



Brookfield Fire Department

4 Central Street
Brookfield, MA 01506
Telephone / Facsimile
(508) 867-7306
Emergency Call 911



Hurricane Sandy after action report

The department was monitoring the status of Hurricane Sandy as early as Monday, October 22 when the track was still uncertain, but the possibility existed that the storm might impact us.

As the week went on and the likelihood of local impact increased, the department started to take steps to ensure readiness.

Vehicles – All vehicles were in good running order. Fuel statuses were confirmed

Equipment – All portable power equipment had been regularly checked on the first Monday of October.

Communications – Station based communications and alerting systems were checked.

Generators – Both station generators were tested. The station never lost power, but a generator was activated during the storm to isolate and protect communications equipment.

On Saturday, October 27, the Town held its Halloween activities. In addition to our usual roles, we took advantage of the opportunity by having a display of current Hurricane Sandy information, safety reminders, and providing preparedness materials.

On Monday, October 29 the station was staffed to some degree as of 7am. At a minimum, an experienced dispatcher was on duty in the radio room which acts as the town emergency operations center (EOC).

Conditions were monitored throughout the day by mass media, local radio communications, and area radio communications. Interaction and coordination between FD, EMS, PD, Highway, and Emergency Management was ongoing.

Call volume during the storm and subsequent power outages –

2 carbon monoxide alarms – One due to a dead battery. One due to a generator running inside a garage.

1 call for wires on a dwelling. The wires were found to be dead, and the situation deemed safe.

Fire personnel did assist the highway department with damage assessment and hazard mitigation.

Staff was released at 8pm and the department ceased station-borne operations as of 10pm on Monday, October 29.

During the balance of the week, the department continued interaction with EMS, PD, Highway, and Emergency Management as well as National Grid while power restoration continued. Power was last restored to all areas by 3 pm Thursday, November 1.

There were no injuries to personnel. There was no damage or loss to vehicles or equipment.

Respectfully submitted, Chief Peter Martell

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