



VALLEY FIRE & RESCUE

2025 Quarter 1 Report



Message From the Chief:

The first quarter of 2025 brought a steady pace of calls, training, and continued improvement for Valley Fire & Rescue. Our members responded to a wide range of incidents, including several large fires that required effective multi-agency coordination and demonstrated the strength, professionalism, and readiness of our team. Every call — big or small — reflects the dedication and drive our volunteers bring to the community.

This quarter, we placed a strong emphasis on training and skill development. Members participated in fire schools, engaged in hands-on rescue drills, and advanced through Firefighter I certification. These efforts not only enhance our operational capabilities but also build confidence and camaraderie within the department.

In addition, ongoing facility improvements were made possible thanks to generous community support and grant funding. Projects like lighting upgrades and tool standardization have helped maintain a safe, efficient, and welcoming environment for our volunteers.

I want to personally thank each member for their time, effort, and dedication. Your commitment continues to make a difference. I also want to extend our appreciation to the community for standing behind us — your support fuels our progress. As we move into the next quarter, I'm excited to see what we accomplish together and remain confident that our best work is still ahead.

– Chief Zach Adkins

Valley Fire & Rescue



Mission Statement:

The members of the Valley Fire & Rescue Inc. department shall strive to protect the lives and property of the citizens of the communities through fire suppression services, pre-fire planning, and public education. We will serve these communities to the best of our abilities and training. We are committed to continuously improving our understanding of the communities of Valley Fire & Rescue Inc. in the State of West Virginia, Mason County.

Leadership Team:

Line Officers:

Chief: Zachary Adkins

Deputy Chief: Nathan McQueen

Assistant Chief: Open

Captain: Brandon Armstrong

First Lieutenant: Tyler Bonecutter

Second Lieutenant: Open

Board of Directors:

Lacey Parsons

Bobby Plybon

Jamie Dean

Leadership:

President: John Hesson

Vice President: Roger Bennett

Secretary/Public Information Officer: Luke Tilka

Treasurer: Steve Tilka



2025 Quarter 1 Emergency Response Statistics:

Number of Calls Responded: 57

Requests for Assistance: 62

Mutual Aid Received: 1

Mutual Aid Given: 5

Automatic Aid Received: 9

Automatic Aid Given: 2

Average Response Time: 18.68 Minutes

Average Members per Response: 4.7

Fire:

Structure: 10

Other: 4

Brush: 5

False Alarm: 1

Vehicle: 2

Rescue:

