

East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District

**Fiscal Year
2023-2024
Annual Report**





Contents

Directory of Officials	3
Our Service Area Stations 56, 57, and 58	4
Message From Fire Chief Jason Gennaro	5
Special District Goals and Objectives Reporting for Fiscal Year 2023-2024	7
East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District	12
Service Delivery	14
Fire and Life Safety Division	15
Community Risk Reduction and Education	17
Youth Leadership Pinellas	18
Community Engagement & Special Events	19
Emergency Medical Services	20
Fire Training	22
50th Anniversary Celebration	24
East Lake Firefighters Benevolent Association	25
East Lake CERT	26
Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Financial Position Highlights	27
Summary	28

EAST LAKE TARPON SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Annual Report

Directory of Officials Board of Fire Commissioners



Kevin Kenney
Chairperson



James Dalrymple
Vice Chair



Jim Downes
Treasurer



Maryellen Crowder
Secretary



Mike Peasley
Commissioner at Large

Administrative Staff

Jason Gennaro
Fire Chief

Greg Godwin
Deputy Chief

Kenny Lane
EMS Chief

Jason Letzring
Division Chief

Bobby Sullivan
Division Chief

Doug Stryjewski
Division Chief

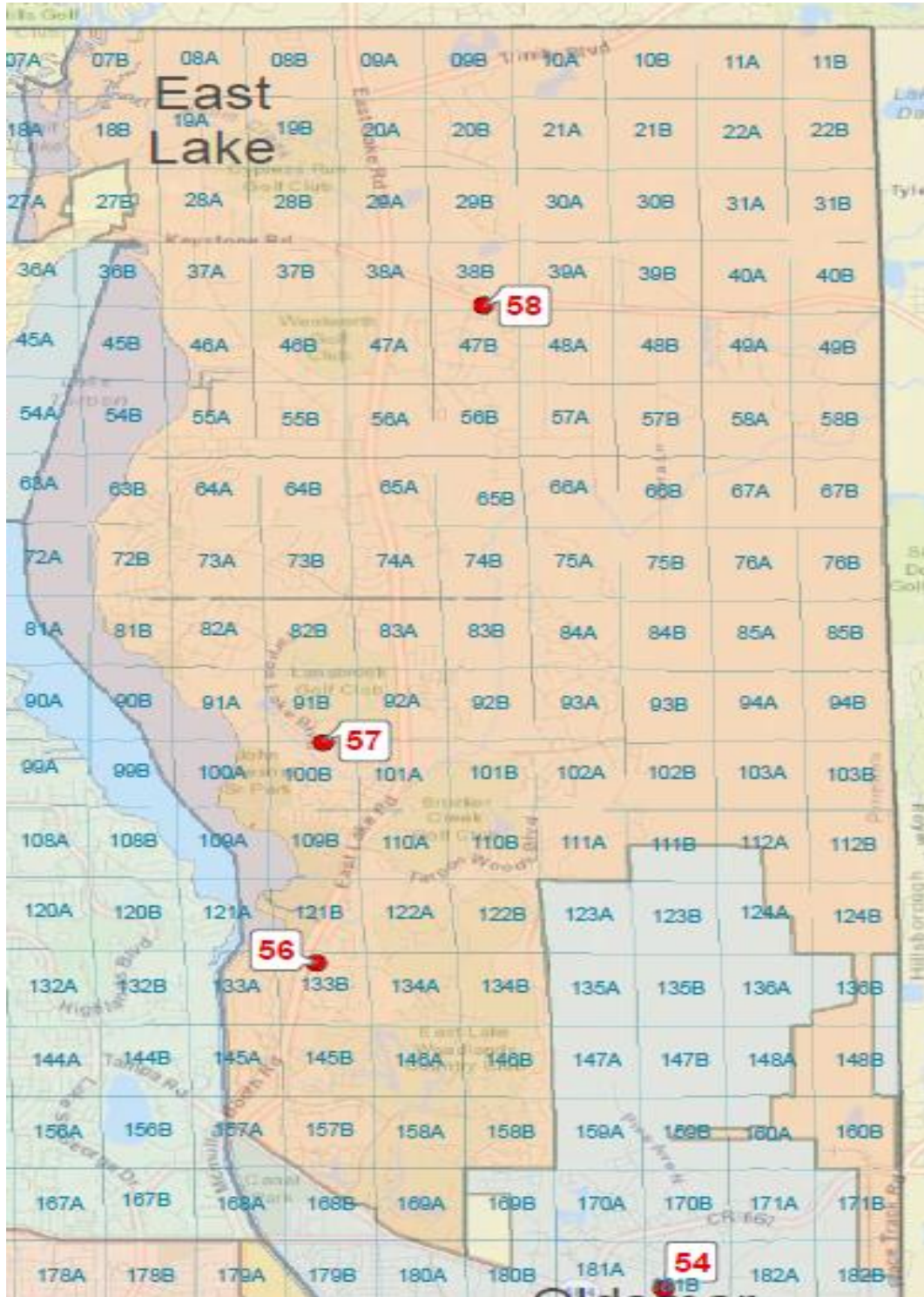
Gary Wilson
Training Chief

Pamela DeMeo
Fire Marshal

Katy Cunningham
Office Administrator

Jennifer Spicher
Financial Administrator

Our Service Area Stations 56, 57, and 58





Message From Fire Chief

Jason Gennaro

It is my continuing privilege to serve as Fire Chief for the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District (East Lake Fire Rescue) and work with the dedicated men and women of the district. I work alongside 48 well-trained and highly skilled professional firefighters, driver engineers, fire officers, chief officers, and administrative staff. Together, we provide incredible emergency services to over 32,000 residents with 32 square miles in our first due response area. On behalf of East Lake Fire Rescue, I respectfully submit the 2023-2024 Annual Report to the Fire Commissioners and the residents of East Lake.

This annual report reflects the many accomplishments, incidents, and programs our fire district and its team members have initiated, responded to, or been actively involved with in 2023-2024. This annual report documents

not only our achievements and successes but also showcases the challenges we have overcome and continue to work through.

East Lake Fire Rescue, like most organizations, was required to deal with a degree of fiscal uncertainty through 2023 and 2024 brought on by inflation and significant economic impacts. Though we adapted to these challenges by evaluating and updating processes to stay in front of production delays, supply chain issues, and inflationary costs for goods and services, we continued to look for new and creative methods in all aspects of our operations to ensure continued fiscal responsibility while honoring our mission commitment to providing the highest level of care, protection, and education possible.

Operationally, we saw an uptick in our responses for service. Responses increased by 4.3% to 4,651. With steady increases in demand for services, the importance of staffing has remained a focus. Industry-wide in our state, we are seeing significant staffing challenges, primarily with the entry-level Firefighter/EMT and Firefighter/Paramedic positions. Though we are seeing a decrease in the applicant pool, the draw of a culture-focused and competitive organization like East Lake Fire Rescue has allowed us to bring in outstanding candidates for all positions.

