

Wausau Fire Department Quarterly Report

Quarter 2 –2025



2025 Mission: Lifeline® EMS Recognition

The American Heart Association proudly recognizes

City of Wausau Fire Department Wausau, Wisconsin

Mission: Lifeline® EMS - GOLD with Target: Heart Attack Honor Roll Achievement Award

The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association recognizes this prehospital provider organization for demonstrating continued success in using the **Mission Lifeline®** program.

Thank you for applying the most up-to-date evidence-based treatment guidelines to improve patient care and outcomes in the community you serve.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy A. Brown".

Nancy Brown
Chief Executive Officer
American Heart Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith B. Churchwell".

Keith Churchwell, M.D., FAHA
President
American Heart Association

*For more information, please visit Heart.org/MissionLifeline



(WFD was awarded the Mission: Lifeline EMS – Gold for Target: Heart Attack Honor Roll)

Fire Chief Report by Chief Jeremy Kopp

Introduction

This report covers the period from April through June 2025. As we move into the second half of the year, the Wausau Fire Department continues to make meaningful strides in both operations and strategic planning. Our ongoing efforts in recruitment and training are showing positive results, and we are steadily progressing on several key projects aimed at strengthening our infrastructure and service delivery with a huge focus on succession planning, all early details of the strategic planning process.

Operational Updates and Progress

The apprenticeship program, launched earlier this year in partnership with Northcentral Technical College (NTC), has completed its first evaluation phase. Initial feedback has been positive, with apprentices gaining valuable field experience while contributing meaningfully to daily operations.

We have been putting in a lot of work and planning to complete the new CIP process and have informative numbers for the next five years for the committee to work through. Among these requests will include the need for a new station and training facility, replacement of extrication equipment, replacement of cardiac monitors, and updates for additional parking at our existing stations.

Our grant writing team has submitted multiple applications for equipment funding, including FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. We are hopeful that this will help fund new extrication tools and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) replacements.

Planning for a new training tower continues, with site feasibility assessments currently underway. Our collaboration with NTC on this project remains strong, and we are evaluating cost-sharing models to support long-term sustainability.

Leadership and Strategic Development

Following the successful attendance at FDIC by our Lieutenants in April, we have initiated a leadership development track tailored to prepare personnel for potential promotional opportunities. This includes targeted mentorship, project leadership assignments, and exposure to administrative responsibilities.

Our strategic planning committee met several times this quarter and has begun drafting key focus areas including staffing, facilities, technology upgrades, and public engagement.

Community Care Paramedic Program

Matthew Kozloski continues to lead our Community Care Paramedic program with distinction. In Q2, we saw a 15% increase in home visits, particularly among high-risk senior citizens. Matthew has begun working with Aspirus to implement a preventive care referral network, which we expect will further reduce non-emergency 911 calls and improve community health outcomes such as re-admissions and waiting times in the ER.

Facilities and Infrastructure

Central fire station is still a huge problem for us with working space and parking problems. Central continues to have problems such as leaking pipes and HVAC issues and deteriorating platforms on the front and back side of the station. In June, we and the PD have been without air conditioning due to the cooling tower being replaced, expected finish date to be the end of July. This station is really showing its age and ability to keep up with the growing organization we have become. We have contacted representatives from the state for some financial assistance but are awaiting a response.

Conclusion

The second quarter of 2025 has seen continued momentum across all major areas of focus. From infrastructure improvements to strategic planning and community health initiatives, the Wausau Fire Department remains dedicated to excellence in service and leadership. We thank the City, our community partners, and residents for their continued support and collaboration as we work together to meet the evolving needs of Wausau.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or for additional information, 715-261-7901.

Thank you for your continued support.

Fire Operations Report by Deputy Chief Justin Pluess

Recruit Academy

In June, the Wausau Fire Department successfully conducted its third Recruit Academy of 2025. This four-week training academy welcomed three new recruits who underwent a rigorous training curriculum focused on EMS, fire suppression, department protocols, and teamwork. The academy was led by Lieutenant Tautges, who volunteered to come off shift and assume a Monday–Friday schedule in order to provide consistency and leadership to the training. His commitment ensured the recruits received high-quality, mission-aligned instruction. The department thanks Lt. Tautges for his dedication to our newest members and our training standards.



