



# 2014 Annual Report

*SERVING THE CITY OF RENTON, KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 25 & KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 40*



City of  
**Renton**



Professionalism • Integrity • Leadership • Accountability • Respect



# Message from the Mayor



One of our most important goals is to ensure the safety and health of our community. Members of the Renton Fire and Emergency Services Department (RF&ES) continue to make that a priority by striving to do their best and follow their core values. They faced many challenging events in 2014 and we are very fortunate to have a fire and emergency services department that provides outstanding service.

In July of 2014, firefighters responded to the Regency Woods Apartment fire, one of the largest fires in Renton's history. I could not have been any prouder of the way our men and women responded to the incident. They showed how dedicated and committed they are to helping our community. We also sent four people from RF&ES to help with the devastating Oso Landslide. They were involved in the planning division of a task force that participated in the efforts to recover missing victims. In addition, RF&ES responded to over 14,000 calls in 2014, including emergency services, hazardous conditions and other services.

In February of 2014, Renton Fire and Emergency Services continued its Heart Month campaign by providing free blood pressure and blood sugar screening. Not only were they at various businesses in Renton, they also reached out to the schools and spoke to our children about making healthy choices.

Within the Emergency Management Division, the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program remained strong, graduating 24 new members. It's exciting to see volunteers within our community become involved with disaster preparedness. A Volunteer Reception Center plan was created and volunteers were recruited and trained to test it. The Ready in Renton outreach was also conducted for National Preparedness Month.

We live in a wonderful city and I want to extend my gratitude to each member of the department for continuing to provide excellent service and making a difference in our community.

Sincerely,

Mayor Denis Law



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## Message from the Fire Chief / Emergency Services Administrator

Dear Residents of Renton, Mayor, City Councilmembers and Fire Commissioners:

It is my pleasure to present the Renton Fire & Emergency Services Department 2014 Annual Report.

We had a very busy and productive year in 2014! We responded to 14,338 total incidents, of which 76% were emergency medical incidents. In order to enhance firefighter training, we joined the South King County Fire Training Consortium. The training consortium consists of eight local departments and provides a large pool of resources to ensure consistent training opportunities in various disciplines to all firefighters and enhanced service delivery throughout south King County. In addition, we were able to purchase two new fire engines with an anticipated delivery date of April 2015, in an effort to continue replacing an aging fleet.

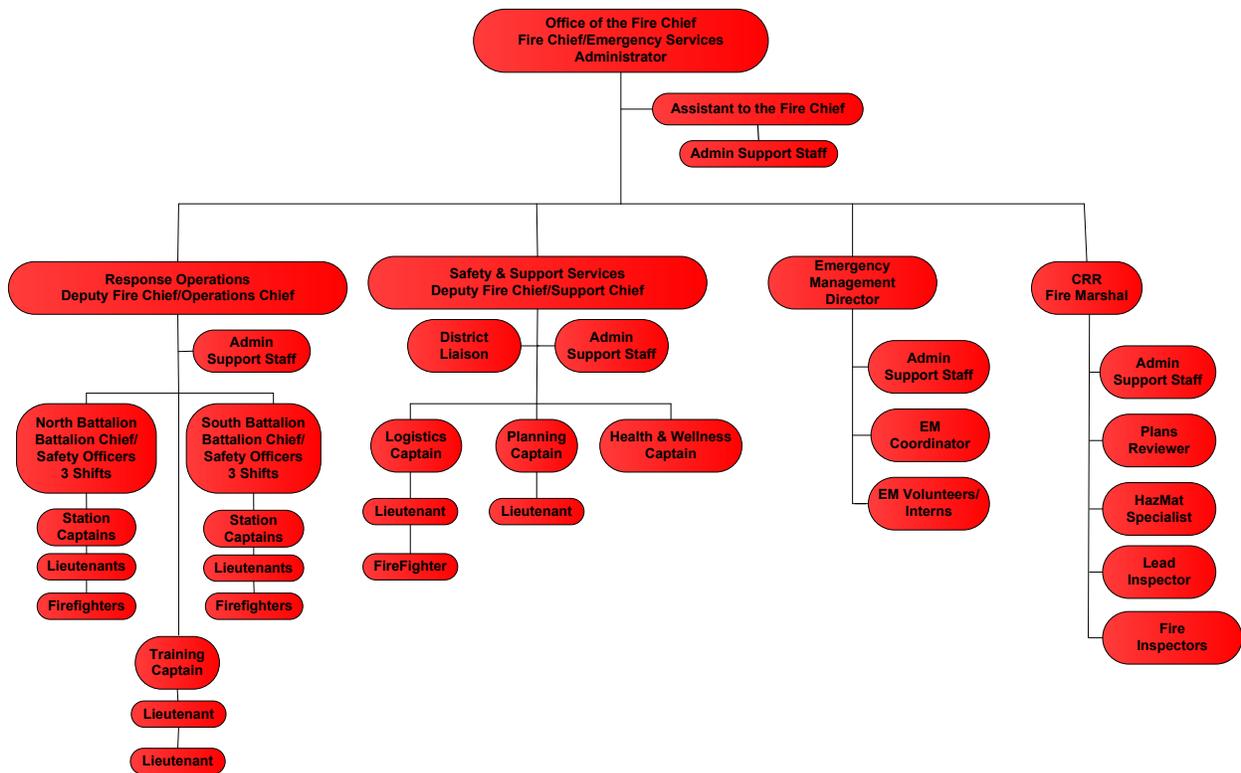
The department continues to work on our Values Initiative, respecting our Mission, Vision and Core Values. Our staff is engaged and working towards aligning our policies and procedures with the Initiative. We participated in various community events; one of our most popular is Renton Heart Month. We developed a strong partnership with the Renton School District and had a very positive impact on the children in our community and schools. We encouraged our children to be healthy and make the right decisions. Our goal is to make our community stronger and healthier.

