

Monroe Township Fire Department District #1

467 Spotswood-Englishtown Road

Monroe Township, New Jersey

08831

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Ernest Zih, Fire Official

(732) 379-2242 Cell

COMMISSIONERS' WEBSITE: <http://www.monroefd1nj.com/>

FIRE PREVENTION WEBSITE: <http://www.mtfp1.com/>

Monthly Report: May 10, 2023

Inspections: Attached

Fire prevention:

The Uniform Fire Code requires inspections for all structures, except for checking for smoke detectors in Residential Homes on resale. That said, as a result of a recent code update interpretation, Commercial farms receiving a Farm Tax Credit must be inspected. The Bureau again has worked with the Tax Office to update the farm listing in District I.

Although Owner-Occupied Homes would not be inspected, structures such as auxiliary barns, etc. would be. The Bureau is prohibited from charging fees for such inspections. The list of farms is manpower-extensive for mailing permit applications to determine if an inspection is required and subsequent

inspection. Thus, the Bureau is considering using programs such as “Google Earth” to identify such structures.

Schools: In conjunction with the Monroe Police, a lockdown drill was conducted at Academy Learning Center.

Fire Drills will also be observed at Mill Lake and Woodland Schools with special attention to electronically locking doors to ensure that they release upon Fire Alarm activation.

As pointed out in my last report, there is a need to continue legacy programs such as:

- Public / School Fire Prevention Education**
- Checking for smoke detectors after each fire call**
- Poster / Home Inspection Contests**

Fire Investigation:

The Bureau recently received an external phone inquiry reporting a Juvenile using firecrackers that resulted in a brush fire. This information was forwarded to the Monroe Twp Juvenile Detective for possible follow-up.

As a follow-up to reports of reports of gas leaks involving stoves at Monroe Parke / related complexes, an investigation was conducted. Stoves from various units were examined, and it was determined that all stoves were in compliance and operator error was the likely cause. As a result, the below letter was developed to be distributed to residents through the various Home Owners Associations.

Money: Attached

- Bureau needs to set-up two-factor identifications to include Erin for transferring PayPal money.

Communication:

Meeting was held with Monroe Zoning and One Business owner regarding container storages issues as well as discussion on a second owner use of a container.

I attended a State-wide training conference at Middlesex County College, and shared the information I gained with Company Officers and Career Personnel. Topics included Fire Fighter Cancers, NFPA Fire Fighting techniques, and Lithium Battery Fires. That said, we can all appreciate our new Fire House that was built with guidelines designed to reduce The toxic carcinogens in the work environment by having a separate gear room.

The State has changed its "RIMS" computer reporting program to an entirely new program. Training in the use of that new computer program will be held on May 17th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy. The Bureau needs to send representation.



Township of Monroe

Bureau of Fire Prevention, Fire District One

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Recently, the Monroe Fire Department has responded to multiple calls involving Natural Gas Leaks, most involving Unit stoves.

Although it's possible that a stove dial can be accidentally turned on by bumping into the dial, it's more likely that a wrong setting was not turned completely turned off.

As Natural Gas is explosive, we are asking residents to take an "Extra Look when using or when near the stove" and the stove knob is in the off position.

Make sure the dial is in the right setting as directed in the stove's directions manual.

Although Gas Companies add a harmless chemical to give it its distinctive "rotten egg" smell, in one case, a resident did not smell that gas leak odor. As such, we recommend that a Natural Gas Detector be installed that will alert the occupant. If you smell gas, exit and get away from the building and call 9-1-1.

Thank you for allowing us to help you.

Stay safe, and if you have any further questions, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at the above number.

Monroe Township Bureau of Fire Prevention
 Inspection System Database Status Summary for: 04/01/2023 to 10/01/2023
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Registrations:

Life Hazard:	44
Local:	121
Closed:	142
Total:	307

	Regist. fees	Inspect. fees	Permit fees	Penalty fees
Priors, payment:	4 500.00	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00
Priors, waived:	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00
Billed this per:	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00	3 300.00
Payments:	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00
Waived:	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00
Due:	0 0.00	0 0.00	0 0.00	3 300.00

	Ded. Penalty
Priors, payment:	0 0.00
Priors, waived:	0 0.00
Billed this per:	0 0.00
Payments:	0 0.00
Waived:	0 0.00
Due:	0 0.00

Inspections:	Local	LHU	Smoke Detector Insp:	21	945.00
Periodic:	13	1	Misc. Permits:	0	0.00
Re-inspect:	2	4	Other Misc. Fees:	1	1,727.05
Complaint:	0	0	Annual Permits:	0	0.00
Follow-up:	0	0	Misc. Penalties:	0	0.00
Other:	0	0			
Total:	15	5	Correspondence:	61	

Note: Amounts paid and waived include partial payments and fee reductions.

Correspondence form description

Number sent

Notice of Violations, with list and explanation	35
Violations list, no notice, no explanation	14
Certificate of Inspection	5
Invoice/Statement of Payments Due	1
Order to Pay Penalty and Abate Violations	1
Inspection Report Worksheet - Blank	5