During the year, we congratulated and bid farewell to several members, including Chief Officers Mike Porch, Scott McLain, and Matt Wirth. With these farewells came opportunities for promotions. In our administrative team, we promoted Gary Wilson, Kenny Lane, and Bobby Sullivan to Division Chief. On top of that, we saw nine fresh faces joining the organization, filling vacancies and a new

position. They are now part of the East Lake Fire Rescue family, and we are excited about the energy they all bring to the organization.

As Fire Chief of East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District, I am extremely proud of the solid foundation the organization has built. Our focus has been on implementing policies and processes that support the organization's mission and vision and make sense for the professional men and women of East Lake Fire Rescue. With a solid foundation in place, built on a culture of excellence, leadership, family, and respect, we are confident we can meet future challenges head on. I am inspired by the dedication I see in every part of our organization, and I am reassured daily by the level of talent and leadership I see throughout the Department. Our commitment to provide outstanding emergency services remains steadfast and strong, and we are thankful for the opportunity to serve the East Lake community.



Special District Goals and Objectives Reporting for Fiscal Year
2023-2024

Pursuant to Florida Statutes 189.0694 the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District has identified the following programs, activities, goals, objectives, and performance measures, which are all derived from the District’s enabled powers as provided in our enabling act (Chapter 2000-477, Laws of Florida as amended). Our mission statement, which is intended to summarize the legislative intent behind the creation of our agency, states “To serve our community with the highest level of care, protection, and education.”

District staff are continuously focused on how our day-to-day efforts are directly related to the mission of the district. The programs, activities, goals, and objectives listed below were selected to reflect the complex and critical role of effective District services including fire suppression; rescue and emergency medical; all hazards prevention, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation; fire prevention; and public fire and life safety education in the East Lake community.

These Florida Statute 189.0694 requirements aim to increase accountability and transparency for special districts by ensuring they have clear objectives and are regularly assessing their performance. The annual reporting requirement will provide stakeholders with insights into the effectiveness of special district programs and activities.

The performance measures used to evaluate the goals and objectives of the District are based on national standards, including those of the NFPA and the ISO, and industry best practices.

To fulfill our mission, and under the authority of Chapter 191, Florida Statutes, the District provides the following programs and activities to the residents and visitors of the district:

- Fire Suppression (Firefighting)*
- Rescue and Emergency Medical Services – Advanced Life Support Level First Response*
- All-Hazards Prevention, Protection, Response, Recovery, and Mitigation*
- Fire Prevention, Public Fire and Life Safety Education (Community Risk Reduction)*

Each program is supported with relevant goals and objectives and is described in detail in the following chart.