Motor Vehicle Accident – no injuries: 11

Power Line/Tree Down: 1

Motor Vehicle Accident – injuries: 5

Severe Weather-Related Incidents: 2

Motor Vehicle Accident – entrapment: 1

Other: 6

Water Rescue: 0

Move Up Coverage: 2

Hazardous Condition: 1

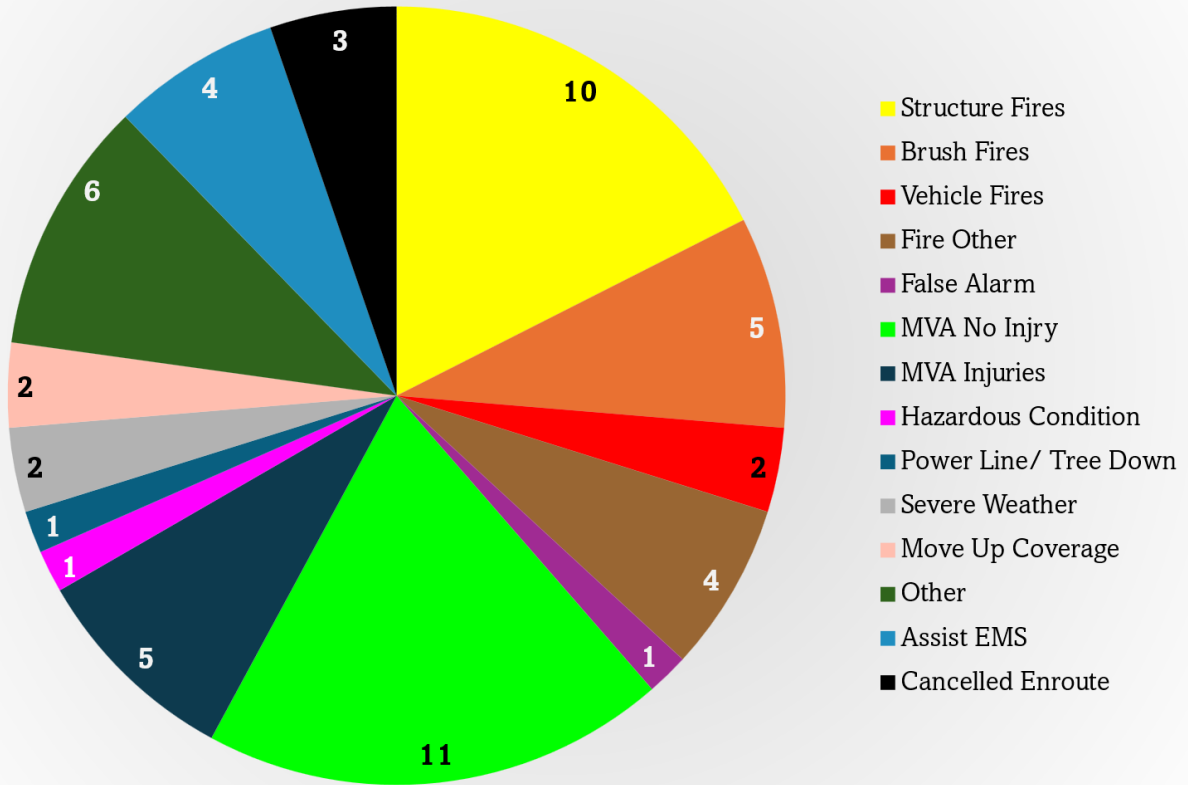
Assist EMS: 4

Medical Response: 0

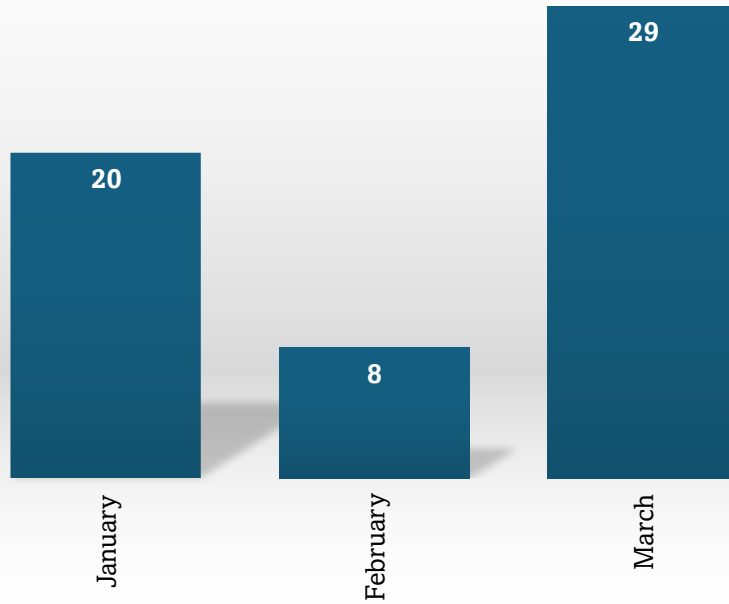
Cancelled Enroute: 3



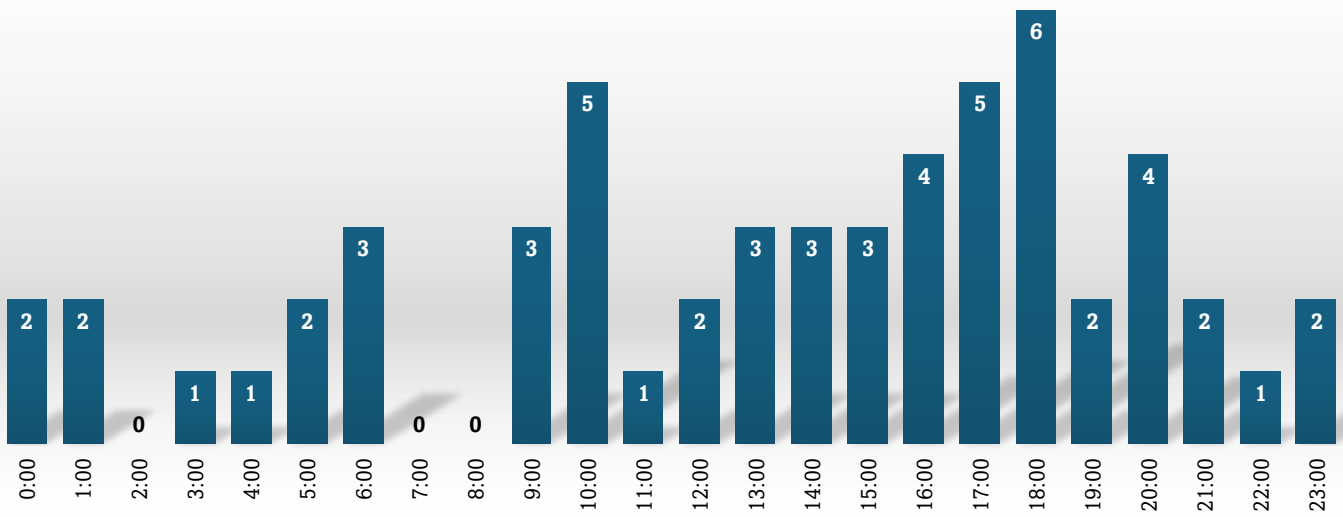
2025 Q1 Emergency Responses By Category



Total Emergency Repsonses By Month



Total Emergency Repsonses By Time of Dispatch



Incident Highlights:



On March 21st, 2025, Crews responded to a structure fire across from the intersection of Ashton Upland Road and Huntington Road. On arrival, crews encountered a two-story structure fully involved with heavy fire showing from the roof and upper floors. A primary search was conducted, and a multi-agency response was initiated. Firefighting operations included aerial suppression, tanker shuttles, and extensive water use. The roof and upper floors eventually collapsed into the garage. The fire was brought under control, and the scene was turned over to the appropriate agencies for



On March 19th, 2025, Crews responded to a brush fire near the intersection of Long Ridge and Barton Chapel Road. Approximately two acres were involved, with active fire spread driven by wind conditions. Crews assisted with fire line construction alongside the landowner and utilized water suppression to contain flare-ups. Additional support was provided by mutual aid resources. The West Virginia Division of Forestry conducted perimeter checks and confirmed containment before releasing units from the scene.





On January 3rd, 2025, Crews responded to a working structure fire with heavy fire conditions upon arrival, including visible flames through the roof and from basement windows. Crews initiated exterior fire attack and established multiple handlines. Mutual aid agencies assisted in suppression efforts. The structure ultimately collapsed into the basement. Operations continued until the fire was brought under control and the scene was stabilized.



Training Highlights:



Sissonville Fire School:

