

BEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT



2014 Annual Report
Bedford, Virginia

Bedford Fire Department 2014 Annual Report

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Bedford Fire Department is committed to preserving life and property through rapid emergency response, public education, organizational preparedness, and planning.



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Members of Council,

2014 was a great year for the Bedford Fire Department. We continued to provide the community with dependable, professional service while maintaining our untarnished record of fielding every emergency call received without turnover to other agencies. This was made possible only through the continued commitment and dedication of our volunteer firefighters who make up this great agency.

The fire department responded to 808 emergencies during 2014, which was an increase of 12.85% over last year. Most importantly the department accomplished many of its goals for the year which included new polices, a restructuring in apparatus training and drills, and delivery of a new pumper. Last year our men and women spent over 8,000 man hours between responding to emergencies and training to provide the most proficient, effective, and professional service possible.

I want to thank the Bedford Town Council for their continued support of the fire department. Without their commitment to the fire department and its strategic plan, we would not be able to continue to provide the quality service that our citizens have come to expect. I am excited about the accomplishments and improvements we have made as a department and I look forward to working with each of you in the upcoming year. I am pleased to present the 2014 annual report which showcases our dedication and commitment to excellence, and I hope that it gives you the reader a little insight of our daily operations.

Yours in Service,



Brad Creasy
Chief of Department



Photo by Nate Camfiord



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OUR HISTORY

The need for organized fire protection in the then Town of Liberty became most evident on the morning of October 12, 1884 when a fire began in a store operated by J.N. Early on the southeast corner of Bridge Street and Railroad Avenue. When the fire was discovered in the early morning hours very little could be done, as there was no organized fire department and a meager water supply. When daylight came, only two buildings were left standing, and the scene was one of desolation. In the years to follow several important events contributed to the growth of this small town. When owners began rebuilding their downtown businesses they used more permanent materials such as brick and heavy timber. The town also began installing a municipal water supply and had installed twenty-five fire hydrants by 1886. Area business men met in the fall of 1887 to discuss the need for an organized fire company to protect area businesses and homes. Several months later in early 1888, the Bedford Volunteer Fire Department was organized with a membership of twenty-five volunteer firemen; most of whom were downtown merchant owners.

Originally located on Court Street near the intersection of East Main Street, the Town of Bedford constructed a new firehouse for the fire department on West Depot Street in 1927. To accommodate larger apparatus and a growing membership, the City of Bedford built the current fire station at 315 Bedford Avenue in 1974.

Today, the Bedford Fire Department is responsible for more than just protecting life and property from the ravages of fire through fire suppression. It also provides a broad range of services that include emergency medical services, hazardous material responses, special and technical rescue, and fire prevention through public education.



B.F.D. TODAY

TOTAL SERVICE AREA: 194 square miles

TOTAL SERVICE POPULATION: 22,200

ACTIVE FIRE STATIONS: 1

APPARATUS FLEET: 10



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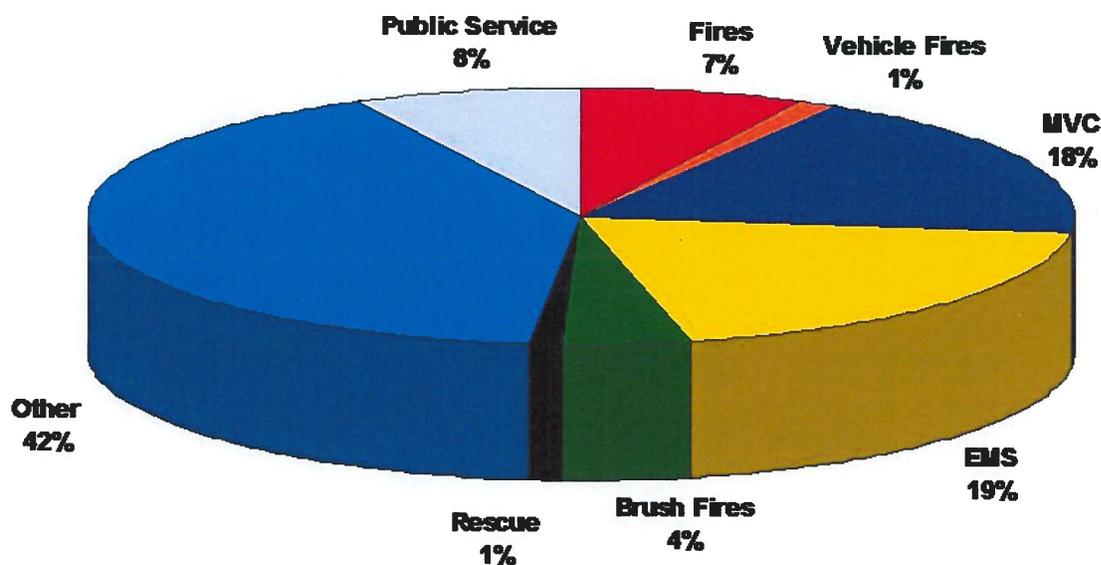
2014 DEPARTMENT ROSTER

