



## HAMILTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



2009

### *Annual Report and Summary*

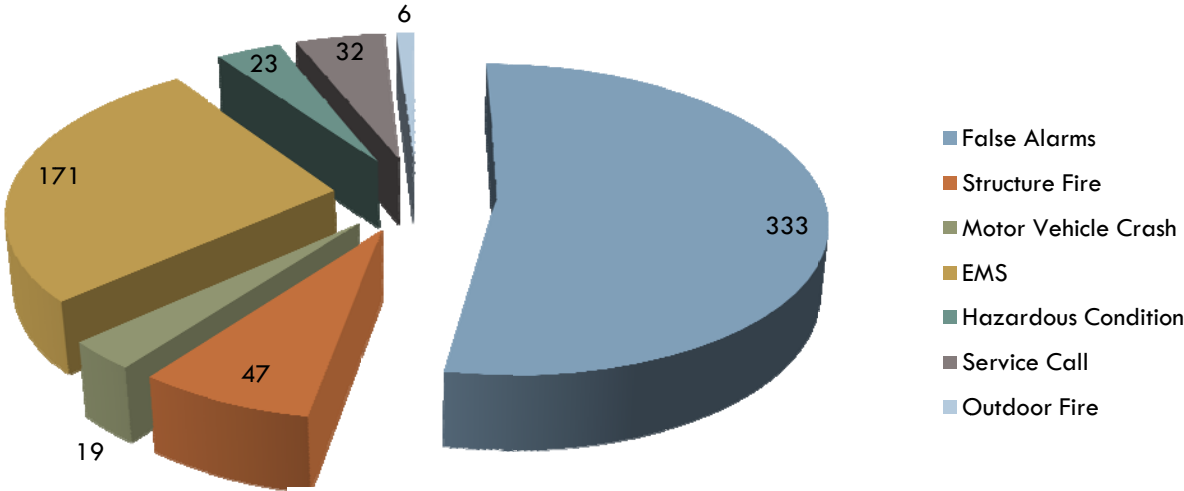
The Hamilton Fire Department serves the community by providing fire and rescue services as well as first response emergency medical care. The department is staffed by about 35 trained and certified volunteers who respond to emergencies 24 hours a day. During 2009 the Hamilton Fire Department responded to a variety of alarms serving those in need in the Village of Hamilton, Colgate University, and the surrounding areas covered under fire protection contracts with the Hamilton, Madison, and Lebanon Townships.

# Hamilton Fire Department

2009

## Response Statistics:

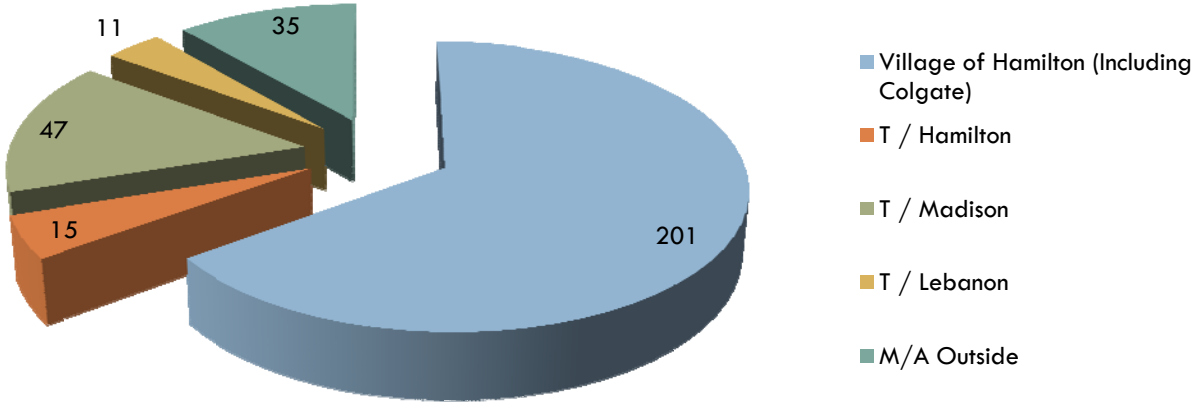
During 2009 the Hamilton Fire Department had 631 alarms.



Of the 631 alarms, 293 were false activations of automatic fire alarms on the Colgate University Campus. These alarms are first responded by the Campus Safety Department who evaluate the need for the fire department response. During the year, the Hamilton Fire Department responded to the Colgate Campus 44 times for actual emergencies.

**Response Location:**

During 2009 the Hamilton Fire Department responded to emergencies 309 times. Services were provided in the following geographical areas:



**Response Times:**

During 2009 the Hamilton Fire Department responded 309 times. When the county 911 center notifies the department of an alarm, volunteers respond the fire station to man apparatus and then respond to the incident location. On average, the first arriving emergency unit was on scene 3.6 minutes after the alarm was received. More importantly, every response brings the appropriately trained and certified personnel to the incident scene. Nationwide average response times, including staffed career departments are between 5 and 6 minutes.

## Colgate Students in the Hamilton Fire Department

About 25% of the firefighting personnel who volunteer at the Hamilton Fire Department are college students attending Colgate University. Student members are recruited during their freshman year during which time they complete the recruit fire school and become NYS certified Firefighters. These members provide a vital service to the community while earning their degree. Many of the student members go on to volunteer or work in emergency services following graduation.

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2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Ryan Harbison, USMC along with Hamilton Fire Department officers at Commissioning Ceremonies during Colgate Graduation. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Harbison volunteered with the Hamilton Fire Department for 4 years while attending Colgate University.

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## Training Program

All Hamilton Fire Department personnel are trained and certified following guidelines set forth by OSHA, NYS Office of Fire Prevention and Control, and the National Fire Protection Association. Once a volunteer completes the 78 hour recruit firefighting school, they must pass an annual physical exam and complete a minimum of 12 hours of training in order to maintain their certification. On nearly every Wednesday evening during the year, volunteers gather at the fire station for a training drill. During 2009, 44 of these local training sessions were conducted for a total of 55 hours of training. In addition,

many of the firefighters seek out more specialized training opportunities offered by state fire instructors and other fire service experts. Our certified personnel are well trained and possess a vast amount of emergency service experience. These volunteers are the most important asset we have. Personnel are well equipped and ready to perform in order to serve the community during emergency incidents. In total, Hamilton Fire Department personnel logged an impressive 2587 hours of training in 2009. On average, that is about 75 hours per firefighter!



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Hamilton firefighters receive instruction on high pressure air bags during a Wednesday night local training drill at the fire station.

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## Learn more about the HFD

To learn more about the Hamilton Fire Department please visit our website at [www.hamiltonfd.org](http://www.hamiltonfd.org). There you will find information about recent alarms, news and events, and how you can serve your community as a volunteer firefighter.