



Gerrish Township Fire/EMS Department

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August 2025 Monthly Activity Report

In July 2025, the department responded to 66 requests for emergency services, under the five-year average of 71 calls for July. The year-to-date total for incidents is 354.

EMS Calls

- Medical Calls: 35
- Trauma/Accident: 11
- Medical Assist: 3
- Standby: 1
- Cancelled Calls: 4
- Alarms: 0

Fire & Rescue Calls

- Structure Fires: 0
- Powerlines Down: 1
- Wildland Fires: 1
- Vehicle Accident/Fire: 3
- Gas Leak: 1
- Standby: 1
- Alarms/Good Intent Calls: 4
- Ice/Water/Other Rescue: 0
- Assist to other Agency: 1 (Drone)
- Technical Rescue: 0

Total Incident Summary:

- EMS Total Calls: 54
- Fire/Rescue Total Calls: 12

Additional Notes on Calls:

- Intercepts: 7
- Non-Transports: 16 (3 were intercepts)
- Mutual Aid: 11 (3 cancelled)
- Heat Related: 3

Training Highlights (50 Total Hours)

- We kicked off July with hands-on training for Non-Entry Technical Rescue. This includes how to safely help people who are trapped in places that are difficult or dangerous to access, like confined spaces, tree stands, or trenches; without going in ourselves. Our team practiced using a rescue hook, a tool that helps reach and pull someone to safety from a distance. We also worked with ropes and pulley systems to learn how to lift or lower patients safely, depending on the situation. We also reviewed NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) and OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) guidelines that pertain to this type of incident.
- Our crews also trained on Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) and Search & Rescue techniques. This type of training prepares us to rescue one of our own, if a firefighter becomes injured, lost, or trapped inside a structure during an emergency. We practiced using the FAST Board, a specialized rescue device designed to quickly and safely move downed firefighters out of danger.
- A few members took part in a First Due training to improve on our apparatus check/maintenance and training platform.
- We trained on musculoskeletal injuries which include broken bones, joint injuries, and other trauma to muscles and bones. We reviewed how to effectively use traction splints, SAM splints, and other tools to stabilize injuries and reduce pain.
- We took part in Mutual Aid training with Lake Township and Lyon Township Fire Departments, focusing on water supply operations. This training covered how to locate, set up water points and draft water from a lake, pond, or portable tank to supply fire engines during a fire.

Training Delivered by Personnel

- We taught EMS training for Markey Township Fire/EMS personnel going over Pediatric airway management. The focus was how to quickly and safely open and manage a child's airway during a medical emergency. They practiced using specialized equipment designed for smaller patients and reviewed key techniques to provide effective breathing support.

Community Involvement (143 Hours)

- We participated in the 4th of July parade, 221 and 220 with personnel and their families.
- Staffed the South State Park for 4th and 5th of July with both ambulances, the rescue boat and drone. During the two days, we helped with traffic control and attended to 25 patients—thankfully, all with minor injuries. These ranged from Band-Aids and ice packs to eye flushing and a few alcohol-related incidents.
- Station Tours: Visitors had the chance to meet our crew, explore the fire trucks, ambulances, and learn about the equipment we use every day. We always enjoy sharing what we do and showing families around the station.
- Smoke Alarm Installations – Installed eight smoke alarms and one CO alarm this month.
- We visited the Lakeside Association for breakfast and had discussions about safety and preparedness. We went over their AED and first aid supplies, emergency access and exit routes for fire department response. We talked about having a CPR/AED, First Aid, and Bleeding Control class for residents, which we will be scheduling soon.
- Chief Gilliam, Asst. Chief Rodgers and Paramedic Josh Thompson attended the ACT NOW annual picnic.

Committees & Meetings Attended

- Asst. Chief Rodgers attended the monthly Twp. Board work session.
- Chief Gilliam and Asst. Chief Rodgers attended the LPT (Local Planning Team) meeting.
- Chief Gilliam attended the monthly Twp. Board Meeting

Significant Events

- Requesting board approval to hire Douglas Hedrick for POC Firefighter (pending physical/drug screen). Doug has 12 years of experience with a POC Department and recently moved to the area.

Upcoming Events

- Department Open House: Scheduled for August 2nd 4pm-7pm
- National Night out August 5th in St. Helen from 6pm-8pm
- Kids Block Party, downtown Roscommon August 9th from 4pm-8pm
- Special Needs Awareness Training (County-wide effort with MiREMS, REM, COOR) is coming October 11th

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristi Gilliam, Chief