



Emergency Support Function #4
Firefighting
2025

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Emergency Support Function #4

Firefighting

Purpose

This ESF describes how County fire departments will provide assistance to fires, hazardous materials events, and other service requests. Many departments provide response for medical assistance, hazardous materials releases, structural collapse, confined space and water rescue operations. These situations can be the result of natural or man-made events. Hazardous materials along with search and rescue response will be incorporated into their own respective ESFs.

Scope

This ESF is designed to provide information on resources available and to what extent these resources will respond to assist in fire-related incidents or service requests at the local and county level.

Firefighting resources in Outagamie County have a well-defined working relationship when it comes to assistance. Typically this is accomplished through established mutual aid agreements or through the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) Division 127 in which all County fire agencies are members.

Fire departments in the County are well prepared to handle most local incidents. Continued planning, training, and response capabilities are a few of the requirements needed for an effective response and recovery process during times of emergency. However, specialized teams may be called upon to respond to assist local departments in order to mitigate a situation.

Concept of Operations

In most situations, fire department personnel and equipment are adequate to respond to day-to-day or routine incidents. However, in a large-scale incident or disaster (not routine) affecting the community or the County, additional resources would be needed and MABAS or mutual aid processes would be implemented. There are twenty-three fire departments which provide service in Outagamie County. Of those fire departments, one is full-time, three are “combination”, and nineteen are volunteer/paid on-call departments.

During any event or disaster, whether natural or man-made, the municipality affected will have the primary responsibility of providing incident management and control as Wisconsin is a “home rule” state. Fire departments are trained in fire

suppression, search and rescue services (building collapse, confined space), and hazardous materials response (in accordance with their respective levels of training). A department may also be called upon by the County to perform other duties (i.e. – evacuation, warning, damage assessment, and decontamination). During wildland fires on State owned lands, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI-DNR) may respond as needed and will coordinate with local fire departments. Currently, the WI-DNR has memoranda of understanding (MOUs) for fire suppression services with numerous fire agencies in Outagamie County which are considered Cooperative Fire Service Agencies. The County will assist with the coordination of personnel and resources as needed.

Each fire department maintains a listing of their respective equipment inventories, Standard Operating Guides (SOGs)/Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and personnel. A list of resources by agency can be located on the MABAS website: <http://www.mabaswisconsin.org/>. Requests for service will be directed to the Communications Center and the appropriate agencies will be notified.

During the recovery phase, all agencies are expected to support operations as requested with appropriate resources.

When climatic conditions exist and where there are concerns with wildland fires, local fire departments, will issue a no-burning advisory to the municipalities and a media release to the public. Departments/municipalities will then decide individually to enact a local burning ban. After the climatic conditions have improved and concern of wildfire has diminished, local fire departments will issue a media release lifting the no-burning advisory.

Primary and Supporting Agencies

Outagamie County

Primary Agencies

Local Fire Departments

Supporting Agencies

County Emergency Management/Local EM

County Hazardous Materials Team

County Sheriff's Department/Local Law Enforcement

State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

State of Wisconsin

Primary Agency

Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM)

MABAS Wisconsin

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI-DNR)

Supporting Agencies

Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

Department of Commerce

American Red Cross (ARC)

The Salvation Army

Likely Support Includes

- Recognition of local and state mutual aid agreements
- Coordination of State resources for firefighting to include wildland fires

Federal

Primary Agency

Department of Agriculture – Forest Service

Supporting Agencies

Department of Commerce
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Likely Support Includes

- Management of federal resources for firefighting to include manpower, supplies and equipment
- Coordinate activities on federal lands

Responsibilities and Tasks

Primary Agency: Local Fire Departments

Mitigation and Preparedness Phase

- Maintain policies and procedures for operations
- Maintain pre-planning at primary facilities
- Maintain or increase levels of competency for response and recovery
- Enact “no-burning” bans if concerned about fire danger

Response Phase

- Initiate the Incident Command System
- Contain and suppress fires, provide search and rescue services
- Activate MABAS box cards as needed
- Be on site during Haz-Mat operations
- Support emergency medical services (EMS) operations
- Request sandbags from Emergency Management and provide to residents
- Assist with decontamination operations as requested by the Hazardous Materials Team
- Assist with warning, evacuation and sheltering operations as requested
- Coordinate the response of mutual aid/MABAS agencies
- Contact Communications Center to dispatch the County Haz-Mat Team for Haz-Mat events and notify County Emergency Management of the request
- Coordinate with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) (if activated) for the release of public information
- Send a representative to the local EOC first, if not needed then send a liaison to the County EOC