Goal or Objective	Performance Measure/Reference	Accomplished
<p>Ensure effective and efficient operations with established benchmarks for turnout, travel, and total response times with the aid of several processes/procedures, including the strategic deployment of resources and closest appropriate unit response.</p>	<p>NFPA 1710, District-adopted standards, Pinellas County standards (600 Series SOPs and ALS First Response Agreement), ISO, Center for Public Safety Excellence</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>Ensure that training standards meet and/or exceed ISO requirements, Florida State Fire Marshal compliance, Florida Department of Health rules, and District-adopted minimums.</p>	<p>ISO; NFPA 1001, 1021, 1410, and 1802; District-adopted standards; Florida State Fire Marshal-Bureau of Fire Standards and Training Pinellas County EMS standards; Florida Department of Health</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>Vehicles and apparatus will be replaced based on an adopted replacement schedule that is in-line with NFPA standards. Scheduled annual preventative maintenance will be completed to ensure reliability and longevity.</p>	<p>Vehicle/apparatus maintenance schedule, NFPA 1911, District-adopted standards</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>All personnel will be knowledgeable and trained on the National Incident Management System, Incident Command System, and mutual/automatic aid agreements.</p>	<p>FEMA, NIMS, ICS, NFPA 1710, District-adopted standards, Pinellas County standards (600 Series SOPs)</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>All fire-related equipment and PPE will be maintained, tested, cleaned, and replaced as necessary or required,</p>	<p>ISO; NFPA 1851, 1852, 1932, and 1962</p>	<p></p>

Goal or Objective	Performance Measure/Reference	Accomplished
including, but not limited to, pumps, hoses, ladders, SCBAs, and turnout gear.		✓
Comprehensive guidelines/procedures will be developed, implemented, and trained on to ensure the safety of personnel and the public.	District SOGs, Pinellas County standards (600 Series SOPs and Medical Operations Manual (MOMs)	✓
The District shall make or shall cause to be made an initial investigation for the cause and origin of any fire or explosion which has occurred in the District and has resulted in property damage.	Florida Administrative Code 69D-4.001	✓
Ensure the development and availability of a District-specific comprehensive emergency management plan (CEMP) and a continuity of operations plan (COOP).	Florida Statute 252, District-adopted standards, Pinellas County Emergency Management	✓
Maintain 100% of all special needs evacuations within the District.	Pinellas County Emergency Management CEMP	✓
Annually review the Pinellas County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, with specific attention to the responsibilities of the fire district. Members will train on the use of the WebEOC software.	Pinellas County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan	✓

Goal or Objective	Performance Measure/Reference	Accomplished
Ensure District-adopted standards for “first compression” and “first shock” times on cardiac arrest patients, when applicable.	Pinellas County Medical Operations Manual (MOMs), American Heart Association, District-adopted standards	✓
Maintain a 90% patient satisfaction standard.	Baldrige Group data, District-adopted standards	N/A
All EMS related equipment and PPE will be maintained, tested, cleaned, and replaced as necessary or required.	NFPA 1581 and 1999; 29 CFR 1910.1030	✓
Maintain fire inspection compliance of 75% on first inspection, 20% on second inspection, and 5% on third inspection.	District-adopted standards	✓
Maintain a 95% or higher inspection rate for high-risk and critical infrastructure occupancies.	District-adopted standards	✓
Fire hydrants will be maintained based on industry and District standards, with the goal to maximum ISO credits.	ISO, NFPA 291, District-adopted standards	✓
Maintain 100% compliance for NFIRS reporting.	NFIRS, FFIR, District-adopted standards	✓
Maintain inspector training hour compliance based on state of Florida renewal requirements and to maximize ISO training credit.	Florida Statutes, ISO, District-adopted standards	✓

Goal or Objective	Performance Measure/Reference	Accomplished
<p>Provide a robust fire and life safety education program with a diverse offering of topics including drowning prevention, CPR, car seat checks/safety, safe sleep, fire prevention, bike and pedestrian safety, and fall prevention. Maintain a District-adopted minimum of offerings and percentage of population reached to maximize ISO credits.</p>	<p>ISO; NFPA 10 and 1035; American Heart Association; Safe Kids Worldwide; District-adopted standards</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>Engage the public through a positive presence on social media networks, positive relationships with local media, and greater involvement in local organizations.</p>	<p>ISO, NFPA 1035</p>	<p>✓</p>
<p>Maximize ISO credit for all evaluated categories, including Emergency Communications, Fire Department, Water Supply, and Community Risk Reduction, where possible.</p>	<p>ISO</p>	<p>✓</p>

East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District



Greg Godwin, Deputy Chief

The District's staff is committed to providing high-quality emergency and life safety services to the community to protect life, property, and the environment.

The District's citizens elect a five-member Board of Fire Commissioners, each serving a four-year term. The Board of Fire Commissioners hold regular meetings once a month at Station 57 and determine the overall policy of the District.

The Commissioners appoint a Fire Chief to oversee the leadership and direction of the District in accordance with the bylaws and standard operating procedures approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Jason Gennaro has served as Fire Chief since 2021. The Fire Chief is supported by his Administrative Staff: One Deputy Chief, five Division Chiefs, nine Lieutenants, an Office Administrator, a Financial Administrator, and a Fire Marshal.

Deputy Chief Greg Godwin is responsible for Operations, Professional Standards, Security, and Technology. This encompasses the delivery of emergency services to the citizens and public, quality assurance, station and personnel safety, risk management, and workers' compensation.