Fleet



Final preparations were completed for the sale of Ladder 2. A purchase contract was signed with Warren Robbins Fire Department, and the apparatus is scheduled for transfer in the coming weeks.

Coinciding with this transition, the Wausau Fire Department has identified an available 75-foot aerial apparatus manufactured by Pierce that aligns with our operational needs. This opportunity emerged at

an ideal time, and staff have been working with vendors and the City's finance team to finalize the purchase. Once delivered, the new ladder truck will be integrated into service following a three-day, crew-specific training.

Lieutenant Promotional Process

In June, the department conducted a Lieutenant Assessment Center as part of its 2025 promotional process. Four internal candidates participated in a structured, multi-station evaluation process designed to assess leadership, tactical, and communication competencies.

The process included:

- A simulated fire incident and EMS scenario to evaluate tactical decision-making and incident command proficiency.
- A teaching station to assess instructional ability and training delivery skills.

- A presentation and interview panel, which evaluated professionalism, strategic thinking, and interpersonal effectiveness.
- The written assessment exam consists of 100 multiple choice questions.

This assessment center was designed to align with the expectations of Fire Officer I certification. The final step in the process, peer review evaluations, will be completed by mid-July. Final promotional decisions will follow.

Mental Health & Peer Support Initiatives

The Wausau Fire Department continues to prioritize the mental health and wellness of its personnel. In this quarter:

- Rogers Behavioral Health was invited to present its Fire Watch program to our crews. Fire Watch is a virtual outpatient program tailored exclusively to first responders, providing flexible, confidential support that acknowledges the unique experiences of firefighters and paramedics. The program is built on proven treatment models and is available with scheduling that respects shift work and professional obligations.
- The department has also partnered with the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin Charitable Foundation, the International Association of Fire Fighters, and the Wisconsin Department of Rural Health to offer Peer Support Training in August of 2025. This training, will deliver in-person training by certified instructors and equips members with:
 - Foundational behavioral health knowledge
 - Practical peer support strategies
 - Tools to bridge members to clinical and community resources

These initiatives reflect our growing understanding of the cumulative impact of occupational stress in the fire service and our commitment to supporting the mental resilience of our personnel.

Training

This quarter featured a diverse and impactful series of training events that helped strengthen both our technical capabilities and interagency partnerships:

- High Angle Rescue Training – June 20: Crews took their training to new heights—literally—by rappelling from the iconic Dudley Tower. Members of our High Angle Rescue Team spent the day honing their rope skills while navigating the structure’s elevation challenges. A special thank you to the Dudley Tower team for making this unique opportunity possible. Real-world training environments like this are critical to keeping our members sharp and ready to serve in any situation.



- Hazmat Awareness & Outreach – May 21: Our Hazardous Incident Team (HIT) visited the Town of Wausau Fire Department and several other area departments to share information about the specialized resources and capabilities Wausau Fire offers as one of only eight regional state hazmat teams in Wisconsin. In addition to statewide response capabilities, Wausau Fire also provides hazmat coverage for all of Marathon County. This outreach strengthens mutual aid coordination and helps build a more resilient regional response network.

- K-9 Emergency Medical Training – April 29: In collaboration with the Wausau Police Department, our crews participated in joint training focused on emergency medical care for K-9 officers injured in the line of duty. Working side-by-side with WPD handlers and their K-9 partners, firefighters practiced life-saving techniques tailored specifically for canine trauma. This unique session enhanced our interagency preparedness and reaffirmed our shared commitment to public safety—for all members of the team.



Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

This quarter, the City of Wausau Fire Department was honored to receive the **Mission: Lifeline® EMS Gold Award with Target: Heart Attack Honor Roll Achievement Award** from the **American Heart Association**. This national recognition reflects our commitment to delivering high-quality, evidence-based care to patients experiencing the most critical cardiac emergencies, including ST-elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) and other acute cardiac events.

Receiving this award demonstrates that Wausau Fire consistently meets rigorous benchmarks in pre-hospital care, including rapid identification, treatment, and coordination with cardiac receiving centers. We are proud to stand among the top EMS agencies in the country, and alongside many of our neighboring departments, in advancing life-saving cardiac care that directly improves survival and patient outcomes across our region.