Recovery Phase

- Ensure fire threat and building structural issues are resolved before re-entry
- Ensure documentation of resources expended and recovery costs
- Assist with damage assessment processes (see ESF #5)
- Participate in the debriefing and After Action Report (AAR)

Responsibilities and Tasks

Supporting Agency: County Emergency Management/Local EM

Mitigation and Preparedness Phase

- Maintain policies and procedures relating to ESFs
- Attend Fire Chiefs' Association meetings
- Maintain planning of EHS chemical facilities
- Maintain levels of competency for response and recovery
- Maintain active training and exercising levels
- Share weather advisories to fire departments, municipalities, and the media during times of high and very high fire danger

Response Phase

- Mobilize and coordinate County resources to assist local fire departments
- Assist with coordination of mutual aid agencies if needed
- Provide relevant information to on-scene personnel
- Coordinate resources as requested in the cooperative (DNR) fire protection area in support of wildland fire suppression
- Provide sandbags to fire departments when requested

Recovery Phase

- Assist local fire departments with documentation of the incident
- Work with American Red Cross personnel for displacement and recovery issues
- Ensure safe re-entry of residents into areas previously evacuated
- Participate in the debriefing and After Action Report (AAR)

Responsibilities and Tasks

Supporting Agency: County Hazardous Materials Team

Mitigation and Preparedness Phase

- Maintain their respective SOG's/SOP's to include:
 - Sampling and Analysis of various materials (solid, liquid, gas)
 - Handling and management of hazardous materials
- Hazardous Materials Technician training covers methods to stabilize the spread of contamination along with actions to mitigate a hazardous materials release
- Maintains a file of offsite plans generated by the Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Participate in scheduled drills and exercises
- Develop emergency action checklists
- Collaborate with County Emergency Management on the annual application for the EPCRA Computer and Haz-Mat Grant
- Maintain the hazardous materials response team capabilities and qualifications

Response Phase

- Support local fire departments' operations
- Identify hazardous material(s) involved
- Make recommendations to local fire departments and the EOC regarding protective actions (i.e. – evacuation, warning)
- Contain material if possible and work only within designated training levels
- Coordinate with cleanup contractors if called to respond
- Coordinate with the EOC for the release of public information
- Determine when the area is safe to enter
- Send a representative or liaison to the County EOC if available
- Locate/stage response equipment with local fire departments if needed

Recovery Phase

- Coordinate procedures with the EOC for re-entry into the disaster area
- Ensure documentation of resources expended and costs incurred
- Participate in the debriefing and After Action Report (AAR)

Responsibilities and Tasks

Supporting Agency: County Sheriff's Department/Local Law Enforcement

Mitigation and Preparedness Phase

None noted

Response Phase

- Coordinate with local fire departments on evacuation, traffic control, scene security, crime scene investigation, and other assistance as requested
- Provide assistance in arson investigations

Recovery Phase

- Participate in the debriefing and After Action Report (AAR)

Responsibilities and Tasks

Supporting Agency: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Mitigation and Preparedness Phase