In addition, Deputy Chief Godwin supervises two Administrative Division Chiefs and three shift Division Chiefs.

There are three shift Division Chiefs:

A-Shift Division Chief Bobby Sullivan is the Department's Fleet Manager and is responsible for apparatus maintenance and new vehicle acquisitions.

B-Shift Division Chief Doug Stryjewski manages Communications and is responsible for all District communications systems, including portable radios, mobile radios, pagers, mobile and station telephony, and 911 system communications equipment. Chief Stryjewski also manages facilities maintenance.

C-Shift Division Chief Jason Letzring is the Department's Health and Safety Officer and manages additional duties for the Department.

Each Division Chief is also responsible for the daily management of the shift personnel at the three stations, from staffing to quality assurance oversight. The District's service area covers 33 square miles of unincorporated Pinellas County, with many communities including East Lake Woodlands, Crescent Oaks, Cypress Run, Lansbrook, Oak Hill Acres, Ridgemoor, Tarpon Woods, Wentworth, and Woodfield.

The District is primarily composed of neighborhood communities with a mix of single and multiple-family dwellings. There are over 10 square miles of wildland areas, 4 public schools, a major county water pumping facility, numerous assisted living facilities, several retail centers, and public utility sites.

The total population served by the District exceeds 32,000. During work travel hours, that number grows by another 20,000 to include commuters traveling through the District.



The District's structure is one of rapid and effective deployment of the appropriate resources to mitigate any emergency. There are three advanced life support (ALS) fire rescue companies that can be deployed for an emergency within the District. The District employs 48 members, 45 of whom are professional firefighters and EMT / Paramedics.

Fire rescue service is delivered from three stations strategically placed throughout the District. Each station houses a Class A pumper with full ALS medical capabilities. In addition, the District operates a Wildland firefighting apparatus, Water tender, Rescue unit, and a Reserve apparatus (Class A pumper) for emergency incident mitigation.

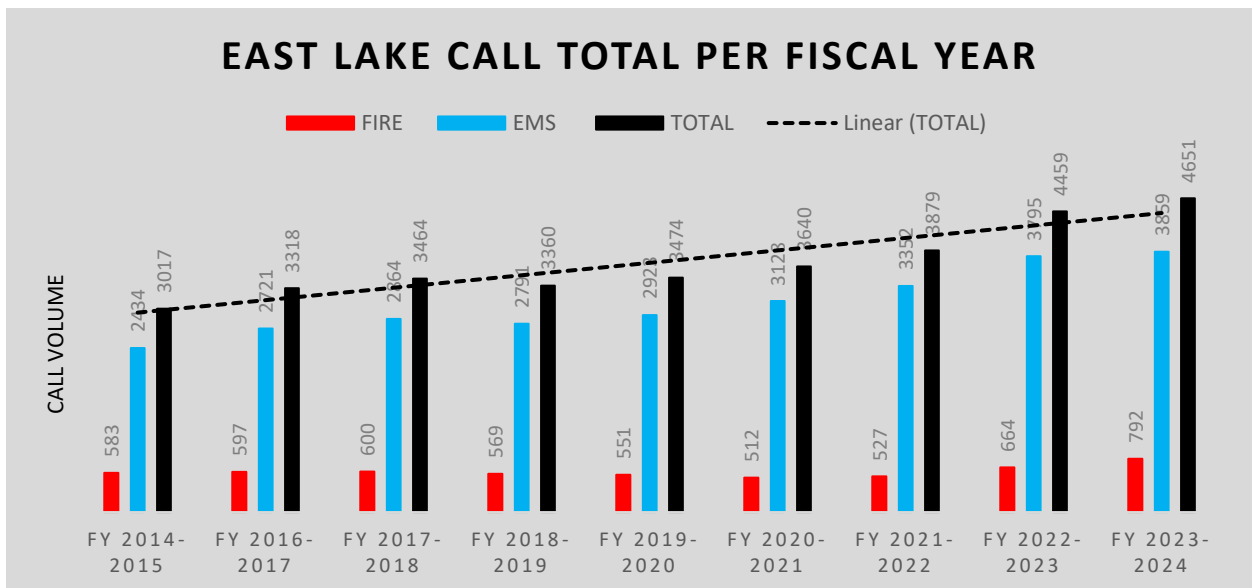
Each station is staffed around the clock with a minimum of three firefighters, who work 48 hours on and 96 hours off for an average 56-hour work week. The crew is composed of a Lieutenant, a Driver/Engineer, and a Firefighter/Paramedic. All combat personnel are Florida State certified Firefighters and Paramedics or EMT's.

The District has standing Automatic Aid agreements with the surrounding cities and fire districts.

