

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TRAINING TAKES TIME FOR ROSEMOUNT FIREFIGHTERS

Some people call it a “volunteer” fire department. But members of the Rosemount Fire Department train at a professional level. And they do it every month of the year, keeping ready to respond to threats to the safety of the public.

Rosemount Firefighters are on call and are paid per call. But aside from responding to calls, they train three times a month, typically on the first, second, and fourth Tuesdays. Part of that training, of course, covers fighting fires. But Firefighters also have to prepare for other emergencies. And some of the training is quite specialized. Response to vehicle accidents is a large part of their responsibilities. They also train to contain dangerous leaks, whether natural gas, chemicals, or other hazardous materials. Firefighters are often the first responders for medical crises and to check out various alarms.

Rosemount Firefighters sometimes train in other communities. Periodic drills take place at area businesses so that firefighters are familiar with the hazards that could occur at a particular location. This April, the Department conducted training at CF Industries on Pine Bend Trail. Drills consisted of various water rescue scenarios including rescues inside barges.

Training at area businesses leads to stronger relationships and cooperation between the public and private sector, according to Rosemount Fire Chief Rick Schroeder. “We stress the importance of working together with businesses so that our Department can better prepare for an emergency.”

As part of a mutual aid agreement with other departments in Dakota County, Rosemount Fire has the ability to call for assistance from neighboring agencies should the need arise. The Rosemount Fire Department has helped neighboring agencies on several occasions already this year. “I know that whenever the Department needs backup, it is only a click away on the radio,” Chief Schroeder said.

The Rosemount Fire Department is always recruiting new members for its staff. Details are online at www.ci.rosemount.mn.us/firefighting.

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