None noted

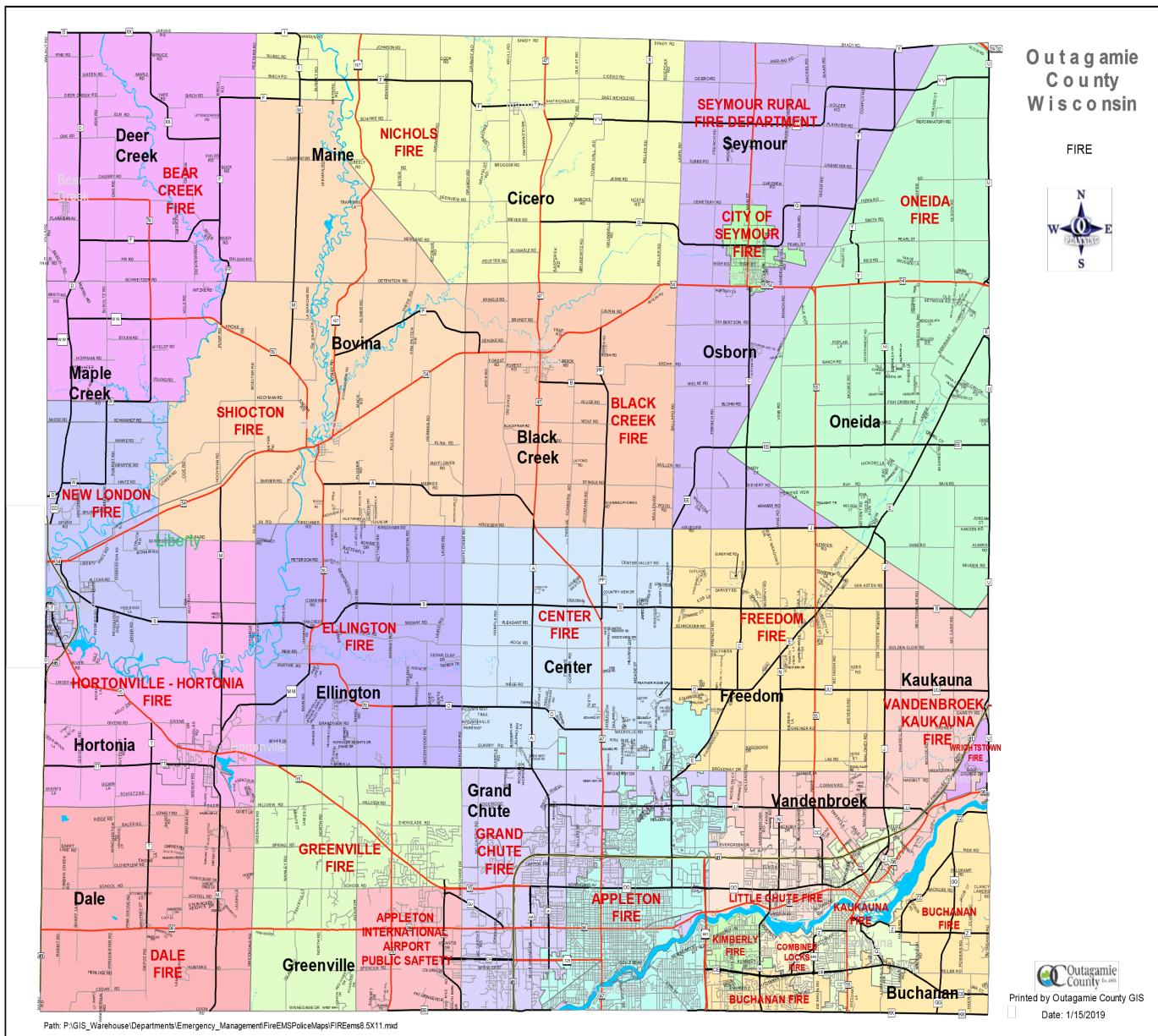
Response Phase

- Respond to and coordinate wildland fire incidents with local incident commander
- Provide necessary State resources for events
- Work with local fire departments to ensure complete mitigation of incident
- Send a representative or establish a liaison with the County EOC

Recovery Phase

- Participate in the debriefing and After Action Report (AAR)

Attachment 1 – Map of Fire Department Service Areas



Attachment 2 – WI-DNR Cooperative Fire Service Agencies

The below fire departments have current MOU's for fire suppression services with the Wisconsin DNR.

APPLETON FIRE DEPARTMENT
APPLETON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PUBLIC SAFETY
BEAR CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
BLACK CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
BUCHANAN FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
CENTER FIRE DEPARTMENT
COMBINED LOCKS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
DALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
ELLINGTON TWP FIRE DEPARTMENT
FREEDOM VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT INC
GRAND CHUTE FIRE DEPARTMENT
GREENVILLE FIRE & EMS DEPARTMENT
HORTONVILLE-HORTONIA FIRE DISTRICT
KAUKAUNA FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
KIMBERLY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
NICHOLS RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT
ONEIDA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
SEYMOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT
SEYMOUR RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT
SHIOTON-BOVINA FIRE DEPARTMENT
VANDENBROEK-KAUKAUNA FIRE DEPARTMENT