Service Delivery

In Fiscal Year 2023-2024, East Lake Fire Rescue responded to a total of 4,651 emergency incidents in the fire district. The average turnout time (dispatched to responding) was one minute and nine seconds. The average on-scene time was five minutes and thirty-four seconds. The calls fell into one of the following categories:

Incident Type	Number of Incidents
Medical	3451
Motor Vehicle Collision	399
Fire Alarms	293
Structure Fires	150
Gas Leaks	44
Wildland/Outside Fire	29
Air Transport Upgrade	9
Electric Utility Hazard	33
Other Fire Rescue Incidents	243





Fire and Life Safety Division

The Fire and Life Safety Division is dedicated to reducing fire-related risks and enhancing public safety within the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District. Through a combination of public education, regular inspections, and enforcement of the Florida Fire Code, this division plays a critical role in safeguarding our community's lives and property.

Under the direction of the Fire Marshal, personnel are committed to providing the most current and effective fire prevention strategies to protect homes, businesses, and other properties. The proactive approach of the Fire and Life Safety Division has proven to be the most effective means of minimizing fire-related injuries, fatalities, and property loss.

Pamela DeMeo, Fire Marshal

Safety Surveys (fire inspections): East Lake Fire Rescue conducts annual fire safety surveys for all businesses in the district. These inspections assess potential fire and life safety hazards, ensuring that buildings meet safety standards and create a safer environment for our community. Performed by state-certified fire inspectors under the Fire Marshal's oversight, these surveys help identify and mitigate risks while providing critical information to first responders for emergency preparedness. Two hundred and three initial inspections were completed by East Lake Fire Rescue Personnel this year.

Construction Plan Review: The Fire Marshal's office reviews all construction plans submitted electronically for new commercial buildings and renovations. These reviews focus on ensuring compliance with fire safety regulations, including access roads, fire hydrant placement, fire suppression systems, smoke alarms, emergency exits, and more. The reviews help ensure that fire protection features, designed to meet the National Fire Protection Association and Florida Fire Prevention Code standards, are integrated into the building's design and construction. The Fire Marshal has reviewed forty-one building plans this year.

Fire Investigations: Fire investigations are conducted to determine the origin and cause of all fires. The division's trained investigators use this data to enhance safety protocols, identify patterns, and prevent future incidents. The Fire Marshal completed seven fire investigations this year.

Community Risk Reduction: East Lake Fire Rescue is committed to educating the public on various safety topics throughout the year. The department offers seasonal community risk

reduction programs that focus on fire and wildfire prevention, disaster preparedness, water safety, CPR, holiday safety, poison prevention, and more. These programs are promoted via the Fire District's electronic sign at Fire Station 56 and across our social media channels, ensuring widespread access to life-saving information. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, East Lake Fire Rescue conducted ten CPR classes, reaching a total of seventy-one citizens, and performed eighteen car seat installations.

More information on Fire Prevention can be found on our website, WWW.ELFR.ORG, such as public education, fire prevention tips, and the Florida fire prevention code.



Community Risk Reduction and Education

East Lake Fire Rescue's mission, to serve our community with the highest level of care, protection, and education, is a top priority for each member of the department. Under the direction of the Fire and Life Safety Division, we are committed to providing our citizens with the highest level of programs, designed to provide the tools necessary to reduce risk and encourage prevention.

Education is a cornerstone of fire prevention, and this year, we had countless opportunities to connect with our community, especially our youngest residents. October's Fire Prevention Month was a month-long campaign filled with classroom visits, social media outreach, and our 50th Anniversary Open House Celebration at Station 57. Through partnerships with Leap Forward Academy, Excel Learning Center, Plato Academy, and Oak Crest Preschool, we engaged with children, teaching them essential fire safety skills in a fun and memorable way.

We also had the privilege of participating in the Cypress Woods Elementary Walk to School event, hosting a fire station tour for Girl Scouts of West Central FL Troop 60613, and sharing cooking safety tips at East Lake Community Library.

Our department was honored to receive the NFPA Fire Prevention Month Kit, generously donated by Lizette Cochran from State Farm Insurance. This invaluable resource helped enhance our educational programs and outreach efforts.

Beyond fire prevention, we partnered with the GFWC North Pinellas Woman's Club to raise awareness for National Child Abuse Prevention Month, planting a pinwheel garden as a symbol of our commitment to protecting children in our community.

As summer approached, we joined the Lansbrook End-of-School Party, ensuring families had the knowledge they needed to enjoy their summer activities safely. When August rolled around, we reminded the community to "Slow Down- Back to School Means Sharing the Road," providing safety tips for students, parents, and drivers.



Youth Leadership Pinellas

East Lake Fire Rescue was especially honored to be invited to participate in the Youth Leadership Pinellas tour. Youth Leadership Pinellas (YLP) is a program designed to develop leadership skills among high school students in Pinellas County. The purpose of YLP is to engage and empower young people by providing them with opportunities to learn about community issues, develop leadership abilities, and work on projects that positively impact their communities. The program typically includes a series of workshops, team-building activities, and community service initiatives to nurture future leaders who are informed, engaged, and ready to make meaningful contributions to their communities. Through participation, students gain valuable insights into local government, business, and social issues while fostering connections with peers, mentors, and community leaders.



Community Engagement & Special Events

East Lake Fire Rescue thrives because of the deep connections we have with the people we serve. Whether it was Trunk-or-Treat at the YMCA, recognizing National Pet Fire Safety Day, or our annual holiday toy drive, we took every opportunity to engage with and support our citizens.