Last Name	First Name	Years of Service	Rank
Stevens	Russell	40	Assistant Chief
Parker	James	36	Hose Foreman
Fulton	Greg	26	Firefighter/EMT-B
Long	Brandon	18	Firefighter
Creasy	Brad	18	Chief of Department
Musgrove	Kevin	13	Firefighter/EMT-B
Cunningham	Zeph	12	Deputy Chief
Garten	Jeremy	12	Firefighter
Evans	Jeremy	11	Firefighter/EMT-B
Creasey	Billy	10	Firefighter/EMT-B
Baker	Chad	10	Firefighter/EMT-I
Shutt	Matthew	9	Firefighter/EMT-E
Overstreet	Jason	9	Captain
Carter	Eric	9	Firefighter
Ohlinger	Jon	9	Firefighter/EMT-P
Pavich	Garrett	8	Firefighter/EMT-B
Marsahll	Curtis	8	Firefighter/EMT-P
Scott	Matthew	6	1st Lieutenant
Taggart	Kenny	6	Firefighter/EMT-E
Moore	John	6	Firefighter/EMT-B
Stenzel	Lance	6	Firefighter/EMT-B
Gardner	Chris	5	Firefighter
Gulatsi	John	5	Firefighter/EMT-I
King	Ryan	5	Firefighter
Hailey	Stacey	4	Firefighter/EMT-B
Crouch	Brandon	4	Firefighter
Wills	Stacey	4	Lieutenant
Hacker	Jerry	3	Firefighter/EMT-E
Cornett	Barry	3	Firefighter/EMT-B
Huckaby	Charles	2	Firefighter/EMT-B
Walters	Willie	2	Firefighter
Beisser	Jacob	2	Firefighter
Aud	Denver	2	Firefighter
McGinnis	M.J.	2	Firefighter/EMT-E
Rice	Nick	2	Firefighter/EMT-B
Allen	Matthew	6 mo	Firefighter/EMT-B
Musgrove	Tiffany	6 mo	Firefighter/EMT-P
Hecker	Rudy	1 mo	Firefighter/EMT-I



