

Preliminary Annual Report 2025



Year 2025

Harrisonburg Fire Department



Major Accomplishments

1. Record engagement with the community through the CRR Division resulting in **Zero Fire Fatalities** in 2025.
2. Record property value saved vs. endangered by fire in 2025 – 99.8% of \$428 Million in value.
3. More than 17,000 hours of training logged by personnel in support of ISO Grading.
4. Opening of Fire Station #5 – the most impactful commitment to life safety by the city in a generation.

Response Information:

NFIRS Incident Type	Month	YTD
Fire		183
Overpressure/Explosion		11
Emergency Medical Services		4,224
Hazardous Condition		399
Service Call		482
Good Intent Call		1,002
False Alarm/Call		774
Severe Weather		4
Special Incident		3
Totals		7,082

Mutual Aid Given Responses	221
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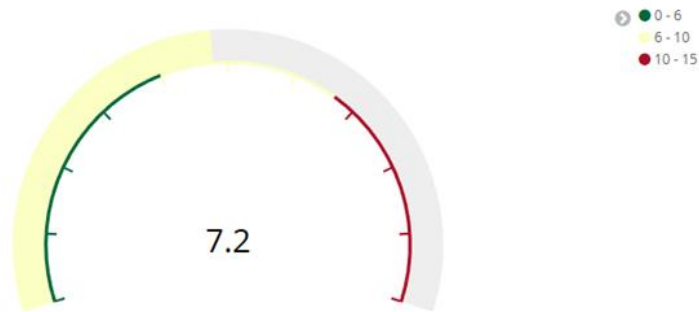
Fire Loss by Occupancy Type	# of Fires	Est. Bldg Loss	Est. Total Saved
Assembly	5	\$18,500	\$4,542,800
Educational			
Health Care/Detention	1	\$0	\$7,889,000
Residential	42	\$516,931	\$71,939,997
Business	5	\$11,000	\$6,192,900
Industrial	6	\$220	\$2,666,800
Manufacturing	1	\$0	\$16,000,000
Storage	5	\$57,050	\$229,450
Outside/Special Property	68	\$352,207	\$318,459,433
Total	133	\$955,908	\$427,920,380

Casualties	Month	YTD
Civilian Deaths		0
Civilian Injuries		5
Firefighter Injuries		13
Totals		18

Response Time: The goal of turnout and travel time is 6 minutes in the HFD:

2 minutes for turnout + 4 minutes for travel time. We measure our performance using fractile percentage: our report reflects our performance to 90% of all calls. This is far more accurate than reporting “averages” which reflects only 50% performance. This also reflects all calls for service including emergency and non-emergency responses.

Response Time (turnout +travel) – Year to-Date



90th percentile of Response Time (min.)

Significant Responses
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Fire Prevention & Education:

Inspections & Pre-Fire Plans	Month	YTD
Fire Inspections		3,421
Violations Cited		2,198
Plan Reviews/Consultations		37
Blasting Permits		4
Pre-Fire Plans Conducted		304

Public Education & Other Activities	Month	YTD
Fire & Life Safety Education Classes/Events		475
Number of Persons Reached		23,955
Smoke Alarm Inspections		1,422
Smoke Alarm Installations		340
Child Safety Seat Inspections		710

Significant Fire Prevention & Education Activities
<p><u>Smoke/CO Alarms</u> Residences Checked = 620 Smoke Alarm Batteries Replaced = 107 CO Alarms Checked = 127 CO Alarm Installed = 105 CO Alarm Batteries Replaced = 5</p> <p><u>Child Safety Seats In Detail</u> Loaners Issued = 0 VDH Car Seats Distributed = 181 Car Seats Provided (Grants, Emergency) = 55 Installation of Uninstalled Car Seats = 149 Installed Correctly = 120 Corrections = 214</p>

Training:

	Month	YTD
Training Hours		14,419.293
Physical Fitness Hours		2,605.5
Totals		17,024.793

Emergency Management Annual Report

Executive Summary

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) delivered exceptional performance in 2025, managing 15+ severe weather events, completing the quadrennial update to the Emergency Operations Plan, responding to a local water emergency, and expanding training and community engagement initiatives. The year was marked by successful implementation of Unified Command for special events and the innovative use of AI-based planning tools.