One highlight of the year was the East Lake Toymakers Open House, where we celebrated the incredible work of local volunteers who craft handmade toys for children in need. The Toymakers of East Lake also donate their toys to local fire departments to hand out to children during emergency calls, such as house fires and motor vehicle accidents. Seeing the joy these toys bring to families is a reminder of the power of generosity and kindness.

East Lake Fire Rescue also proudly supported National Teen Driver Safety Week, shared safety tips on cooking safety, and participated in community events like Earth Day, Memorial Day, Blood Drives, EMS Week, and Firefighter Appreciation Day.



Emergency Medical Services



**Kenny Lane, Division Chief of
Emergency Medical Services**

East Lake Fire Rescue places an emphasis on recruiting and retaining highly skilled Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) who are proficient in performing lifesaving skills. This is a necessity when responding to emergency calls in our district. Our Paramedics and EMTs continuously train on medical and traumatic scenarios to be ready and prepared to answer the call when needed by our citizens. Training is critical in emergency situations; every second counts.

Continuing Medical Education (provided by
Pinellas County EMS):

- Emergency Pediatric Care

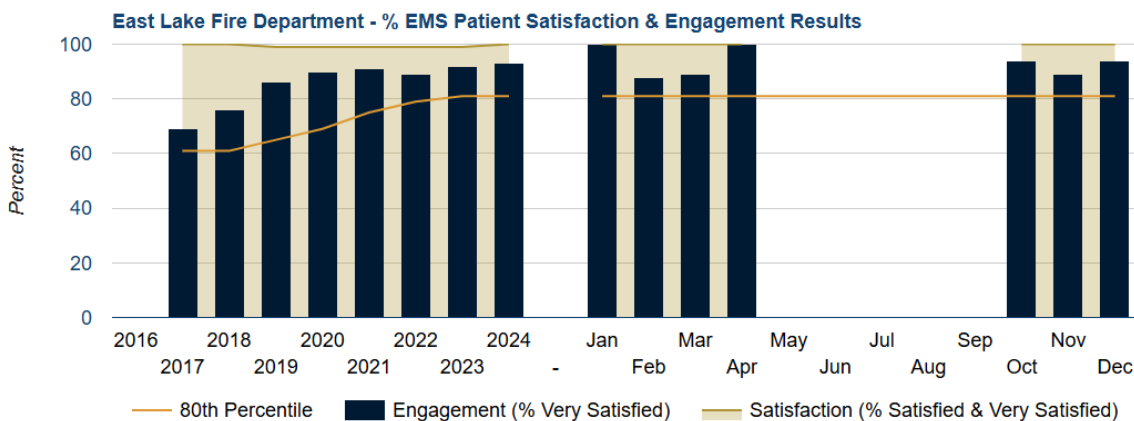
- Review of 2025 MOM Version I
- Skills review and assessment: Airway and CPR, Major Trauma (Tourniquet, wound packing, needle thoracotomy)
- Critical Thinking Stations: Cardiac, Respiratory, AMS, Fractures and Head Injuries
- Team Dynamics- Medical cardiac arrest pit-crew vs. Traumatic Cardiac Arrest pit-crew
- Trauma Assessment Review: Assessment Pathway, Major Trauma
- PCEMS Equipment Review
- Trauma Transport Protocols/Reversible Causes: Trauma Pearls-Dos and Don'ts
- Medical Assessment Review: Cardiac, Respiratory and Advanced Medical Strategies
- Differential Diagnosis/Reversible Causes: Medical Pearls – Dos and Don'ts
- Pediatric Assessment Review- PAT
- Pediatric Pit-Crew Review
- Handtevy Review: Pediatric Pearls- Dos and Don'ts
- Pediatric Trauma Assessment
- Adult and Pediatric SMR Review
- CPR Certification
- Medication Administration Cross-Check (MACC)
- RAMP Triage
- First Pass
- Skills review and assessment
- Medication, SMR review
- Trauma Team Dynamics
- Electronic Patient Care Report updates
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- Protocol and equipment updates
- Patient satisfaction discussion
- Upcoming Orientation Program updates
- Post Cessation Question and Answer

East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District is part of the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services (PCEMS) system, which is comprised of 19 separate Fire Departments and Sunstar Paramedics, a private ambulance contractor, located strategically throughout Pinellas County. PCEMS is a sophisticated design that strives for clinical excellence with effective cost containment. It is a performance-based model that employs stringent performance requirements and response time accountability for all Advanced Life Support (ALS) First Responder agencies. This simply means that East Lake units will respond as the closest appropriate unit to emergency incidents outside of our District, and the surrounding fire departments will do the same for our fire department as needed.