Significant Events

On April 8, 2025, Wausau Fire Department's Engine 4 responded to a brush fire along the riverbank. Engine 4 arriving quickly extinguished the fire with a cross lay. Their swift action prevented the fire from spreading.

On April 21, 2025, Wausau Fire Department responded to a reported structure fire with smoke coming from an apartment. Crews arrived to find heavy smoke inside and conducted a rapid search using a thermal imaging camera. The source was identified as food left burning on a gas stove. The fire was quickly mitigated, and the apartment ventilated. This swift response prevented further damage.

On May 16, 2025, Wausau Fire Department crews from Engine 1 and Battalion 1 responded to a fire alarm at a multi-story building on N. 1st Street. Upon arrival, crews found heavy smoke on the third floor and a burned, unidentifiable object in the elevator lobby. Firefighters quickly ventilated the area and ensured there was no active fire threat. Wausau Police were also on scene and initiated an investigation after encountering a suspicious individual. The alarm system was reset, and the scene was safely turned over.

May 11, 2025, Wausau Fire Department crews responded to a report of smoke alarms sounding in a multi-unit apartment building. Upon arrival, Engine 1 was directed to an apartment where light smoke filled the unit. Crews located and extinguished a smoldering pile of household items ignited by a faulty heat lamp with exposed wiring. Thanks to the quick response and effective mitigation by WFD, the fire was contained with minimal damage, and multiple family pets were rescued.

May 11th, 2025, Wausau Fire Department responded to a report of a person who had jumped into the river from a dock and was unaccounted for. Upon arrival, multiple Wausau Police Department officers were already on scene and confirmed the last known location of the victim near the dock area. With no one visible on the surface operations were immediately initiated. The department's airboat was launched upstream, and two WFD swimmers were deployed into water and began a grid search.

After approximately 35 minutes of searching, an object believed to be the victim was located but could not initially be brought to the surface. While Wausau Police were in contact with the Marathon County Dive Team, they advised terminating the search until divers arrived. However, recognizing the urgency and the time-sensitive nature

of the incident, BC Bingham made the critical decision to re-deploy WFD swimmers. Within 10 minutes, the team successfully recovered the victim and transferred him to waiting paramedics. Life-saving measures were initiated, and the patient was transported to Aspirus Hospital .

On May 23, 2025, Wausau Fire Department responded to a reported structure fire involving an **oxidizer unit** at an industrial facility on Stewart Avenue. Upon arrival, Engine 3 established communication with on-site staff who reported a fire inside the ventilation tubing of the oxidizer system. A strategic decision was made to deploy the ladder truck, place personnel on the roof, and access the ventilation system from above. During suppression efforts, industry staff unintentionally re-opened air dampers without notifying fire command, creating a dangerous situation by reintroducing oxygen to the system fueling a larger fire. Firefighters immediately intervened and reinforced the importance of coordinated communication for the safety of all personnel. After thoroughly flushing the ventilation system and confirming extinguishment of all hot spots, the fire was declared out.

On May 28, 2025, Wausau Fire Department responded to a possible structure fire at a residence on S. 6th Avenue. On arrival heavy smoke was present in the second-story apartment. Engine 1 arrived to find no visible fire from the exterior and made entry through the rear of the building. Inside, crews encountered moderate smoke and located a stove with a burned pan of food . The crew removed the source of the smoke, ventilated the apartment using a positive pressure fan, and confirmed the absence of carbon monoxide using a gas meter. Despite a language barrier, firefighters were able to communicate with the resident and explain the situation.

On June 19, 2025, Wausau Fire Department's **Truck 1 was dispatched for mutual aid** to assist Riverside Fire Department with a significant industrial fire involving a conveyor belt system used to transport sawdust. The fire was located within a multi-level, enclosed structure, making access and suppression challenging. Truck 1 was strategically positioned to flow water from an elevated height of **70–80 feet**, targeting the top of the conveyor system between two buildings. After several hours the system was thoroughly flushed and no visible smoke remained and Truck 1 cleared the scene.

