

# “Fire District” and Fire Company”



In the next few pages that outline the application process, you will see references to the “Fire District” and the “Company”. Together, they both make up the Yorktown Heights Fire Department. Here is the definition and difference between the two:

## THE FIRE DISTRICT

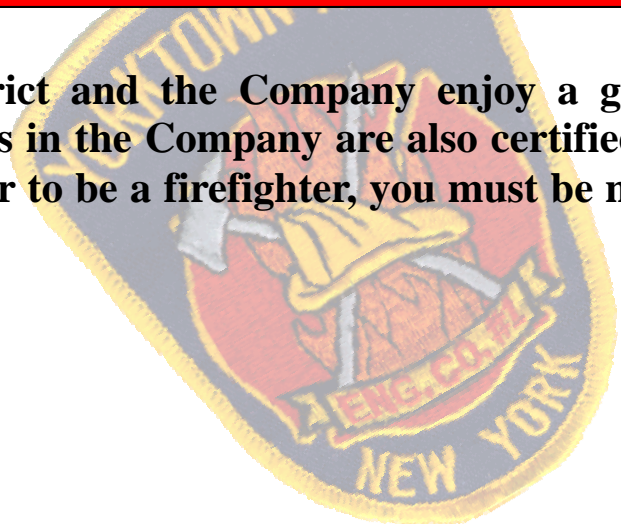
The Fire District is the fire taxing authority in Yorktown. This is the organization of elected officials that control the tax money the citizens of Yorktown pay for fire protection. The Fire District owns all of the apparatus, and is in charge of all the costs associated with purchasing, repairing, and replacing any equipment. All Training is paid for by the District.



## THE COMPANY

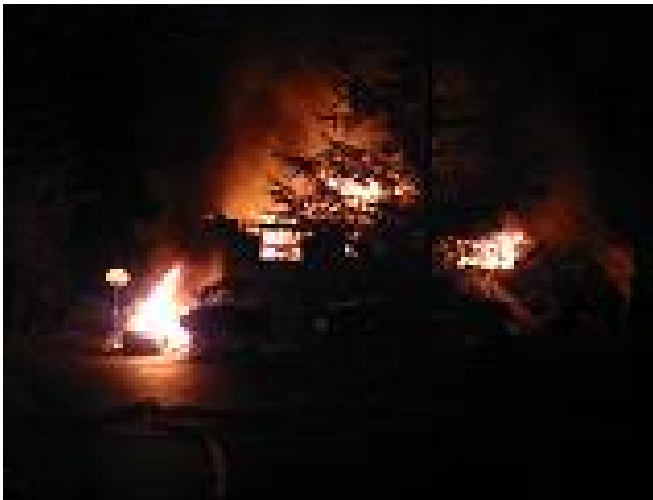
The Yorktown Heights Engine Co. #1, or the “Company”, provides the manpower to respond to calls. The company does not receive any tax money, and only receives funds from donations and fundraisers. This is the organization you must belong to in order to be a firefighter in Yorktown.

The District and the Company enjoy a great working relationship. All Chiefs in the Company are also certified as Officers of the District. In order to be a firefighter, you must be meet with both organizations.





The Yorktown Heights FD is a 100% volunteer organization, providing fire and rescue services to the Yorktown Heights Fire District. We respond to 500-600 calls annually. These calls include but are not limited to: automatic fire alarms, structure fires, gas leaks, motor vehicle accidents, car fires, brush fires, smoke investigations, rubbish fires, hazardous materials incidents, vehicle extrications, technical rescues, dive rescues, and carbon monoxide alarms. YHFD will respond to any incident in the district requiring fire department equipment or personnel, including police assists and severe weather conditions. In addition, YHFD often responds to assist other districts, including Lake Mohegan, Peekskill, Somers, Millwood, Bedford Hills, or any other agency who requests our assistance.



## DEFINITIONS:

**ENGINE:** Provides Water and Hoselines.

**LADDER:** Provides Ventilation, Forcible Entry, Victim Search, and Overhaul.

**RESCUE:** Provides vehicle rescue, HAZMAT Response, Scene Lighting, Air Tank filling

**TANKER:** An Engine that carries additional water for operations in areas without hydrants.

For experienced firefighters looking for additional challenges, The YHFD offers two specialized teams. The YHFD **Firefighter Assistance Search Team**, or F.A.S.T., consists of veteran firefighters specially trained in the extrication of downed, or trapped firefighters. The YHFD Dive Team consists of firefighters also trained in water/dive rescue and recovery operations.

## YHFD Responds out of 2 Fire Stations...

### Station 1- 1916 Commerce St.

**Engine 273**  
**Ladder 51**  
**Rescue 16**  
**Tanker 14**

### Station 2- 744 Locksley Rd.

**Engine 270 (Rescue)**  
**Engine 271**  
**Engine 275**  
**Ladder 68**  
**MA-8**

# Social Functions of the Yorktown Heights FD



YHFD participate in many social functions throughout the year. Some of these include YHFD Santa Day, Area Parades, Friendship Night, Christmas Parties, Chili Night, fire department musters, and the YHFD Carnival. Some of these events are fundraisers, others are just fun events to promote the brotherhood of the fire service. YHFD attends 4-5 Fire Department Parades each year, in addition to our own parade, held annually in June. YHFD Santa Day is held in December, when Santa Claus visits Yorktown and rides the fire engine to distribute candy canes to the children in Yorktown. All of these events are organized and run by YHFD firefighters.