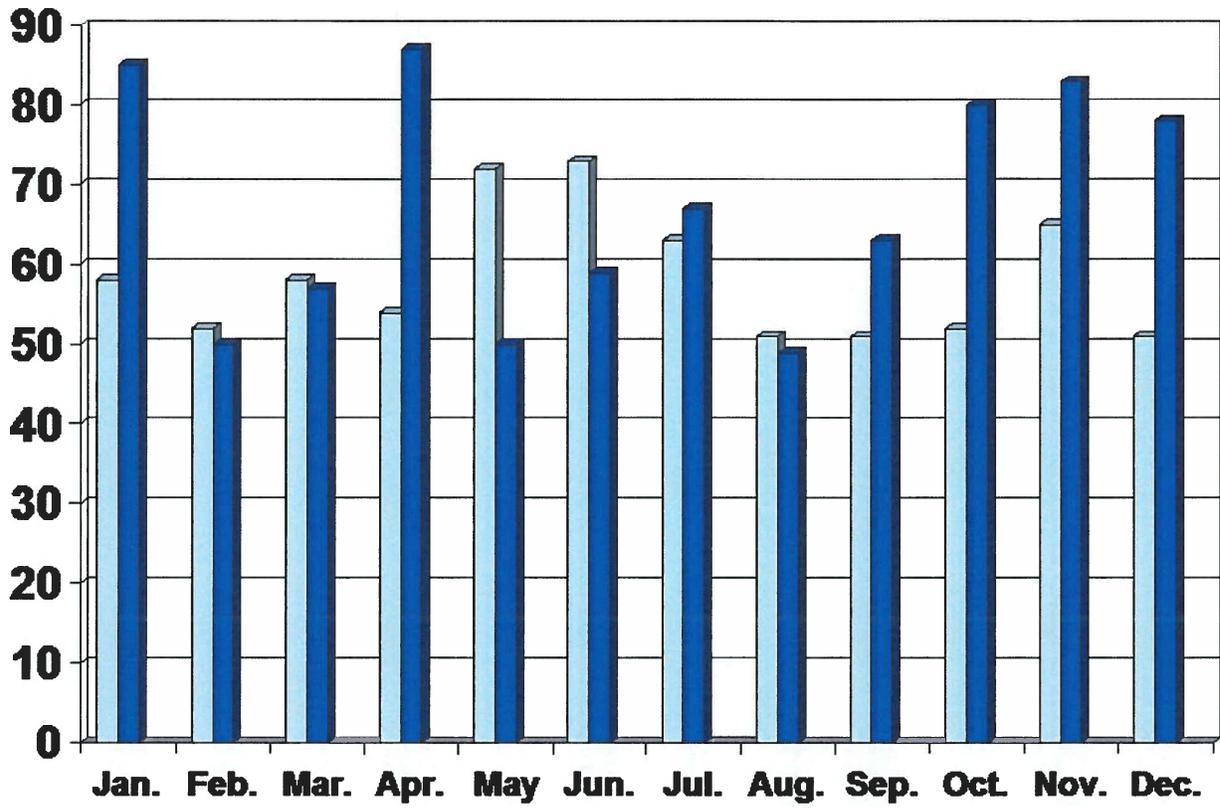
2014 Summary

- Total responses: 808
- Average Firefighters per call: 11
- Responses that required fire suppression: 126
- Responses that involved medical treatment: 213
- Total dollar loss: \$322,500.00
- Civilian fire related injuries or deaths: 0
- Firefighter Injuries: 3



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CALL VOLUME BY MONTH



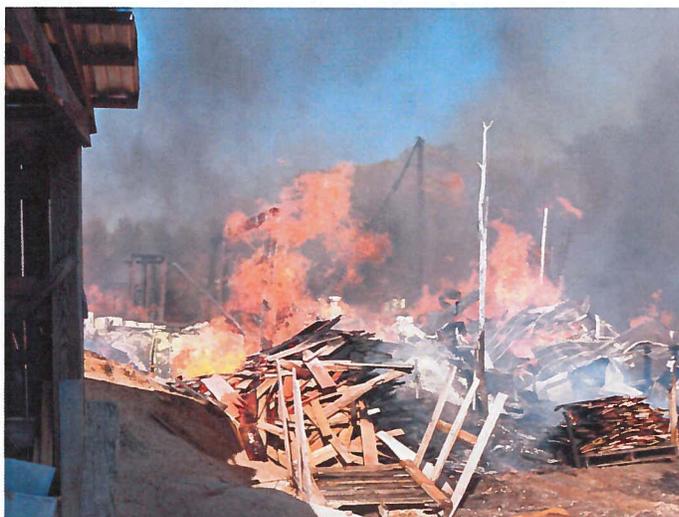
Call Volume by Month



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2014 SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- January 13, 2014: Units responded to 1111 Grindstone Drive for a reported house on fire. Units arrived to find heavy fire showing from the two-story private dwelling . Fire loss was estimated at \$90,000. BFD personnel on scene: 24.
- April 23, 2014: Units responded the Central Virginia Pallet Company for multiple buildings on fire. A heavy fire-load with gusty winds caused the fire to spread quickly and made bringing the fire under control difficult for firefighters. Fire loss was estimated at \$150,000. BFD personnel on scene: 17.
- July 1, 2014. Units responded to the Fosttech Corp. on Broad Street for a fire in a warehouse. First arriving units quickly extinguished the fire and held damage to \$10,000. BFD personnel on scene: 10.
- July 3, 2014. Units responded to 5135 Peaks Road for a reported detached garage on fire during a severe thunderstorm. Engine 1 arrived to find fire showing from a detached garage and quickly knocked the fire down to bring it under control. Fire loss was estimated at \$15,000. BFD personnel on scene: 19
- July 14, 2014. Units responded to Independence Blvd for a head-on collision between a SUV and small sedan. Two occupants were entrapped and had to be extricated from the vehicle using hydraulic tools. In all five people were injured and transported, one critically. BFD personnel on scene: 19.
- December 11, 2014: Units responded to Kennedy Ridge Drive for a reported abandoned two-story house on fire. Units arrived to find the structure with heavy fire throughout with immediate exposures endangered. Wind gusts up to 45mph cause numerous spot fires in the area which required brush trucks and manpower as well. It took over three hours and thirty firefighters to bring the fire under control . Fire loss was estimated at \$80,000. BFD personnel on scene: 32.



