



Waterford Fire Department

-Department Profile-



Department Overview

Combination Staffing Model

- ◆ Services: Fire Suppression, EMS first response, Technical Rescue
- ◆ Population served: Approx. 20,000 residents plus volumes of daily workers, visitors, and commuters
- ◆ Service environment: Residential, commercial, industrial, and major transportation corridors
- ◆ Annual Service Demand: Approximately 3,450 incidents per year

Operations Division

Staffing: 33 paid personnel supported by on-call members providing:

- ◆ Operates Four Engine Companies, Two Ladder Companies, and One Squad
- ◆ Structural firefighting
- ◆ EMS Priority First Response
- ◆ Vehicle Extrication
- ◆ Technical Rescue: Rope, confined space, and water/ice rescue

Fire Marshal Office

- ◆ Staffing: Two uniformed fire marshals and one civilian community educator
- ◆ Responsibilities: Code enforcement, Plan review/Permitting, Community Education & Risk Reduction.
- ◆ Inspection workload: More than 2,200 occupancies requiring annual or periodic inspection.

Historical Milestones

1921: First Official Fire Company Incorporation
1948: First Fire Department EMS Response
1961: First Paid Firefighter
1967: First Full-Time Firefighter
1973: First 911 User in New London County
1995: Creation of the Fire Administrator Position
2011: Fire Commission Ends & Director Position Implemented
2014: Central Consolidated Budgeting Begins
2019: Town Charter establishes Waterford Fire Department.
Forming New London Counties' Largest Fire Department.
2024: Oswegatchie Fire Company Sells Station 4 to Town
2025: RTM Approves Construction of New Station #4



The Town of Waterford

-Community Profile-



Demographics

- ♦ Population: Approximately 20,000 permanent residents
- ♦ Median age: 45.7 years
- ♦ Median Household Income \$75,968
- ♦ Poverty Rate: 6.67%
- ♦ Community profile: Blend of families, retirees, and working professionals.
- ♦ Economic base: Energy, retail, manufacturing, maritime, and service industries.
- ♦ Daytime and Periodic Population: Significantly higher due to commuters, businesses, & tourism.

Geography

- ♦ Location: Southeastern Connecticut, Adjacent Long Island Sound.
- ♦ Borders: Thames River/New London (East), Niantic River/East Lyme (West), Montville (North)
- ♦ Area: Approximately 44 square miles. (Land and Water)
- ♦ Notable features: Harkness State Park, Millstone Power Station, Major Interstate Transportation Corridors, Developed Commercial Districts.
- ♦ Risk environment: Coastal weather impacts, industrial and energy infrastructure, high traffic corridors, limited local service transportation corridors.
- ♦ Distributed Populous Amongst Geographic Zones.

Infrastructural Responsibilities

- ♦ More than 27 miles of highway .
- ♦ More than 7 Miles of Commuter and Freight Rail.
- ♦ More than 22 Miles of Tidal Coastline.
- ♦ 121 Miles of Surface Roads
- ♦ More than 1250 Public and Privates Fire Hydrants
- ♦ Communication, transmission, and Water Towers to approximately 190' Above Surface.
- ♦ Utility Vaults, Utility Tunnels, and Pumping Stations to approximately 90' Sub-Surface.
- ♦ Industrial, recreational, and agricultural spaces and equipment.
- ♦ 419+ acres of inland waterways.
- ♦ Millstone Nuclear Power Station

Governmental Structure

- ♦ Executive Authority: First Selectman—Board of Selectmen
- ♦ Financial Oversight: Board of Finance
- ♦ Legislative Action: Representative Town Meeting