This report provides updates on what each section of our department has accomplished during 2014. Thank you to all residents of the greater Renton community, Mayor Law, City Councilmembers and Fire Commissioners, who continue to show support for the department. I would also like to extend my appreciation to the men and women of Renton Fire & Emergency Services for their dedicated service to our community.

Sincerely,

Mark Peterson  
Fire Chief/Emergency Services Administrator

# Renton Fire & Emergency Services 2014 Organizational Chart



Engine 17 and Aid 17 spreading holiday cheer to a local family.

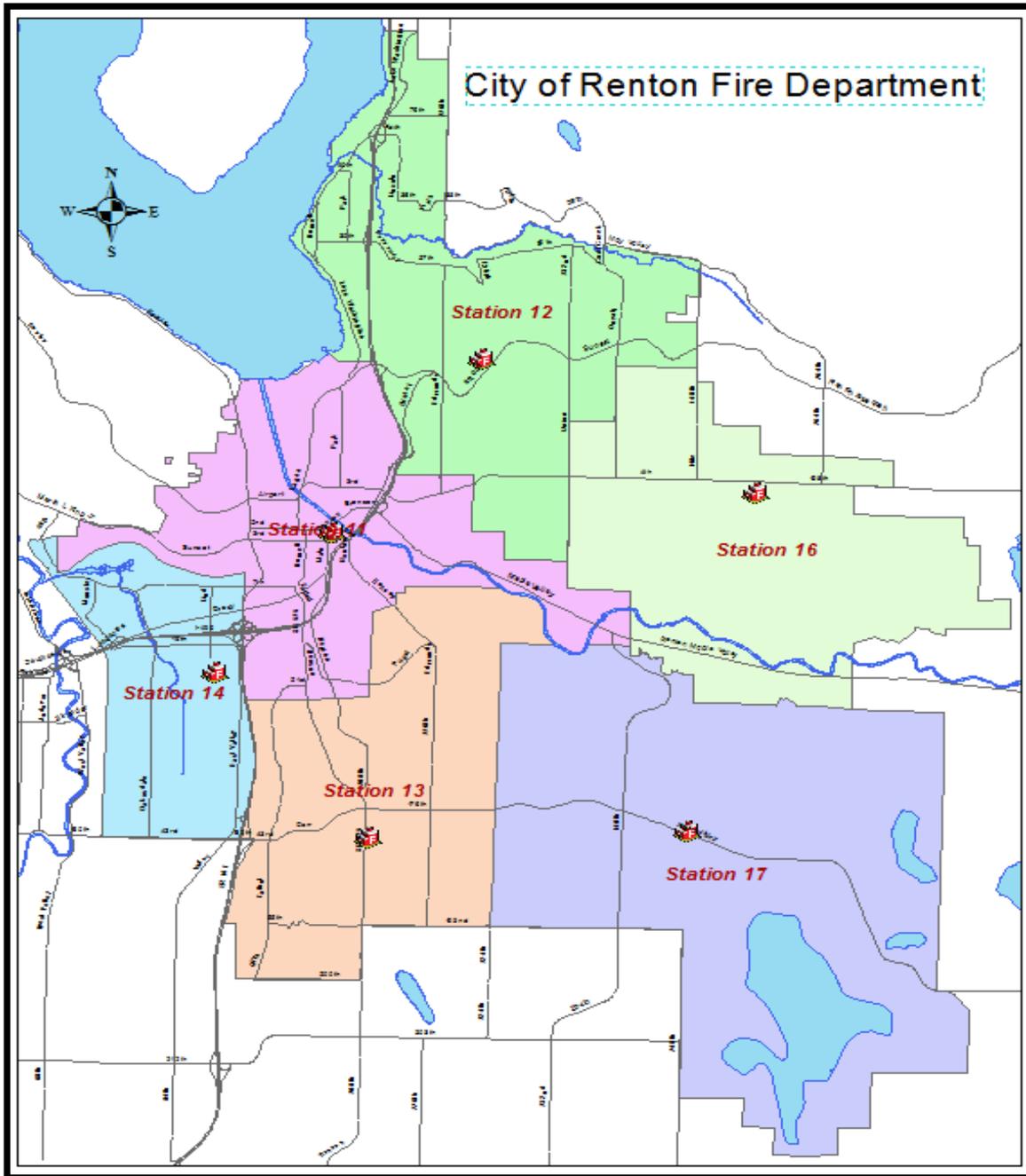


Station 12 providing a demonstration to kids attending the summer program at Kennydale Elementary.



Station 16 breaks out the smaller brush hose at the Cherrywood Lanes Community.

# Service Area Map



**King County Fire District #25 Commissioners**

Ray Barilleaux, Chairperson  
 Myron Meikle  
 Kerry Abercrombie

**King County Fire District #40 Commissioners**

Ronnie Little, Chairperson  
 Cheryl Nichelson  
 Steve Parsons  
 Charlotte Ryan  
 Linda Sartnurak

**Population Served by RF&ES**

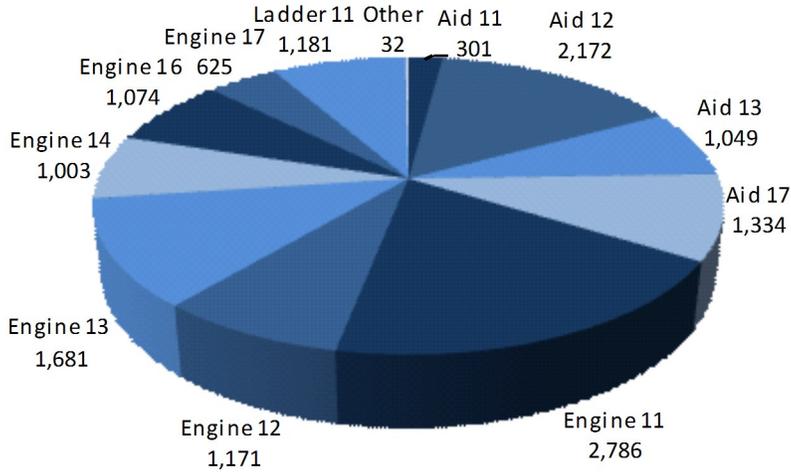
Renton Population	97,182
KCFD #25	7,593
KCFD #40	20,621

