreement with fire companies within five miles of your residence and Mutual Aid Agreements with other fire companies to provide trained staffing, apparatus from throughout the area . When a call is dispatched, not only will we be responding, you will see other fire companies also respond that are closer in distance than us. They are set up and prepared to protect you, the same as we are, and work well with us on emergency scenes.

The distance from a fire station to your home is sometimes a false sense of security. Just because the fire station and apparatus are there, does not ensure that the personnel are available to respond in a timely manner, if they respond at all. Volunteerism is at an all time low throughout the country and managing response by not only distance, but available trained staffing and quick response times of staffed apparatus, makes the difference.

I used my cell phone to dial 911 and got Lackawanna County even though I live in Luzerne County, what happened?

911 is the number that you call when there is an emergency. Your home phones that are hard wired into an outlet in your homes are regulated by law to go to the proper 911 center that provides coverage to your residence. In Franklin Twp., Wyoming County 911 handles your emergencies, even though you live in Luzerne County. Agreements between counties allow this to occur, and is common throughout the Commonwealth. When you call 911 from your home, you must state the address of the emergency to verify the location as one of the initial questions that is asked. Calling from a cell phone or a computer is unregulated and may send your call to an outside agency not familiar with either Franklin Twp. or Luzerne or Wyoming County. This is called "pinging" (which means that your cell phone signal hit a tower located outside of either county). It is common in Franklin Twp. that cell phone calls are answered by Lackawanna County 911. If this occurs, tell them Northmoreland Fire Co. provides coverage to Franklin Twp. and at that time they will transfer the call to Wyoming County. Unfortunately in a time of crisis having to do this extra step causes confusion to the caller and a slight delay in

dispatching. We do not have the ability to change this or we would. Whenever possible, use a house landline to call in an emergency.

How do we get in touch with you?

In the event of an emergency dial 911!! If it is not an emergency you can contact our Fire Station at 570-333-4911. This phone is not always answered, but an answering machine is available to use for you to leave a message. Typically within 24 hours your call will be returned. Our Fire Chiefs phone number is 570-760-2411 and he can be reached at any time for any operational questions or concerns. Our Presidents phone number is 570-333-4906 and he can be reached for any administrative item or facility rentals.