



WEST MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

380 East Berlin Road, York, PA 17408
(717) 792-3505 * www.westmanchestertownship.com

Clifton Laughman
Township Fire Chief

David Markle
Deputy Chief

Roy Gentzler
District Chief

Nicholas Mann
District Chief



“Preparing for the Future, while preserving the past.”

TO: West Manchester Township Board of Supervisors
Kelly Kelch, Township Manager

FROM: Clifton Laughman, Fire Chief

DATE: April 15, 2026

SUBJECT: March 2026 Monthly Report

As we move into April, the WMTFD has been working on the hiring process for our part-time firefighters. The application period was open from March 9th – April 1st. At the close of application period, we had received 35 applications.

Several members of the department spent time over the Easter weekend reviewing the application and selecting those who we feel would be strong candidates and eligible to move onto the interview process. After the review, we have selected 27 applicants to be interviewed. Interviews are scheduled for April 23rd and 24th. I will provide a brief update on the process at the April 23rd meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

Along with the application process, our volunteers continue to do an outstanding job. During the month of March, they responded to 100 calls for service, and we continue to be ahead in our call volume from this time last year.

Lastly, I along with several of our members will be traveling to the Pierce Manufacturing plant in Appleton Wisconsin April 20th – 22nd to complete the final inspection of the new Heavy Rescue. I will provide an update on that at the April 23rd Board of Supervisors meeting.



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TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY RESPONSES

Type of Response	Total	Percentage	YTD	2025
Fire	10	10.00%	32	
Hazardous Situation	12	12.00%	37	
Medical	16	16.00%	53	
Public Service	10	10.00%	30	
Rescue	1	1.00%	3	
No Emergency	39	39.00%	112	
Law Enforcement Support	12	12.00%	36	
Totals	100	100.00%	299	285

- There was a total of 493 personnel that responded to the incidents with an average of 6.89 per incident. (Average does not include Duty Officer & Fire Police Only Calls).
- Year to date, a total of 1,643 personnel responded to the incidents.
- We are at an 4.68% Increase in call volume from this time last year.

EMERGENCY RESPONSES BY STATION

Station	Total Calls for Month	Year to Date	2024
Station 502	57	127	182
Station 505	63	141	198



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DEPARTMENT NEWS

- We received word that a neighboring department was cited for injuries sustained to a minor (15 years of age) while participating in Fire Department activities. The report was shared with our department and after reviewing the information, we feel it is best to update the by-laws to not start membership until the age of 16 years of age. I will explain more of this during the Board of Supervisors meeting on April 23rd. I will also have a copy of the report to share.
- On March 3rd we had a Workers Comp audit performed by the state. The auditor came to review our internal policies and procedures as well as visiting the stations to ensure they are safe environments. I am very happy to report that we had no findings, and he was very impressed by our policies and procedures in place. He commended us for taking a fight against cancer in firefighters and had cancer prevention policies.
- On March 17th – March 19th Chief Laughman had the opportunity to travel to Washington DC to participate in the annual Breakfast on the Hill and Congressional Fire Service Institute Symposium. During the visit, Chief Laughman along with other Chiefs from across the commonwealth had the opportunity to talk with Congressional Leaders about issues within the PA Fire Service as well as the Fire Service within the United States. The couple days in DC were very eye-opening and informative.
- On March 20th, Chief Laughman had the privilege to sit on the interview panel to hire the next Deputy Director for York County Office of Emergency Management. After 27 years, the current Deputy Director Bill James was retiring effective March 31st. Chief Laughman was privileged to be part of this process in selecting the next Deputy Director.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

During the April meeting of the Fire Department, we welcomed two (2) new members into membership.

- **Javier Martinez** – Junior Firefighter
- **Denny Rodriguez** – Fire Police

VIOLATIONS

There were a total of twelve (12) warnings/violations given for false fire alarms during the month of March.

- March 2nd – 300 S. Salem Church Rd – Goodyear – 4th Violation
- March 4th – 1920 Trolley Rd – Country Meadows – 2nd Warning
- March 5th – 1900 Barley Rd – Manchester Heights – 2nd Warning



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- March 5th – 1900 Barley Rd – Manchester Heights – 1st Violation
- March 5th – 1900 Barley Rd – Manchester Heights – 2nd Violation
- March 7th – 425 S. Salem Church Rd – RHI Magnesita – 2nd Warning
- March 9th – 1000 Town Center Drive – Walmart – 1st Warning
- March 9th – 1405 Kenneth Rd – La Quinta Inn – 1st Warning
- March 9th – 1920 Trolley Rd – Country Meadows – 1st Violation
- March 18th – 4305 W. Market St. – Anderson Chiropractic – 1st Warning
- March 30th – 300 S. Salem Church Rd – Goodyear – 5th Violation
- March 30th – 1100 Bairs Rd – BAE Systems – 2nd Violation

COMMUNITY RISK & REDUCTION

There was a total of six (6) Community Risk & Reduction Events during the month of March

- March 2nd – Fire Drill – Autism Clinic – 1700 Westgate Drive
- March 4th – Smoke Detector Install – 205 Hillside Terrace
- March 11th – AM Fire Drill – Shiloh UCC – 2251 Willow Rd
- March 11th – PM Fire Drill – Shiloh UCC – 2251 Willow Rd
- March 24th – Fire Extinguisher Training – Bus Climate Control – 400 S. Salem Church Rd.
- March 31st – Smoke Detector Install – 4415 W. Market St.

MAINTENANCE

The following maintenance items were performed during the month of March:

- March 17th - Annual NFPA Aerial and Ladder testing
- March 17th – Rescue 50 went to Glick for annual maintenance and state inspection. During the station inspection it was found that several bolts along the frame rail has broken off. Due to this being a critical issue, it was investigated to see how and why the bolts were broken off. During further in-depth inspection, it was found that a critical cross member within the suspension had stress fractures, bolts broken, and part of the end of the cross bar was broken off. Because of this, the frame rails were experiencing more stress during twisting and turning of the apparatus. Unfortunately, the part that is broke in the suspension comes from Ireland and it has been extremely difficult getting the part. As of last week, they were finally able to locate one and we home to have the rescue back in service within the next week or two. In the meantime, we are utilizing our reserve Engine as a rescue as we pulled rescue tools of the actual rescue and placed them on the Engine. I will keep everyone updated on the status of the rescue as it progresses. This unfortunately will be a costly fix but a needed fix for it to pass inspection and for it to be able to be sold.