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2014 GOALS ACCOMPLISHED

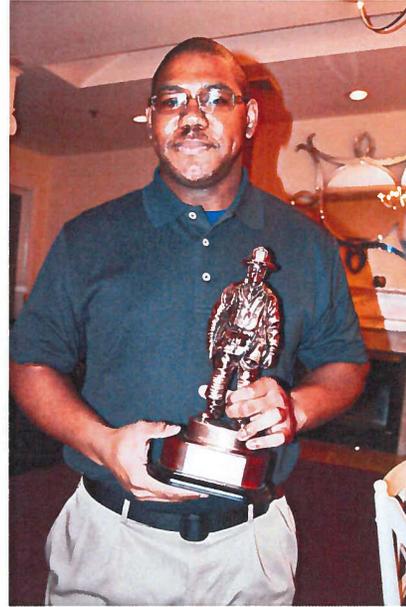
- 1. Add quarterly engineers meeting to training schedule.** Sixteen engineers attended the first quarterly meeting on March 8, 2014 for a refresher in friction loss and rural water supply/drafting. Quarterly meetings ensure engineers stay abreast of new procedures and proficient at operating and pumping apparatus.
- 2. Hold three funded Department of Fire Programs classes at the Bedford Fire Station.** A Firefighter Mayday Down class, Intro to Technical Rescue class, and a Rope I class were all held in Bedford during the months of May, June, and July. The department also hosted a "Super CE" weekend of classes that allow those who are EMS certified through the VAOEMS to obtain continuing education hours needed for re-certification.
- 3. Update all mobile and portable radios to P25 compliant digital radios.** Twenty portable radios were purchased through the town CIP budget while the remaining thirty were purchased through the Bedford County Department of Fire & Rescue replacement matrix. Mobile radios that aren't updatable will be replaced in the spring of 2015 through the county replacement budget as well.
- 4. Place new Wagon 1 into service.** A 2014 Seagrave Marauder II pumper was delivered in June and after two months of mounting equipment in-house "Wagon 1" was placed into service on August 1, 2014.
- 5. Complete restroom facility at training site.** Contractors finished the building in September after installing a wall to separate the 14x24 room and allow for a men's and women's restroom facility. The concrete building was donated by Lynchburg Crane. Site prep, septic system, and remodel totaled over \$17,000. 98% of those costs which were funded by the Bedford County Department of Fire & Rescue through its training budget.
- 6. Train all BFD personnel over the age of 21 to operate and drive brush trucks.** 96% of department personnel have been trained, tested, and released to drive and operate brush trucks. This change in operational policy will improve the department's already low reaction time by allowing younger members to respond brush trucks to grass, brush, and other types of small fires without the need for an engineer.
- 7. Re-implement duty crew program to perform regular truck and equipment maintenance.** Personnel were divided into four duty crews who were each led by a senior engineer. One duty crew per month met on a day that suited the majority in order to perform truck and equipment checks. The crews typically met on either a Saturday or Sunday for at least five hours. Because of its success, the program was re-structured for 2015 to have a duty crew on twice a month.



