

## February 1<sup>st</sup> – February 7<sup>th</sup>

During the week of February 1<sup>st</sup> – February 7<sup>th</sup> the Virginia Fire Department responded to a total sixty calls. During this week the break down is four fire calls, fifty-six medical calls. The medical calls split into forty-five 911 and eleven transfers. The fifty-five 911 calls brought us to eight communities; once to Angora, Aurora, Iron, McDavitt, twice to Gilbert, four times to Eveleth, five times to Mt. Iron, and thirty times in Virginia. We treated these Patients and brought them to four different Hospitals; St. Luke's, Essentia Health Northern Pines, Virginia, and St. Mary's, and 9 Patients didn't need to be transported they either didn't need any care or were treated and released. The eleven transfers were from two different Hospitals Essentia Northern Pines and Virginia. These Patients were brought to two different high level of care facilities St. Luke's and Essentia Health St. Mary's. During this week the Virginia Fire Department performed seventy-four different procedures, administered fifty-four different medicines, our number one reason for dispatch was for some kind of Trauma. During this week there was a tie, we treated twenty-eight males and females. Our busiest day was Friday with fourteen calls and our slowest was Thursday with five calls.

During this week the Fire Marshall's office did one post fire incident follow up, a safety talk, and two corrections orders.

As temperatures drop, the Virginia Fire Department offers ten tips you can take to stay safe during the cold weather.

- 1. Layer up!** Wear layers of lightweight clothing to stay warm. Gloves and a hat will help prevent losing your body heat.
- 2. Don't forget your furry friends.** Bring pets indoors. If they can't come inside, make sure they have enough shelter to keep them warm and that they can get to unfrozen water.
- 3. Remember the three feet rule.** If you are using a space heater, place it on a level, hard surface and keep anything flammable at least three feet away – things such as paper, clothing, bedding, curtains or rugs.
- 4. Requires supervision** – Turn off space heaters and make sure fireplace embers are out before leaving the room or going to bed.
- 5. Don't catch fire!** If you are using a fireplace, use a glass or metal fire screen large enough to catch sparks and rolling logs.
- 6. Protect your pipes.** Run water, even at a trickle, to help prevent your pipes from freezing. Open the kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals out of the reach of children. Keep the garage doors closed if there are water lines in the garage.
- 7. Better safe than sorry.** Keep the thermostat at the same temperature day and night. Your heating bill may be a little higher, but you could avoid a more costly repair job if your pipes freeze and burst.

**8. The kitchen is for cooking.** Never use a stove or oven to heat your home.

**9. Use generators outside.** Never operate a generator inside the home, including in the basement or garage.

**10. Knowledge is power.** Don't hook a generator up to the home's wiring. The safest thing to do is to connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator.