



ATFD RESPONDING

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2018 A.T.F.D. Fire Prevention Open Houses a Hit!

Families from around the township took part in Abington Township Fire Department (A.T.F.D.) Fire Prevention Week Open Houses in October. Kids – and their parents! - got to climb in the fire trucks, try their hand at putting out a fire with a household extinguisher, learn to stay low to escape smoke in the A.T.F.D. Smoke House, and watch firefighters display the skills they use to save lives and property in Abington Township.

"We had a lot more kids than I've seen in a long time!" said Roslyn Fire Company Chief Mike Ratka. "We enjoy it, and it's good to see that the kids really get into this event."

It's not just the kids who learn something. Ratka said many adults are surprised that Roslyn Fire and the other four township fire companies – Abington, McKinley, Weldon and Edge Hill – are 100 percent volunteer organizations. Some adults and teenagers even leave the event with a desire to become volunteers, he said. Teens can join Roslyn's Explorers program at age 14, become junior firefighters at 16, and then full firefighters at 18. "We've got quite a few active firefighters now who started as Explorers or juniors," he said.

Adults or teens who want to learn more about A.T.F.D. should visit www.AbingtonFD.org. Want to talk to a current firefighter about volunteering? Click on "Contact Us."

ATFD STAFF

ATFD Fire Chiefs

Abington Fire Co.
Chief Michael Jones

McKinley Fire Co.
Chief Shawn Philippen

Weldon Fire Co.
Chief Bud Gerhard

Edge Hill Fire Co.
Chief Frank Schuck

Roslyn Fire Co.
Chief Michael Ratka

Fire Marshal:
John Rohrer

Fire Services
Administrator:
David Schramm

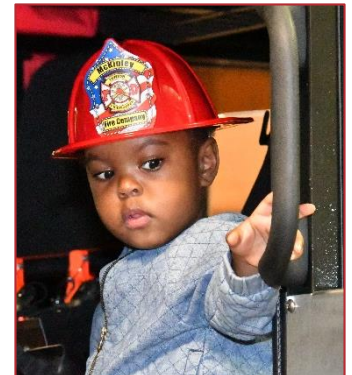
Community
Service
Specialist:
Jeff Glynn

Fire Department
Secretary:
Lisa Scholly

Administrative Support Team

Computer
Network
Administrator:
John Bothwell
Mike Ratka
(Assistant)

Fire Training
Coordinator:
Larry Siefken
Michael Jones
(Assistant)



Our Mission: The Abington Township Fire Department is a dedicated team of volunteer firefighters comprised of five individual fire companies unified as one department with a mission to provide excellent fire, rescue, fire prevention, and public education services to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.



Check Out Roslyn Fire Company's GMC Special Operations Incident Command Vehicle

- Equipped with cutting-edge communications for incident scene management.
- Allows quick and nimble response to incidents.

New Firetrucks Arrive in Abington Township



Meet McKinley Fire Company's Seagrave Marauder II Pumper Truck Known as Squad 200

- Pumps up to 1,500 gallons of water per minute and carries 750 gallons onboard
- Has a 6 kilowatt generator to power lights and other equipment

MAYDAY! Preparing for Firefighter Emergencies

Through extensive training, protective gear and equipment, and reliance on their team, firefighters stay safe while protecting others in fires and other emergencies. But in rare instances – if part of a structure falls and blocks the way out, for example – those who came to help need help themselves.

Rapid recognition of and response to these situations was the topic of an important Sept. 27 program, "Perspectives of the MAYDAY," hosted by Abington Township Fire Department (A.T.F.D.) and open to members of all local fire companies. The talk, held at Penn State Abington, was given by Fire Department of New York Deputy Chief George Healy and Captain John Ceriello. Healy and Ceriello spoke of the actions fire company leaders must take when a MAYDAY situation is called to ensure quick and safe rescue of the responder.



A.T.F.D. Analyzes Community Risks and Sets High Service Standards

The Abington Township Fire Department (A.T.F.D.) recently completed a thorough analysis of township population density, structure types and land use; the likelihood of various types of emergencies occurring; and the number of firefighters and type of equipment that must quickly respond to protect lives and property. This mammoth undertaking resulted in a document that will guide A.T.F.D. response: The Abington Township Fire Department Community Risk Analysis and Standards of Cover.

Determining the type of emergencies that can occur, how likely they are to occur, and how many people would potentially be impacted if they did occur, provided the basis by which the A.T.F.D. determined how many firefighters and what apparatus and equipment must respond. This allowed the department to set response goals, decide the types of apparatus that should be housed at each of the five fire companies, and establish a list of other agencies that should be called in to assist for each type of emergency.

This important document gives the A.T.F.D. the tools to measure its current success and set goals for continuous improvement. The full document is available for review at www.AbingtonFD.org.