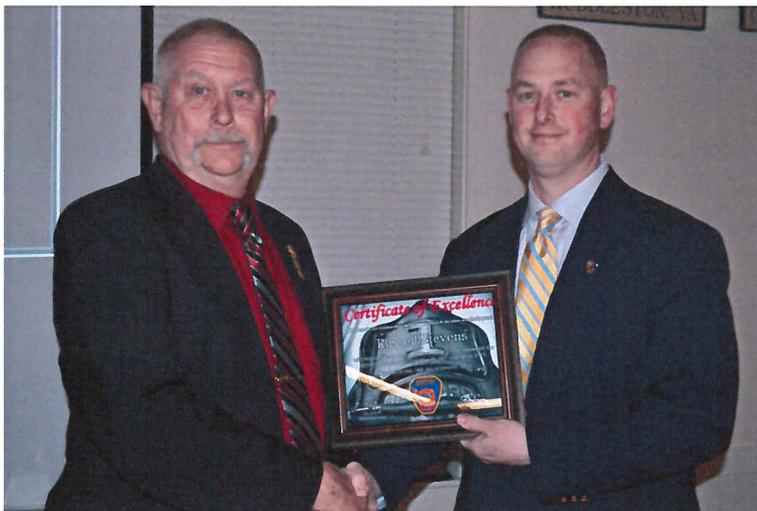
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SPECIAL AWARDS

Firefighter/EMT M.J. McGinnis was awarded the "Firefighter of the Year" award for 2014. This award is voted on by secret ballot and is especially significant to the recipient because it is voted on by his or her peers.



Assistant Chief Russell Stevens was recognized for his 40th year with the department. The company presented Chief Stevens with a Bulova oak mantle clock in appreciation for his dedication and service to the community.



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NEW WAGON PLACED IN SERVICE

The department took delivery of a 2014 Seagrave Marauder II pumper in mid June. Following a 19th century tradition, BFD firefighters pushed the new Wagon into it's bay on August 1 to place the unit in service.



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CERTIFICATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FIREFIGHTER I

A 120-hour course that is designed for the firefighter who is prepared to take more of a leadership role in the company. Students learn about leadership skills and more advanced fire ground techniques.

Certificate received by: FF Denver Aud

FIREFIGHTER II

A 40-hour course that is designed for the firefighter who is prepared to take more of a leadership role in the company. Students learn about leadership skills and more advanced fire ground techniques.

Certificates received by: FF Denver Aud, FF Sarah Wade, and FF Nick Rice

BASIC PUMP OPERATOR

A 16-hour course with detailed instruction on the operation, maintenance and design of pumping fire apparatus.

Certificate received by: Lt. Stacey Wills

MAYDAY, FIREFIGHTER DOWN

A 16-hour course designed to teach advanced skills in victim/firefighter removal with an emphasis on working under the extreme pressures encountered while rescuing another firefighter.

Certificates received by: FF Barry Cornett, FF Ryan King, FF Willie Walters, FF Nick Rice

ADVANCED MAYDAY FIREFIGHTER DOWN

A 16-hour course designed to teach firefighters advanced firefighter removal techniques along with self-rescue techniques.

Certificates received by: FF Billy Creasey, Capt. Jason Overstreet, FF Kevin Musgrove, FF Chris Gardner, FF Sarah Wade, FF Denver Aud, Lt. Stacey Wills, and FF MJ McGinnis

THROUGH THE LOCK

A 8-hour class taught by Leather and Irons Training that is designed to teach the firefighter forcible entry using techniques that do little to no damage in non-emergency incidents.

Certificates received by: Chief Brad Creasy, Assistant Chief Russell Stevens, FF James Parker, FF Chris Gardner, FF Nick Rice, Lt. Stacey Wills, Lt. Matt Scott, FF Ryan King, FF Roc Moore, FF Kenny Taggart, FF Jerry Hacker, FF Tiffany Musgrove, FF Kevin Musgrove, FF Matt Allen, FF Billy Creasey

TECHNICAL RESCUE MODULE II

A 16-hour course that is designed to teach the firefighter basic rope haul systems through mechanical advantage. Students receive hands-on training while completing multiple scenarios that require haul systems.

Certificates received by: FF Denver Aud, FF Sarah Wade, and FF Nick Rice

ROPE LEVEL I

A 16-hour course with detailed instruction on vertical rope systems that allow the firefighter to ascend and descend via life saving rope.

Certificate received by: Lt. Stacey Wills

CONFINED SPACE OPERATIONS

A 16-hour course designed to teach operational skills to the firefighter who will conduct confined space rescue operations. Students learn about air monitoring, entry, patient removal, and lowering systems.

Certificates received by: FF Willie Walters, FF Charles Huckaby



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PUBLIC EDUCATION & SAFETY



BFD firefighters spend countless hours each year teaching fire prevention and safety at schools, day-cares, businesses, and civic organization meetings. Working closely with the Bedford County Fire & Rescue career staff, BFD firefighters annually visit all four elementary schools that are located within the company's first due response area to teach fire safety in October. Through these programs over 2,000 children hear our fire safety message each year.



