



# Faribault Fire Department

# Hot Spots

Welcome to Hot Spots, the Faribault Fire Department newsletter. Hot Spots features information about the Fire Department's operations, training, response, safety tips, emergency management, and other points of interest.

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## A NOTE FROM THE CHIEF

### Summer is here, finally!

The warmth of summer offers us time to get out and enjoy the outdoors. I encourage you to do so but do it safely. Beware of problems associated with heat, sun, insects, and water.

Have fun, but be safe!

## FLEET FACTS — 2117

2117 is easily identifiable as our ladder truck and it is used for a variety of emergency calls. 2117 was built in 2000 by Central States Fire Apparatus on a Freightliner FL80 chassis. **2117 features the following:**

- 350 HP Cummins Engine
- Waterous 1500 GPM Water Pump
- 500 Gallon On-Board Water Tank
- 75' Hydraulic Ladder
- On-Board Generator
- Ladder Tip Water Discharge With Remote Operation Capability



2117 automatically responds to all structure fires in the city limits and can also be used for many other types of incidents.

It may be used as an engine because of its pump capacity, or may be used to lay a hydrant line because of the amount of large diameter hose it carries, or may be used at a rope rescue for a rigging point.

Even though 2117's main job is as a ladder truck, it was built to be able to handle multiple types of incidents. This makes it a very flexible and important tool for us.

Let us know if you would like to take a closer look at 2117 (the Fire Department's largest apparatus) or any of the other vehicles in our fleet.

We'd be happy to show you!

## INCIDENT INSIGHT

On the evening of July 4, 2015, the Faribault Fire Department responded to a call of a missing person at a pond site, a possible drowning. Eleven firefighters responded with the rescue truck, the boat, two pick-up trucks, and the pumper.

Three firefighters in cold-water rescue suits along with members of the Rice County Sheriff's Department began to search for the individual. Rescuers on land supported firefighters in the water with tether lines. Rice County had two additional boats in the water. The Rice County Dive Team arrived with two members (one of which is a Faribault Firefighter). All rescue personnel continued searching the water for over an hour before a dive team member found the individual in about 14' of water. Resuscitation efforts for the individual were started immediately by all agencies involved but unfortunately were not successful.

## HEAT EMERGENCIES

Heat emergencies are health crisis caused by exposure to hot weather and sun. There are three stages: heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke.

**Heat cramps** are the first stage and usually occur in those who are physically active. The elderly, young children, overweight, and alcohol drinkers are especially likely to have them occur. Heat cramps cause muscle pain and tightness.

**Heat exhaustion** is recognizable through the signs and symptoms of muscle cramps, dizziness, headache, irritability, extreme thirst, nausea or vomiting, pale skin, heavy sweating, and fainting.

**In heatstroke**, all the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion may be present, plus body temperature over 105 F, irrational behavior, confusion, rapid and shallow breathing, rapid and weak pulse, seizures, and loss of consciousness.

### Tips for Prevention:

- Be aware of outdoor temperatures.
- Learn the early signs of heat illness.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight and light-colored clothing in hot weather.
- Rest often and seek shade when possible.
- Avoid exercise/heavy physical outdoor activity in hot or humid weather.
- Drink plenty of fluids every day and drink more fluids before, during, and after physical activity.
- Avoid overheating if you are overweight, elderly, or take drugs that impair heat regulation.
- Allow the hot interior of your car to cool off before getting inside.
- Never leave a child sitting in a car exposed to the hot sun, even after opening windows.

If you think someone is having a heat related illness call 911, move them to a cooler area out of the sun, and apply cool wet clothes to the face, neck, chest, and limbs.

### 2015 Retired Firefighters Luncheon

The Faribault Professional Firefighters Local 665 held its annual luncheon for retired Local 665 members and their significant others on Saturday, June 20. The luncheon is always held on the Saturday of Heritage Days week so retired members who are in town for Heritage Days can attend both the celebration and the luncheon. Approximately 30 current and retired members attended. The luncheon provides a great social opportunity for former co-workers to reminisce about the profession that was (and is) a big part of their lives.

Local 665 would like to thank the Faribault **Wal-Mart** for their generous donation towards the meal that was provided, as well as all emergency services personnel (past and present) for their service.

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



So far, so good. I hate to even say it, but severe weather has not been a problem so far this year. As we have learned in the past, severe weather can happen at any point so we have to stay vigilant and be in-the-know at all times. Try to watch or listen to the weather forecast so you at least know the trend of the weather for the day. Make sure you have a weather radio and please sign up for the Everbridge notification system. You can sign up on the City or County websites. Be sure your family is aware of the weather also, you may not always be near them. Also, if you take a vacation and stay somewhere besides home, be sure you know what to do in case of any type of emergency, including fire, weather or medical.