

TRAINING 2024

The Portage Fire Department Training Division strives to enhance firefighter safety and performance through frequent, high quality training based on current industry standards. We strive to meet all Local, State, and Federal Fire Service training requirements. We are dedicated to providing exceptional Emergency Services to our community while ensuring that our firefighters perform at a high level, avoid injury, and return home safely after each shift.

We coordinate and facilitate regular training drills throughout the year. These training drills prepare our firefighters for challenges faced in the line of duty. This training is provided through educational classes, scenario based training, and multi-company operations. The Portage Fire Department completed approximately 6140 hours of training in 2023. This included training in firefighting, water rescue, motor vehicle extrication, forcible entry, confined space, hazardous materials, rail car incident response, rope rescue, bloodborne pathogens, wildland firefighting, and search and rescue.



Our Training Division has been actively involved in training new firefighters and supporting new programs as needed. We hired 10 new firefighters in 2023. These new members are responsible for demonstrating a

tremendous amount of knowledge and skill throughout their first year on probation. In 2023 we were fortunate to have an opportunity to conduct fire training at the old Portage Rusch Elementary School. We were able to complete several training sessions here to include; search and rescue, rapid intervention, ventilation, victim removal, and self-rescues.



Many of the firefighters in 2023 worked hard to improve

their education and skills as they completed firefighter, driver operator, fire officer and hazardous material certification classes. We had 5 POC's complete the Entry Level Firefighter Class, 2 POC's complete Firefighter I Class, and 4 POC's complete Firefighter II Class.

We are excited about the positive change and growth that we experienced this year and look forward to building on all of this and more in 2024.