East Lake Fire Rescue has a comprehensive EMS quality assurance program designed to help ensure processes that benefit from improvement interactions and identify EMS best practices. The EMS Quality Management Program consists of patient care report review, skills evaluation, patient outcome, and customer satisfaction reviews. The district contracts with a third-party company, the Baldrige Group, which specializes in providing customized quality assurance phone surveys to a random sampling of our EMS emergency services customers every month. The anonymous surveys provide a rating of “Very Satisfied,” “Satisfied,” “Dissatisfied,” or “Very Dissatisfied” for service expectations in the categories of “Fire Department Response,” “Listening and Explaining,” “Caring and Concerned,” “Manage Discomfort,” and “Courtesy and Professionalism.”

Last year East Lake Fire Rescue received a score of 93% in satisfaction and engagement results, with the overall Pinellas County EMS average being 85%. These results are sent to use each month by Baldrige Group founder David Harrawood.

East Lake Fire Department - % EMS Patient Satisfaction & Engagement Results



Fire Training



Gary Wilson, Division Chief Fire Training

Training is critical in emergency services. The East Lake Fire Department Training Division is committed to providing fire training, education, and ongoing personnel development to maintain industry standards and produce high-quality care. The activities of the Training Division are designed to be specific to the organizational needs of the department, focusing on compliance. The Training Division is responsible for training all new and existing firefighters. To enhance the division's capabilities and resources, the Training Division works collaboratively with various local and regional partners. The Training Division oversees such programs as employment hiring, recruit academy, company officer and driver training, and promotional processes. In 2024, members of the department completed over 11,617 Fire Training Hours (average of 331 hrs. per firefighter). Training hours were divided

into Firefighting Training, Officer Training, Driver Training, Company Training, and Hazardous Material Training.

Officer Specific:

- Information Management
- Labor Relations
- Leadership as a Group Influence
- Legal Responsibilities and Liabilities
- Pre-Incident Planning
- Professional Ethics
- Role of Company Officer
- Scene Management
- Incident Command System

Driver Specific:

- Emergency Vehicle Operations
- Impaired Driving for Emergency Vehicle Operators
- Intersection Safety for Emergency Vehicle Operators
- Legal Considerations for Emergency Vehicle Operators
- Safe Backing for Emergency Vehicle Operators
- Seat Belt and Air Bag Safety
- Capacity Hookup
- Pumping Master Streams
- Pumping Supply Lines
- Cone Course
- Hydrant Transfer
- Driver General Knowledge
- Traffic Incident Management

Company Performance Standards:

- Vent Enter Search
- Ground Ladder Operations
- Forward Lay
- Reverse Lay/Capacity
- Relay Pumping
- 1410 Drills
- Drafting

Company Specific:

- Water Supply
- Fire Hose
- Fire Streams
- Fire Control
- Fire Detection Alarm & Suppression Systems
- Loss Control
- Protecting Fire Scene Evidence
- Fire Department Communications
- Fire Prevention and Public Education
- Ventilation
- Forcible Entry
- Vehicle Extrication

Individual Performance Standards:

- Portable Extinguishers
- Protection of Evidence of Fire Origin and Cause
- Rescue and Extrication
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)
- Vehicle Extrication
- Combustible and Flammable Liquids
- Ventilation
- Compressed Gas Safety
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Passport Accountability
- Mayday/Emergency Retreat

Truck Company Operations:

- Vertical Ventilation Aerial Ladder/Platform
- Elevated Master Stream Aerial Ladder/Platform
- Elevated Standpipe Aerial Ladder/Platform
- Short Jacking

East Lake Specific:

- Fire Prevention Month Programs
- Physical Fitness Training
- Fire Inspector In-Service
- Review of National Fallen Firefighter Foundation Life Safety Initiatives
- Apparatus Design and Safety
- Physical Fitness Circuit Workout Training

- SCBA Air Consumption Drill
- Hose and Nozzle Training
- Annual Health and Wellness Physicals
- Safety Stand Down: Focusing on Occupational Cancer Prevention
- Active Assailant Training
- 12 Lead Interpretation
- Fire Station Safety Inspection Orientation
- Safe Place Training
- Workplace Human Resource Issues: Harassment, Discrimination and Hostile Work Environment
- Workplace Violence Prevention
- District Drug and Alcohol Policy
- Water Extrication Team Training
- Health and Safety Conference

North County Training Group:

- Multi-Unit Pump Operations
- Practical Firefighter Safety and Survival Skills
- Haul/ Lower System and Rope Bailout
- Practical Firefighter Safety and Survival Skills
- SCBA Emergency Procedures (in Maze)
- Practical Live Fire Training Practical Skills: Fire Attack, Flashover Recognition, Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC)
- SCBA Emergency Procedures
- Firefighter Safety and Survival Skills: Wall Breaching, Mayday and Rapid Intervention Rescue Skills
- Firefighter Safety and Survival Skills: Open Area Rope Searches, and Emergency Ladder Rescue Skills
- Light Marine Rescue
- Flood Water Rescue
- Vent, Enter, Search (VES)
- Rapid Intervention Team (RIT)
- EVOC
- 1st Due Company Operations
- Decontamination Procedures
- Air Consumption Drill

50th Anniversary Celebration

The year 2024 marks a significant milestone for East Lake Fire Rescue as we celebrate 50 years of dedicated service to our community. Since our establishment in 1974, East Lake Fire Rescue has grown from a small volunteer department into a professional fire service committed to protecting lives and property.

