



LTF&R

DECEMBER 2023 MONTHLY REPORT

Members of the Leland Township Fire & Rescue, Leelanau Township Fire Department, Elmwood Township Fire Department, and The Leelanau County Sheriff's Office attended a presentation on Energy Storage Systems, battery-powered electric vehicle incidents, and lithium-ion battery fires.

Two township residents, Scott Anderson and Susan Och, brought their battery-powered electric or hybrid vehicles over for them to look at.

The course was taught by the LTFR's Fire Chief Dan Besson and Community Risk Reduction Coordinator Greg Thomas.



"Some of the fire service is well prepared, but I truly believe that for the most part, our fire service is behind in preparing our firefighters for responding to incidents involving electric vehicles. It depends on where you're at in the country, but probably less than 10% of the U.S. fire service is well-prepared for a response".

Fire Chief Mike O'Brian
International Association of Fire Chiefs
Chair of the Fire & Life Safety Section

**Leland Township Fire Rescue
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Overlapping Calls

Overlapping calls are two or more calls occurring at the same time before the Duty Crew can respond to it. For instance, the Duty Crew could be responding to, arriving at, or at the scene of an incident when another call for service comes in. In 2022 we had an overlapping average of about 13.8% (as compared to 15.8% in 2021 and 11.9% in 2020). In December we had **2** overlapping calls for a total of **5.7%** of our calls. This year our overlapping calls average is **9.3%** (43 of 463).



Leland Township Fire & Rescue firefighters, along with firefighters from other agencies, listened to Leland Township resident, Scott Anderson, discuss the lithium-ion battery packs located in his vehicle.

Apparatus Responses:

This chart identifies our top five (5) busiest apparatus for the month:

Apparatus Call Sign	Type of Vehicle	Number of Responses
Alpha 592	2012 Dodge Ambulance	25
Engine 512	2012 KME/Ford	17
Alpha 591	2017 Ford Ambulance	5*
Chief 501	2014 Ford Explorer - Command	5*
Echo 595	2018 Ford Explorer – EMS Vehicle	5*

*=tied (if applicable)

Birthday Wishes:

- Scott Moore 1/2
- Zorran VanZandt 1/6
- Tony Calappi 1/19
- Greg Thomas 1/19
- Dan Besson 1/27

Department Anniversaries:

Members celebrating their LTFR service anniversaries in December were (years in parenthesis):

- J.P VanRaalte (39)
- Tony Calappi (1)

Call Staffing:

This chart provides the duty crew staffing levels for the number of incidents. Our minimum is two (at least one Paramedic). Five calls involved the response of off-duty/paid-on-call staff.

- Two FFs on duty: 1
- Three FFs on duty: 28
- Four or more on duty: 6

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Response Time Look-Back (Unaided Calls) – In Minutes: Seconds

	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER
2022	8:39	7:31	5:39
2023	6:00	6:05	7:01
<i>Difference</i>	<i>2:39</i>	<i>1:26</i>	<i>-1:22</i>

A small sample of how the staffing of the Leland Fire Station may impact our response time (dispatched to arrival on scene). Although there are many factors that impact response times.

Vehicle Repair & Maintenance:

- Brake Drum issue and fuel cooler unit, noted during DOT inspection, on Ladder 531 was urgently handled by Grand Traverse Diesel in Traverse City.
- Oil changes handled on Utility 585 and Chief 501.

Fire Prevention/Community Involvement:

- Filled up the Ice Rink in Leland.
- Hosted a Ladies’ Burn and Learn symposium. Topics included home fire protection, battery-powered children’s devices and toys, Christmas tree safety, and extinguisher/fire blanket training.
- Replaced smoke alarms in two Leland Twp. homes.
- Set-up a booth at the St. Mary’s Church Christmas event – where we could interact with the public regarding fire prevention initiatives.
- Working with the building department to be informed when Energy Storage Systems are installed in Leland Township homes or businesses. This project is in progress.

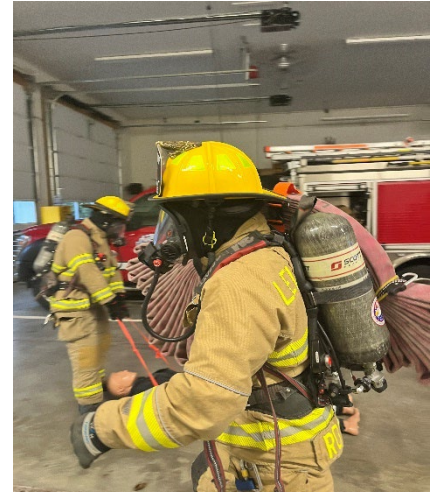
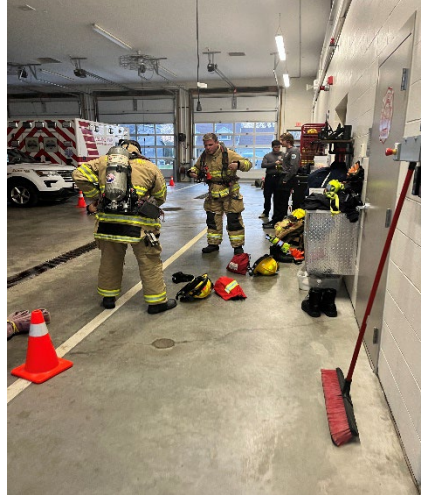


LTFR employees listened to Mike McCall, a nationally recognized presenter, discuss the challenges of reducing liability through good human resources practices.

Miscellaneous Things Involving Our Department:

- On December 24th, LTFR responded to the 200 block of North Popp Road for a chimney fire. Engine 511 responded from the Lake Leelanau fire station and Tanker 521 responded from the Leland fire station. Both stations were staff at the time of the incident. Engine 511 arrived within 4 minutes of getting dispatched to the call. There was an active chimney fire noted and no other smoke or fire noticed. Leland Twp. firefighters made entry to the house, removing the fire from the fireplace, and laddering the side of the house, with a 24-foot extension ladder, to gain access to the chimney. A dry-chem extinguisher was used to put out the embers and burning process. Glen Lake Ladder 331 was requested automatically to fill the box card assignment because Ladder 531 was out of service (brakes).

Fire Chief Besson 



Top: Leland Township Fire & Rescue Duty Crew Firefighters practiced their physical skills with a modified quick air-consumption drill inside the Leland Fire Station. The skill is designed to control their breathing during high stress or physical exertion and maintain their air usage for emergency purposes.

Below: Leland Township Firefighters continued to improve their craft, in December, by learning more about electric vehicles, energy storage systems, and lithium-ion fires. In the practical setting they also practiced getting water from a dry hydrant, operating in a tanker shuttle – carrying water several blocks away in a sequence so the tank never depleted, dumping the water into a portable tank, and returning for more water.

