



Dear Parents,

As you are surely aware, many businesses are struggling to recruit and retain staff. The Town of Turtle Fire Department also falls into this category.

Here are a couple of statistics to illustrate.

- Every 23 seconds a fire department responded to a fire somewhere in the US in 2021
- In Wisconsin, 92.5% of departments are staffed either entirely by volunteers or mostly volunteers. This increases to 97% volunteer when population is under 2500.

Across the USA in the last 40 years:

- Population Increase +42%
- Emergency Call Increase +336%
- Volunteer Firefighter Decrease -25% (200,000 less)

The age of volunteers is also increasing.

- Age of 50+ doubled in 30 years.
- Under 30 yrs decreased in same period.

As you can see, the trends are troubling.



To help reverse this trend, we are trying to implement an Explorer program. We are looking for adolescents (both girls & boys) aged 14 and above to join. We are looking for those interested in the fire and EMS field. If your children or others that you are aware of are interested in trying the service; please contact us. We would greatly appreciate having a conversation with all of you to see if this is fit.

Sincerely,

Brian Reddy  
Assistant Chief, Town of Turtle Fire Department  
608-289-1122