Over the past five decades, we have expanded our capabilities, improved response times, and enhanced fire prevention efforts to meet the evolving needs of East Lake and the surrounding areas. Through continuous training, community engagement, and advancements in fire safety technology, we remain steadfast in our mission to provide the highest level of service.

As we reflect on our history, we also look ahead to the future. Our commitment to excellence drives us to adapt and grow, ensuring we are prepared to face new challenges while maintaining the trust and confidence of the community we serve.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our firefighters, staff, community partners, and residents who have supported us throughout this journey. Together, we honor our past, celebrate our present, and embrace the future of East Lake Fire Rescue!

Here's to 50 years of service and many more to come!



East Lake Firefighters Benevolent Association

The East Lake Firefighters Benevolent Association is composed, funded, and managed by employees of East Lake Fire Rescue. We are a nonprofit organization committed to providing physical, financial, and emotional support to its members, their families, and the East Lake community. Comprised of firefighters who selflessly serve and protect, the association extends its mission beyond emergency response by assisting those in need during challenging times. Whether offering financial aid to firefighters and their families facing hardship, supporting community initiatives, or fostering a strong network of camaraderie, the association plays a vital role in ensuring the well-being of those who risk their lives for others. Through charitable events, outreach programs, and unwavering dedication, the East Lake Firefighters Benevolent Association continues to make a meaningful impact, strengthening the bond between first responders and the community we serve.

Through the efforts of our members, the East Lake Firefighter Benevolent Association was able to raise \$10,000 for a retired Lieutenant battling cancer by hosting a charity pickleball tournament. Additionally, the ELFBA coordinated the annual Santa program and was able to help a resident who was in desperate need of assistance with property clean up.



East Lake Firefighters Benevolent Association -

Proudly serving those that serve!

East Lake CERT

East Lake Fire Rescue is fortunate enough to have an amazing Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. CERT offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, which allows them to focus on more complex tasks. Through CERT, the capabilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters are built and enhanced.

East Lake CERT was established in 2005 and currently has 35 active members, comprised of citizens of the East Lake District. In 2024, collectively, we accumulated approximately 660 volunteer hours amongst our members. In 2025, our goal is to supply continued support to our East Lake Community, as well as support to East Lake Fire Rescue, and to strengthen our training and preparedness for any future challenges, including hurricanes, tornadoes, and wildfires. Chairperson Ronnie Lang would like to thank the team, the community, and East Lake Fire Rescue for their support.



Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Financial Position Highlights

We remain committed to the efficient and effective use of the tax dollars we receive. The District receives the majority of its revenue through property taxes. The property tax is based on a property's value. In 2024, the tax rate that citizens paid to the District for fire and emergency medical services was \$1.965 per thousand of their property's assessed value.

The financial position of the East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District is sound. Each year, the financial position is audited (currently by Saltmarsh, Cleveland and Gund.) A current copy of the audited 2022-2023 financial statements is on file in the District office and on our website. The District is pleased to report highlights of its financial position in this Annual Report. The stated financial position in this report is unaudited. The audited financial report will be available in early 2025.

Government entities are typically measured by their net assets or net position. The net position is impacted by many things, including the change in cash, which reflects revenue received and expenditures made, depreciation of assets, changes in debt balances, pension liabilities, and capital acquisitions or divestments.

The net position for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023, was \$7,120,468, an increase of \$838,700*. The District's net position for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 will not be available until the annual audit is completed.

On October 1, 2023, the beginning balance of the District's general fund was \$6,799,044. The budget from Fiscal Year 2023-2024 was approved with the objective of covering operational costs and purchasing approved capital expenditures. The District realized a \$1,091,575 increase in its general fund balance. The unaudited year-end general fund balance was \$7,890,619.

*East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, Saltmarsh, Cleaveland, and Gund, Certified Public Accountants.

The table below shows the District's unaudited governmental fund activity for Fiscal Year 2023-2024:

Fund Balance September 30, 2024	\$7,890,619
Total Revenues:	9,759,502
Total Expenditures:	(8,667,926)
Total Debt Service	0
Excess of Revenues Over Expenses (Increase in Fund Balance)	\$ 1,091,575

Summary

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support from our community, the dedication of our firefighters, and the partnerships that have allowed us to continue our mission of keeping East Lake safe.

The East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District's leadership and its staff bring an effective combination of skills, experience, and dedication to carry out the District's Mission:

“To serve our community with the highest level of care, protection, and education.”

We will continue to pursue our Vision:

“To be a leading emergency service provider through innovation and dedication.”

Our Core Values:

E- Excellence

L- Leadership

F- Family

R-Respect

The East Lake Tarpon Special Fire Control District provided its citizens and visitors with exceptional fire protection, EMS, fire prevention, and community risk reduction services in Fiscal Year 2023-2024. The service was provided at an excellent value to the citizens, with one of the lowest ad valorem tax rates for fire service in Pinellas County.



Jason Gennaro, Fire Chief