On June 21, 2025, the Wausau Fire Department responded to a structure fire at a duplex on N. 5th Avenue. Engine 3 arrived first and was flagged down by 12-year-old Lawrence Follie, who was leaning out a first-floor window and reported a fire in his bedroom. Crews made entry and found smoke conditions inside and an active fire involving bedding on the lower bunk. Firefighters quickly extinguished the flames and confirmed that the fire was out and all occupants were out and safe..

The boy stated that he woke up to flames, attempted to extinguish the fire with water, and alerted firefighters on arrival. It was later determined that his younger brother had likely started the fire using lighters found near the bed. One boy did sustained minor burns and was transported to the hospital for evaluation. Fire crews worked with Wausau Police to ensure the safety of the children, referred the case for **Youth Firesetting Intervention**, provided by the Wausau Fire Department's Prevention Division.

On June 28, 2025, Wausau Fire Department responded to a high-risk **water rescue involving a distraught individual** clinging to bridge pilings beneath a downtown overpass. Upon arrival, crews coordinated with Wausau Police, who determined the scene was unsafe due to the individual's mental state and refusal of help. Fire personnel launched the rescue boat from Gilbert Park while others donned full water rescue gear, preparing for a dynamic rescue situation.

Despite efforts to de-escalate the situation verbally, the individual jumped into the river. A rope was lowered from above, which the person grabbed, and with coordinated teamwork, **Wausau Fire and Police successfully pulled him to the shoreline**, where he was safely taken into custody. The individual was then transferred to Med 1 and transported to Aspirus Hospital for further care.

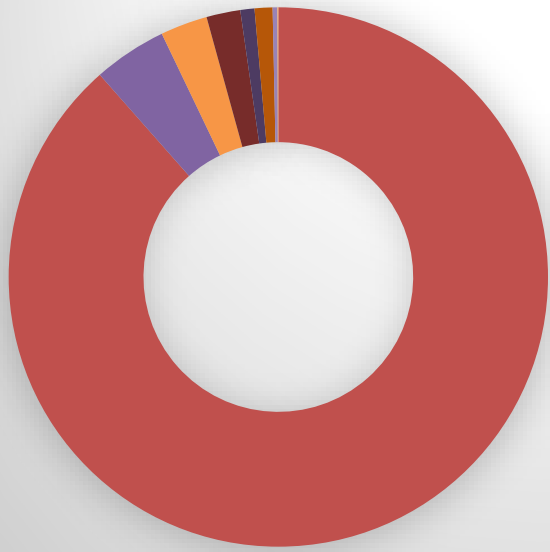
Significant Fire Events:

Date	Address	City	Incident #	Type
4/6/2025	922 South 21st Avenue	City of Wausau	F25000624	Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire
4/8/2025	7111 Stewart Avenue	City of Wausau	F25000630	Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire
4/21/2025	4105 Stewart Avenue	City of Wausau	F25000701	Fire, other

4/26/2025	2220 Sherman Street	City of Wausau	F25000736	Building fire
4/26/2025	611 West Street	City of Wausau	F25000737	Building fire
4/28/2025	829 Steuben Street	City of Wausau	F25000746	Building fire
4/29/2025	210 Callon Street	City of Wausau	F25000752	Cooking fire, confined to container
5/8/2025	401 North 3rd Street	City of Wausau	F25000819	Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire
5/9/2025	South 3rd Avenue & Park Blvd	City of Wausau	F25000834	Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire
5/11/2025	1016 Grand Avenue	City of Wausau	F25000844	Building fire
5/12/2025	726 Werle Avenue	City of Wausau	F25000862	Passenger vehicle fire
5/16/2025	425 North 1st Street	City of Wausau	F25000881	Trash or rubbish fire, contained
5/23/2025	7500 Stewart Avenue	City of Wausau	F25000927	Outside equipment fire
5/28/2025	628 South 6th Avenue	City of Wausau	F25000956	Cooking fire, confined to container
6/10/2025	1016 Grand Avenue	City of Wausau	F25001044	Building fire
6/11/2025	500 Washington Street	City of Wausau	F25001048	Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire
6/19/2025	200 Grand Avenue	Village of Rothschild	F25001097	Fires in structure other than in a building
6/21/2025	511 North 3rd Avenue	City of Wausau	F25001110	Building fire