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GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



On December 18, 2014 BFD firefighters took delivery of almost fifty hams that were given by the Board of Supervisors in appreciation for each volunteers service to the community. Putting those who are less fortunate before themselves, the department donated the hams to the Bedford Christian Ministries.



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Area Protected (square miles)	194
Residential Structures in Primary Response Area:	8,539
Commercial Structures in Primary Response Area:	649
Estimated Population:	22,200
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Average Number of Apparatus per Response:	2
Average Firefighters per Response:	11
Career Firefighters Needed per Shift:	10/shift
Shifts Needed For 24hr/7day wk Coverage:	3
Average Career Chief Officer Salary:	\$60,000
Average Career Firefighter/EMT Salary:	\$34,500
Average Career Firefighter/ALS Salary:	\$38,000
<hr/>	
Savings Per Firefighter:	\$43,778
Savings Per Residence:	\$175.00
Savings Per Capita:	\$72.00
Total Annual Volunteer Savings:	<u>\$1,576,000</u>



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HELMET:	\$400
COAT:	\$1,300
PANTS:	\$900
BOOTS:	\$350
RADIO:	\$2,330
SCBA:	\$5,000
TOOLS:	\$300
<u>T.I.C:</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>

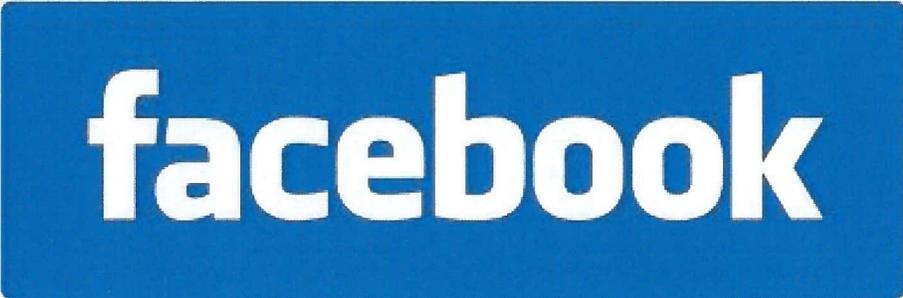
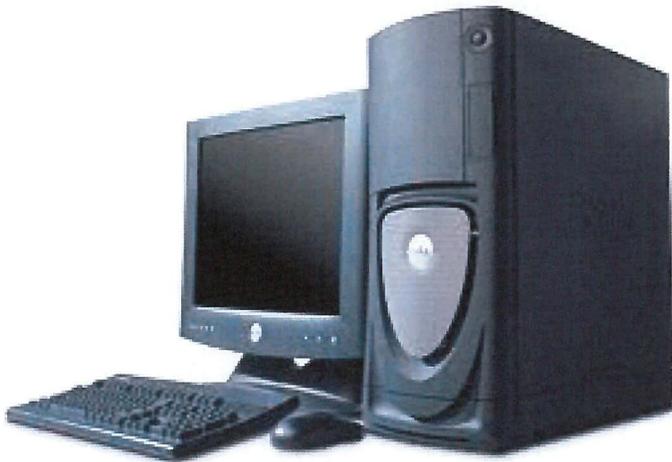
TOTAL: \$20,580.00