Several members attended the 2025 Sissonville Fire & Rescue School, participating in advanced courses including vehicle extrication and confined space rescue. These training sessions provided both new and experienced members with opportunities to strengthen technical skills and enhance operational readiness.



Rescue Operations:

Members participated in a hands-on training focused on patient packaging and rope-based rescue techniques. The exercise reinforced core rescue skills and provided practical experience in controlled lifting and lowering scenarios using haul systems. Training was conducted in-station and emphasized teamwork, safety, and equipment familiarity.





Firefighter I Class:

As part of the 120-hour Firefighter I certification course, trainees completed a variety of hands-on skills throughout the quarter. Practical evolutions included live fire scenarios, hydrant operations, hose deployment, ladder use, SCBA, and search and rescue techniques. These training sessions provided critical experience in real-world firefighting tasks and are designed to prepare new firefighters for safe and effective service within their departments and communities.



Member Spotlights:

Issac Freeman, and Davian Dowden completed their Firefighter I and Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations certifications during Quarter 1. This accomplishment represents over 120 hours of classroom instruction and hands-on practical training in essential firefighting skills. Their commitment to learning and service strengthens our department's ability to respond safely and effectively in a wide range of emergencies. Congratulations to all three on reaching this important milestone.

Brendan Langsdorf joined Valley Fire & Rescue this quarter after previously serving with Winfield Fire & Rescue. Since coming on board, he has quickly become a valuable asset to the team—bringing experience, reliability, and a strong work ethic to every call and training session. We're proud to have him as part of the department and look forward to the continued impact he'll make in our community.

DC Janicker recently completed Confined Space Operations and Technician certifications. These advanced training courses reflect his dedication to improving our department's technical rescue capabilities and ensuring safer, more effective responses. His commitment to continuous learning is vital to our team and the community we serve.