Monthly NFIRS Incident Comparison:

	2025	2024	2023	2022	% Of Change from 2024 to 2025
January	677	646	579	591	4.80%
February	589	597	506	507	-1.34%
March	561	555	551	540	1.08%
April	555	541	527	498	2.59%
May	646	605	574	574	6.78%
June	570	578	553	590	-1.38%
July		585	679	531	
August		581	571	600	
September		547	548	524	
October		564	616	545	
November		556	624	574	
December		606	623	612	
TOTAL		6961	6951	6686	



- Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident (1568)
- False Alarm & False Call (78)
- Good Intent Call (50)
- Service Call (36)
- Hazardous Condition (No Fire) (15)
- Fire (19)
- Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire) (0)
- Special Incident Type (5)
- Severe Weather & Natural Disaster (1)

Responses by Municipality (All NFIRS Reports):

City	# of Runs	% of Runs	# of Runs - YTD
City of Abbotsford	0	0.00%	0
City of Antigo	0	0.00%	0
City of Colby	0	0.00%	0
City of Merrill	0	0.00%	0
City of Mosinee	0	0.00%	1
City of Schofield	0	0.00%	0
City of Wausau	1,649	93.11%	3,344
Clark County	1	0.06%	1
Lincoln County	0	0.00%	0
Oneida County	0	0.00%	0
Rosholt	0	0.00%	0
Taylor County	0	0.00%	0
Town of Bergen	0	0.00%	0
Town of Berlin	13	0.73%	23
Town of Bern	0	0.00%	0
Town of Bevent	0	0.00%	0
Town of Cassel	3	0.17%	5
Town of Elderon	0	0.00%	0
Town of Emmet	0	0.00%	0
Town of Frankfort	0	0.00%	0
Town of Franzen	0	0.00%	0
Town of Halsey	0	0.00%	0
Town of Hamburg	2	0.11%	2
Town of Harrison	0	0.00%	0
Town of Hewitt	6	0.34%	11
Town of Hull	0	0.00%	0
Town of Johnson	2	0.11%	3
Town of Knowlton	0	0.00%	1
Town of Marathon	2	0.11%	4
Town of Mosinee	0	0.00%	0

Town of Norrie	0	0.00%	0
Town of Plover	0	0.00%	1
Town of Rib Falls	1	0.06%	4
Town of Rietbrock	2	0.11%	2
Town of Ringle	1	0.06%	1
Town of Stettin	4	0.23%	4
Town of Texas	18	1.02%	43
Town of Wausau	25	1.41%	48
Town of Weston	0	0.00%	0
Town of Wien	0	0.00%	3
Village of Athens	2	.011%	2
Village of Brokaw	0	0.00%	0
Village of Edgar	0	0.00%	3
Village of Hatley	0	0.00%	0
Village of Kronenwetter	1	0.06%	1
Village of Maine	29	1.64%	60
Village of Marathon City	3	0.17%	8
Village of Rib Mountain	1	0.06%	9
Village of Rothschild	1	0.06%	2
Village of Stratford	0	0.00%	1
Village of Weston	5	0.28%	12
Wittenberg	0	0.00%	0
Wood County	0	0.00%	0
Total	1,771	100.00%	3,599

Activity/Incident Hours Committed:

Category	Time Committed
NFIRS Incidents	481:55:54 Hours
EMS Incidents	2765:58:57 Hours
Non-Incident Activities (Station Maintenance, Vehicle Check-off/Fire Pre-plan, Hazmat Outreach, Administration duties, Public Education, Committee and Staff Meetings)	647.15 Hours
Training (including Wellness)	4,224.51 Hours

Aid Responses:

Type of Aid	# of Runs
Mutual Aid Given – EMS	15
Mutual Aid Given – Fire	1
Automatic Aid Given – EMS	60
Automatic Aid Given – Fire	0
Mutual Aid Received – EMS	5
Mutual Aid Received – Fire	0
Automatic Aid Received – EMS	0
Automatic Aid Received – Fire	1
Other Aid Given – EMS	0
Request for EMS from Other Agencies to the City of Wausau (not Aid)	20