**Total Population 125,396**

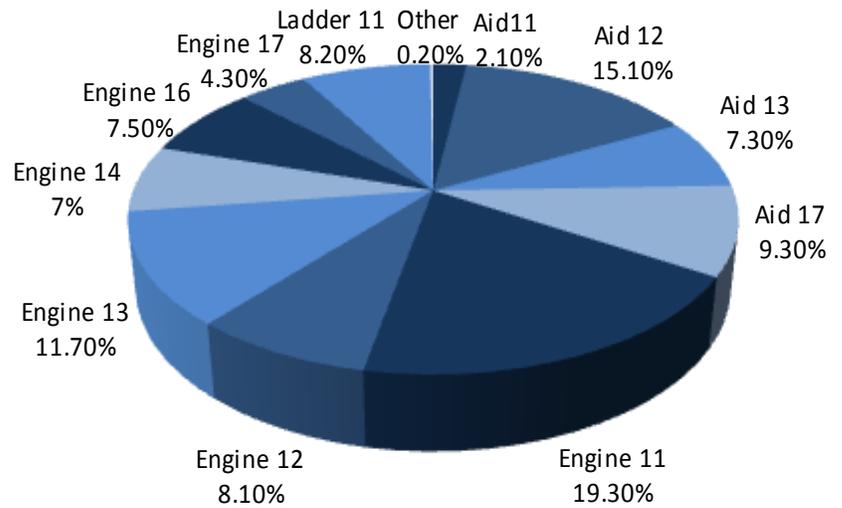


# Service Calls by Unit

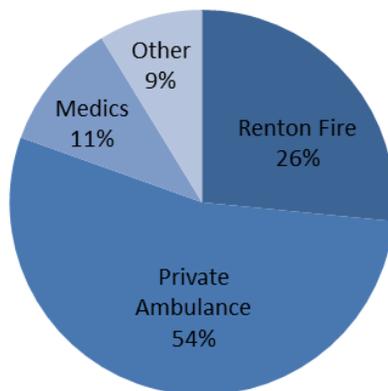
**Number of Responses by Unit**



**Percentage of Responses by Unit**



**2014 Transports**

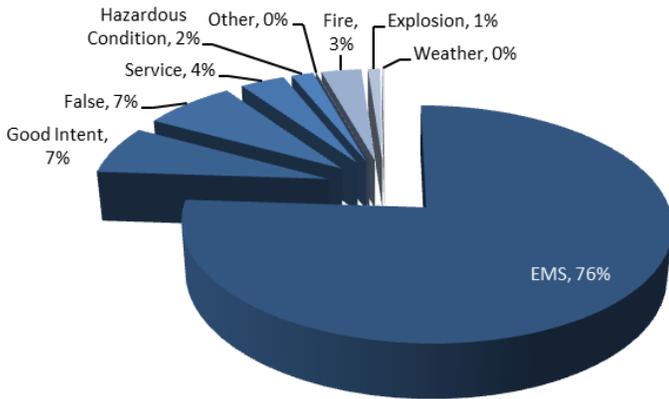


# Response Operations

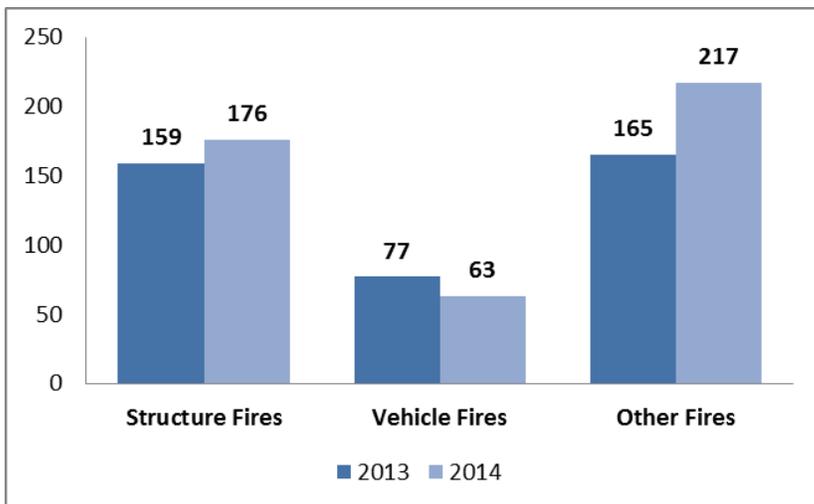


Response Operations personnel continue to provide an outstanding level of service to the citizens of our community. Time is divided between emergency responses, training in all facets of our “all-hazards” emergency environment to maintain expertise and safety awareness, and public interaction in the schools and at school and city-sponsored events.