Luke Tilka & John Tilton recently completed their IFAC Firefighter I certification, a nationally recognized credential that marks a major milestone in fire service training. This certification demonstrates proficiency in essential firefighting skills, safety procedures, and emergency operations as outlined by national standards. Their achievement reflects a strong commitment to serving the community and contributing to the operational strength of Valley Fire & Rescue.

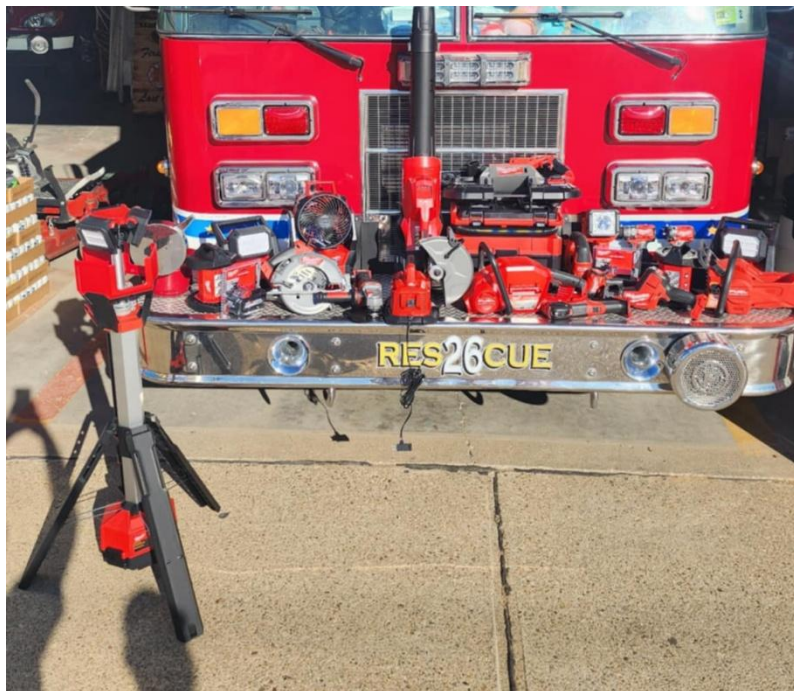


Quarter 1 Accomplishments:



Facility Improvements:

As part of our ongoing building improvement plan, a new drop ceiling and high-efficiency LED lighting were installed in the station's meeting area. This upgrade was made possible through funding from the Parkersburg Community Foundation and enhances both energy efficiency and comfort for members using the facility.



Tool Upgrade & Standardization:

Thanks to proceeds from Redmen Bingo, we recently acquired a set of Milwaukee general-purpose tools and portable lighting. This upgrade allows us to transition to a unified lithium-ion battery platform, streamlining tool use across various apparatus and improving operational efficiency on scene.



Upcoming Events:

Firefighter 2 Class (IFSAC Eligible) – April 26

FF2 training opportunity for members seeking to advance their certification. This course meets IFSAC standards and offers a path to national certification.

Off-Road Ride Fundraiser – June 7

A fun community event supporting department fundraising efforts. Volunteers encouraged to assist with setup and logistics.

ICS-300 – June 20

Intermediate-level Incident Command System training for expanding incidents.

ICS-400 – August 16

Advanced ICS training focused on large-scale and complex incident management.

Mutual Aid Live Fire Training – August 23 at 8:00pm

Joint training with neighboring departments to enhance coordination and readiness in live fire scenarios.

Chili Cook-Off – November 1

Annual community gathering and fundraiser. Come hungry and ready to vote for your favorite recipe!



Goals for Q2:

As we move forward from the progress and insights gained during Q1, our focus shifts to strengthening key areas that support our core mission—namely staffing, communication, and operational readiness heading into the summer months. Our main objectives for the second quarter of 2025 consist of the following:

Improve Daytime Response Coverage:

Focused effort on getting more members certified to drive apparatus, especially to support daytime response. Summer duty weekends are being implemented to help cover gaps and maintain readiness.

Recruit Additional Members:

Continued outreach through community presence, word of mouth, and events to bring in new members and build depth in the roster.

LED Sign Installation:

Finalize the installation and programming of the new digital sign to enhance communication with the public and promote upcoming events.

We appreciate the continued support of our members, partners, and community. As we move into the next quarter, we remain committed to progress, preparedness, and service.