Request for Fire from Other Agencies to the City of Wausau (not Aid)	0
Total Non-Aid Incidents (outside City with no other agency response)	46

Responses by Municipality (EMS Patient Care Reports):

City	# of Reports	% of Reports	# of Reports – YTD
City of Abbotsford	0	0.00%	0
City of Antigo	0	0.00%	0
City of Merrill	0	0.00%	0
City of Mosinee	0	0.00%	1
City of Schofield	0	0.00%	0
City of Wausau	1,465	92.72%	2,950
Clark County	1	0.06%	1
Oneida County	0	0.00%	0
Other	0	0.00%	0
Town of Bergen	0	0.00%	0
Town of Berlin	0	0.00%	10
Town of Bevent	0	0.00%	0
Town of Bern	0	0.00%	0
Town of Cassel	3	0.19%	5
Town of Elderon	0	0.00%	0
Town of Emmet	0	0.00%	0
Town of Frankfort	0	0.00%	0
Town of Franzen	0	0.00%	0
Town of Halsey	0	0.00%	0
Town of Hamburg	2	0.13%	2
Town of Harrison	0	0.00%	0
Town of Hewitt	6	0.38%	11
Town of Hull	0	0.00%	0
Town of Johnson	2	0.13%	3
Town of Knowlton	0	0.00%	0
Town of Marathon	2	0.13%	4
Town of Mosinee	0	0.00%	0
Town of Norrie	0	0.00%	0
Town of Plover	0	0.00%	1
Town of Rib Falls	1	0.06%	4
Town of Rietbrock	2	0.13%	2
Town of Ringle	0	0.00%	0
Town of Stettin	4	0.25%	4
Town of Texas	18	1.14%	43
Town of Wausau	25	1.58%	48
Town of Wien	0	0.00%	3
Village of Athens	2	0.13%	2
Village of Edgar	0	0.00%	3
Village of Hatley	0	0.00%	0
Village of Kronenwetter	1	0.06%	1
Village of Maine	29	1.84%	61
Village of Marathon City	3	0.19%	8
Village of Rib Mountain	1	0.06%	7
Village of Rothschild	0	0.00%	0
Village of Stratford	0	0.00%	1
Village of Weston	0	0.00%	2
Wittenberg	0	0.00%	0

Wood County	0	0.00%	0
Total	1,580	100.00%	3,190

Type of Training	# of Hours	% of Hours	# of Hours -YTD
Company Training	1,991.71	75.22%	4,345.71
Driver/Operator Training	220	8.31%	292.50
Facilities Training	32	1.21%	32
Hazardous Materials Training	84	3.17%	207.15
Misc Training	1	0.04%	53
Officer Training	228.50	8.63%	281.50
Specialty Training	90.50	3.42%	126
Total	2,647.71	100.00%	5,337.86

Training Categories:

Company Training – General firefighting training

Officer Training – Included leadership, management, supervision, and tactical considerations

Driver/Operator Training – Operation of fire apparatus

Hazardous Materials Training – How to mitigate the leak or spill of hazardous substances

Specialty Training – Rope, confined space, trench, collapse, ice, water, and other special rescues.

Facilities Training – Training at a live-burn facility (may include off-duty time)

Misc Training – Any other training category such as software, administrative, etc.

Type of Training	# of Hours	% of Hours	# of Hours -YTD
Admin Training	42.5	2.70%	88.50
EMS Training	1,371.30	86.97%	2,050.30
Fire Instructor Training	100	6.34%	194.50
Fire Prevention Training	1	.06%	1
Investigation Training	62	3.93%	62
Total	1,576.80	100.00%	2,396.30

Fire Prevention Division by Fire Prevention Division Chief Shahn Kariger

Inspections: Throughout the second quarter of 2025, the Prevention Division diligently inspected 1,342 public buildings and places of employment. We performed 1210 inspections that passed, and we had 132 properties with fire code violations. 110 of the 1,342 were re-inspections from previous violations. The failed inspections were primarily overdue fire extinguisher annual maintenance, sprinkler system maintenance, and fire alarm system annual service. These properties will require follow-up inspections to confirm compliance. We conducted 23 consultation inspections for the quarter. These include consultations for fire alarm systems, Knox box updates, liquor license inspections, and new construction or remodeling. We also received and reviewed 358 reports through the Compliance Engine for services and maintenance of Fire Protection Systems at various businesses. 49 re-inspections carried over into the third quarter.

