
For Immediate Release
October 2nd 2005

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Greenfield Fire District Grant Initiative Pays Dividends - Homeland Security Grant a Big Win

GREENFIELD CENTER, NY – the Greenfield Fire District started an intense grant writing initiative in January that has collected nearly \$122,000. The largest being a \$109,000 grant from the 2005 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The Homeland Security grant marks the latest of three that the department has received. This grant will be used to procure firefighter personal protective equipment, various pediatric EMS (Emergency Medical Services) equipment and approximately 40 portable radios.

In August, the department received a \$10,000 grant from the office of Senator Hugh Farley. That grant was used to acquire five defibrillators, which supplement the recently revamped EMS program. The five defibrillators were distributed amongst the fire district, with one housed in the district off road rescue sled located in the Porter Corners fire station. Maple Avenue firefighters have seen the advantages of defibrillators first hand in the winter of 2003 where a middle-aged male was successfully resuscitated after suffering cardiac arrest after snow-blowing his driveway.

The first grant received this year was from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). It was a matching grant in the amount of \$1500 used to purchase forest-fire equipment, including shovels, axes and indian tanks (backpacks that carry water).

The district also has a SAFER grant (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) in the Homeland Security grant system. This grant is aimed at covering the start up costs of the recently approved Service Awards Program that provides the dedicated members of the Greenfield Fire District with a pension-like monetary award.

Current district grant initiatives involve a Homeland Security fire prevention grant (FP&S) which outlines a fire district survey collecting data of handicapped, elderly, or other residents which pose unique fire rescue issues. The goal is to analyze the data collected to address any fire rescue issues, provide solutions, and prevent any tragedies before they occur. Additional data will be collected to provide mathematical analysis of the district's long established and successful fire prevention programs.

Picture requests and questions concerning this press release can be forwarded to Commissioner Richard Spackmann via the contact information above or Chairman Donald Kugler.

Further information about the related grants can be found online at the addresses below:

- 1) <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/afg/>
- 2) <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/safer/>
- 3) http://www.firegrantsupport.com/fp_about.aspx
- 4) <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dlf/privland/urban/index.html>

About the Greenfield Fire District

The Greenfield Fire District encompasses all of the Town of Greenfield and the southeastern part of the Town of Wilton including the Exit 15 commercial corridor.

The Greenfield Fire District is composed of four sister fire companies: Greenfield Center, Porter Corners, Middle Grove and Maple Avenue. It is the largest fire district in Saratoga County and is the busiest volunteer fire district in the county running over 1100 calls annually.