**Calls by Type**



**2013 - 2014 Fires by Type**



## Emergency Responses

- 14,338 total responses:
  - 456 fire incidents:
    - ♦ 176 structure fires
    - ♦ 63 vehicle fires
    - ♦ 157 natural vegetation fires
    - ♦ 60 other types of fires
  - 10,905 emergency medical incidents:
    - ♦ 501 motor vehicle
    - ♦ 60 involved pedestrians
  - 511 non-emergent calls for service
  - 994 good intent incidents
  - 1,049 false alarms
  - 250 hazardous conditions
  - 34 other types of incidents
  - 139 explosions (no fire)
- Total dollar loss from fires in 2014:
  - \$8,807,548 on property value of \$62.9 million.
  - The single biggest loss was \$4,050,005.
  - The 100 structure fires resulted in almost \$8,483,679 in property and contents loss.
- Technical rescue teams play an integral part in the safety of our residents, as well as cooperating with other teams in South King County.
  - The water rescue team responded to 16 incidents.
  - The hazardous materials team responded to 32 incidents.
  - The extraction team responded to five incidents.



# Response Operations (cont.)

## Response Times

Washington State law mandates that fire departments establish priority response criteria and measure their performance each year in meeting these standards. This measurement is taken in intervals that include:

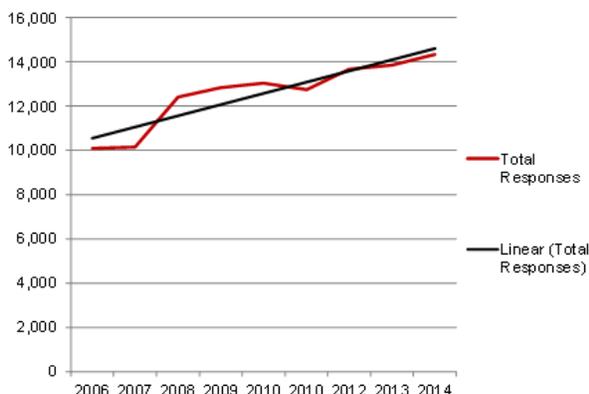
**Turnout Time:** The time between being dispatched and acknowledging the call to the time they are en route.

**Travel Interval:** The measured time between turnout time and when the first fire department unit arrives at the scene/incident.

**Response Time:** The time between being dispatched and when the first fire unit arrives at the scene (Turnout Time + Travel Interval).

2014 Priority Response Results	
Response Measures	Time
<b>Turnout Time</b> <i>The initial time when units first receive notification of emergency to the point they respond.</i>	<b>Average:</b> 1 minute, 44 seconds <b>Fractal:</b> 2 minutes, 32 seconds or less 90% of the time
<b>Arrival of First Alarm Assignment</b> <i>Three engines, one ladder, one aid unit, one command unit.</i>	<b>Average:</b> 11 minutes, 28 seconds <b>Fractal:</b> 13 minutes, 33 seconds or less 90% of the time
<b>Arrival of First Engine at Fire Incident</b>	<b>Average:</b> 5 minutes, 25 seconds <b>Fractal:</b> 7 minutes, 30 seconds or less 90% of the time
<b>Arrival of EMT* at Emergency Medical Incident</b> <i>*Emergency Medical Technician</i>	<b>Average:</b> 5 minutes, 8 seconds <b>Fractal:</b> 7 minutes, 27 seconds or less 90% of the time
<b>Total Response Time (All priority Calls)</b>	<b>Average:</b> 5 minutes 15 seconds <b>Fractal:</b> 7 minutes, 31 seconds or less 90% of the time

**Total Number of Responses by Year (2006-2014)**



Over the past eight years, Renton Fire & Emergency Services has experienced a steady increase in the demand for emergency services. With a projected population increase of 40,000 new residents in the next 20 years, demands will only increase. Moving forward, it is critical for the department to examine all the options available for meeting the projected increased demand for service.

# Safety & Support Services



The Safety and Support Services Section consists of Planning, Logistics, Health & Wellness, and the Fire Department Chaplains. In 2014, the Section had a number of significant accomplishments that had a positive impact on the organization, and also had a positive impact on our customers.

## Logistics

In early 2014, the Logistics Division received approval to purchase two new fire engines, which will replace engines that are over 20 years old. The fire engines will be built in Ocala, Florida.



## Planning

In May of 2014, RF&ES went through a re-rating process with the Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB). The WSRB evaluates cities and fire districts in order to determine how prepared they are to deal with the effects of fire. The WSRB assigns each community a protection class of 1 through 10. A rating of 1 indicates exemplary fire protection and a 10 indicates no fire protection. RF&ES maintained our rating of class 3, which helps homeowners and businesses keep their insurance rates low.