## ANNUAL YHFD FUNDRAISERS:

1. YHFD Chili Night in March
2. Junior Corps Pancake Breakfast
3. Fall and Spring Car Shows
4. YHFD Carnival, Follows Annual Parade

Other Social events at YHFD include the annual Inspection, a traditional event in which we display our apparatus to area departments followed by a dinner dance, and the annual installation of officers, also a dinner dance in which newly elected officers are sworn in.





# Why become a Yorktown Firefighter

There are many benefits to being a Yorktown Firefighter. As a Yorktown Firefighter you will be presented with a variety of different types of challenges and situations, requiring training, experience, and expertise. These challenges may be as simple as educating the public in fire prevention, or as intense as extricating a seriously injured victim of a car accident with the jaws of life.



Many people are concerned with how much time they will have to spend doing fire department tasks, such as training and drills. Although joining the Yorktown Fire Department will take up some time, we design our schedules to accommodate people busy working schedules. For people that are available during the evening, there are many committees and sub committees that meet during the evening. These committees deal with various special events or objectives, including the carnival, chili night, recruitment, and administrative tasks.

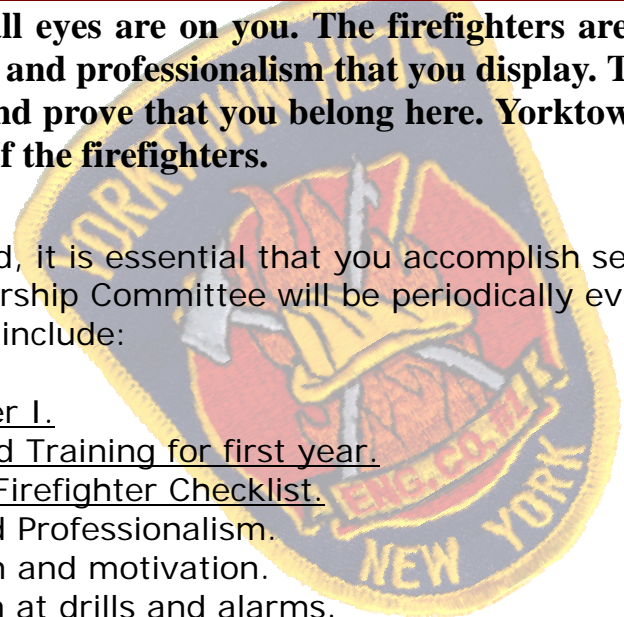
For people that are available during the day, the fire prevention program typically conducts sessions during school hours. YHFD makes a big effort to try to accommodate various working schedules. If you are concerned about this, let us know at your membership interview, and we can work out a program to fit your schedule.

## The Probationary Firefighter Period

As a probationary firefighter, all eyes are on you. The firefighters are forming their opinions on the dedication and professionalism that you display. This is the time to “step up to the plate” and prove that you belong here. Yorktown always has prided itself on the caliber of the firefighters.

During your probationary period, it is essential that you accomplish several training objectives. The Membership Committee will be periodically evaluating your process. These objectives include:

1. Completion of NYS Firefighter I.
2. Completion of Recommended Training for first year.
3. Completion of Probationary Firefighter Checklist.
4. Development of Attitude and Professionalism.
5. Actions displaying dedication and motivation.
6. Attendance and participation at drills and alarms.





As a new firefighter, or probationary firefighter, you must undergo basic firefighter training, known as “Firefighter I”. Firefighter I is provided by New York State through Westchester County Department of Emergency Services, and is the foundation of your firefighting career.



Yorktown Firefighters performing propane fire training at the County Training Center.

Over 95% of Yorktown Firefighters have gone beyond basic firefighting training to more advanced training. Many Firefighters have chosen to specialize in more challenging and unique operations, such as technical rescue, water rescue, hazardous materials mitigation and arson investigation, to name a few.

Firefighter I is offered in a variety of different times year round, ensuring that a class is available to match anyone’s schedule. Classes are conducted at the Westchester County Fire Training Center.

## DEPARTMENTAL TRAINING

YHFD Conducts departmental training every Monday evening. YHFD members attend over 100 hours of additional training a year, ranging from back to basic reviews, to advanced rescue and suppression techniques. These drills are run by the YHFD Officers, and offer new members an opportunity to learn how YHFD operates, as well as meet other members, and learn from experienced, veteran firefighters. It is very important for new members to attend as many Monday Night Drills as possible. Yorktown Firefighters are never done training, and are constantly sharpening their firefighting skills.





## FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Yorktown's Fire Prevention Program is run by the firefighters, and given to various daycare centers, schools, after school programs, and boy/girl scout troops. The program emphasizes fire safety, and what children should do in the event of a fire in their home or school, as well as a brief summary of firefighting duties. The programs are approximately 30-45 minutes in length, and conclude with a brief tour of the fire apparatus. Sessions are held at Station 1, or at various schools in the district.



"Sparky" the fire dog; The mascot of Yorktown's Fire Prevention Program.

## JUNIOR CORPS PROGRAM



The Junior Corps. Program was started in 2003 as a way for the Department to attract Younger members. Junior Corps. Members are given a taste of firefighting operations, and hopefully will move on to become firefighters at the age of 18. In the meantime, Juniors are trained in many different aspects of firefighting, and have become an integral part of the Yorktown Heights Fire Department Family.

Junior Members train on search /rescue and victim removal techniques.