Investigations: The Division investigated two fires during the second quarter of 2025. Both fires occurred inside residential properties, one in a single-family home and the other a multi-family apartment building. The first fire originated in a second-floor bedroom and while the actual ignition source was not found, the most likely cause was accidental. This fire caused significant damage due to extension into the attic space. The second fire occurred in the kitchen of a first-floor apartment. A tenant was moving into the apartment and had placed a cardboard box containing books and papers on the glass stove top, accidentally bumping the stove knob behind the box which turned on a rear heating element. The tenant then left to go shopping. The cardboard eventually reached its ignition temperature which caused the fire. Fortunately, working smoke alarms in the building alerted another tenant who called 911.

Public Outreach: Throughout the first quarter we had several outreach opportunities. We conducted a very well-received Fire Safety Program for 25 senior citizens at a residential facility. New smoke and CO detectors were installed in 5 private residences, with a total of 9 smoke detectors and CO detectors placed. We also witnessed fire

drills at several area schools and a private employer to reinforce not only the need to have an escape plan in place, but to also practice the plan in case of a real emergency. 298 adults and 826 children participated in these drills.

Education: The Prevention Division attended the annual IAAI WI chapter fire investigator training in Stevens Point during the first week of June. This provided 28 hours of in person, tested training toward maintaining our FIT, CFI, and CFEI certifications. We have begun the Paramedic refresher courses this year to as part of the state requirement. In addition to our annual inspector and investigator continuing education, we complete 60 hours of continuing education, or a refresher course every three years to maintain our Wisconsin Paramedic license.

Promotions: With the promotion of Shahn Kariger to Fire Prevention Division Chief, this left the Prevention Lieutenant position vacant. An internal application process was run, with Brad Ludwig being promoted to Lieutenant from his position as FF/Paramedic Inspector. Congratulations Lt. Ludwig! The Inspector position was then opened to the Department, which there were no internal applicants. The position is still vacant at the time of this report and was posted externally. The Prevention Division is currently seeking a well-qualified candidate for the Inspector position.



The infographic features a dark blue background with a white border. At the top left, there are colorful fireworks. In the center, the text "Summer Safety Tips" is written in a white, cursive font. To the right, there is an illustration of a brown tent with a red interior, a campfire with logs, and evergreen trees. Below the title, a white box contains the text: "Keep these tips in mind as you and your family enjoy summer vacations, camping, family reunions, picnics and the Fourth of July." A dark blue bar with the text "Fire safety" in white is positioned below the white box. The infographic is divided into four sections, each with an illustration and text. The first section shows a campfire with two logs and a flame, with the text: "Build campfires at least 25 feet away from tents, shrubs and anything that can burn." The second section shows silhouettes of people watching fireworks, with the text: "If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts. Sparklers can reach 1,200 F and cause third-degree burns." The third section shows a barbecue grill next to a tree, with the text: "Use propane, charcoal and wood pellet barbecue grills outdoors only. Indoor use can cause a fire or carbon monoxide poisoning." The fourth section shows a house and a barbecue grill, with a red double-headed arrow between them labeled "10 feet" and the text: "Use chimineas, outdoor fireplaces, and fire pits outdoors only and at least 10 feet away from your home or anything that can burn." Below the grill, there is another text box: "Place your grill well away from siding and deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Do not store or use a grill on a porch or balcony."



Wausau Fire
Department



Prevention Division Activities:

Inspections Completed	Quarterly	Year to Date
Routine Fire Inspections	1,209	1,761
Re-inspections	110	252
All other Inspections (Consults/burn complaints,etc)	23	44
Community Paramedic Home Inspection	10	21
Total Inspections	1,352	2,067
Fire Investigations	2	8
Inspection Department Activities	Quarterly	YTD
Public Engagement Activities	25	57