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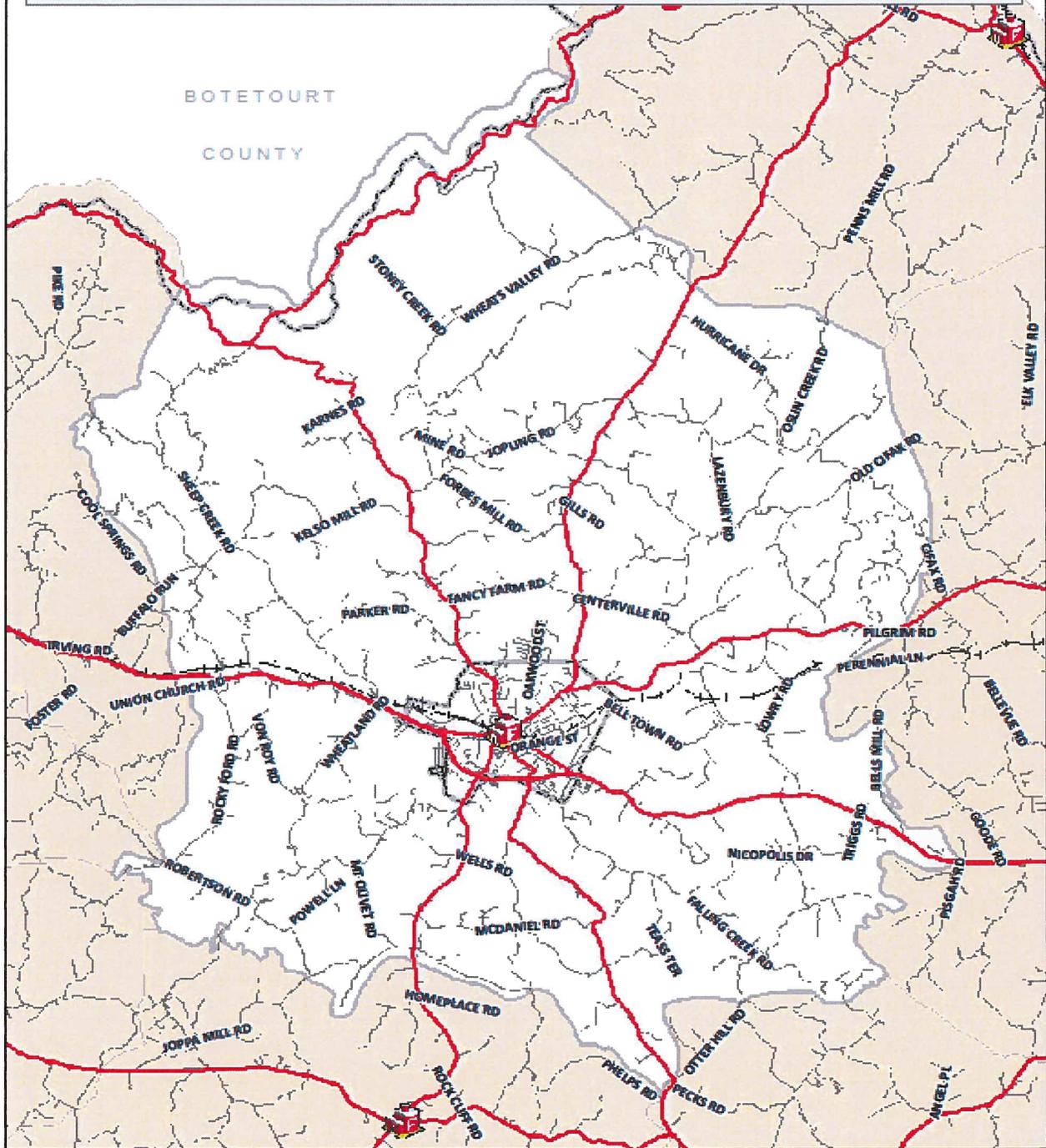
SOCIAL MEDIA

The fire department continues to share current news and upcoming events with the community and local media agencies through Twitter, Facebook, and www.bedfordfd.com; the department's website. The department's website went online in 2003 and currently gets an average of 43,000 hits each day. Website visitors from around the world can read through incident narratives, see personnel profiles, apparatus profiles, ISO rating information, smoke detector installation program information, and more. We currently have over 900 followers on Twitter who track department activity through "Tweets", or activity updates. The latest addition to our social media outlet was the addition of a Bedford Fire Department Facebook page in 2009. Currently there are 10,300 people who "Like" the department's page and follow department activity through Facebook; the second most of any fire department in the state of Virginia.

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

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Bedford Fire Company - First Due Response Area



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FIRE SUPPRESSION UNITS

Engine 1

- ◆ 2007 Seagrave Pumper
- ◆ 1500GPM/750 gallons



Wagon 1

- ◆ 2014 Seagrave Pumper
- ◆ 1500gpm/1000 gallons



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SPECIAL SERVICES UNITS



Ladder 1
2007 Seagrave 100' TDA

Rescue 1
2014 Pierce Walk-In Heavy Rescue
(In production at time of print; expected
delivery date of April 2015)



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WILDLAND FIRE SUPPRESSION UNITS

Brush 1
2009 Ford F450
250gpm/300 gallons



Brush 1-A
2006 Ford F550
250gpm/300 gallons