## Health and Wellness

In September of 2014, Renton Fire & Emergency Services began a comprehensive evaluation of the on-the-job injuries (OJIs) that occur to our firefighters each year. The data reviewed clearly indicated that the trend line for injuries has been steadily increasing over the past 10 years. This information is being used to develop intervention strategies to help reduce the number of annual OJIs that Renton Fire & Emergency Services firefighters experience.



## Chaplains

Renton Fire & Emergency Services is extremely fortunate to have two chaplains who care for the needs of our community and our firefighters. Both chaplains serve in the department as volunteers, receiving no compensation for their time. Renton Fire & Emergency Services chaplains are on call 24 hours a day, and serve on a rotating basis with one week on call and one week off.



# Community Risk Reduction

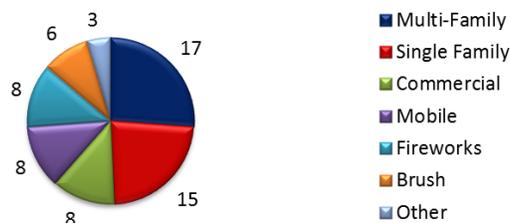
The goal of the Community Risk Reduction Section is to save lives, property, and the environment by preventing fires before they start, and to identify the cause and origin of fires. The Section works to reduce the frequency and severity of fires and other life-safety incidents through a multi-disciplinary approach that includes education, engineering, and enforcement.



## 2014 Significant Accomplishments

- Participated in July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks patrols and provided direct access to citizens to address questions and concerns through this outreach activity.
- Conducted inspections for special events such as the Renton River Days Parade, Renton School District High School homecoming parades, and Oktoberfest festivities to promote a safe environment for patrons.
- Completed 997 fire and life safety inspections (339 new construction / 658 business).
- Issued 585 permits (294 construction / 291 operational).
- Completed 724 plans reviews.
- Collected \$214,381 in revenue for services provided.
- Added Fire Plans Examiner certification for one Fire Inspector position to supplement the Plans Review Section during workload peaks.
- Implemented a process improvement to reduce the number of contractor reports being sent to the Division (now only receiving reports of systems that have deficiencies).
- Completed 68 fire investigations:
  - 27 accidental
  - 26 incendiary (7 juvenile related)
  - 10 undetermined
  - \$6,682,785 estimated total fire loss of investigated incidents

## Where Fires Are Occurring....



# Emergency Management



The work of Emergency Management is to help mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters. Important activities include conducting preparedness education and outreach to our diverse community, recruiting and training volunteers to help their neighbors during emergencies, planning for all kinds of hazards, designing training and exercises to test the plans, coordinating an effective response when disaster strikes, and helping our community recover more quickly from disasters.

## 2014 Activities and Accomplishments

- Completed a revised Continuity of Operations Plan.
- Created a Volunteer Reception Center plan and recruited, trained, and exercised volunteers to test it.
- Held a Spanish-speakers' training for the Volunteer Speaker's Bureau.
- Surveyed populations with limited English proficiency to better understand communication needs and pathways.
- Designed navigable SOPs for the Emergency Operations Center and conducted a training exercise to test the prototype template.
- Coordinated the Renton Emergency Preparedness Academy (REPA) for training residents and businesses in appropriate emergency/disaster actions.
- Conducted Ready in Renton outreach for National Preparedness Month.
- Facilitated staff and volunteer involvement in multiple training classes related to emergency management, disaster assignments, and preparedness, graduating 24 new Community Emergency Response Team Members.



Volunteer checks in during the Volunteer Reception Center exercise.



CERT volunteers extinguish a fire during training.



# Mission/Vision Statement



Fire Safety Presentation at Honey Dew Elementary School



Ladder 11 Crew helps promote healthy life choices at McLendon Hardware's Ladies Night Out.

## Our Vision:

Working to make our community safer, healthier, and stronger

## Mission:

In partnership with our diverse community, we are dedicated to:

- Responding to and recovering from emergencies
- Reducing risk for all hazards
- Building a culture of safety and support for our members
- Adapting to future challenges through strategic planning



Crews train on vehicle stabilization, de-engineering ignition sources and auto extrication.



Team members deploy rope lines to stabilize the vehicle in a boating accident on the Cedar River.



*There is no higher calling than that of  
service and protection to our community.*



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