

Massachusetts Fire District 14

Dive Rescue/Recovery Team

2023 Year End Report

Activations:

- July 2022 - Framingham evidence search for FPD @ Learned Pond
- May 13th 2023 – Natick Dive/Recovery @ Cochituate State Park

Dive Standby:

- June 30th 2023 - Framingham Fire Requested Boat from Natick fire to support FFD Dive team members for Fireworks at Farm Pond supporting barge and water ops.

Membership:

- This year Natick dive team officially merged with D14 Team. It has been a great success and Natick members have fit right in with the team.
- Andy Hladick from Natick Fire was chosen as Assistant Team Coordinator
- Milford also had its first member assigned to team this year.
- Currently approximately 40 active members on team
- 1 member from Framingham currently on Leave of absence.

Training:

- Monthly drills were completed as scheduled for year.
- Budget of \$5000 was voted to be used for official training for D14 members and to be used to bring all new members up to speed with various classes needed as a diver.
- 18 members completed current diving certifications this year.

Equipment:

- Sonar equipment was supported and purchased by the District...Team chose to outfit Natick's boat completely. All members trained as an awareness to new sonar capabilities.

Other:

- Any community in district that is interested in hosting dive team, or interested in training related to dive team/water rescue operations, feel free to reach out.

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Training Request:

- Team would like to increase training hours from 56 hrs to 80hrs/year to match D14 Tech Rescue team. This large team has proved beneficial to district but has proven more difficult to get all divers in the water during a 4 hr training block. This would eliminate many problems and frustrations related to getting the job done. 10 drills/yr x 8hr drills. Dive also requires equipment maintenance and cleanup after every drill which typically has divers working 8hrs regardless.

CURRENTLY READS:(d) Each drill will be a minimum of four (4) hours in session. Two of the monthly drills will be a mandatory eight (8) hour session. The Team reserves the right to combine two monthly drills to create an eight (8) hour drill for purposes of required or mandatory training; in this case one of the monthly four (4) hours drills may be canceled. (56 hrs offered)

PROPOSED:(d) Each drill will be a minimum of eight (8) hours in session. Yearly pool skills refresher shall be split into (2) separate 4hr drills. (80hrs offered) Basically (9month) / 8hr drills and (2month) / 4hr skills refresher in pool. (1) pool skills mandatory.

Respectfully submitted,
John Schultz