ISO Rates NTFD High

Jeffrey Warren, Fire Chief

The Insurance Services Organization (ISO) is the professional measure for communities in the United States. ISO collects and evaluates information and grades communities on their structure fire suppression capabilities. The data is processed and translated into a score from 1 to 10, with 1 being the highest, called a Public Protection Class or PPC. The ISO evaluates and classifies 46,000 fire protection areas across the United States, including 2,676 in Ohio.

The rating received by the Norwich Township Fire Department was a split score of 2/2Y, which becomes effective on June 1, 2017.

In general, the ISO PPC 2 rating represents a fire departments ability to serve an area with an established water supply, such as Hilliard and the incorporated portions of Brown Township.

The 2Y rating represents a superior level of fire protection in the areas that lack water supply and has proven the capabilities of providing 250 gallons of water per minute for 120 minutes.

A community's investment in fire protection is a reliable indicator to insurance companies of future fire losses. In general, a community's investment consists of four categories:

**Needed Fire Flow** - The amount of water needed to suppress a fire in a building.

**Emergency Communications** - The number of dispatchers, reporting, system type, circuit reliability, and quality assurance.

**Fire Department** - This is our service to you. Our equipment, staffing, and training.

**Water Supply** - This includes inspection and flow testing of hydrants, alternative water supply operations, dry hydrants, and available water to suppress fires up to 3,500 gallons per minute.

*What does this mean to residents or business owners?* Each insurance agency or company independently determines the premiums it charges policyholders. Several factors are involved, such as, marketing strategies, underwriting, previous fire loss experience of the policyholder, and the fire loss experience of the insurance agency in the general area. Ultimately, ISO is the leading supplier of data and analytics for the property and casualty insurance industry.

*What does the PPC tell the fire department?* ISO ratings are important to fire departments and communities. The PPC provides fire departments with valuable benchmarks and tools for planning and budgeting for the future.

I encourage everyone to contact their insurance providers to inform them of the ISO rate change and ask if a lower rate is available for your property insurance policies. Being a 2/2Y ranked fire department is a superior rating and places our fire department in the top 2% in Ohio.

I am proud of our agencies accomplishments, I am very appreciative of the community support, and I am proud to be your fire chief.
Focus Hilliard

Focus Hilliard is a revolutionary and innovative project that incorporates all the non-emergency duties performed by the Norwich Township Fire Department. The goal of Focus Hilliard is to provide interactive opportunities that create a safer community and positively influence the quality of life. Focus Hilliard programs include:

- New Parent Program - Safety education for new parents
- Car Seat Installation - Car seat installation by appointment
- Fire Safety Education - Safety courses for all ages
- CPR/AED Education - CPR courses and certification
- Specialized Care Registry - Delivering specialized care to enrollees
- Home Fire Prevention - In-home fire safety inspections
- Welcome Home Initiative - Outreach engagement for new residents
- Integrated EMS - Personal, in-home social care and integrated EMS

For more information, please visit www.norwichtownship.org/FocusHilliard.

Off-Duty Hero

While off-duty and out of town in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Firefighter Dan Buelow recently saved the life of a man suffering from a massive heart attack. During his son’s volleyball game, Buelow noticed a coach going down. He responded quickly and began administering CPR. He was able to locate an automated external defibrillator (AED) and restarted the man’s heart.

“Danny made the decision to take action and his actions saved a life,” says Norwich Township Fire Chief Jeffrey Warren. “We couldn’t be prouder of his actions or the outcome.”

Paramedics arrived and transported the man to the hospital where doctors credited Buelow’s efforts in saving his life.

We encourage everyone to participate in CPR and AED training. For more information on CPR certification classes, please visit www.norwichtownship.org and click on the Fire tab to access the CPR Certification Classes.

NEW! Cemetery Burial Search Software

Wesley Chapel Cemetery

Our Township now offers a cemetery burial search software that can be accessed through the internet on any device. This user-friendly map allows visitors and families to search by names, sections of the cemetery, or a specific lot that someone is buried in.

To begin your search, visit www.norwichtownship.org and click on the Cemetery tab to access the Cemetery Burial Search.
Stormwater 101

Typically when it rains or when snow melts, water soaks into the ground and restores our groundwater. Stormwater is the excess water that the ground is not able to soak up. When stormwater water runs off lawns and hard surfaces, it flows into storm drains that pipe to the nearest stream. These surges of rainwater erode streambanks and carry the pollutants it collects along the way. It transports animal waste, litter, salt, pesticides, fertilizers, oil, grease, soil and other potential pollutants. The storm sewer system is meant to prevent drainage problems and does not filter or slow rainwater before it reaches the stream.

You can protect local streams by reducing stormwater runoff and minimizing pollutants by:

• Disconnecting your downspouts from the street by directing it to a rain garden or harvesting the rain water with a rain barrel
• Planting grass or groundcover in areas of bare soil
• Removing yard trimmings and leaves from street gutters and storm drains
• Minimizing the use of fertilizers and pesticides in your yard
• Using a broom and dust pan rather than hosing down sidewalks or driveways
• Bagging pet waste to throw in the trash
• Washing your car on grass or gravel or by taking it to a commercial car wash
• Storing all chemicals in a dry place protected from the rain
• Rinsing latex paint brushes in the sink and not at the curb
• Taking household hazardous waste to a mobile collection site (www.SWACO.org)
• Recycling used oil at a local auto parts store or oil-change business
• Maintaining your septic system

Norwich Township Trustees Support House Bill 69 (HB 69)

Sponsored by Representative Robert Cupp, House Bill 69 changes the game for townships as it relates to TIF’s (Tax Increment Financing). The proposed legislation requires that all TIF’s created in 2017 and thereafter would not apply to Fire and EMS tax levies. This legislation also authorizes townships to negotiate an agreement for partial reimbursement with municipalities creating the TIF.

How could this impact Norwich Township?

• Norwich Township would no longer experience tax dollars being deferred from the Fire and EMS levies and could develop and maintain a comprehensive capital improvement plan
• The Township would be able to financially support the increased need for quality Fire and EMS services for future development
• The Township would gain control of the decision to waive, by resolution, a reimbursement or negotiate a lesser amount with the City of Hilliard

Trustee Larry Earman explains, “Our main concern is to maintain our level of service and not compromise on our ability to get to the resident in need of fire or EMS services in a timely manner. With the additional load of the new developments this is becoming more and more difficult.” Earman also adds, “HB 69 will go a long way towards creating fairness for townships that service municipalities for Fire and EMS.”
New Medication Drop Box

Norwich Township’s Safety Services Building now has a medication drop box in the lobby! This drop box will assist the community in safely disposing of unused, expired, or unwanted medications while helping in the fight against prescription drug abuse.

The box will be for pills only (yours or your pets) and include prescription and over the counter items. Please note that sharps, liquids and similar items are not acceptable. If you plan to drop off medications, please make sure that you remove labels from bottles to insure the safety of your identity.

These drop boxes can be found in 2,500 locations in 49 states. For a complete list of locations visit www.medreturn.com.

Issues, Questions, Concerns, Compliments, and Complaints

Do you have issues, questions, concerns, compliments, or complaints that you want to bring to the attention of Norwich Township? Visit our website at www.norwichtownship.org and click on contact tab.

Online Option:

If you would prefer to receive our future newsletters online, please go to our website at www.norwichtownship.org and click on “Township” then “Township Newsletters” to enter your e-mail address. The link to future newsletters will then be delivered right to your inbox.