Key Accomplishments

Weather Response and Emergency Management

Managed 15+ severe weather events, including significant winter storms (10+ inches of snow in January, 5 inches in December) and summer thunderstorms. Issued 15 severe weather bulletins in January and conducted six weather conference calls in February. Had a local declaration for the City's water treatment plant turbidity (May 16-29), coordinated by the Water Treatment Plant to resolve the emergency without additional assistance.

Planning and Preparedness

- Completed quadrennial Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) update - joint plan with Rockingham County and JMU, approved by City Council on November 12, 2025
- Utilized AI-based software (EM1) to verify EOP compliance with FEMA's Comprehensive Preparedness Guide
- Implemented Unified Command structure for special events (Skeleton Fest, Veterans' Parade, Turkey Trot, Winter Wonderfest) integrating Police, Public Works, and Emergency Management
- Completed comprehensive Emergency Action Plan reviews for Harrisonburg City Public Schools (divisional and school-level complete rewrite)

Training and Exercises

- Conducted multiple active shooter exercises with law enforcement and schools
- Facilitated tabletop exercises including City Cyber Attack TTX and school safety scenarios

- Hosted Crisis Track training class for Fire Marshal's Office, Building Officials, and JMU personnel
- Provided Civilian Emergency Response Training for HPD staff and public Emergency Preparedness class for homeowners

Community Engagement and Partnerships

- Presented at Virginia Association of Fairs and Virginia Farmer's Market Association
- Attended Virginia Emergency Management Symposium featuring Hurricane Helene and Richmond water emergency case studies
- Participated in ARRL Field Day communications exercise and coordinated with National Weather Service on flood preparedness
- Conducted emergency management discussions with Sentara and Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

Key Metrics

- Weather Events: 15+ severe weather bulletins issued, 10+ inches of snow in January
- Emergency Response: 1 local emergency declaration (13 days, successfully resolved)
- Training: Multiple active shooter exercises, tabletop exercises, and public training classes
- Special Events Supported: JMU Graduations, Summer Concert Series, Skeleton Fest, Veterans' Parade, Turkey Trot, Winter Wonderfest
- Planning: Quadrennial EOP update completed, multiple EAP reviews for schools and facilities

UAV/Robotics Team Annual Report

Executive Summary

The UAV/Robotics Team achieved exceptional growth in 2025, completing 66 service requests compared to 45 in 2024—a 47% increase. The team provided critical multi-jurisdictional support across five localities, responding to diverse mission types including law enforcement assistance, missing person searches, hazardous materials incidents, and event overwatch.

Operational Performance

Total Requests 2025: 66 missions

Total Requests 2024: 45 missions

Year-over-Year Growth: +21 requests (+47% increase)

Average Monthly Requests: 5.5 missions

Jurisdictions Served: 5 (Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Shenandoah County, Greene County, Regional Response Teams)

Mission Types and Capabilities

- Law Enforcement Assistance - supporting police operations and investigations
- Missing Person Searches - providing aerial search capabilities
- Hazardous Materials Incidents - delivering situational awareness for Regional Response Team
- Crash Documentation - documenting accident scenes
- Event Overwatch - monitoring special events for safety
- Police Service - general support for law enforcement activities
- Photographic Documentation - aerial imagery for various purposes

Key Highlights

- Conducted joint training with Regional Hazardous Materials Team in April, enhancing regional response capabilities
- Provided critical support during hazardous materials incidents with Regional Response Team
- Maintained consistent monthly operations with peak activity in summer and fall months
- Successfully expanded service delivery across multiple jurisdictions while maintaining operational excellence