

PRESS RELEASE

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City of De Pere
335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115-1199
www.de-pere.org

Contact: Andrew Pantzlaff
Communications Specialist
Phone: 920-339-2371
apantzlaff@mail.de-pere.org



De Pere Fire Rescue improves already-strong ISO ratings

De Pere, Wis. – After assessing thousands of fire departments nationwide, the Insurance Service Office (ISO) recently announced its newest Public Protection Classification (PPC) ratings. De Pere Fire Rescue not only retained its position toward the top of these rankings, but improved to its all-time best score.

To add some context, the rating generated by ISO - an independent third party organization – evaluates a community’s fire protection by examining everything from their facilities and staff, to their training methods and frequency, to equipment and other supporting features like the amount of fire hydrants in the city and the distances between them, just to name a very small sampling of criteria. After this thorough review is finished, an overall score between 1 and 10 is recorded for each fire department, with 1 being the best mark possible. Scores are important and have cost-saving implications for the departments and the communities they serve, as ISO’s measures are often used to determine insurance premium costs for fire insurance.

Following De Pere Fire Rescue’s audit this year, the department rose from an already-strong mark of 3, to a rating of 2. A rating of 2 essentially moves De Pere to elite positioning in the state, as less than a handful of departments in Wisconsin have ever achieved a score of 1 (and those are generally found in big cities with many resources available). Nationwide, typically less than 50 cities ever achieve a 1 ranking.

“A rating like this, which builds on our already strong history of excellence, is something our department is very proud of. It’s made possible through our unwavering mission to provide a superior level of emergency service to the De Pere community - in the most skilled and efficient ways possible – and that’s something we will always strive to achieve and improve upon,” said De Pere Fire Rescue Chief Alan Matzke.

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